

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
**WEEKLY CALENDAR and ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
*November 22, 2020*

Monday – Friday office hours	8:00 am – 3:30 pm
Sunday, November 22: Divine Service	8:00 am & 10:00 am
Sunday School	9:00 am
Monday, November 23: Stephen Ministry	7:00 pm
Wednesday, November 25: ILS Chapel (CLC)	8:25 am
Thanksgiving Eve Service	7:00 pm
Sunday, November 28: Divine Service	8:00 am & 10:00 am
Sunday School	9:00 am

Welcome, **Hope Lutheran High School** staff and students in the bell choir who join us at the 10:00 service. We will collect a door offering for our association support. Please consider a gift of thanksgiving for the Christian education being provided at Hope LHS! Find out more at [www.hopelhs.org](http://www.hopelhs.org).

**Thanksgiving Eve** service is still on for 7:00 p.m. on November 25. A door offering will be collected for the Youth Group.

**Country Christmas Craft Show** in the CLC on December 4-5 has been canceled in compliance with the latest executive order from Governor Walz. Please pray for an end to the pandemic for the health of humanity but also for the livelihoods of small businesses and hobbyist who have lost income because of the lack of shoppers. Remember to shop local as much as possible this holiday season (and all year long).

**Monday Morning Bible Study** is being postponed for a while in cooperation with the Governor and MN Department of Health's recommendations to reduce gatherings in hopes of slowing the spread of COVID19. Contact Judy Schwantz with any questions.

**The Annual ILCW Christmas Tea**, usually held in December, will be canceled this year due to Covid-19 precautions. At this event we would reveal our 2020 Secret Prayer Pal and draw for our 2021 Prayer Pal. Since no gathering a decision was made ***to retain your same Prayer Pal for 2021***. Those who have a current Secret Prayer Pal may give them a small gift or card at Christmas and continue to pray for them for another year! If you choose to give a gift it may be left in the church office. We pray for everyone's safety. May you celebrate Jesus' birth with joy and thankfulness! If questions call Becky Luckstein, President ILCW/LWML

The **Live Nativity at Immanuel that is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>**, unfortunately, will no longer be 'live'. It will, however, still be set up with characters we have in place of the normal live people. Please take a moment to drive by to see this starting December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Free Will/Door Offering** opportunities during Advent in place of the suppers that would normally be served:

- December 2: Board of Christian Education (to raise funds to recognize the staff at ILS on their birthday with gift cards & have a Christmas party for the teachers)

- December 9: ILCW (to raise funds for seminarian support and congregational activities)
- December 16: *open*

Please contact Mark Bartsh or the church office to sign up for the last Advent Wednesday (16th).

**Regarding In-Person Worship services** – The latest executive order from Governor Walz has not changed in-person church service restrictions, just do so with caution. So why have additional Thanksgiving and Advent services? Because we need them to hear God’s Word and prepare for His coming. Therefore, we will proceed with these services as long as it is safe to do so. Midweek services will not be recorded for cable and internet broadcasts. However, the plan is to prerecord the Christmas Eve worship service to be available by December 24 for YouTube streaming to our church family and visitors. While this will not be the same as being together in-person, we pray that it provides the Lord’s blessing to those worshipping at home with the Scriptures and songs that celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

**Why can’t we resume worship in the sanctuary?** We’ve been in the CLC for worship since mid-June and maybe you’re tired of the setting; maybe missing the seasonal decorations that will not adorn the CLC since we share the space with the school during the week. We have two main reasons for remaining in the CLC: **(1) The organ project is not complete.** There are parts spread out under the balcony and the aisles, and there is nowhere else to store them, nor does the organ builder want us moving any equipment. Our target completion is the end of December. **(2) We have no COVID19 preparedness plan for worship in the sanctuary.** In order to be in compliance with the state, and thus be protected from lawsuits and prosecution, we must have this plan in place before we return. The Elders and Trustees will not have time to prepare this plan until January. Thank you for your prayers and patience. – *Pastor Augustine*

**Sewers Needed** Several kits have been made for sewing quilt tops. They are sewn with 1/4 inch seams. If you are willing to take one or two home to work on, it would be appreciated. The kits are in the CLC lobby in a small pink tub. When finished, they can be brought back to church. The quilt tying group doesn't meet until January so there is no rush. Hopefully, we can continue tying when January rolls around. Last spring we had to discontinue much too early. Thanks for helping us sew. *Linda Zabel*

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