

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5955 South Elm Avenue
Fresno, California 93706

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The Immanuel Chimes

March Edition 2019

Read this online at immanueleaston.com

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church

5955 South Elm Avenue

Fresno, (Easton) California 93706

Church (559) 237-7909

Church Secretary E-mail immanueleaston@sbcglobal.net

Pastor John E-mail johnsaethre47@gmail.com

Youth Director Jacob Wood E-mail jaywood66@yahoo.com

Lenten Schedule

Wednesday, March 13th Soup Supper

6:30PM In Social Hall— Work Circle C

Wednesday, March 20th Soup Supper

6:30PM Soup Supper— Work Circle D

Wednesday, March 27th Soup Supper

6:30PM Soup Supper— Work Circle E

Wednesday, April 3rd Soup Supper

6:30PM Soup Supper— Work Circle A

Wednesday, April 10th Soup Supper

6:30PM Soup Supper— Work Circle B

Saturday, April 13th First Communion Class

9:00-11:00AM Grace Hall

Sunday, April 14-Thursday, April 18th BreakAway

Immanuel Youth depart to People's Church in Fresno!

For a Christian Mission to good & wonderful things!

Thursday, April 18th Maundy Thursday

7:00PM Service in Sanctuary

Friday, April 19th Good Friday Service

7:00PM Service in Sanctuary

Sunday, April 21st Sun

Sunday, April 21st Easter Sunrise Service

Pastor's Page

HANDS AROUND THE CROSS

It is a deep privilege to share with you a theme for Lent that has meant much to me over the years. Except for Ash Wednesday, we will be dealing with the various emotions that surrounded Jesus' final days leading up to the crucifixion. We will be using hands in depicting the attitudes of Jesus' friends and enemies under the theme: "Hands Around The Cross." Pete Gutierrez will supply the artwork each Wednesday to help us center on those particular emotions. By the way, artists will tell you that hands are the most challenging part of the human body to draw.

Of all the members of the body, with the possible exception of the eyes, the hands are the most representative of the complete personality. Think of the different ways we use our hands to express ourselves. Lovers hold hands. We hold hands in times of sorrow, we often grasp the hands that are still and cold in death. It is a recognition of the fact that they have been loved and served by those hands. Life is truly the work of our hands. Hands are a symbol of strength and power. We can either bless or do harm with our hands. I marvel at the hands I shake at the end of a worship service – hard-working farmers with calloused hands, or the soft hands of women who still have a hint of hand lotion on their hands. I love grasping those little hands of children, engulfing my hand in theirs.

Many of you have witnessed the laying on of hands at ordinations, or sending out our missionaries as we recently laid hands on those going to Cambodia. Paul commands us to lift up holy hands. Folded hands, as so beautifully portrayed in Albrecht Durer's masterpiece, "Praying Hands," represent our helplessness and self-surrender. God is calling Immanuel to be in prayer during this historic time.

Be sure to take every opportunity to experience the Lenten season in a new and refreshing way by attending the following services:

March 6, 7:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday. The imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Message: *Renewal Through Repentance*

March 13, 6:30 – Soup Supper. **Praying Hands**

March 20, 6:30 – Soup Supper. **Loving Hands**

March 27, 6:30 – Soup Supper. **Hostile Hands**

April 3, 6:30 – Soup Supper. **Guilty Hands**

April 10, 6:30 – Soup Supper. **Bleeding Hands**

I pray that using artwork and God's Word, along with the beauty of Holden Evening Prayer that God will renew our faith and deep appreciation for what Jesus went through for us on the way to the cross.

Pastor John

Prayers of the Church

Members and their families serving in the military: *Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Michael Hansen, Scott Linger, Matt Ward, & Matthew Tigchelaar.*

Those unable to travel about:

Tom Britter, Olga Hansen, Elsie Hoff, Marilyn Iversen Art & Marian Olesen, Phyllis Petersen, Helen Mackersie, Marvin Stollar, and Howard Nielsen.

Those in need of healing: *Bobby Bell, (recovering from eye surgery) Tom & Sandy Britter, (overall health problems) Anna Campbell, (stage I cancer), Lori Clifford, (Victoria Salwasser's cousin recovering from two broken legs) Esmerelda Figueroa, (Beatrice Salazar's mother recovering from open heart surgery) Shelly Grismore, (Jennifer Perez's grandmother battling Leukemia) Pastor Gary Gould, (congestive heart failure); Al (broken shoulder) & Judy (sciatica back and leg pain) Hooper, Janet (bad knee problems) & Bill (recovering from back surgery) Messenlehner, Marian Olesen (broken hip), Abby Pettitt (Don Pettitt's niece battling cancer), Virginia Pilegard (cancer), Phil Tews (recovering from back surgery), Joe Wozniczka (overall poor health), & Joan Wynn (recovering from surgery).*

Those grieving the loss of loved ones: *the family and friends of Chris Rosendahl.*

In Loving Memory

Sympathy love and prayers go out to the Rosendahl family, Chris passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, February 24, 2019 after battling many health problems. He was 56 years old. Chris is survived by his mother, Leona Rosendahl, his father, Don Rosendahl, his sons, Clint and Sam Rosendahl and his granddaughter, Harper Rosendahl. Chris was preceded in death by his older brother Brian, in January of this year. Grave-side services at Washington Colony Cemetery on March 1st at 11:00AM followed with a luncheon at Immanuel.

Thank You Immanuel

Phil Tews and his family would like to send out a heartfelt thanks for all of the prayers, cards, calls and well wishes following his back surgery on February 12th. He is, by God's grace recovering well and walking up to a mile day. He has had the best caregiver in the world by his side. Suzie and Phil thank you for all of your prayers. He and his family feel very blessed by your thoughts and prayers.

News Notes for March

Happy Birthday to PHYLLIS PETERSEN on her 94th Birthday
March 15th!

IMMANUEL CONTINUES TO RECYCLE please bring your cans & plastic CRV bottles securely bagged to Immanuel on Sunday mornings.

SEW CARING had 2 successful sewing days with 14 & 10 in attendance. We finished 30 quilts. Way to go ladies. We will display them in church one Sunday soon and pray over them before they are taken to the VA Hospital. Thanks to all who helped out with this project. It was a joy working with you. Laura Nielsen.

SAVE THE DATE: August 25th, 2019 a retirement party for **Pastor Paul Demant** is planned in Ferndale, CA. More information will be posted when available.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME to “SPRING AHEAD!” Daylight Saving Time will begin at 2 a.m. on **Sunday, March 10**, and will end at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 3rd, 2019.

AMERICAN UNION 4-H PANCAKE BREAKFAST ON MARCH 17th Stop in at the Washington Union Cafeteria on Sunday, March 17th for a plate of pancakes and sausage on Sunday, from 8:00 AM-11:00AM. The tickets are available at the door or from any 4-H club member if you would like to have breakfast before church on the 17th.

FISH & CHIPS EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT DURING LENT In loving memory of Brother Knight Andrew Guyette, Jr. and Sir Knight Harold J Guyette and Ernest Lencioni the annual fish & chips dinners continue every Friday night during Lent from 5:00PM-7:00PM at the St. Jude Catholic Church Hall at 208 West Jefferson Avenue in Easton, CA.

MISSING UMBRELLAS: If you seem to be missing your umbrella please check out the lost and found umbrella bin in our church library. Once you have found your umbrella, check out the new books and DVDs that are available to check out and read. The library has been recently updated and there are lots of children’s books and teen books and many books about the Christian Religion, the Lutheran Faith as well as many interesting novels.

THRIVENT MEMBERS: remember to renew your Choice Dollars to Immanuel Lutheran Church or the non-profit of your choice before March 29th

ST. PETERSBURG MEN’S ENSEMBLE IN CONCERT

You won’t want to miss the Saint Petersburg Men’s Ensemble in concert, here at Immanuel March 30 at 6:30 p.m. This is a return engagement as this group of professional singers from Russia blessed us at Immanuel last year with their powerful and inspirational acappella music.

This is a great opportunity to get the word out and invite your friends to hear these four men sing both sacred and secular numbers. The next day, Sunday, these men will provide music at our 10:30 a.m. service. Again, another fantastic opportunity to invite friends to worship the Lord and experience a most unique and wonderful sound from these men of the Orthodox Christian faith.



Stephen's Ministry is Christ Caring for People through People

How can congregations provide care for all the 'afters' in life?

After the funeral, *after* the Diagnosis, *after* the Job Loss, *after* the Divorce, *after* the Tragedy? Pastors want to provide ongoing care to all those who need it and a team of lay caregivers can make that a reality.

Stephen's Ministry is a program that equips the people for ministry. The program provides a system for training and organizing people in your congregation to provide quality Christian care to those experiencing life difficulties. With a team of trained lay caregivers, congregations can offer high-quality care to many more people in need.

The introductory workshop is composed of three sessions:

Session 1 is about ministering to those experiencing grief.

- Sample the quality of Stephen Minister training
- Develop grief ministry skills you can use right away

Session 2 is an introduction to Stephen Ministry

- Explore the life-changing value of this ministry
- Discover how to bring Stephen Ministry to your congregation

Session 3 is how to care in a distinctively Christian way.

- Learn to integrate faith into everyday caring and relating
- Experience the Christ-centered nature of Stephen Ministry

The introductory workshop cost \$15.00 per person or \$50.00 for a group of four or more from a congregation. The next workshop will be on May 4th from 9:00am-1:00pm at Visalia United Methodist Church.

Imagine how much ministry could happen if your congregation had a team of well-trained lay caregivers equipped to provide one-to-one Christian care to people who need it. That's the Stephen Ministry difference! This half-day workshop will introduce you to Stephen Ministry and show you how to get this life-changing ministry started in your congregation.

If you are interested in attending this introductory workshop please call the church office at 237-7909. For more information about Stephen's Ministry visit: stephenministry.org or call 314-428-2600.

Ellen Nielsen Missionary for CRU

In February I got to spend a week at UCLA for a New Missionaries Field Training with 65 other wonderful young professionals that also work with the Cru campus ministry. I left with renewed faith and a full heart. We learned about ethnic & cultural identity, crossing cultures, sharing Christ, launching Christian movements and missionary revival. We saw God move in the community, surrounding campuses and in our own hearts as we applied what we learned on campus. It was such a needed change of pace from my normal work in the SoCal Cru Office.

Our last day on campus was my favorite day...we were all sent out to visit 14 surrounding campuses. I went in a car with 4 other girls to LA City College. The two previous days on campus were primarily focused on sharing our faith with students, but that day we went on campus with the intention of finding Key Volunteers. A Key Volunteer, in other words, is a student with a heart to see their campus reached with the gospel.

We started by prayer walking the different sections of campus. When we stopped to have lunch, one of our interns, Chelsea, had made friends with an Asian American student while waiting in line. After we all got our food, he followed us to our spot on the stairs and asked if he could join us. We welcomed him with caring smiles and for the next 40 minutes he told us all about his life with very little prompting. Nathan grew up in the Bay Area but due to recent conflict with his family, he ran away and is now a homeless college student in SoCal. He had all of his medical documents stolen from him on the train, was kicked out of a local Christian shelter, and survived the last 3 winter months by roaming the LA metro station for shelter. Now that he's attending LA City College the LGBTQ shelter on campus helps him receive the support and medical attention that he needs. As he continued, we all were genuinely concerned for his situation though his transparency and optimism warmed our hearts. Unfortunately, before any of us could ask him any follow up questions, he frantically remembered that he had class in 5 minutes, got up to say goodbye and rushed off.

We didn't get to tell him about the love of Jesus or that we weren't even students at LACC or the fact that we would probably never see him again...and it felt unresolved and discouraging. Even so, it was clear that the sweet, young freshman just needed someone to genuinely listen and care for him as a person. That is exactly what God allowed us to do that for him. Cru's definition of successful evangelism is simply taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.

We went on campus with an agenda to find students with a heart for the gospel (which we were able to do later in the day) but God had something else planned for how we'd spend our lunch. It was a nice reminder of how to truly do Spirit led ministry- by just being available to be used by God. Though we were all prepared to share the gospel with him, that is not what God wanted us to do in that moment, He just wanted us to love Nathan by being present. Who has God given you the opportunity to show love to this week?

Your Sister in Christ
Ellen Nielsen

Women's Bible Studies

Faith Bible Study meets on Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00 P.M. at the home of Victoria Salwasser, 285-5181. Mim Gould will lead the study in Acts 19:21-41.

Dorcas Bible Study meets on Tuesday, March 14th at 10:00 A.M. in the church library Contact Kay Jensen, 266-5721. They will begin a new study by Thom Rainer titled "**Connected**". This study provides a biblical understanding of what it means to be a part of the body of Christ through a study of the Book of Ephesians. It shows that God has placed us in our local churches to serve others, care for them, pray together, learn together, and grow together--all for the glory of God. Join women just like you in the church Library. This study is 6 sessions long and they will meet monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. The group usually takes June, July and August off and resumes in September. Call Kay Jensen for more information.

Women's Ministries

Immanuel's women's ministry board has taken a bit of a break the past few months and will take on a new look this Spring. The women will elect new set officers after church on March 10th. Our current nominees are Victoria Salwasser for President, Marcia Hollenbeck for Vice President, Kristi Hollenbeck for secretary, Carol Bennetts for Treasurer, Kay Jensen for Dorcas Representative, Gina Cogan for Faith Representative. We have an opening for the Care Bear Representative. Here is what Care Bears Chairperson does.

The Care Bear position is someone who works with the needs of the church through the prayer chain. This person would monitor the prayer requests and keep in touch with people as their need for prayer may include needs of other natures, like organizing a meal or partial meal to be delivered to someone recuperating from surgery or grieving the loss of a loved one. The Care Bear representative will accumulate lists of those in need and of those who are blessed and willing and able to help others through acts of service by preparing a meal, sending a card, or giving a ride somewhere. Our Care Bear volunteer list has dissipated through the changes that life bring us. We will have to renew the list this Spring. If you find it in your heart to be the Care Bear Chairperson or on the list as a blessing provider, please call Victoria at 559-285-5181 for more information. The board will be elected on March 10th after church in the social hall. The meeting will be brief, elections are all that's on the Agenda. Once the new board is elected they will meet and start planning events for women of Immanuel. There have been many exciting events planned, powerful Bible Studies, and profitable fund raisers for great causes. Immanuel Women have been working together for over 75 years.

Junior High & High School Students Get ready for



This is the eleventh year of People's Church spring break outreach, BreakAway, Immanuel has been sending junior high and high school students since 2012! This will be the 8th year that Immanuel Youth will pair up with Easton Presbyterian Church during Spring Break! **BREAKAWAY** Camp is Sunday, April 14 through Thursday, April 18 and cost is \$130. This is an incredible week filled with serving others, impactful worship and powerful messages. You won't want to miss one of the best weeks of the year! For more information, email: jaywood66@yahoo.com. Fundraising will begin in March for this event.

Journey

Everything changes.

My mom had a dear friend by the name of Ruth Ellen. Ruth Ellen was an immensely talented woman. She could literally do anything. She also had a great insight that she passed on to my mom. And my mom has passed it on to me. Ruth Ellen often said, everything changes.

Boy isn't that true! You work and work to reach a goal only to have the premise of your goal change. Sometimes you live your whole life planning the picture of your future and then it changes. I know that all too well. I know many of you are in the same situation. The untimely death of a loved one is certainly life changing on the most basic level. Right there with that are health issues. Cancer, physically limiting diseases and dementia/Alzheimer's. Also there are lost jobs, financial losses and issues concerning our kids. Cars breaking down, houses needing major repairs and trips that can't be taken. I don't know about you but it seems I don't ever have a plan that actually comes off as I envision it. Sometimes you just feel like throwing up your hands! Sometimes I do!

So what do we do with these changes? I'm not telling you I'm anywhere near working this all out, because I'm not. But I'd like to suggest a starting point, faith. Before you all pile on, I know that that is easier said than done. It's hard to have faith when we are confronted with some of these things that face us. And frankly, I'm still not sure I grasp the whole picture just yet. Here are some examples of what I'm trying to convey. When my first wife left me I thought my whole world was for naught. Then I met Cindy. Not only did I have a loving companion I have two sons, daughter-in-law's and a grandson. My daughter ended up inheriting a house and property. I didn't see any of that coming at the time. Then Cindy was diagnosed with cancer. I thought that that was an awfully big negative compared to the positives. But that's where the "journey" began. God has given that negative some pretty amazing positive. I can't tell you how many of you God has touched through my pencil. Not my doing but His!

Everything changes and everything will continue to change. It's easy to let myself get mired in the mud of those things that change. I'm not looking far enough down the road. Not trusting that God has a plan to work all for good for those who love him. At the end of that muddy road is an eternal life with Jesus and all the saints that have gone on. I'm not telling you that I always see it that way and that every day is rosy. But in those moments when the fog lifts a little and I look further down the road and remember God's promises, I find a little peace. Sometimes it last for a while sometimes it's fleeting. But here's something else that's changing. No matter

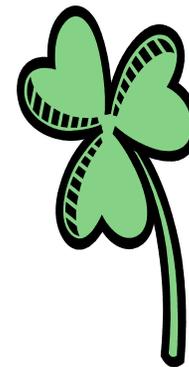
In Celebration of our Members in March

Birthdays

3-Alexandra Gardner
-5-Abigail Ellingson
Kathy Coelho
7-Jared Allred
11-Karl Nielsen
12-Cody Caglia
15-Phyllis Petersen
-Kristi Hollenbeck

19-Lillianna Perez

20-John Jensen
-Pat Griffin
22-Scott Rowley
24-Scott Hollenbeck
-Colby Hartwig
26-Dan Stiltz



Wedding Anniversaries

13-Bobby & Andrea Bell (16)
17 Clifford & Llewellyn Ostergard (35)
24-Floyd & Ginger Schmall (12)
26-Scott & Marcia Hollenbeck (31)

If you don't see your birthday or wedding anniversary in The Chimes please let us know! See Victoria in the church office about a Household Data Form so we're sure to have all

Baptismal Birthdays

2- Susie Tews
5- Jacob Caglia
19- Michelle Hollenbeck
20- Nicolas Orozco
21- Stephanie Hollenbeck
23- Claire Johnson
25- Liberty Auer
Kaylee Bennetts
Mckensie Bennetts
Micah Bennetts

March 10th the Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive

The Central California Blood drive is back in Easton on March 10th from 8:00AM-Noon. All donors will get a free lunch and non-donors who would like a lunch are asked to contribute only \$7.00 to cover the cost. Thank you to Rich Cisneros and Fred Cogan for the incentive to donate a pint. Please sign up on the blue bulletin board for your donation time and /or your sandwich!

Immanuel Library! Full of Great Stuff!

Ladies you will love "Angel Sister" a novel by Anne Gabhart. This book was donated by Cindy Slaton, thank you Cindy! It's a darling novel set in 1936 about a hard working family and a father who slipped into alcoholism and a mother trying to deal with their dire financial situation. An abandoned little girl comes into their lives and joy is found. The author reveals true love, the freedom of forgiveness and the strength to persevere through troubled times through a sultry Kentucky summer. Also the "Christy Miller" Series novels by Robin Jones Gunn are favorites of teenage and young girls. Old ladies love them too. DVDs are a new addition and there are plenty to share. Laugh for two hours straight watching some of them All are wonderful movies. Try one this week.

Immanuel Begins FCA Service On March 21st

Immanuel will begin serving FCA Lunches on Thursday, **March 21st—April 25th**. We like to give the kids a fresh baked cookie with their lunch. **If you like to bake cookies to share please bring them to the social hall by 9:00AM on Thursdays or bring them on Sundays packaged for the Freezer.** We serve about 160 kids each week the cookies will not go to waste. If you would like more information about this ministry please talk to Kurt Wolfe after church or call him at 229-8256.

21st Annual Frikadelle Dinner in the Social Hall

Sponsored by the Danish-American Historical Society

Saturday, March 9th starting with a social gathering at 5:00PM and Dinner at 6:00PM in Immanuel's Social Hall the historical society will host a dinner. They will be serving Salad, Danish meatballs, red cabbage, green beans, potatoes, desserts and beverage. The cost is \$28.00 per person and \$10.00 for children under 10. You may also tell Laurel Jacobsen at church on Sunday that you are planning to attend the dinner and pay at the door. Find their fliers hanging on the gold bulletin board in the church entryway.

This year's special guest is Gary Barber, a historian who grew up in Caruthers and is now living in San Francisco. He put together a display titled "Little Denmark" that was on exhibit at the 2018 Caruthers Fair. He will speak about the display and share information about the Danish American Immigrants. Also there will be a video performance featuring the late Victor Borge a pianist with a comedian twist.

This non-profit Historical Society maintains a small museum located at 905 R street in Fresno, open on Wednesdays from 9:00am-1:00pm. The membership includes folks interested in the Danish heritage and the contributions of Danes past and present in the Fresno area.

West Fresno Family Resource Center

Invites you to a

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Luncheon

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019

Time: 10:00am-12:30pm (early bird raffle at 9:30am)

Location: Maxie L Parks Community Center

1802 E. California Ave.

Fresno, CA 93706

RSVP by March 8th at Noon

to Past Mendoza (559) 621-2967

In remembrance of those who lost the battle, purple is encouraged to wear.

how much things change, I'm able, by God's grace, to see down that road a little more often.

Everything changes. It always will. Only one thing that never changes is God's love for me and you. I pray that reality will be more evident for us all each day as we go on.

I love you all. We are all change warriors. Share your changes with someone you trust. I'm here for you.

Love, John.

Youth Ministry and Sunday School

Hello Immanuel!

Things have been running very well for youth ministry so far this year. Here's a few announcements for what's happening during the Lenten season:

- Youth group will still be happening during soup suppers, with some changes. We will participate in the Lenten service (starting at 6:30) until after Pastor John finishes his message and then we will have a time of reflection and an activity until 8.
- I would like the same thing to happen for our K-5 students, with a time for them to paint or draw based on the night's message. I still need a volunteer to coordinate that so please let me know if you're interested.
- Also, if you have a 3rd, 4th or 5th grader or know someone that does, please check out our Sunday school class led by Dan and Dawn Spies. It's an amazing and fun way for your child to learn about the Bible. I've even learned a few new things when I sit in the class!

Please be praying for the future of our children's and youth ministries as we continue to push towards Immanuel's future.

Love you all,
Jacob Wood
Youth Minister at Immanuel

Save the Date: April 13th 5th Grade First Communion Class from 9:00-11:00AM in Grace Hall.

Cambodia Mission Team Report

Thanks to Immanuel Lutheran Church for sponsoring this amazing mission trip. We sensed your prayer support. Everything went smoothly and all 8 of us are not the same people we were when we left. It was a busy yet rewarding week. Here is a summary:

- * We shared Christ openly in 7 public schools.
- * We spoke in 4 churches
- * We estimated that over 1500 people heard the Good News of Christ through our presentation, many indicating that they had made a decision to receive Christ. Since only 2% of the population are Christian, most of the people we met heard about Christ for the first time.
- * We were able to distribute school supplies and medicines. We distributed 'Blessing Bags' to women (hygiene items, perfume vials, lipstick, and jewelry) in villages. You can't believe how thrilled they were to receive these bags, even though we had to instruct them on how to use things like dental floss, nail brushes, etc.



- * *Due to the generosity of so many people in America, we had about \$4,000 above our expenses to distribute in Cambodia. As a team, we agreed on how to spend this money. House of Hope (orphanage) and Prince of Peace International Christian school in Poipet received needed money as well as several small village churches. We were also able to buy Bibles to give to the new believers in the Drug Rehab facility that we spoke at. The money we distributed will go a long way in Cambodia.

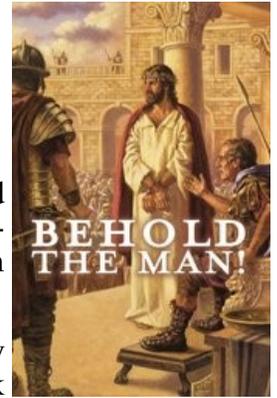


Daily Devotions for the Lenten Season at Immanuel!

Under the Gold Bulletin Board you will find copies of "Behold the Man!" by Jeffrey Hemmer, a pastor of Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fairview Heights, IL.

Immanuel has purchased 75 copies of this daily reading guide through Lent. There is one book for each family to take home and read.

Start reading on Ash Wednesday and finish it on Easter Sunday. Share the book with each family member to read on their own or read it out loud together. The book is about Jesus, as a man who had hands, nose, fingers, and toes just like we do. He suffered, died and rose again. The man who lived a perfect life and defeated death. The man whose death led to your life. This Lenten season read about our Lord's humanity. From the Introduction through Easter Sunday read about how Jesus, with His body, redeemed us. (Luther's explanation of the Second Articles of the Apostles Creed). Pick up a copy of the booklet today under the gold bulletin board.



Call Committee Prayer Sundays

Your call committee continues to meet on a monthly basis. Pastor John, Jacob Wood, Mark and Victoria Salwasser, attended the NALC Central Pacific Mission District Meeting on February 9th in Los Banos. At this meeting, Pastor Selbo reported on the vacancies and pastors available for call. He plans on meeting with David Wendel the NALC assistant to the Bishop for Ministry and Ecumenism in March to discuss the efficiency of the call process.

As Immanuel's call committee continues to wait for applicants they have started a **monthly prayer meeting for the entire congregation**. Anyone interested is to gather in the front of the sanctuary for prayer 15 minutes following worship on the second Sunday of every month. When you hear the bell toll during fellowship time that is when the prayer meeting will soon begin. The gathering will last no longer than 30 minutes. The entire time is dedicated for prayer time. Each session will be led by the Deacons. Please continue to pray for the call process on your own, this is a congregational gathering for prayer.

Happening in March....

New Member Classes for Immanuel!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF IMMANUEL? Pastor will lead a new member inquiry hour on March 16th at 9:00AM. If you are interested in basic Christian beliefs and the foundation of the Lutheran Church and what becoming a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church is all about, join Pastor John in Grace Hall on Saturday, March 16th at 9:00AM. There is no commitment to join Immanuel after coming to the class just come and learn about our church and deepen your understanding of the Christian faith. If you so choose, new members will be installed on Sunday March 24th during worship at 10:30AM.

CHILD ABUSE & MANDATED REPORTER TRAINING: Fresno Council on Child Abuse Prevention will conduct a training class at Easton Presbyterian Church on Sunday March 31st at 12:15PM. The class is free for anyone who is interested! The class will be an hour, a light lunch will be provided. Please sign up on the blue bulletin board by March 25th if you would like to attend.

IMMANUEL'S CHURCH PRINTED DIRECTORY WILL BE PRINTED IN MARCH! Please email or call the church office with any corrections or additions to the church directory. **WORK CIRCLES** are groups of folks that attend Immanuel and gather as groups to help set up and clean up after church events. There are 5 Circles labeled A-E. The circles are listed in the back of the church printed directory. If you would like to be a contact person for a Work Circle, please let the office know by emailing immanueleaston@sbcglobal.net or calling 237-7909.

HEADS UP TO ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS Each year on March 1st, Thrivent "re-sets" the Thrivent Choice funding, which means you must go on the Thrivent website during March and make a choice about the funds being held in your name. You choose a ministry to receive these funds. Understand These are not your personal dollars, they are dollars which Thrivent will give to a ministry (of your choice) and (in your name). There is a long list to choose from: Immanuel Lutheran Church is one on the list. Please don't leave these easily available ministry dollars unused! On March 31st the amounts go back to zero. If you need help with this, please call your local Thrivent Representative, Michael Fitzgerald at 323-9226.



We worked closely with churches and pastors. Our translators were very good and were pastors or teachers themselves. The messages and art of Rick Alonzo held our groups spellbound. I marvel that I met Rick for the first time at Rally Day last September at Immanuel Lutheran and how God had called him then to be a part of this team.

Each team member was involved in our presentations by sharing their testimony, sharing music, and performing a mime. Most of our audience was youth so we were very involved with the young people in Cambodia through various activities.



Cambodia, the poorest Asian country, has a very sad recent history but we could see a country and its young people working hard to becoming stable economically and politically. The churches we visited had mostly young people. The older Buddhists are happy to have their children involved with the Christian churches. People in Cambodia are responding to the message of Christ. It was exciting for us to be used by God in spreading the Good News of His Son, Jesus Christ. Maybe only 8 of us went to Cambodia, but you were part of our team as well. Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,
Laurel Jacobsen



MARCH

2019



Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Acolyte Schedule						2 8:00 AM –3:00PM All Church Work Day & Potluck!
3-Kaylee Bennetts 6-Hilary Gardner	10- Isaac Orozco 17-Jacob Caglia	21-Emilee Goff 31-Joseph Perez				
3 9:15AM Sunday School for all 10:30AM Worship/Communion 11:30AM Fellowship	4 12:00PM Easton Food Distribution 7:00PM NA in Social Hall	5 9:00AM Quilting in Social Hall 6:00PM Faith Bible Study at the home of Victoria Salwasser	6 7:00PM Ash Wednesday 8:00-10:00AM Breaking Grounds in Social Hall	7 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 10:00AM Immanuel Bible Study in Grace Hall 1:00PM FCA Lunch in Social Hall	8	9 Social Hall Reserved by the Danish American Historical Society Frikadelle Dinner 5:00PM
10 Daylight Savings Time Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive 9:15AM Sunday School for all 10:30AM Worship for all 11:30AM Fellowship	11 7:00PM NA in Social Hall	12 10:00AM Dorcas Bible Study in the Church Library	13 8:00-10:00AM Breaking Grounds in Social Hall 6:30PM Soup Supper Work Circle C	14 Chimes Deadline 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 10:00AM Immanuel Bible Study in Grace Hall 1:00PM FCA Lunch in Social Hall	15	16 New Member Class in Grace Hall 9:00am—11:00am
17 9:15AM Sunday School for all 10:30AM Worship/Communion 11:30AM Fellowship 	18 7:00PM NA in Social Hall	19 7:00PM Church Council meeting in Grace Hall	20 8:00-10:00AM Breaking Grounds in Social Hall 6:30PM Soup Supper Work Circle D	21 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 10:00AM Immanuel Bible Study in Grace Hall 1:00PM FCA Lunch in Social Hall	22	23 NA Social Hall Reserved
24 New Member Sunday 9:15AM Sunday School for all 10:30AM Worship for all 11:30AM Fellowship	25 7:00PM NA in Social Hall	26	27 8:00-10:00AM Breaking Grounds in Social Hall 6:30PM Soup Supper Work Circle E	28 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 10:00AM Immanuel Bible Study in Grace Hall 1:00PM FCA Lunch in Social Hall	29	30 6:30PM St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble in Sanctuary
31 9:15AM Sunday School for all 10:30AM Worship for all 11:30AM Fellowship				Children's Sermon Schedule		
				3-Sandy Marthedal 10-Marcia Hollenbeck 17-Ericka Gardner	24-Jacob Wood 31 Marcia Hollenbeck	