

Rev. Kevin A. Karner
Pastor

Dr. Anne Stuhlman
School Principal

Messenger

December 2017

Vol. 17 No. 11

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT



OUR MISSION

The people of Immanuel Lutheran Church are living proof of the grace of God through salvation in Jesus Christ. Empowered by Christ, our mission is to reach out in love to those who have not yet responded to the Gospel that all may be united in Christ.

School Mission

The Mission of Immanuel Lutheran School is to provide a loving atmosphere of academic excellence for children while developing in them and their families a lasting relationship with Jesus Christ.

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School
154 Meadow Street
Bristol, CT 06010

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www.ilcs.org



Immanuel Lutheran School children say thank you to our Veterans on November 10th.

— Photos by Vern Koch —

Food Drive



THANK YOU

... to all who donated money and items for our ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE held on November 19th.

We delivered four truckloads of food (three went to Zion Lutheran "Meals for the Needy" and the 4th went to St. Vincent DePaul Society) and donated another \$800.00 in cash and checks collected during the month of November. Thank you again for your generosity!

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Helping Ministry

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy." Matthew 5:7





Messenger is published monthly by Immanuel Lutheran Church and School for its members and friends.

Immanuel is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Ed & Dee Krampitz
Newsletter Editors

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month.

**SUNDAY
DIVINE SERVICES**

8:00 a.m.

Holy Communion on the
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday
of the month.

10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion on the
2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday
of the month.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

9:30 a.m.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m.



**WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSIBLE**

Worship Services are
broadcast each Sunday
at 1:00 p.m. on

WNTY Radio

990 AM

96.1 FM

and online at

KoolOldiesRadio.net

From the Pastor's Desk

“My True Love Gave to Me”

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Christmas carols have been playing on the radio, and at the mall, for weeks already.

You probably have your favorites; so do I. But one song that DOESN'T make my list of favorites is “The Twelve Days of Christmas.”

Yes, I've heard of the religious explanations behind the many verses, but the tune seems to go on and on and on and on. I get tired of hearing about five partridges leaping, sixteen lords a-milking, five swans a-fishing, and all the other things which my true love is supposed to have given to me.

Thankfully, in 30 years of marriage, Maggie was always more practical in her gift giving.

However, she wasn't so practical as to give me a tooth cleaning at the dentist. That's right: “teeth cleaning.” A few years ago, Newsweek said some people were putting these in the stockings of their true loves. The article said people were giving their true loves the “gift of health.” Other healthy-type gift suggestions were a paid doctor's visit, organic fruits and vegetables, yoga classes, and a bathroom scale.

In truth, I'm thankful that my loved ones haven't given me any of those things.

Still, that doesn't mean I'm against all gifts of health. For example, John 3:16

says: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

So that I might be spiritually healthy and whole, forgiven and free, God sent His Son. Here, the baby of Bethlehem, the Christ of the cross, the Savior of the empty tomb, dedicated His entire life so I might be able to live forever.

From His first breath until His victory cry upon the cross, Jesus did all that was necessary to cure me of sin's disease.

So maybe a rewrite of that song might be in order. How about this: “On every day of Christmas, my true Love gave to me: His own life to set my soul free.”

The song wouldn't have many verses, but when it's sung that way, it doesn't need them. The first verse says it all.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Pastor Karner

1 Thess. 5:23-24



May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. — 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Women of Immanuel ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Join us for our annual Christmas potluck on Thursday, **December 14th** at 6:00 pm in the **Old School Basement**. Bring your favorite dish and a friend; desserts will be provided. All women are welcome. Mark your calendar to celebrate the Advent of the coming of our Lord with your sisters in Christ. Don't forget to bring your Mite Box offering for LWML. Watch the bulletin for more details.

The **Christmas tree will be decorated December 10th** after the 10:45 service.

The Trustees will set up the tree and help place the Chrismons™ which are ornaments made from Christian symbols or Chrismons™, a contraction for 'Christ monograms'. Faithful Immanuel women made the ornaments.

Please join us to learn meanings and placements of the Chrismons™.



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

New England District Retreat

November 3rd and 4th was a wonderful time of Bible study, prayer and reflection on Christ, our Rock and Redeemer. A special note, to cap the weekend, is the news that donations from the offering and shopping gave a total of \$3,647.00 for Mites! Such generosity! Such love! Thank you God for our LWML! As of October 31st, we had collected \$43,839.11 toward our Mission Goal. By November 4th, we have collected \$47,486.11. This allows us to fully fund Mission Grant 5a Comfort Dog Lydia and have \$866 for Mission Grant 5b Reaching the Unchurched through a Lutheran School (Immanuel, Bristol). Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Tanzanian Sewing Center
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania
 (ELCT)
 Mission Grant \$25,000

LWML 37th Biennial Convention ***Albuquerque, NM June 22-25, 2017***

As a first-timer, I was impressed by the large attendance! I especially enjoyed the actor portraying Katie Luther who gave humorous but insightful viewings of her life. She showed that Katie was a powerful influence on Martin whether he realized it or not. And how about Past President Ida Mall's Key and Note speech! At our church on 9/12 our Ladies Aid hosted a Potluck and Presentation, sharing her speech with those that did not attend the convention...thanks to the website! We invited all area Christian women to view her inspirations with us!

Jan Krampitz, President of Holy Trinity Ladies Aid and LWML-NED Parliamentarian

The LWML is helping to teach young girls in Tanzania how to sew, giving them the chance to change their lives and escape poverty and destitution. At the same time, they are learning about the saving grace and love of Jesus and sharing it with their neighbors. Find out how the LWML is changing the lives of these young girls and bringing them to Jesus at: www.lwml.org under Missions Grants for the "Tanzanian Sewing Center".

In southeastern Tanzania, many young women from villages do not attend school or have jobs, and so seek unskilled jobs in larger towns, often ending up involved in prostitution. Some end up with AIDS or unexpected pregnancies, with no means of supporting themselves. The ELCT has established the Bishop Makala Sewing Center to teach young women sewing, life skills, and the Gospel. The ELCT goal is to build classrooms with a 50 student capacity, along with a dormitory. Within one year of training, their sewing skills enable women to have pocket money, purchase a sewing machine, and buy materials to create sewn items to sell for income.



Young at Heart

Christmas Blessings to all our members and friends!

Our last Young-At-heart event this year will be our annual Christmas Party Lunch at Nuchie’s Restaurant in Forestville. Notice that it is on a Tuesday, December 5, at 11:30; remind your friends of the date! The deadline to sign up was Sunday, November 26, but last minute changes, questions, and requests can be made by calling Carol up until December 3 at 860-582-9608. Remember – we offer rides, visiting time, prizes, singing, fellowship and fun!



Last month we celebrated the 23rd Anniversary of our senior lunch program with almost 50 in attendance. We enjoyed home-made soup and sandwiches and

anniversary cake, also taking photos of our charter members. We thanked Lorraine Sonstrom for her many, many years of donations and handling the

kitchen details of our lunches, as she stepped down.



We need someone or a couple to step up now to fill her shoes in 2018; many volunteers are needed to put on our lunches. We enjoyed having Attorney Dan Tully as our speaker last month – so many things we all should know about.

Remember – Midweek Advent services have begun on Wednesdays at 10:45 am and at 7 pm. Watch the bulletin for more activities, like the school Christmas Program in the sanctuary this year on Friday, Dec. 15 at 6 pm. We do not hold our monthly lunches during the cold winter months but other activities are available, like visiting a homebound member.

The glass cases by the rear doors will show photos of our events and other information for you about activities that area Senior Centers are offering for you. Be sure to greet one another in church and share the Christmas joy !



Parish Nurse Corner

December 12th — Tuesday, 12:30, Ladies Luncheon will be at the Parish Center. We will be ordering pizza for lunch. Following the luncheon we will have our Women’s Bible Study.

December 19th — Tuesday, 9:30, Walk & Talk.

December 28th — Thursday, 12 noon, 3rd Annual Police Appreciation Luncheon.

Blessings,
Roberta

Looking for help to coordinate Meals For The Needy. I am in need of someone to take over this project or to work with me. I have all the dates for 2018, please contact me at 860-589-6431

Zion Meals for the Needy

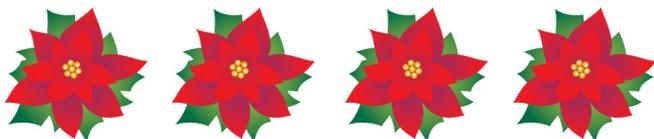
27 Judd St., Bristol

We will cook and serve on the following dates:

January 11 March 8 May 11 July 12

September 14 November 8

If you can’t cook or serve but would like to help, goodies are needed for dessert. I will be starting to cook at 3 pm. Sign up sheet in the office or contact Linda Beaudoin at 860-589-6431. Our immediate needs are spices, drink mixes example lemonade.



~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Church News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



Advent Light Lunches

Following the Advent morning worship services, a self-serve light lunch will be available in the gym.

Lunch will consist of a choice of 2 soups, bread & butter, coffee and tea. Come and enjoy each Wednesday morning in Advent, Dec. 6, 13 and 20.

**Immanuel welcomes
through the rite of Holy Baptism
Quinn Rose Tessier
Baptized on November 26, 2017**



Advent & Christmas

Sunday, December 3, 8 am (HC) & 10:45 am

Wednesday, December 6, 10:45 am & 7 pm

Sunday, December 10, 8 am & 10:45 am (HC),
German Worship Service, 9:30 am (HC)

Wednesday, December 13, 10:45 am & 7 pm

Friday, December 15, 6:30 pm
School Christmas Pageant in the sanctuary

Sunday, December 17, 8 am (HC) & 10:45 am

Wednesday, December 20, 10:45 am & 7 pm

Sunday, December 24, 9 am
7 pm & 11 pm (HC) Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 25, 9 am (HC) - Christmas Day Service

Sunday, December 31, 9 am (HC) & 7 pm (HC)
New Year's Eve Service



From the Helping Ministry Warm-A-Child / Crisis Pregnancy Christmas Program



Many Thanks for the wonderful clothing donations given to Warm-A-Child so far. Remember that all wrapped items honoring the tree's paper mittens are due by Dec. 10th

The unwrapped gifts for our local Crisis Pregnancy Center are also expected by December 10th.

Because of your wonderful contributions we at Immanuel's Helping Ministry are able to sponsor this very important program. Remember that your monetary giving through the mite box appeal in the month of December is also designated for Warm-A-Child.

Once again, thank you and accept our greeting for a very Merry Christmas,
MaryAnn Kalwat



A gentle reminder . . .

. . . that we stand during the last verse of some hymns when we sing the "Trinity verse" (indicated by the Δ next to the verse in the hymnal) out of reverence to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to whom the verse is referring.

FREE CONCERT



(A FIVE PIECE BRASS ENSEMBLE)

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 17
4PM TO 5PM**

***Immanuel Lutheran
Church***

**FREE REFRESHMENTS IN GYMNASIUM
FOLLOWING PERFORMANCE**

FIVE METAL CHEMISTRY



~ Girl Scout News ~

The Girl Scout pallet paint night was a wonderful success!

*For more information about the Girl Scouts, contact
Becky Wells at 860-916-3621 or
Trina Theriault at 860-384-1530*





A Taste of Fall in Pictures

— Photos by Vern Koch —



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

The students are very excited about basketball as we are now a few weeks into the season. Our games begin in January. We have a girls' team of 4th to 6th graders, a boys' team of 4th to 6th graders, and a boys' team of 7th and 8th graders. Players are allowed to "play up" in age brackets, so we have a few younger players on the teams getting great experience. We even have students as young as Kindergarten who are eager to play and participate in a skill-building practices twice a week. It looks like basketball is back at Immanuel!

Our PTO sponsored a Christmas Shoppe on December 1 for the children to buy gifts for their families. The volunteers shop all year for items that the students may purchase for a dollar or two. They then wrap the gifts so that they are truly surprises for their family members.

PTO is also sponsoring a Winter Wonderland fundraiser on Saturday, December 9, from 1:00-3:00 in the gym. There will be ornament making, Christmas crafts, a bake sale, and gingerbread house and nativity making. Volunteers are baking the house and nativity parts for the event. All you have to do is decorate your house or nativity from a pile of candies and confections. Each house or nativity is \$25.00 and will make a wonderful eatable centerpiece! Reservations are recommended for the gingerbread as the event is open to the public.

Immanuel Lutheran School will present The Christmas Story through a real Christmas pageant this year. It will take place on Friday, December 15, at 6:30 PM

in the Sanctuary. All are welcome! Most of the girls are angels, most of the boys are shepherds, and our PK and Kindergarten students are sheep. There are a few solos as well from our outstanding vocalists. The congregation will participate through the songs that help tell the story. The staff is working as a Thrivent Action Team on Wednesday, December 6th to create props and items for the pageant. The excitement of telling the story will be evident in the children's voices. Come if you can!

We had our largest Veteran turnout every for our Veterans' Day Celebration on November 10. It was the best celebration yet! We had our own PE teacher, Carrie Blais, as the featured speaker. She spoke from her heart and was wonderful! Carrie, a Marine Veteran, did two tours in Iraq. And, she is now back with us two days a week thanks to the generous donations of members. What a wonderful role model for the students. Thanks to all who donated to keep her two days a week!

We are thankful to Diane Erling and Alice Helming who are guiding the students in their efforts and planning our school beautification project. The donation of last year's graduating class was put to good use in purchasing bulbs. The students participated in the planting, which was around the flagpole. We know it will be beautiful in the spring.

Our NLSA accreditation process is complete. The school had very good marks in the process and we are pleased to announce that we are in good standing.

We are thankful for all of your support of our wonderful school.

Yours in Christ,
Dr. Anne Stuhlman, Principal



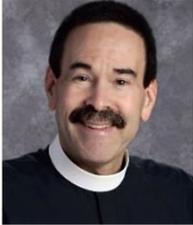
~ Church and School News ~



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Pastor's Welcome



HELLO! Welcome to the website of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School. We're glad you're here.

If it's directions to our church, information about our school, or even if you're just "looking around" you've come to the right place!

By God's grace Immanuel Lutheran has been meeting the needs of individuals and families in central Connecticut for 125 years! During that time a lot has changed; but one thing that will never change is God's love for us in Jesus Christ! So that's what we're all about: sharing God's love in everything that we do.

Join us at one of our Divine Services on Sunday morning, or attend one of our school activities. You'll see lots of smiles, and you'll have the chance to meet people who care about the most important things in life – and that includes YOU!

Please take the time to learn about all the ways that Immanuel can help you and/or your family. It would be our privilege to do so.

Questions? Call us. We'd love to hear from you!

God bless you!



Take a moment and check out **Immanuel's new website** at www.iles.org

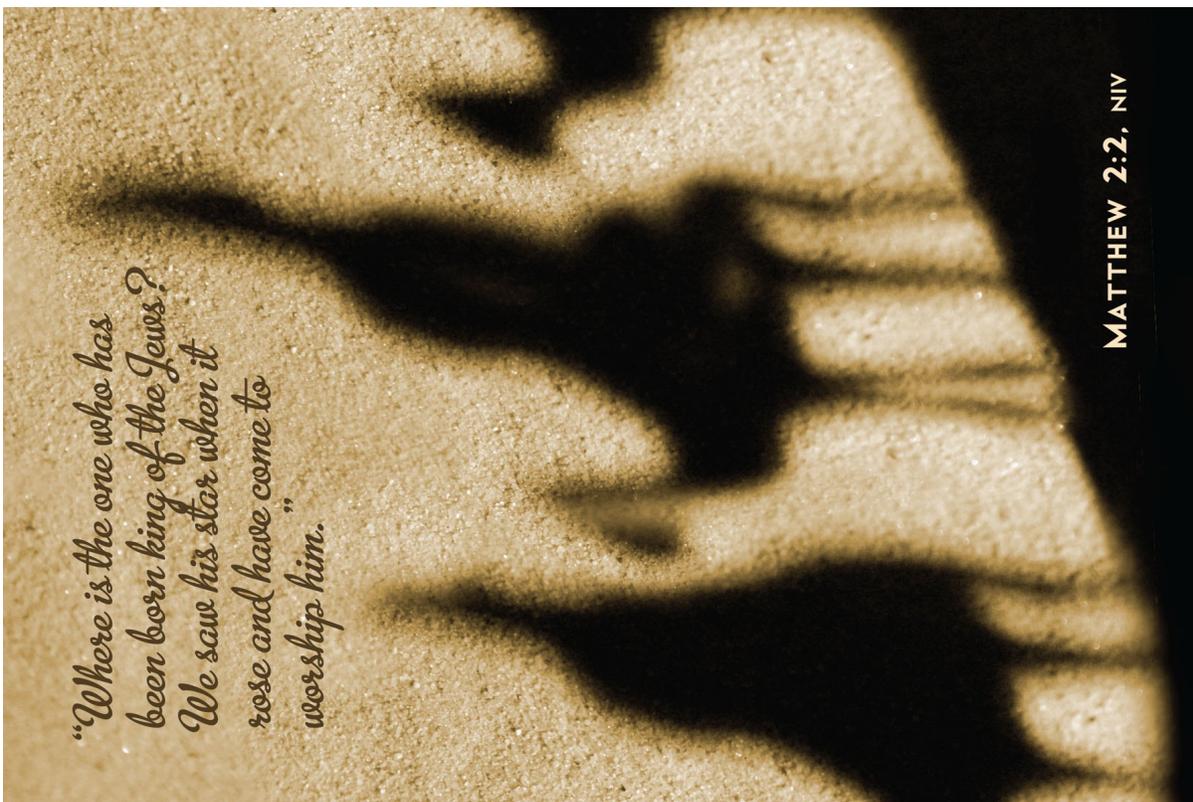


We are finally up and running. On the home page you will find the latest Sunday Bulletin & Announcements, the latest *Messenger* newsletter, and the Church & School Calendar. Also on the home page under the **OUR CHURCH** heading you will find an Archives pulldown, which currently contains the past three weeks of Sunday Bulletins & Announcements and the 2017 *Messenger* newsletters through October.

Dee Krampitz

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Joy Mora	2 Peggy Campbell Ethan Debase Walter Kuhr
3 Cameron Reed Luke Sonstroem	4 Lori Eschner Robert Helming	5 Lawrence Beaudoin Hannah Krueger	6 Samantha Frohn Joy Grekula Elizabeth Wilde	7	8	9 Anthony Lopisi Erin Madigan-Scheidel Gregory Scoville Oskar Tolmoff
10 James Bishop James Bugryn Scott Dennis Glorie Romaniello Bradley Scoville	11 James Thaxter	12 Alison Eschner Diane Finger Robert Wilde Bruce Wondrovski	13 Marion Schroeder	14 Michael Hamelin Virginia Schultz Nathaniel Tessman Bobby Triplett	15 Valya Rindfleisch Andrew Tonn	16 Luke Foley Stephanie Parenteau Jamie Simard
17	18 Kyleigh Boney Cole Krueger Carol Mogey	19 Marcia Lopisi	20 Hans Bayer Cheyenne Blaschke James Raspanti	21 Rebecca Croce Jonathan Follo Maria Santilli	22 Arlean Jensen	23 Myrna Gamache Jason Krueger
24 Ingebor Harrington Janice Sonstroem	25 Merry Christmas	26 Kristen Hill Maggie Moliengo	27 Rosie Fernandez David Follo	28 Brenda Buonafede Edwin Gillette	29 Alan Blank Albert C. Smith	30 Madison Curry Sheri Lejeune Jacob Stringer Edward Young
31 Sal Buonafede Victoria Casa						



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Messenger 

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