

## IMMANUEL CHURCH CALENDAR—A PEEK AT THE WEEK!

Sun., December 2 - First Sunday in Advent

**BRING YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE BAKE/CRAFT SALE TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL BEFORE WORSHIP. Thank you!**

9:00-Prep and Prayer meeting for those helping with the service-fireside room

9:15-Church nursery is staffed

9:15-Christmas Carol Sing-a-long Prelude

9:30-WOW Service, Holy Communion, Sunday School

10:30-Christmas Brunch, Bake and Craft Sale fundraiser for heat!,

Memorial mtg. in Fireside Room, NO New Testament study today

**Pick up your Christmas Wreath order from our youth today in church garage**

**Mon., December 3**

1:30-Sunshine Singers rehearsal

**Tues., December 4**

10:00-Text Time Bible Study

**Wed., December 5**

9:00-Worship Team

NO Prayer Shawl

2:00-Sunshine Singers @ Ecumen, North Branch for the Veterans Christmas Program. Please be there by 1:45 to get organized.

6:00-Choir rehearsal

6:30-8:00-Youth/Confirmation decorate church for Christmas.

**Thurs., December 6**

9:00-Men's Bible Study of Revelation—we will be meeting through Dec. 20

**Fri., December 7**

**Sat. December 8**

2-4pm Almelund Santa Claus Day at the Amador Town Hall in Almelund!

Bake, Craft Sale, too—Treats and candy for kids. Santa arrives at 2pm.

Fundraiser for Almelund Heritage School & Farm

**Sun. December 9 Second Sunday in Advent, NO Gideon Sunday**

**Deadline to bring in PJs, etc. for the refuge for Naomi Circle project.**

9:00-Prep and Prayer meeting for those helping with the service-fireside room

9:15-Church nursery is staffed

9:30-Worship Service, Sunday School

10:30-Coffee time

10:30- New Testament Study-right after worship grab a cup of coffee and meet in the Sanctuary Basement. Topic: 4. The Earliest Traditions About Jesus

**Volunteers to serve coffee in December & January are needed! Check out the sign up sheet next to the serving window in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks!**

THERE *WILL* BE SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23!  
There was an error in the Dec. newsletter!  
Sorry! Merrie Christmas!

### Immanuel Lutheran Church Staff:

Marla Amborn, Pastor—cell: 651-315-3354  
pastormarla@immanuelalmelund.org

Momoh Freeman, Organist

Pat Remer, Accompanist

Rick Berthiaume, Church Custodian

Merrie Tolzmann, Administrative Assistant

Stephanie Wendel, Financial Secretary

Mark Weslander, Financial Recorder

Daryl Abrahamson, Cemetery Groundskeeper

Companion to Itonya Congregation, Tanzania

**Church Phone:** 651-583-2340

e-mail address:

[imcal@frontiernet.net](mailto:imcal@frontiernet.net)

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

Jason & DeeDee Fredlund

Youth Directors, 651-465-6130

Direct Sunday School and

Confirmation questions to

Pastor Marla Amborn.



## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Rev. Marla Amborn

First Sunday in Advent

December 2, 2018, 9:30 A.M.

*A welcoming community rooted in Christ, growing in faith and serving with joy!*

Today's Hymnal: **ELW** - Evangelical Lutheran Worship (**red**)

Hearing devices are available from an usher.

Children's bulletins & Worship Bags are available at the back of the church.

P: Pastor, C: Congregation, R: Reader

### 9:15 - Christmas Carol Sing-a-long

ELW #270 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, vs. 1 & 3

ELW #275 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*, vs. 1 & 2

ELW #278 *Away in a Manger*

ELW #279 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, vs. 1 & 4

ELW # 283 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*, vs. 1 & 2

ELW #288 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*, vs. 2 & 3

ELW #289 *Angels We Have Heard on High*, vs. 1 & 2

ELW #290 *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, vs. 1 & 2

ELW #300 *The First Noel*, vs. 1

ELW #267 *Joy to the World*

### 9:30 - Welcome and announcements

**Advent Candle** Kris and Alexie Koran, readers

Today marks the first Sunday of Advent. A Sunday of Hope.

Hope born into our world 2,000 years ago. Hope born again at this time of year. Hope born with the sound of every new cry as a babe is born. Yet, sometimes hope seems far away: far away from our homes, our churches, our communities, our world.

Creator, may your hope be reborn in all places of conflict,

Redeemer, may your light of hope shine bright,

Sustainer, may your hope be born in us this morning.

Let us worship our God, three in one, one in three.

### Advent Candle is lit by the Acolyte

#### Lighting Song

*He Came Down* (ELW #253)

He came down that we may have Hope

He came down that we may have Hope.

He came down that we may have Hope.

Hallelujah forevermore!

#### Gathering Hymn ELW #242

*Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn*

## Prayer of Adoration and Confession

**Pastor:** Holy One, visitor from afar, messenger to the hopeless, deliverer of good news; we are glad to be here today, ready to receive your message to us this first Sunday of Advent. As we wait in these days anxious about the future, distressed at the state of the world, feeling helpless to bring change; we are glad to remember that the birth of a child in different places and at different times has brought hope and change that is needed.

**Congregation:** **Forgive us for moaning and groaning about all that is wrong in our world, help us to find ways to bring about small changes that can make things better. Forgive us for not believing the messengers you continue to send to us, help us to be open to receive your word to us. Give us patience as we wait, but also give us energy to be active in our waiting, using our gifts here and now. So that your kingdom may come and your will be done, today and always. Amen.**

## Forgiveness

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, any by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

## Prayer of the Day *(prayed in unison)*

**Lord, you have sent so many people into the world; people who have guided us to a better way, people who have worked for peace, people who have fought for justice, people who have died for others. We long for your kingdom to come and your will to be done in our world today. Help us to play our part in being your agents for love in the world. In the name of your dear Son we pray, Amen.**

## The First Lesson Judges 13:2-14, 24

<sup>2</sup>There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. His wife was barren, having borne no children. <sup>3</sup>And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Although you are barren, having borne no children, you shall conceive and bear a son. <sup>4</sup>Now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, or to eat anything unclean, <sup>5</sup>for you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor is to come on his head, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth. It is he who shall begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines." <sup>6</sup>Then the woman came and told her husband, "A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like that of an angel of God, most awe-inspiring; I did not ask him where he came

*(Continued on next page...)*

## **NEW STARI! Sun., Dec. 16, 9:30**

**Join in Celebrating the Birth of Jesus with a Christmas Program for all Ages** - Our congregational Christmas program this year will be intergenerational and presented during worship on December 16. It is an opportunity for everyone, from the youngest to the oldest among us, to participate in praising God and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

**Who?** Sunday School Students, Confirmation Students, Youth Group kids Senior Choir members, All adults who would like to take part

**When?** Rehearsals are on Saturdays, December 1 and December 15 from 9:00 to 11:00am. The Program is during worship on Sunday, December 16 at 9:30.

## **YOUTH/CONFIRMATION UPCOMING DATES:**

Sun., Dec. 2 be ready for wreath pick up by those who ordered them. Pick up is from the church garage after worship.

Wed., Dec. 5, 6:30-8:00-Youth Group decorate Church for Christmas

Wed., Dec. 12 @ 6:30-8:00-Confirmation Class

Sat., Dec. 15, @ 9:00am-noon-Youth rehearsal for Christmas

Program, lunch, caroling

***If you ordered a wreath please pick it up today after worship in the church garage. Please do not pick one up without having it checked off the list by a youth representative.***



**Naomi Circle is again collecting children's pajamas and women's personal items for the Refuge.** In the past they have been extremely grateful for this and our Circle wants to say thank you to all of you who have given so generously to this and are hoping you will want to continue to contribute to this project this year. There are labeled boxes in the gathering area and we ask that you have your gifts here by Sunday, December 9th. Thank you and blessings to you for caring and sharing. -Naomi Circle Members

**Our Mitten Tree** is up in the Narthex through mid Dec. Bring donations of winter accessories hats, gloves, scarves, mittens and socks for all ages.

**LUTHER POINT RETREAT**—January 18-21, hosted by Sarah Circle

**Happy Birthdays:** Dec. 4th—Tyler Abbott, Luke McKenzie, Marcy Meyer, Barb Buus, LuAnn Nordeen; 5th—John Sandberg; 6th—Garrett McKenzie, Vickie Johnson; 7th—Jon Blomquist, Shannon Plank; 8th—Steven Peltier, Stephanie Wagner, Jace Flodquist; 9th—Daryl Abrahamson, Kyle Burnside

## Known to be hospitalized this week:

Norm Peterson - Regions Hospital  
Irene Lundquist - recuperating at home  
Alice & John Mortenson - Alice is in hospice at Parmly  
Gloria Bourasa - recuperating at home

**November 18, 2018 Attendance: 101**

### Financial Picture:

Current-\$3,958.31; Building Fund-\$95.00; Benevolence-\$910.00;  
Loose-\$35.00; Special Donations-\$404.07; Thanksgiving-\$50.00;  
Memorial-\$50.00 Total: \$5,502.38

Benevolence: Und. \$830; World Hunger \$80. All Saints memorial \$50.  
Special Don. Polka service \$404.07

**November 25, 2018 Attendance: 51**

### Financial Picture:

Current-\$1,439.00; Building Fund-\$10.00; Benevolence-\$90.00;  
Loose-\$6.01; Thanksgiving-\$417.00; Total: \$1,962.01  
Benevolence: Und. \$80; Synod \$10

## Bible Study Opportunities:

**Scriptural Text Bible Study "Text Time,"** Tuesdays., at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room with Pastor Marla

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** with Jim Mielke, Thursdays, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. We will continue looking at the book of Revelation. We will be meeting 'til Dec. 20 and then take a break.

**NEW SUNDAY MORNING STUDY WITH JIM!** There will be no study this week, Dec. 2, so we can all go to the Christmas Brunch, Bake and Craft sale! Next week we will meet right after worship—grab your cup of coffee and meet in the Sanctuary basement. Explore the New Testament from the Gospel of Matthew to the Book of Revelation with this 24-part study. You can come for every topic or come for the ones that especially interest you. The titles will be published in the bulletin This study begins with a DVD presentation each week. .

**Next week's topic: 4. The Earliest Traditions about Jesus.**

Discover how historical research can illuminate the New Testament—the most widely read book in history—in this riveting course that combines Biblical scholarship, archaeological discoveries, and literary analysis. Call if you have questions: Jim Mielke at 651-587-7177; or church office 651-583-2340. *New Participants expected and wanted!*

**PEASE CHECK OUT THE POSTERS ON THE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD.**

**No large print bulletins have been used for many months.** If you want a large print bulletin prepared for you please notify the church office. I will be happy to make one for you each Sunday. Merrie

from, and he did not tell me his name; <sup>7</sup>but he said to me, 'You shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth to the day of his death.'"

<sup>8</sup>Then Manoah entreated the LORD, and said, "O, LORD, I pray, let the man of God whom you sent come to us again and teach us what we are to do concerning the boy who will be born." <sup>9</sup>God listened to Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field; but her husband Manoah was not with her. <sup>10</sup>So the woman ran quickly and told her husband, "The man who came to me the other day has appeared to me." <sup>11</sup>Manoah got up and followed his wife, and came to the man and said to him, "Are you the man who spoke to this woman?" And he said, "I am." <sup>12</sup>Then Manoah said, "Now when your words come true, what is to be the boy's rule of life; what is he to do?" <sup>13</sup>The angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "Let the woman give heed to all that I said to her. <sup>14</sup>She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine. She is not to drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing. She is to observe everything that I commanded her."

<sup>24</sup>The woman bore a son, and named him Samson. The boy grew, and the LORD blessed him.

## The Second Lesson Numbers 6:2-15

<sup>2</sup>Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When either men or women make a special vow, the vow of a nazirite, to separate themselves to the Lord, <sup>3</sup>they shall separate themselves from wine and strong drink; they shall drink no wine vinegar or other vinegar, and shall not drink any grape juice or eat grapes, fresh or dried. <sup>4</sup>All their days as nazirites they shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, not even the seeds or the skins. <sup>5</sup>All the days of their nazirite vow no razor shall come upon the head; until the time is completed for which they separate themselves to the Lord, they shall be holy; they shall let the locks of the head grow long.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**Congregation: Thanks Be To God!**

**Special Music** *ILC Worship Band*

**Children's Sermon** Diane Rothe

*(Sunday School begins right after the children's sermon. Visiting children, age 3—grade 6 are invited to come to Sunday School!)*

**The Sharing of the Peace** "Peace be with you" "And also with you."

**Sermon** Pastor Marla Amborn

**Hymn of the Day** ELW #241 **O Lord, How Shall I Meet You,**

*(sung to the tune ELW #344 All Glory Laud and Honor)*

**The Apostles' Creed** ELW page 105

**Intercessory Prayers** *(after each petition respond with:)*

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

## Tithes and Offerings

**Offering Hymn** ELW #257 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, vs. 1 - 3

## Offering Prayer

Pastor: Holy One, you are generous beyond measure; you freely give us so much and entrust us to take care of it all.

**Congregation: We present our offerings to you today, taken from what we have, symbolic of all that we give. Take and use all our gifts as you will, may our generosity help others today and every day. Amen.**

## Holy Communion

### Words of Institution

**Lord's Prayer** ELW page 173

## Continuous Holy Communion

**All in Christ are invited to come forward to the Lord's table.**

*Please fill out a communion card located in your seat and drop it in the bowl when you come forward. If you are gluten intolerant please help yourself to a wafer from the gold tray. We serve local wine, if you prefer juice tell the server or take a cup of white grape juice from the center ring of the tray. Children may come forward for Communion or a blessing! If you wish to receive communion hold your hands in front of you. If you do not wish to have communion hold your hands by your sides. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher know and you will be served at your seat. We welcome all!*

**Communion Hymn** ELW #487 *What Feast of Love*

## Post Communion Prayer

## Sending

Pastor: The world is still full of unnamed men and women: unnamed men and women used by God in the spreading of peace; unnamed men and women following the command of Love.

**Congregation: Yet, we are all named by God, you and me, named, claimed, and called with a task of peace and love.**

**As we go from here, may God's blessing be with you as you live your calling today and every day forward.**

## Benediction

**Sending Hymn** ELW #250 *Blessed be the God of Israel*

**Dismissal** P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*Memorial Committee will gather right after worship in the Fireside Room for a speedy meeting.*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY!

**Visitors**, please sign our guest book located in the back of the sanctuary. If you are interested in knowing more about our congregation please speak to Pastor Marla today or call the church this week! Contact info is on the back of this bulletin.

**Encourage all children** who can read to follow along in the bulletin and hymnal during our worship service today! There are children's bulletins at the back of the Sanctuary. **Sunday School for age 3-grade 6** will resume next Sunday right after the children's sermon. There is no Sunday School today because of the holiday. A **nursery & mother's lounge** is located in the upper floor of the addition, with a speaker in the room so you can hear the service. **We provide volunteer Nursery Care** each week beginning at 9:15.

**All are welcome to come to the Fellowship Hall after worship** for the annual Christmas Brunch, craft and bake sale This is a fundraiser to pay for winter heat bills. *(If you brought things for the bake or craft sale please bring them to the Fellowship Hall before worship.)*

**New Testament Bible Study will resume next Sunday right after worship in the Sanctuary Basement!** Grab your cup of coffee and come! Jim looks forward to welcoming you to this new study! Today...see you at the brunch!

**NOTICE SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT IN CHURCH THIS MORNING?** The organ console has been returned to its original position to make way for an exciting new donation: A Baby Grand Piano! The Worship & Music Committee would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to Don Noyes, Marlin Ness, Mark Johnson, Tracy Tolzmann, and Allen Organ technician Jim Benson for making the move happen!

## THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE TODAY:

**Pastor:** Marla Amborn      **Children's Sermon:** Diane Rothe  
**Ushers:** Marshall & Justin Johnson      **Head Usher:** Marshall Johnson  
**Musicians:** ILC Worship Band      **Altar Guild:** Nancy Nadeau  
**Greeter:** Jared & Tara Rothe and Family      **AV Tech:** Nancy Nadeau  
**Reader:** Norm Peterson      **Acolyte:** Kaitlin Carlson  
**Advent Candle Readers:** Kris and Alexie Koran  
**Communion Servers:** Diane Rothe, Royce Chinander, Dana Johnson  
**Communion Wine:** Alan & Judy Olson/Wild Mt. Winery  
**Home-made Communion Bread:** Pat Noyes  
**Offering Counters:** Alice Burnside, Pat Remer, Deb Kregel  
**Coffee: Christmas Brunch, Bake & Craft Sale** by WELCA Circles  
**Sunday School Teachers:** Deb Scott, Shannon Lindgren  
**Nursery Caregiver:** Pat Noyes