

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Lutheran Church
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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Volume 6 Issue 5

April 29, 2019

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Honor God, by sharing His love, living in Christ, and serving our community.



*It isn't
what you have
in your pocket
that makes you
thankful, but
what you have
in your heart.*

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God's Works in Progress

We are not quite half way through the church year. We have gone through the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and are now in the season of Easter.

During that time, we have watched the disciples go from ordinary, uneducated fishermen, tax collectors etc. to missionaries sent out with nothing but the clothes on their back. For three years they followed Jesus around Galilee finally arriving in Jerusalem. They ran away in fear when Jesus was arrested. They watched his crucifixion and were amazed when the tomb was empty. They saw him in the flesh after his resurrection. They began teaching about him in the Temple and were arrested and put in prison. When they are miraculously released, they return to the Temple to teach again. Next month we will see them filled with the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and become Apostles who spread the Gospel far and wide. Jesus prepared them for the mission on which he sent them.

But even as they continued teach-

ing, they learned that the Gospel was also for the Gentiles as well. They came a long way in those three years and beyond. You might say they were works in progress.

If you think about it each of us, like the disciples, are works in progress too. God has placed us here in a specific family in a specific community with a specific mission. Whether or not we are aware



of it, God may spend years, even decades, preparing us for the mission or missions he has planned for us. Perhaps we complete one mission after which we spend time in preparation for the next. That cycle may be repeated over and over throughout our lives.

In any case we are all works in progress accomplishing God's mission and all the while being prepared for heaven. May we all live our lives knowing we are works in progress on a mission for Christ.

Pastor Larry Oliver

*If there were nothing wrong in the world
there wouldn't be anything for us to do.*

George Bernard Shaw

Scripture Readings For May

Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
May 5	Third S. of Easter	Acts 9:1-22	Psalms 30	Rev. 5:(1-7) 8-14	John 21:1-14 (15-19)
May 12	Fourth S. of Easter	Acts 20:17-35	Psalms 23	Rev. 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
May 19	Fifth S. of Easter	Acts 11:1-18	Psalms 148	Rev. 21:1-7	John 16:12-22 <i>or</i> John 13:31-35
May 26	Sixth S. of Easter	Acts 16:9-15	Psalms 67	Rev. 21:9-14, 21-27	John 16:23-33 <i>or</i> John 5:1-9

Serving Schedule For May

Dates	Elder	Greeter	Reader	Server	Altar Guild	Counter
May 5	Gleaman Burks	Gary & Sharon Yon	Debbie Graham	Voter's Meeting Pot luck	Fran Jacob & Karen Bischopink	Marv Jacob
May 12	Jim Marshall	Jim & Waunita Marshall	Ann Oliver	Karen Bischopink		
May 19	Keith Moore	Karen Bischopink	Linda Tedisch	Gary & Sharon Yon		
May 26	Gleaman Burks	Marv & Fran Jacob	Velma Bariletti	Velma Bariletti		



May Birthdays

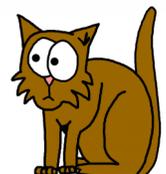
Jackie Cgavske 5/3
 Marv Jacob..... 5/13
 Linda Anderson 5/23
 Joanne Secest..... 5/27

Anniversary

Ralph & Debbie Graham..... 5/17

A traveling evangelist always put on a grand finale at his revival meetings. When he was to preach at a church, he would secretly hire a small boy to sit in the ceiling rafters with a dove in a cage. Toward the end of his sermon, the preacher would shout for the Holy Spirit to come down, and the boy in the rafters would dutifully release the dove.

At one revival meeting, however, nothing happened when the preacher called for the Holy Spirit to descend. He again raised his arms and exclaimed: "Come down, Holy Spirit!" Still no sign of the dove. The preacher then heard the anxious voice of the small boy call down from the rafters: "Sir, a yellow cat just ate the Holy Spirit. Shall I throw down the yellow cat?"



Mother

For those lucky to still be blessed with your Mom, this is beautiful. For those of us who aren't, this is even more beautiful. For those who are moms, you'll love this.

The young Mother set her foot on the path of life. "is this the long way?" she asked. And the guide said. "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But, the end will be better than the beginning."

But the young Mother was happy, and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children, and gathered flowers for them along the way, and bathed them in the clear streams; and the sun shone on them, and the young Mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then the night came, and the storm, and the path was dark, and the children shook with fear and cold, and the Mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle, and the children said, "Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come."

And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary, and the Mother was weary. But at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed, and when they reached the top they said, "Mother, we would not have done it without you."

And the Mother, when she lay down at night looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage. Today, I've given them strength."

And the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth, clouds of war and hate and evil, and the children groped and stumbled, and the Mother said: "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light." And the children looked and saw above the clouds, an everlasting glory, and it guided them beyond the darkness. And that night the Mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I ;have shown my children God."

And the days went on. And the weeks and the months and the years, and the Mother grew old and she was little and bent. But her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. And when the way was rough, they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather, and at last they came to a hill, and beyond they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide. And Mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them."

And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said: "We cannot see her but she is with us still. A Mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a living presence."

Your Mother is always with you...She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street; she's the smell of bleach in your freshly laundered socks; she's the cool hand on your brow when you're not well. Your Mother lives inside your laughter. And she's crystallized in every tear drop. She's the place you came from, your first home; and she's the map you follow with every step you take. She's your first love and your first heartbreak, and nothing on earth can separate you.

Not time, not space...not even death!

Submitted by Jim Marshall, Elder

Ladies Guild Gathering

May 7th

Ladies Guild Meeting
1:00 PM

The Mother/Daughter banquet/potluck has been **cancel**ed this year. We are truly sorry, but it could not be helped. We will try again next year. Please try to attend our meeting at 1:00 PM

May 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am	3 NA Meeting 7:00 pm	4 Men's Meeting 9:00 a.m.
5 Voter's Meeting Potluck	6	7 LWML 1:00 p.m	8	9 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am	10 NA Meeting 7:00 pm	11
12 Happy Mother's Day	13	14 Elder's Mtg. 5:30 pm Council Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	15	16 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am	17 NA Meeting 7:00 pm	18
19	20	21	22	23 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am	24 NA Meeting 7:00 pm	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31 NA Meeting 7:00 pm	



ONGOING MEETING DATES:	
Men's Monthly	1st Sat. 9:00 a.m.
Ladies Guild	1st Tues. 1 p.m.
Elders	2nd Tues. 5:30 p.m.
Council Meeting	2nd Tues. 7 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study	Thurs. 10 a.m.
NA Meeting	Friday 7 p.m.

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We're on the web!

Immanuelalbany.org