

Immanuel's

Lighted

Path

Lent 2022



Palm Sunday Service
April 10
11am



Good Friday - April 15
12pm Service
1pm-12am- Prayer Stations



Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service- 7am
Breakfast To Follow
Traditional Service-11am

More Information on Page 5



**EASTER FLOWER
MEMORIALS**

Once again we will use flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. These flowers can be placed in honor or in memory of loved ones. Please bring your flowers to the church between 10am-12pm on Saturday April 16th. Have your dedications to Sue Clark for inclusion in the bulletin by Wednesday, April 12th. You can email the information to sclark@udel.edu.



COVID-19 affected everyone in many ways, Immanuel is no different. The past two years have been challenging for the church financially as we have dealt with many Sundays with closed doors and lower attendance as we become more comfortable meeting in person.

Now that the dust is starting to settle it is clear that we will be experiencing a large budget deficit. A budget deficit not only effects the ability to pay necessary expenses but the ability to provide the ministries that our church is built on.

Our Envelope Fundraiser allows you to chose a donation amount between \$1 and \$200 and donate that amount to Immanuel's General Fund. You can participate by choosing an envelope in person during worship service or online by visiting <https://www.givinggrid.com/iumc/>

We hope you will participate in our Erase the Deficit Fundraiser.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

SUFFERING IS JUST A REST STOP ON THE ROAD TO VICTORY

A Passion Meditation by Rev. Grant L. Johnson

"And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli
lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'
Matthew" 23:46

"My God, My God
No pain, no palm;
No thorn, no throne;
No gall, no glory;
No cross, no crown. -William Penn

Reflecting on the book study, "He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado, I was struck by Jesus' conscience choice to suffer for us. Easter is a celebration of victory and a vindication of God's righteousness. Jesus proved that suffering my rest stop on the pathway to victory. The pain and suffering we experience does not necessarily mean we are on the wrong path.

"At the center of the Christian faith is the history of the passion. At the center of this passion is the experience of God forsaking us. Or is the beginning of true hope, which has been born again and can no longer be shaken." (Jurgen Moltmann, The Power of the Powerless)

Only the person who has suffered can help others suffers; this is an ancient truth. Otherwise one would not even be able to understand the suffering person. So in our difficulties, we always turn to people who have been through the same things we have.

My daughter used to live on the fourth floor of an apartment. She had to go up three flights of stairs everyday, carrying this boy. He started getting bigger and heavier everyday. She was saying they may have to move to the first floor because it's too much. On an occasion grandparent's visit I grabbed the lad and ran up the stairs effortlessly. He is just laughing at how fast I am moving. For my daughter it was just a brief respite. Tomorrow it would be back to the passion. Love allows you to love; unconditionally, stick with one another, suffer with one another. It is good to know that we serve a Christ who is with us but has also experience that patient love. To know Christ in his suffering.

Love leads to passion. Passion leads to suffering on the behalf of those we love. Easter is a celebration of the love. Easter says tat love wins. The evils of sin and death and defeat eternally through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Poem by Gordon Gray from Northern Ireland

Father, I am a man of my time.
Around me I see the signs and symbols of man's
 fear
 hatred
 alienation.

A bomb exploding in a crowded market square,
demagogic faces on TV twisted in rocking confrontation.

My hopes have been destroyed.
The death of things I hoped for
has been celebrated by others as victory in your power.
Father, can this be so?

I am perplexed, angry, hopeless, sick.
'Hope differed taketh the heart sick.'
I want to turn back,
 wash my hands
 save myself, my family,
 get out.

But every time I turn to go,
there stands in my way
a Cross, calling me back
Father, how much, at times, I have resented that Cross
that stands between me and my personal future.

The empty cross! Where is the one who hung there?
There!
 standing on the horizons, in the ruins,
 beckoning me to venture with him.
Lord, I am a person - of hope!



Palm Sunday
April 10

11am Worship Service

On Palm Sunday we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. It marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.



Good Friday
April 15

12pm Worship Service

We will be having a short service of reflection as we kick-off the Good Friday Prayer Stations.

1pm-12am- Prayer Vigil Stations

Throughout the years, Christians have experienced a powerful and moving commemoration of our Savior's death by attending Good Friday Prayer Vigils. At Immanuel, our Good Friday Prayer Station Vigil is from 1:00pm Friday, April 15th to 12:00am Saturday, April 16th. We ask participants to sign up for a 30-minute time slot. During this time, you can use the prayer stations to pray, reflect, read scripture and complete the station's activity. Plan now to set aside some time on Good Friday to commemorate Christ's redeeming act. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary or visit immanueltownsend.com to grab your spot.



Easter Sunday
April 17

7am Sunrise Service

Join us for an outdoor worship experience as we celebrate the morning when Jesus conquered the grave. The front lawn is the perfect place to celebrate the resurrection as you start the day.

Breakfast To Follow

11am Traditional Service

A traditional Resurrection Celebration service will be held. Bring your family to celebrate the Holiest Day of the Year, the day that Jesus resurrected from the grave.





At our March 9th meeting, we realized our Service-group has a couple of busy months ahead of us!! And we love it!! It was a special meeting because we were able to, once again, meet in person at Immanuel (with a ZOOM-link available for those who preferred to attend off-site). It is so nice to be back to planning our many activities that we had to put on hold due to the Pandemic.

In April, we will prepare and serve dinner at Immanuel for the Old Union Historical Society. They will enjoy a dinner of ham, scalloped potatoes, deviled eggs, green beans, homemade coleslaw, rolls, desserts, and beverages. After the dinner, they will hold a meeting in Fellowship Hall. We serve two other dinners during the year (in August and November) and these three dinners are our group's only fundraisers. We use the funds to support many worthy ministries, such as Code Purple, Neighborhood House, UMCOR, Food Bank of DE, Ronald McDonald House, Sunday Breakfast Mission, and others that come to our attention.

Also on April 17th, we'll prepare, serve, and host the Sunrise Breakfast that follows the Easter Sunday Sunrise (7 A.M.) Service. It is so wonderful to enjoy food and fellowship with our church family and any visitors who stay, or come, on Easter Sunday. Then, at some future date down the road, we plan to hold another Book Fair. We hope you'll swing by and grab as many books as you'd like for FREE!!

If you are interested in joining the UMW, or just want to come to a meeting to check us out, we hold our meetings the second Wednesday of each month (except for the months of July and August) at 7:00 P.M. We hope it will continue to be possible to meet in person at Immanuel, but also know we have available a ZOOM-option. For more information, you can reach out to any of our Officers:

President, Jenny Trunfio(302) 376-0325
Vice-Pres., Chris Benedict (302) 653-8867
Secretary, Tish Borchardt (302) 250-1362
Treasurer, Dawn Fluman(302) 378-8545
WE LOVED TO HAVE YOU! – C.B.



SAVE THE DATE!
Immanuel Community Yard Sale
May 14, 2022
More Details Coming Soon!

The illustration shows three stylized figures. On the left, a person in a blue dress holds a blue puzzle piece. In the center, a person in a pink dress stands next to a recycling bin. On the right, a person in a purple dress stands behind a table with various items, including a red price tag with a dollar sign. A yellow sign with 'YARD SALE' is visible.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL
July 17, 2022
6:00pm

The illustration features a blue ice cream cone with a cherry on top. A sticker on the cone says 'Save the Date'. The background is dark blue with white stars.

Church Trustees



The trustees are waiting on bids to repair the railing and other wood work that is deteriorating on the steeple. We hope to find a solution to the ongoing UV damage on the front doors and are pursuing several ideas. The Boy Scouts continue to look for a project to help the church. We have made several proposals to them and are awaiting their response. The trustees meet again on March 23rd.

get the latest news & events

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