

**Our Mission Statement:**  
*Immanuel Lutheran  
Is a family of believers  
who worship,  
learn, serve  
and share Christ's love*

### *Special Interest Articles:*

- Christmas Market
- Christmas Cantata
- Senior Luncheon
- Christmas Program
- Christmas Worship Schedule

### *Monthly News:*

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## **From The Pastor:**

I recently talked to someone who was ecstatic because they had just purchased, wrapped and sent the last of their Christmas gifts for this year. Every other gift they planned to give was in the closet ready to go under the tree once it was up. My initial reaction was: "Wow! THANKSGIVING is still more than a week away." Their response: "I know. Isn't that great! I will decorate at the house after Thanksgiving, but it feels like I'm totally ready for Christmas."

Oh, to be "totally ready for Christmas"! Most of you know that I'm not a big fan of putting up Christmas lights outside and that it troubles me that the decorating for the commercialization of Christmas is already in full swing – well before Thanksgiving Day.

In our Lutheran tradition we celebrate the church year season of ADVENT. The 4 weeks before Christmas we spiritually prepare for the Christ Child's birth by focusing on things meant to make our hearts, minds and lives ready to receive that Christ Child anew. We'll hear Scripture that foretells of God's gift of the Savior. We'll be urged to "prepare the way" in our hearts and lives to receive the one who came to take away the sin of the world.

This is counter to the culture of the world around us that is calling us at this time of year to want and get more stuff for ourselves and for those we love. As if the "stuff" will fill the void in our lives that is seeking the gifts Jesus brings through his life, death and resurrection. It can't!

Jesus is the reason for the season and he is the greatest gift of the season as well! Join us in worship, study and fellowship as we prepare for and celebrate the Savior's birth.

A blessed Advent & Christmas from the Palan's to each and every one of you!

In His Love,

Pastor Bob

## Serving in the Community:

### Worship At Country Care Manor

**Worship at Country Care Manor on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.** Come join us as we bring worship and Holy Communion to the residents. Anyone is welcome to join us!

### La Vernia Food Pantry

The LV Food Pantry has entered its “busy, JOYFUL” season! In November, we served over 55 families; thankfully, we had help from other churches! If you ever have the opportunity to come and help us serve on our Saturday to work the Food Pantry, it would be more than appreciated. Thanksgiving baskets were distributed to almost 150 families in our community; your donations do make a difference!

**Immanuel will be collecting 200 cans of Ranch Style beans and 10 loaves of banana or pumpkin bread for the Christmas baskets. If you received a name from the Angel tree,** gifts will need to be returned, wrapped and labeled with the Box # and name attached, no later than Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Come out to the pantry on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-11:00 am to help and witness the true meaning of Christmas! Hope to see you there!

**As always, help us collect the following items** as Immanuel's contribution to the food needs at the pantry: **any kind of pasta, tomato sauce, canned meats.** Any non-perishable food items are welcome, but each church in the Ministerial Alliance is charged with collecting certain items.

### NALC Disaster Response

The work of the NALC Disaster Response Task Force works year round to plan and implement disaster response from congregations in the NALC. Members of this task force (one of which is Pastor Bob) are from around the United States and they meet via teleconference periodically throughout the year.

One of their goals is to have a Disaster Warehouse in each of the NALC's mission districts. That way items needed and provided by your donations can reach disaster areas sooner than having to be delivered from a long distance. Our Texas region has a warehouse in Rosenberg. Items, when collected by Immanuel members, go to this warehouse, but aren't necessarily just used for Texas events. These items will go where needed.

**Items always needed:** shovels, rakes, straw brooms, string mops, rubber gloves, leather gloves, face masks (N95 rating), paper towels, contractor trash bags, rags, scrub brushes, 5 gal buckets with lids, quilts, Bibles, travel size shampoos, lotions, toothpaste, deodorants, combs, toothbrushes, bath towels, gift cards to Home Depot, Lowe's, Walmart. Bring these items to the church and leave them in the annex or parsonage. We will see that they get to the Texas Mission Region warehouse in Rosenberg.

### Special Offerings

**Thank you for your generosity and out-pouring of Christian love** to these two ministries with your special offerings in October and November:

Water Mission International – we collected \$537.00. Our SWT Mission District collected over \$13,000.00.  
Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries – we collected \$600.00

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## Immanuel's Christmas Events & Schedule

### Hanging of the Greens

Have you ever wondered why we celebrate the “hanging of the greens” or why an evergreen is called an evergreen? And why Christmas greens are traditionally used to emphasize the nativity? Green represents renewal, new life, freshness, and rebirth. Plants such as pine, fir, holly, ivy, and mistletoe are called evergreens because they do not die; through the seasons of the year, they remain ever-green; ever-alive. It is no wonder then that we deck our sanctuary and halls with evergreens during this Advent season. Advent is the season of preparation for the ever-coming Christ, God’s gift to us of renewal and transformation.

The Hanging of the Greens is based on the English tradition of decorating the home with wreaths, garlands, a Christmas tree, and evergreens for Advent and Christmas. In a church setting, it readies the sanctuary (and church members) for the season. As we decorate the church, not only will we be reminded of the history behind these symbols of this special season, but we will rededicate these symbols—and ourselves—to the service of God.

### Decorating & Services

**We will meet on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to decorate the sanctuary.** All are welcome to come and help as we make ready our sanctuary, ourselves, and our hearts for the birth of the Baby Jesus!

**Then on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> (the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent) we will have our traditional “Hanging of the Greens” service.** Contact Pastor Bob if you would like to be one of the readers.

### Christmas Market 2019

**Join us and help support Immanuel Lutheran Church Women’s Christmas Market on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.** Set-up will take place on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 12 noon if you would like to help.

We would love to have your homemade baked goods to add to our Bake Sale table. These can be delivered to the church on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> between 9am-12pm or Saturday morning no later than 9:00 am. We are also looking for donated items for our ILC table – canned goods, hand made items and collectibles. Sign up to help the day of the market – we need people to help in the kitchen, at the Immanuel table, and just help in general.

Any questions?? Contact Darla Buccigrossi or [ilcwmarket@gmail.com](mailto:ilcwmarket@gmail.com). See you there!

### Christmas Cantata: “The Glory of Christmas”

Our Immanuel Christmas Choir will perform “The Glory of Christmas” on **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm** and **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**. A cookie social will follow the Saturday evening performance.

Come experience the hope, promise, wonder, majesty and mystery of the Christmas story through song!

## Immanuel's Christmas Events & Schedule continued ...

### Senior Saints Luncheon

The annual Senior Saints Luncheon will be on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and will be held at the La Vernia United Methodist Church.

This luncheon is for members who are 60 + and is provided and hosted by our Children of God youth (and parents). **Please RSVP** to the church office, or sign up on the sheets provided in the narthex, annex and parsonage.

### Sunday School Christmas Program

Immanuel's Sunday school children will perform their annual Christmas Program on **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in the sanctuary.**

Come and see the children as they retell the Christmas story of Jesus' birth.

### Poinsettias

The opportunity to purchase poinsettias to beautify our sanctuary for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is once again given by the Women of Faith. **Plants will be \$10 each.**

Please fill out one of the forms made available in the narthex or parish hall and turn in with payment to the church office. **Make checks payable to ILCW** – Immanuel Lutheran Church Women. **Deadline to order is Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

### Christmas Worship Schedule

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>December 22</b> | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> , one worship service at 10:00 am, no Sunday school    |
| <b>December 24</b> | <b>Christmas Eve</b> , Candlelight Communion Services at 5:00 & 11:00 pm                      |
| <b>December 25</b> | <b>Christmas Day</b> , Worship with Holy Communion at 10:00 am.                               |
| <b>December 29</b> | <b>Service of Lesson &amp; Carols</b> at 10:00 am. Only one worship service; no Sunday school |

## An Invitation ...

By the grace of God and the call of the Church  
*Katherine Lee Boos Wegner*  
will be ordained into the Ministry of Word & Sacrament in the ELCA  
on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 1:30 PM  
Immanuel Lutheran Church, 500 Immanuel Road, Pflugerville TX  
A reception is to follow

Katie Boos Wegner is a former member of Immanuel, La Vernia. She was baptized and confirmed here. She is the daughter of former members, Al & Sheri Boos, and daughter-in-law of Bob & Sherrie Palan. She has been called to serve as pastor of Hutto Lutheran Church. She will be installed there on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. All are welcome to attend either event. **If you would like to send a card, via the Palan's, please have it to the church no later than Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.**

## Stewardship of Time, Talents & Treasure

If you did not turn in your Time & Talent form or Commitment card – it's not too late!! Please fill these out and return them during the offering or to the church office. **Remember – we start new each year with your Time & Talent forms**, so if you signed up in the past for an area of ministry, or to serve as a worship assistant, please fill out a new form. Otherwise, you might be overlooked for how you would like to serve in 2020. All of these documents can be found in the narthex, annex and parsonage for your convenience.

## Building Update

Should you have questions, constructive suggestions, or concerns, please email those to the committee's email address: [ilclvbuild@gmail.com](mailto:ilclvbuild@gmail.com). Your questions, suggestions and/or concerns will be addressed at the next appointed meeting of the committee, and then you will receive a reply.

The members of the Building Committee are: Eric Fryer, Chair, Audrey Badders, Dewayne Curry, Travis Hild, Rebe Penshorn, Shirley Stanush, and Marlin Tanneberger.

## Singles Ministry

One event is scheduled for the remainder of the year, on **Thursday, December 12 – Christmas Show at the Brauntex Theater in New Braunfels**. The Grand Ol' Christmas Show is a tribute to the original, traditional, old fashioned Christmas Variety Show at the historic Brauntex Theater in downtown New Braunfels. Cars will depart at 4:00 pm for dining in New Braunfels prior to the 7:30 pm performance. Tickets have been purchased for the 8 singles who signed up for this event.

**No events are planned for 2020.** If you would like to organize an event or events for this group, please contact the church office.

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## From the Congregation Council President

Are you a contented sheep in God's pasture? Do you walk each day in the conscious joy of all the spiritual riches that are yours in Christ? Or, could it be that you've gotten so caught up in the world and all of its pressures that you complain and gripe a lot?

A grumbling spirit means that you're not enjoying the gracious provision of the Good Shepherd. You're lacking the contentment He wants you to have.

A 14 yr old, wiser than his or her years, wrote this poem (from an Operation Mobilization newsletter, Oct 1991):

It was spring, but it was summer I wanted – the warm days and the great outdoors.  
It was summer, but it was fall I wanted – the colorful leaves and the cool, dry air.  
It was fall, but it was winter I wanted – the beautiful snow and the joy of the holiday season.  
It was winter, but it was spring I wanted – the warmth and the blossoming of nature.  
I was a child, but it was adulthood I wanted – the freedom and the respect.  
I was twenty, but it was thirty I wanted – to be mature and sophisticated.  
I was middle-aged, but it was twenty I wanted – the youth and the free spirit.  
I was retired, but it was middle-age I wanted – the presence of mind without limitations.  
My life was over – but I never got what I wanted!

Real contentment comes from experiencing all that the Good Shepherd has provided for you. It's available in Christ, for every one of His sheep. Don't miss it!

## An Update from Your Treasurer

Our approved spending plan for 2019 was \$230,102.00. As of October 31, 2019, \$162,572.11 has been expended. This includes predicted expenditures for worship and service, congregational life, benevolence, building and grounds maintenance, administration, salaries and benefits. It does not include expenses from dedicated accounts.

Our cumulative income to expenses reflects \$167,076.25 in income, \$162,572.00 in expenses.

We should not ignore financial challenges, but neither should we wring our hands in despair about our future. Remember that Jesus and his movement were small and poor by worldly standards, but the Jesus Movement inaugurated God's future for the world.

We appreciate your sacrificial gifts towards our church ministries. I invite you to prayerfully reflect on some financial issues that present ongoing challenges for us; but most importantly, Trust God, Immanuel Lutheran Church, and let's band together and do the ministry which God has entrusted to us.

## Flowers for 2020

The 2020 Flower Chart is posted in the narthex. **When signing up, please print, and indicate the occasion for which you are placing your flowers.**

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## Christian Education

### Family Service

We hope that you will continue to pray about and consider serving as worship assistants as a family in the coming year – 2020! What a great way to practice stewardship of your time and talents!! Sign-up sheets are posted in the narthex.

### New Adult Sunday School Class

**Pastor Bob will lead an adult class on Sunday, December 1 and 8 during the Sunday school hour in the annex.**

A new class will begin in January 2020. Watch for details in the January newsletter.

### Sunday School Christmas Program

Renee Scull will direct our Sunday School Christmas Program this year, to be assisted by Shanna Louis & Shannon Coleman.

Rehearsals will be held on Sunday mornings during Sunday school and on Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm.

The program will be held on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in the sanctuary.

### Vacation Bible School

**Rebe Penshorn will serve as our VBS Coordinator for next summer.**

**A theme has been picked (*Group's Rocky Railway*) and we're ready to begin some initial planning.** Come on and jump "on board" and help plan for our next VBS. See Rebe and let her know how you want to help!

### Day Camp

If you would be interested in coordinating next summer's Day Camp, please contact Sherrie Palan.

Dates for the camp need to be chosen before January 1, 2020, but we need a coordinator first. Please see Sherrie to see what all is involved.

### Sunday School Superintendent

If you feel called to this position, please see Pastor Bob, Mike Rix (Council Rep for Christian Education) or Sherrie Palan. You would have the opportunity to be mentored from now to the end of May to make for a smooth transition. Join us in prayer for someone to answer this call to ministry and service.

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## Women of Faith

*God's gift to us – Luke 2:8-12, "Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger'".*

God's gift to us is Jesus and Christmas is the birthday of Jesus Christ. Have you ever wondered why we typically celebrate His birth by giving gifts to others?

### What gifts does Jesus want from us?

- Mary gave the gift of trust – Proverbs 3:5-6: *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."*

Mary was a teenage girl, engaged to Joseph when an angel appeared to her with the startling message that she would have a baby, a son named Jesus. Since she was still a virgin, Mary didn't understand the message, but she knew the One who had sent it – and that was enough. Mary gave the gift of trust; Jesus wants our trust.

- Joseph gave Him obedience – John 14:15: *"If you love me, you will obey what I command."*

Joseph's engagement to Mary was legally binding. Imagine his shock and confusion when he learned that Mary was pregnant. Knowing that he could not possibly be the baby's father, Joseph's first reaction was to divorce Mary quietly. An angel from God appeared and told Joseph to "keep her but do not sleep with her!" Now Joseph's response could have been many things – but he chose obedience. Obedience is not just an outward motion – it is also an inward attitude.

- The shepherds gave a gift of praise Psalm 50:6: *"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."*

When the shepherds heard the angels' news, they went to see Jesus for themselves. After they saw the baby, they left praising God! Anytime we are in the presence of God, we will praise Him. Praise is a continual choice we make until it becomes a habit. Don't let anyone or any circumstance keep you from praising God!

- Prayer is our gift to others this Christmas season – James 5:16: *"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."*

Gifts of trust, obedience, praise and sacrifice please God and are gifts fit for the King. In other words, the best gift that we can give God at Christmas is **us** and the best gift we can give to each other is **prayer**. A Christian's most powerful resource is communion with God through prayer. The results are often greater than we thought were possible. Prayer should be our gift to others this Christmas season.

### Let's Pray

Lord, today I celebrate Your birth. Thank You for the gift of life and love I find in knowing You. My Christmas gift to You is everything I am, everything I have, and everything I hope to be. Amen.

## Women of Faith continued . . .

### Bible Study

The **Thursday evening Women's Bible Study will meet in December on Thursdays, Dec 5 & 19.** (adjustment made because of Christmas; we normally meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month) **at 7:00 pm** in the old parsonage. We are studying 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel and King David. Join us! See Sherrie Palan if you have any questions.

### Texas Mission Region Women of the NALC

A gathering is being planned for the ladies in the Texas Mission Region of the Women of the NALC. This event will take place on Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Peace Lutheran Church, Rosenberg, TX.

More details to come, but save the date now and make plans to attend.

### Women of Faith Fund Raisers

These fund raisers, sponsored by Immanuel's Women of Faith, will benefit the New Building Fund:

1. **Yankee Candles** – go to [www.yankeecandlefundraising.com](http://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com) and enter Group #999996473 in the "Start Shopping" box. This fund raiser will go through December 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. **Rada Cutlery** – go to <http://bit.ly/2PME3WS> to order.

Both of these products would make great Christmas gifts! See Patrice Goodman if you have any questions on either fund raiser.



## Youth Group News

**Parents:** New travel/medical forms for 2019/2020 will be available at the end of August. We ask that you pick one up and fill it out for all youth 4 years of age thru grade 12. Forms can be obtained from the annex, church office, or from the display stand in the old parsonage. Please turn these in to the church office.

### Sr High Youth – Grades 9-12

The Sr High youth are meeting twice a month on Wednesday evenings, 6:00-8:00 pm.

**Their next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.** A meeting is tentatively set for December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Peacemakers – Grades 6-8

**The Peacemakers will be selling chocolate candy at the Christmas Market on December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm.** We need 2 youth per hour to sell. Proceeds raised will go to help with the cost of attending confirmation Camp next summer.

Confirmation class will meet on Wednesdays, December 4 and 11, and then be off for December 18, 25 & January 1<sup>st</sup>. Class will resume January 8, 2020.

Dates for Confirmation camp for the summer of 2020 are now being looked at – parents, look for information regarding camp in the coming weeks.

### Children of God – Grades 3-5

The Children of God are getting ready for the annual Sunday School Christmas Program. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour, and Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. See Renee Scull, Shanna Louis or Shannon Coleman if you have any questions.

Also, they will be preparing for their annual Senior Saints Luncheon, which will be held on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at the La Vernia United Methodist Church. Shannon Coleman will be contacting parents and youth on this event.

### Youth Committee

**The next Youth Committee meeting will be Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the parsonage.**

If you have questions, comments or suggestions for our youth ministry here at Immanuel, contact Kelli Thompson, Chair of the Youth Committee, Karen Campbell, Congregation Council Rep for Youth, or Pastor Bob.

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## November Council Meeting Highlights:

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Council met November 14, 2019. Members present were: Pastor Bob Palan, Mark Buccigrossi, Karen Campbell, Chrystal Coble, Eric Fryer, Patrice Goodman, Darryl Peshorn, Mike Rix, Amy Wagner. Absent: Bill Roser. Visitors: Chris, All Pro Electric addressed the electrical issues in the sanctuary; Marlin & Sharon Tanneberger

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as corrected. Treasurer's report presented as of the end of October 2019 - Receipts: \$14,614.30; Expenses: \$15,803.44; Loss: \$1,189.14. Total Assets in Bank Accounts: \$180,175.44. Special offerings taken October 27<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>: Water Mission Intl received \$537.00 from Immanuel (\$13,000 + received from the Southwest Texas Mission District churches that Sunday); Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries received \$600.00.

**Monthly Attendance:** Oct 6: 110; Oct 13 118; Oct 20 115; Oct 27 145; Average attendance: 122

### Pastor's Report:

- Pastoral Acts: Funeral for Nicholas Allan (non-member) on October 19; First Communion for Cadence D'Arche, Jackson Faglie, Brody Fryer, Christopher Homeyer on October 27, 2019; wedding for Victoria Comeaux & Cameron Clark on October 12, 2019; the Gawlik family was also received on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> (they were not listed in the minutes last month).
- Worship schedule for Christmas – New Business
- Palan's will take vacation from December 25-Jan 1. Vacation also for a family function Dec 13-15.

### Ministry Reports

- **Festival** – Recommendation for dispersal of funds pending.
- **Property** – woodwork done on back wall of annex; still needs to be painted.

### Old Business

- Building repairs – everything on hold until electrical problem is taken care of; problem of too many amps being used by lights and hvac.
- Striping of parking lot – on hold.
- Church van – offered \$1,250; title not found; Patrice will apply for lost title.
- Nominating Committee – 3 council positions up for election in January; 1 alternate.
- Audit – will pursue this in January once books are closed out.
- Exterminator – Eric getting bids; tabled for now.
- Approval of Smile.Amazon account – motion made, seconded and approved to use this as a fund raiser.

### New Business:

- Electrical repairs for sanctuary – Chrystal will check our insurance policy on coverage; plan to do repairs in phases; recommendation to reduce kw on each air conditioner unit; Murray AC to be called.
- Drawings for new building – motion made, seconded and carried to approve bid of \$12,000-\$13,000 by Villa Park to do required drawings; monies to come from New Building Fund.
- Will have a hymn sing December 15<sup>th</sup> in pastor's absence; Council to lead.
- Discussion on the unification of the church budget; more discussion to follow; will get financial reports from all groups with outside bank accounts before next meeting; thereafter, will require quarterly reports.
- Builder's Risk Insurance policy – current policy expires in January; discussed renewing; tabled, as it will have to be revisited for each building phase.
- Congregational concerns – discussed several issues; Mark referenced a book entitled, "Take Your Church's Pulse." More information to come.
- Christmas Worship schedule – motion made, seconded and carried to approve: 1 service on Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am; worship at 5:00 & 11:00 pm on Christmas Eve; worship at 10:00 am on Christmas Day; 1 service on Dec 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

Next meeting of the council to be held **Thursday, December 10, 2019** at 7:00 pm in the old parsonage.

## December Birthdays

- 2 Robert Gregory
- 4 Raymond Howton  
Pete Stemmerman
- 6 Betty Bauwens  
Layla Harper
- 7 Jackie Hill
- 8 Trevor Baumann
- 10 Joshua Fischer  
Eric Fryer  
Rebecca Galvan  
Hank Henkes
- 13 Judi Bullington  
Gloria Kipp
- 14 Ronnie Haug
- 15 Karaline Campbell  
Garrett Haass
- 18 Loren Smith  
Kahmilla Zaiontz
- 19 Phyllis Stensgaard
- 20 Carin Juarez  
Kinley Tripp
- 21 Calvin Dieckow
- 22 Grace Gann
- 23 Tim Ferguson
- 24 Jack Gawlik
- 25 Karisha Kandis
- 27 Sharon Bunton
- 28 Deborah Bauer
- 29 Linda Duelm  
Kathi Hancock  
Kristel Lambeck
- 30 Marie Becker

## December Anniversaries

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bryan & Amy Badders
- 11<sup>th</sup> Harold & Billi Schroeder
- 15<sup>th</sup> Chris & Anzlie Sodrok
- 18<sup>th</sup> Ken & Amy Kosub
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Malcolm & Gerry Morgenroth
- 29<sup>th</sup> David & Paige Haass

## Special dates in December:

- Dec 1** Advent begins
- Dec 7** Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec 21** Winter begins
- Dec 24** Christmas Eve
- Dec 25** Christmas Day
- Dec 31** New Year's Eve

## FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER

- Dec 1** Altar Poinsettia
- Dec 8** Altar Flowers needed
- Dec 15** Altar Lillian Kosub
- Dec 22** Altar Marvin & Laura Baumann
- Dec 29** Altar Patrice Goodman  
Amanda Schulze

## Yard Work Schedule

- Dec 9-14** Billy Bunton, Eddie Willeford,  
Shane Womack
- Dec 16-21** Dewayne Curry, Pat Meyer, Red  
Mills, Marlin Tanneburger
- Dec 30-Jan 4** Mark Buccigrossi, Garland &  
Chrystal Coble, Ronnie Haug

*“Christmas is forever,  
not for just one day.  
For loving, sharing, giving,  
are not to put away.”*

*Norman Wesley Brooks*

**ILC NEWS is the official news publication of Immanuel Lutheran Church, La Vernia TX.**

Email: [immanuellavernia@gmail.com](mailto:immanuellavernia@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.lvilc.org](http://www.lvilc.org)

**Ministers:** The Members of ILC

**Pastor:** Dr Robert M. Palan 830-660-6022

**Church Secretary:** Sherrie Palan 830-660-0446

**Finance Secretary:** Cindy Corbin 210-602-1597

**Organist:** Adrienne Stone 210-275-4682

**Nursery Attendant:**

**Custodian:** Crystal's Xtreme Cleaning

*Immanuel is a member of the North American Lutheran Church.* We are part of the Texas Mission Region and the Southwest Texas Mission District.

The NALC is Christ-centered, mission-driven, traditionally-grounded and congregationally-focused.

#### **NALC Main Office**

3500 Mill Run Dr  
Hilliard OH 43026-7770  
Phone: 614-777-5709  
Email: [info@thenalc.org](mailto:info@thenalc.org)

#### **NALC Financial Administration**

2299 Palmer Dr, Ste 220  
New Brighton MN 55112-2202  
Phone: 888-551-7254  
Email: [nalc.mnoffice@thenalc.org](mailto:nalc.mnoffice@thenalc.org)

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Rev John F Bradosky | Bishop               |
| Rev Mark Chavez     | General Secretary    |
| Rev Gemechis Buba   | Missions Director    |
| Rev David Wendel    | Ministry Coordinator |
| Ryan Schwarz        | Treasurer            |

#### **Southwest Texas Mission District of the NALC**

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Rev Norm Sulacia         | Dean                |
| Rev Eric Waters          | General Secretary   |
| Rev Eric Waters (Acting) | Recording Secretary |
| Rev John Conrad          | Mission Director    |
| Rev Jan Unger Campbell   | Treasurer           |

#### **Immanuel Congregation Council**

|                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Patrice Goodman, Pres, Administration | 830-391-2346 |
| Bill Roser, VP, Stewardship           | 210-837-1962 |
| Karen Campbell, Secretary, Youth      | 210-413-7665 |
| Chrystal Coble, Trea, Worship/Music   | 210-667-9052 |
| Mark Buccigrossi, Social Concerns     | 830-534-8582 |
| Eric Fryer, Property                  | 210-535-7466 |
| Darryl Penshorn, Fellowship           | 210-219-8584 |
| Mike Rix, Christian Education         | 210-215-2468 |
| Amy Wagner, Evangelism                | 210-296-7646 |

#### **Immanuel Ministry Groups**

##### **Sunday School**

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Sherrie Palan, Superintendent | 830-660-0446 |
| Lillian Kosub, Sec/Treasurer  | 210-648-1724 |

##### **Men of Immanuel**

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| David Teel, President | 830-581-9975 |
|-----------------------|--------------|

##### **Women of the Church**

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Chrystal Coble, President | 210-667-9052 |
|---------------------------|--------------|

##### **Singles Ministry**

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Linda Duelm   | 830-779-3462 |
| Shirley Myers | 210-219-2956 |

##### **Sewing Circle**

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Elsie Ferry     | 830-779-4982 |
| Carroll Dorsett | 830-779-2093 |

##### **Youth Groups:**

##### **Sr High Youth**

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Sharon Bunton    | 210-260-3822 |
| Brenda Willeford | 210-845-9609 |

##### **Peacemakers**

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Kelli Thompson | 210-365-7340 |
|----------------|--------------|

##### **Children of God**

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Shannon Coleman | 210-831-5027 |
|-----------------|--------------|

##### **Multi-Media**

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Billy Bunton, Coordinator | 830-779-2769 |
|---------------------------|--------------|

##### **Yard Work**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Brett Hill, Coordinator | 830-779-2576 |
|-------------------------|--------------|

##### **Cemetery Committee:**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Brent Recker, President    | 210-279-1937 |
| Glenn Andrews, V President | 830-779-2724 |
| Dianell Recker, Sec/Trea   | 210-279-1934 |
| Billy Bunton               | 830-779-2769 |
| Randall Richter            | 210-364-7612 |

**DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM**

**Dec 1 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent – Hanging of the Greens**

Greeters Byron Durbon  
 Ushers Mark & Darla Buccigrossi  
 Acolytes Kolby Louis  
 Multi-Media Operators Billy Bunton  
 Coffee Hosts Singles Ministry  
 Tellers Hershel & Patrice Goodman

Anzlie Sodrok  
 Gary & Yvonne Beran  
 Cooper Nichols  
 Bill Roser

**Dec 8 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent – Christmas Cantata @ 10:30 am service**

Greeters Amy Wagner  
 Ushers Elaine Schnitz, Kathy Volkmann  
 Readers Jacy Reeves  
 Acolytes Karson Kosub  
 Communion Assistants Karen Campbell  
 Altar Guild Sandra Mattke, Adeline Pierdolla  
 Multi-Media Operators Ronnie Haug  
 Coffee Hosts Children of God  
 Tellers Mike & Sylvia Rix

Kelli Thompson  
 David & Gayle Teel  
 No readers – Cantata  
 Leah Thompson  
 No Communion – Cantata  
 No slides – Cantata

**Dec 15 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent – Sunday School Christmas Program @ 9:30 am**

Greeters Wanda Kramer  
 Ushers Ronnie Haug, Dianell Recker  
 Readers David Haass  
 Acolytes Cullen Haass  
 Multi-Media Operators Brent Recker  
 Coffee Hosts Congregation Council  
 Tellers Phil Corbin, Darryl Peshorn

Candy Stork  
 Bill Roser, Charles Stork  
 Charles Stork  
 Austin Montoya  
 Patrice Goodman

**Dec 22 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent – one service only @ 10:00 am**

Greeter Darryl Peshorn  
 Ushers Mike Rix, Gary Beran  
 Reader Pat Meyer  
 Acolyte Jackson Faglie  
 Communion Assistant Brenda Willeford  
 Altar Guild Mike & Sylvia Rix  
 Multi-Media Operator Eddie Willeford  
 Coffee Hosts No Coffee Fellowship  
 Tellers Amy Wagner, Jeanette Bailey

**Dec 29 Service of Lessons & Carols – one service only at 10:00 am**

Greeter Shannon Coleman  
 Ushers Hershel Goodman, Bill Roser  
 Acolyte Azzy Tamaz  
 Multi-Media Operator Karen Campbell  
 Tellers Mark & Darla Buccigrossi

**If you cannot fulfill your assignment, PLEASE FIND A SUBSTITUTE, then notify the church office of your replacement.**

**If there is a problem with your scheduling, please notify Chrystal Coble, Council Rep for Worship & Music.**

# DECEMBER 2019

|   |                                       |  |   |  |   |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>1 1<sup>ST</sup> Sun in Advent</b><br>8:00a Worship<br>9:00a Coffee Fellowship<br>9:15a Sunday School<br>10:30a Worship                      | <b>2</b>                              | <b>3</b><br>7:00p Cantata Rehearsal  | <b>4</b><br>6:00p Adult Bible Study<br><b>Sr High Youth</b><br>6:30p Confirmation | <b>5</b><br>6:00p Christmas Program Rehearsal<br>7:00p Women's Bible Study                               | <b>6</b><br>9a-12p Set up for Christmas Market        | <b>7</b><br>9a to 3p Christmas Market<br><br>7:00p Christmas Cantata     |
| <b>8 2<sup>ND</sup> Sun in Advent</b><br>8:00a Worship H/C<br>9:00a Coffee Fellowship<br>9:15a Sunday School<br><b>10:30a Christmas Cantata</b> | <b>9</b><br>5:00p Newsletter Deadline | <b>10</b><br>10:00a SWTMD Pastors Meeting @ Immanuel<br>6:00p Youth Committee<br>7:00p Council Meeting | <b>11</b><br>6:00p Adult Bible Study<br><br>6:30p Confirmation                    | <b>12</b><br>10:00a Worship at Country Care<br>4:00p Singles Outing<br>6:00p Christmas Program Rehearsal | <b>13</b>   | <b>14</b><br>7:30a Men of Immanuel<br><br>12:00p Senior Luncheon @ LVUMC |
| <b>15 3<sup>RD</sup> Sun in Advent</b><br>8:00a Worship<br>9:00a Coffee Fellowship<br>9:15a Christmas Program<br>10:30a Worship                 | <b>16</b>                             | <b>17</b><br>9:00a Sewing Circle   | <b>18</b><br>6:00p Adult Bible Study<br><b>Sr High Youth TBD</b>                  | <b>19</b><br>7:00p Women's Bible Study   | <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b>  |
| <b>22 4<sup>TH</sup> Sun in Advent</b><br><br>10:00a Worship H/C<br>No Sunday school or Coffee Fellowship                                       | <b>23</b>                             | <b>24 Christmas Eve</b><br><br>5:00 & 11:00 pm<br>Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion              | <b>25 Christmas Day</b><br><br>10:00a Worship H/C                                 | <b>26</b><br>Office Closed   | <b>27</b><br>Office Closed<br>6:30p Wedding Rehearsal | <b>28</b><br>3:00p Wedding   |
| <b>29</b><br>10:00a Service of Lessons & Carols<br>No Sunday school or Coffee Fellowship  | <b>30</b><br>Office Closed            | <b>31 New Years' Eve</b><br>Office Closed  | <b>Jan 1</b><br>Office Closed   | <b>Jan 2</b>   | <b>Jan 3</b>  |  |

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**310 Seguin Rd/PO Box 168**  
**La Vernia TX 78121**  
**830-253-8121**

| January 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12           | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26           | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

