IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR and ANNOUNCMENTS March 22, 2020

Sunday: Worship W/Communion Canceled

Wednesday: Lent Worship Canceled

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Welcome to the Family! Baptized into Christ at a family service Saturday morning, March 21, was Maddox Brooks Thompson, son of Cassie (Walters) and Robert Thompson [non-member]. We pray for God's grace and blessings to continue to be poured out upon him and the whole family!

<u>The Church/School office</u> will be open Monday – Friday from 9:00 to Noon during this time of reduced activity with church and school.

Dorcas Club will not meet in April.

<u>Immanuel Lutheran Fish Fry has been postponed</u>. The 10th Annual ILS Fish Fry/Auction will be held Friday, September 11, 2020.

<u>Teacher/Principal Update!</u> The Board of Elders in agreement with the Board of Christian Education has extended a job offer to Mr. Rocco Arguto to serve as our next 7th & 8th grade teacher and Principal. Mr. Arguto is currently serving as Assistant Principal and Teacher at Trinity Lutheran School of Pueblo, Colorado. Since Mr. Arguto is not a rostered LCMS teacher, the congregation does not extend a divine call in this case. This has been communicated at the recent special voters' meetings. The Boards are grateful for the congregational input from these meetings. Mr. Arguto is a graduate of Concordia, Seward (one of our LCMS universities) and has 29 years of Lutheran school teaching experience. Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and peace for him during this time of deliberation.

<u>ILS Kindness in the community collection:</u> *We will continue this with new dates upon the reopening of school.

This Wednesday's Lenten meal *We have canceled Lent meals for the duration of the season (2 weeks)

<u>On-line giving of your offerings</u> A reminder that this is available and easy to sign up for. Go to our church website, <u>www.immanuelplainview.org</u> click the Give Now tab, and it will work you through the sign-up process. It is confidential and can be changed at any time. Call the office if you have questions.

<u>Thrivent Members – Choice Dollars reminder</u>: If you haven't allocated your 2019 Choice Dollars yet, you have until March 31st to do so through Thrivent's web site (thrivent.com) or by calling 1-800-THRIVENT. You <u>must</u> contact Thrivent to designate your Choice Dollars or they will be lost. Contact your Thrivent agent if you have questions. What a great way to support our congregation and school ministry!

<u>Flu/Virus precautions</u> – Pastor and the Board of Elders discussed some precautions to guard against spreading illness to one another while gathered in worship:

- If you are sick, love your neighbor and stay home. God will forgive you for missing church. God will also forgive you if you get a bunch of people sick, but you may find others' forgiveness lacking because you shared your misery with them.
- Elders helping with the distribution of Holy Communion and Pastor all sanitize their hands before the distribution.
- Some person-to-person contact can still occur during the distribution, so if you are ill or are susceptible to becoming ill, you may want to refrain from communing during the service.
- If you refrain yet still desire the Sacrament, please visit with Pastor or an Elder and you can be communed after the service in a more controlled setting where hands and/or vessels can be washed before you are served.
- If you receive the blood of Christ from the chalice and feeling ill, you may consider an individual cup for the good of your neighbor. If a significant outbreak occurs, the Elders will temporarily discontinue the chalice and only have individual cups.
- The likelihood of the illness spreading through the common cup is very low when we follow procedures carefully but use your best judgment.
- You are far more likely to get sick by shaking hands or being near someone who coughs or sneezes, whether at church, the bank, grocery store, restaurant, etc.
- Our church janitors are very conscientious of the cold and flu season and do their best to wipe down the backs of the seats and the arm rests nearly every week.
- Hand sanitizer is also available if you need a quick cleanup, or just head downstairs to the restrooms to wash your hands thoroughly.
- If you become ill and believe you picked it up at church, kindly let the church office know so we can do some extra cleaning and sanitizing.