

Rev. Kevin A. Karner  
Pastor

Dr. Anne Stuhlman  
School Principal

# Messenger

February 2023

Vol. 23 No. 2

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

860-583-5649

[www.ilcs.org](http://www.ilcs.org)

## Heroes Luncheon



The Bristol Police Department, along with Bristol First Responders were hosted to a luncheon here at Immanuel on December 29.

Thank you to Roberta Kuhr and others who volunteered to help at this luncheon for our dedicated police and first responders.

## February & Ash Wednesday

As part of our annual Easter preparation the Christian Church participates in a season of repentance and renewal – the season of Lent. This year, **Lent begins on February 22<sup>nd</sup> (Ash Wednesday)**. Immanuel Lutheran Church will offer two worship opportunities each Wednesday at 10:45am and 7:00pm. Our 2023 Lenten theme is: “Our Lenten Exodus.” These services will combine the story of God’s rescue of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt with Jesus’ rescue of us from our slavery to sin and death, and how that great rescue is presented to us in the liturgy of the Divine Service. The schedule includes:

March 1 - The Kyrie: Lord, Have Mercy!

March 8 - The Gloria: A Hymn of Praise

March 15 - The Creed: Who God Is

March 22 - The Sanctus: In the Presence of God

March 29 - The Agnus Dei: The Passover Lamb

*Make plans to join us!*

— *Pastor Karner*





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 19th of the month.

### SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICES

**8:00 a.m.**

Holy Communion on the  
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday  
of the month.  
— (Live Streaming) —

~ ~ ~

**10:45 a.m.**

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

~ ~ ~

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

**9:30 a.m.**

— (Live Streaming) —



**WHEELCHAIR  
ACCESSIBLE**

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

**WNTY Radio  
AM 990**

AND

**FM 96.1**

and online at  
[KoolOldiesRadio.net](http://KoolOldiesRadio.net)

## From the Pastor's Desk

### “Do It Yourself”

*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Psalm 51:17*

Apparently, Valentine's Day can be pretty confusing. That's what Reuters News Service reported.

For example, eight million Americans admit to sending themselves Valentine gifts. So, if the person in your office has five dozen roses, it may not be from a known or unknown admirer. They just may not want to feel lonely or unloved on Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day can be confusing. According to a recent phone survey there's a big difference between what people want as a gift for Valentine's Day and what they're probably going to get.

For example, twenty-two percent of the men polled said they were going to give their wives or girlfriends lingerie as a Valentine's Day gift. Lingerie was their top choice. Only two percent of the women said lingerie was a gift they would appreciate.

On the other hand, if you think diamonds are a girl's best friend, you may not be wrong. Jewelry was the top gift choice when the ladies were asked. When the men had their turn of rating gift ideas, jewelry ranked no higher than fifth place.

Valentine's Day can be confusing. For example, the survey says many practical (a.k.a. cheap) men readily agree when their lady suggests she “really doesn't

want a gift this year”, or “we don't have to exchange gifts this year for Valentine's Day”. Those lines are nothing more than that – lines. Because Valentine's Day is so confusing many relationships have a tough time surviving the day. The survey suggested that three million couples have broken up on Valentine's Day.

This leads me to ask, “What will you give God for Valentine's Day?” We already know what He's given us – His Son. We see the Father's love in Jesus' birth, His life, His suffering, death, and resurrection. Because of Jesus we've been given forgiveness and life eternal. Now the question is, “What shall we give God?”

It's not an easy question, is it? How do you find a present to give Someone who already owns everything? Thankfully we don't have to rack our brains for an answer. In the text at the beginning of this article, God says what He wants: a broken and a contrite heart. God wants our repentant, trusting hearts for Valentine's Day, and for every day.

*THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, we see true love in the gift of Your Son's sacrifice. He may not have been what the world wanted, but Jesus is definitely what we need. In awe and admiration of His gift may we give You the present You most desire: our broken and believing hearts. In the Savior's Name. Amen.*

Pastor Karner

*1 Thessalonians 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**

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



**CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN**



Milton V. Kisser

January 29, 1933 — January 13, 2023



**ALTAR FLOWER CHART FOR 2023**

There is a new flower chart for 2023 next to the library door. If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory of someone or to celebrate a special occasion, just put your name on that date with your phone number or call Pat Wollenberg, 860-584-0587 with any questions or requests.

*Thank you,  
Pat Wollenberg*



*Young at Heart*

It's February already, so we are sending winter greetings and Blessings to all our "over age 50" members and friends!

Our group does not hold any monthly lunches during the winter months due to the weather and driving concerns for your safety.

Thinking ahead to our year's activities, we will need more people to step up so we can continue to hold our monthly lunches that we all enjoy. Think about how you could more actively help with your time and talents, perhaps providing a monthly program for April or June. Julie Follo is again planning our programs so contact her with your ideas and suggestions. The date of our annual planning meeting is tentatively set for

February 16 at 10am; watch the Sunday bulletin for reminders so you can help us out. Remember many hands make lighter work, so we can all meet and enjoy our lunch fellowship.

Our glass-enclosed bulletin boards by the back gym entrance show photos and information on trips and activities at our area Senior Centers. On Mondays at 1 pm in the Parish Center you can join our group of card players, if that interests you. How about visiting one of our homebound members; call the church or Roberta, our Parish nurse, for suggestions. Ash Wednesday is later this month, so hope to see you on Wednesdays and Sundays in church. Stay safe and healthy!

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

As the Lord blessed me, I pledge for the proclamation of the Gospel...

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ weekly
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ annual

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

*1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)*

**Board of Christian Stewardship**

If you were not in church on January 29 for Pledge Sunday, and are still considering your pledge for 2023, pledge cards can be mailed or dropped off in the church office, or placed in the offering plate until Sunday, February 26. If you are unable to attend church and would like to have your pledge for 2023 included you can confidently call the church office to offer your pledge.

Help Our School Earn Stars For Free Educational Equipment by Registering your AdvantEdge Card



## Tools FOR Schools

Price Chopper/Market 32 has proudly donated over \$14 million worth of educational equipment to make a positive impact on local schools!

Each time you shop from August 21, 2022 – February 18, 2023

- Our school will earn stars towards free educational equipment, donated by Price Chopper / Market 32!
- You can also help by donating your AdvantEdge Rewards Points to our school.
- Price Chopper will match all donated AdvantEdge Rewards Points donations up to \$35,000!
- Create a Price Chopper online account after signing up for Tools for Schools and earn 2x stars for our school.

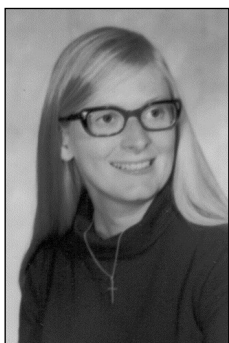




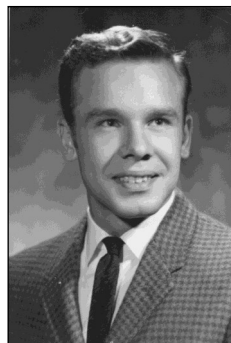
Sign up to earn for our school at [rewards.pricechopper.com](https://rewards.pricechopper.com)

## HISTORY REMEMBERED IMMANUEL SCHOOL TEACHERS

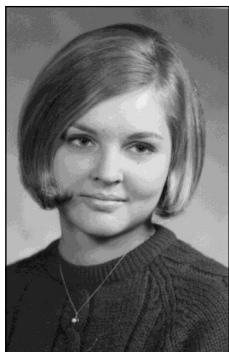
*Some of the teachers who have served Jesus' Little Lambs at Immanuel*



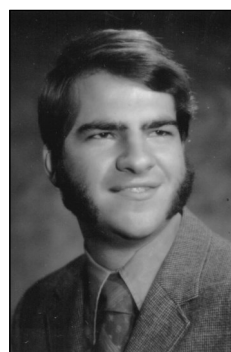
Candace Shaw  
1973 – 78



Bill Mohlenhoff  
1967 – 72



Janet Bernstein  
1971 –75



Donald Kehres  
1973 –77

## Lenten Worship

### Lent begins on February 22 with **Ash Wednesday Services** at 10:45 and 7:00 pm.

(with Holy Communion and 7 pm Live-Streaming)



### Mark your calendars for Lenten Mid-Week services

March 1

March 8

March 15

March 22

March 29

Services are at 10:45 am and 7 pm each Wednesday. The 7 pm service will be Live-Streamed.

*During Lent we prepare our hearts to receive our crucified and risen Lord by...*

Decorating the church using violet. Violet, the color of royalty and repentance, is the color for Lent. In biblical times, violet dye was very expensive and could only be purchased by royalty or the very rich. The people of God our His royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:8-9). We decorate the church in the royal color of violet for our times of repentance – turning away from our sins and turning toward Christ for His mercy and forgiveness.

No longer singing Alleluia. Alleluia is a Hebrew word that means “Praise the Lord.” It appears often in the Psalms and is a joyous expression of faith in God. During Lent, we do not use this joyous response in order to focus on our need for repentance and faith.

No longer singing the Gloria in Excelsis. Just as in Advent, so in Lent we give up singing the joyous Hymn of Praise. We do this to focus our worship on repentance.

Lent is a season that has a number of interesting customs: Ash Wednesday and the Imposition of Ashes. Lent always begins 40 weekdays before Easter on Ash Wednesday. The name comes from the ancient custom of the imposition of ashes. The pastor dips his thumb into some ashes (traditionally made from the palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and



LENTEN WORSHIP

marks an ashy cross on each person’s forehead while saying, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” This custom uses the biblical image of ashes (Job 42:6) to remind us that we, too, shall die and therefore need forgiveness from Jesus.

Fasting. Fasting is giving up eating at a particular meal or time in order to devote that time to prayer and meditation on the Word of God. Jesus directed that His disciples would fast (Matthew 6:16-18), and the Small Catechism says that fasting is “fine outward training” before taking the Lord’s Supper. Many Christians use Lent as a special time of fasting – especially on Fridays in remembrance of Good Friday when Jesus died on the cross.

Giving something up for Lent. It’s similar to fasting, except instead of a meal a person might “give up” any favorite item: a toy, television, desserts, etc. The idea behind giving something up for Lent is to be reminded to pray, to study God’s Word, and to think of Jesus’ sacrifice when you miss the thing that you have given up.

Midweek services. Many churches observe Lent with special midweek services. These extra times of worship during the week help us to hear God’s Word and prepare us to observe Holy Week and celebrate Easter.

## ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **School News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

### **From the Principal's Desk**

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

Immanuel Lutheran School Students enjoyed Lutheran Schools Week, January 23-27. The students enjoyed special dress days and special activities each day. Monday was Pajama Day and Buddy Reading. Tuesday was Crazy Hair and Mis-Match Day and a girls against boys Beach Volleyball tournament for the older students, and an elaborate obstacle course for the younger students. Wednesday was Dress Your Best and the students were treated to Dave Kisser leading chapel. Thursday was Decades Day and the Scavenger Hunt. Friday was T-Shirt Day, a Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament and Relays. A wonderful time was had by all! The theme for Lutheran Schools Week is Making Disciples for Life, based on Matthew 28:18-20. The students certainly understand the call to action.



Mrs. Kirschner's 1st Grade Class on the scavenger hunt.



Older children and younger children working together in Relays.



Boys cheering for the Boys Team in Beach ball Volleyball. The boys won!



Girls cheering for the Girls Team in Beach ball Volleyball. The gym was deafening!

The school is in the process of accreditation through the National Lutheran Schools Association. It is also moving to an online registration and student record system.

Upcoming events include:

- February 3, Day 100 of the school year, students dress like they are 100 years old.
- February 11, The Daughter Dance in the gym
- March 2, Dr. Seuss Day activities and green eggs and ham for lunch.
- March 11, Mother-Son Nerf Night
- May 7, 10:45, All School Sing
- May 21-26, Washington DC Trip

Please keep the school in your prayers as we continue to share the Word with more and more young people and their families.

Blessings,  
Anne Stuhlman

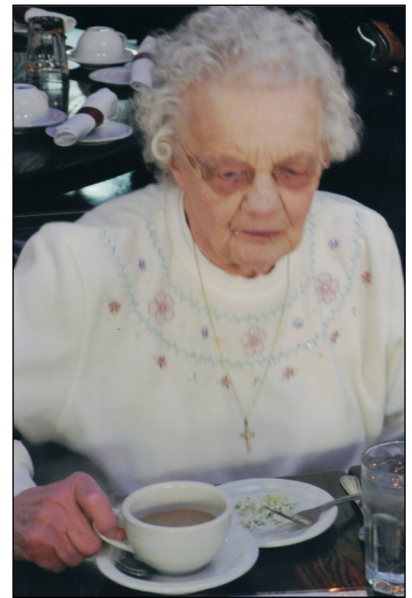
# HISTORY REMEMBERED

By Vern Koch

## YOUNG AT HEART VISIT THE NBMAA (New Britain Museum of American Art)

On one of the many trips taken by the Adult Fellowship was a tour of the New Britain Museum of American Art in New Britain. We met our docent who gave us some of the guidelines for our tour, and then took us around to see some of newer exhibits, picture galleries, statues, and paintings. Much of time we were just able to travel through the museum on our own and enjoy the art that tickled our fancy.

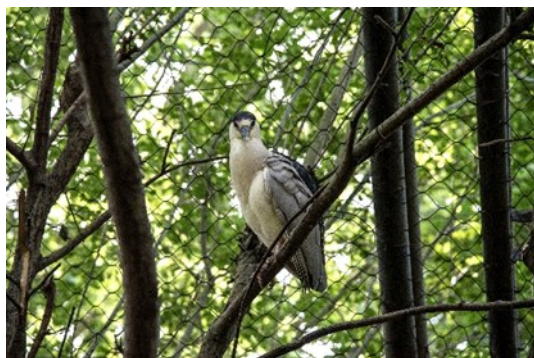
After our tour we gathered for a delightful lunch at East Side Restaurant, and lots of Christian fellowship.



## The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club

# The *Photograph* in a Picture

**Most agree that** capturing *the Right Light, the Right Composition, and the Right Moment* are primary elements of a successful photograph. Cropping is perhaps the best tool in moving the *composition* from good to outstanding. **Benefits of cropping images include:** enhanced composition, reframing the subject, removal of too much visual information, leading the viewer's eyes to the subject, and changing the orientation, and more. The "Before and After" photos below provide a basic example of cropping. *See for yourself!*



**Join us!** We meet on the First Tuesday of every month except July and August at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.





# Immanuel Lutheran Church GERMAN FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Existing committee members are encouraged to attend and anyone interested in serving on the 2023 committee is welcome!

Meeting Date

**Wednesday  
February 15th  
7:00 PM  
IN THE PARISH CENTER**



**Save the Date**

**Welcome to  
Spring Potluck  
Luncheon**

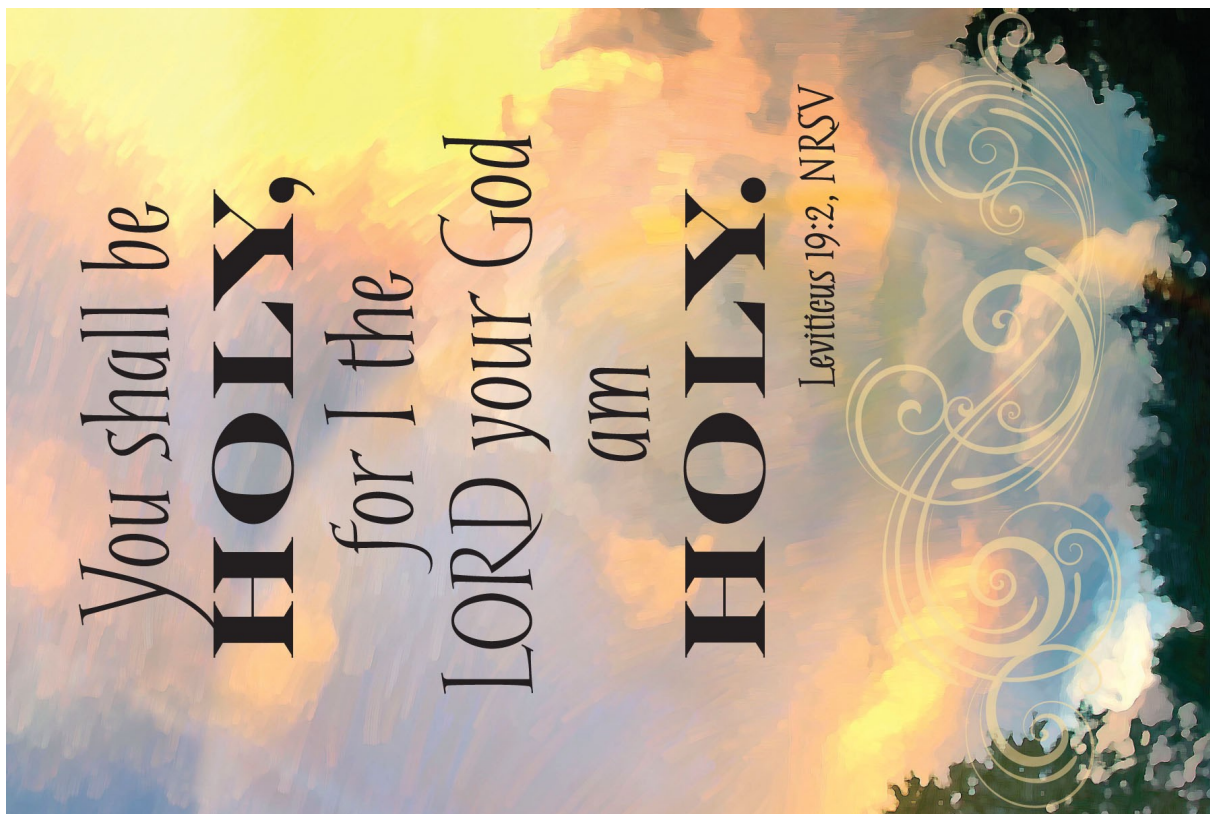
**March 19, 12-3.  
More info to  
follow.**



## FEBRUARY 2023 BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Lukas Tessier Nicole Tessman	<b>2</b> Genevieve Casagni Nancy Pease Logan Williams	<b>3</b> Kristin Laforge Edward Phillips Kurt Radcliff Benjamin Scarpati	<b>4</b> Dorothy Johnson Aiza Nazir Ayan Nazir
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Jared Jankowski Tamara Lindstrom Robert Neumann Jessica Triplett	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Michael Phillips Kevin Read Tammy Thormahlen	<b>9</b> Luke Doncet Rollin Lee Ava Werner Brooke Werner	<b>10</b> David Peplau	<b>11</b> Celine Kissler Joshua Mitchell Sydney Therrien
<b>12</b> Susan Rich	<b>13</b> Karin Hauer Susan Schneider	<b>14</b> Ashley Romaniello Haley Romaniello	<b>15</b> Caroline Bayer Julie Follo Randy Neumann Jessica Romaniello	<b>16</b> Cynthia Dell'Aera Jill Therrien	<b>17</b> Brooke Savage	<b>18</b> Jon Heidorn Amanda Wolfe
<b>19</b> Kurt McCorriston	<b>20</b> Jeffrey Bergeron Linda Neumann Evelyn Palmisano	<b>21</b> Linda Hogan	<b>22</b> Jan Blaschke Mary Sylvia	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Lorrin Jackson Catherine Kane
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Samuel Skinner	<b>28</b> Joan Hermann Mia Knight				





NON-PROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION  
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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 154 MEADOW STREET  
 BRISTOL, CT 06010  
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Messenger 