

INTEGRATE

A newsletter for the family and friends of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church



Volume 65 No. 11

November 2023



RUTH SOCIETY FALL FUNDRAISER SALE

The Ruth Society will be running another fundraising sale for two weekends on November 4 & 5 and 11 & 12 before and after the church services. Items will include crafts, baked goods, canned goods, and gift items. Stop by and support the Ruth Society!

THANKSGIVING EVE & ADVENT SERVICES

We will be having a Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. Bring your family and join us in thanking God for all He has done for us.

We will also be having Midweek Advent worship services on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. on December 6, 13, and 20. A light meal will be served before each service. If you would like to help with one of these meals, please sign up at the welcome desk in the lobby.



STARS OF HOPE – MORNINGSTAR MISSION

Early in November you will see a display in the lobby with Christmas gift tags — each one has an attached Christmas list of needs and wants for an individual child. Gifts are to be purchased and wrapped and returned (bundle or bag together) with the original tag no later than November 26th. Please remember to note your name and gift list # on the list by the display! For questions about Stars of Hope, you

may contact Barb Malm at 815-474-5030. Thank you for brightening the Christmas of a child in need.

JUNIOR HIGH/HIGH SCHOOL APPLE PIE BAKING

Come have fun while making some yummy apple pies to donate the Ruth Society sale! No experience necessary!

Saturday, Nov. 4 – 11am-2pm – at the Pomykala's – 717 Stonegate Rd, New Lenox

Saturday, Nov. 11 – Noon-3pm – in the downstairs church kitchen

RSVP or call for more information – Doreen Pomykala 815-351-1328

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ruth Society Fundraiser Sale

Youth Pie Baking

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Advent Services

Cookie Walk

November 4 & 5; 11 & 12 (see page 3)

Saturdays, November 4, 11am-2pm; November 11, Noon-3pm

Wednesday, November 22, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, & 20, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 16, 9:00 a.m.

At Immanuel Mokena, our tagline is “following Jesus, finding family.” To us this means in the process of striving to be like Jesus, we grow together as Christians and followers and develop strong relationships as part of the family of Christ.

As we grow together, we are focusing on a key 1-2-3 here at Immanuel:

1 Mission: making disciples.

2 Places where it happens: temple spaces and table spaces.

3 Key Relationships: with God (UP), with people who know and love Jesus (IN), and with those who don't yet know how much He loves them (OUT).

We want all people to know that they are very-much-loved children of God, and we want to walk beside them as they discover their place in His Kingdom.

Financial Summary

| YOY Comparison | SEP 2023 | 2023 YTD | 2022 YTD | YOY Change | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | % |
| Offering | 26,594 | 253,224 | 229,476 | 23,748 | 10 |
| Interest | 74 | 702 | 227 | 475 | |
| Facility | 0 | 8,195 | 2,325 | 5,870 | |
| Expense | 24,418 | 248,525 | 247,496 | 1,029 | 0 |
| Balance | 2,250 | 13,596 | -15,468 | 29,064 | |

> Pastor's Scholarship Fund Balance \$18,800

WORSHIP SERVICES

Contemporary Saturdays at 5:00 pm
Traditional Sundays at 9:00 am

God's Kids Club (Sunday School) and Adult Bible Study - Sundays at 10:15 am (September through May)

ARE YOU IN NEED OF FINANCIAL, PASTORAL OR OFFICE SUPPORT?

Please Contact Us:

Pastoral Support: 708-479-5600 x2

Office Support: 708-479-5600 x1

Announcement & Integrate Publishing

Announcements are due on Wednesdays by 9 a.m. Articles for *Integrate* are due by the 26th of the month and will be on our website, emailed, and mailed after the 1st of the month. The *Integrate* Newsletter is also available online at immanuelmokena.org

Official Acts

- - - None in October - - -

Elders

Immanuel has elders who assist the pastor during the worship service and outside of worship. Their job is to be of service to you in any cares/concerns you may have with the congregation and within your family. Here are your elders:

Elder 1: Marty Olsen 815-464-4373

Elder 2: Jim Bubeck 312-952-1727

Elder 3: Bruce Bechtel 815-685-2133

Elder 4: Jerry Vrshek 815-469-5059 (Director)

Elder 5: Lynn Gilmore 815-600-6855

Elder 6: Fred Eassa 708-275-9907

Elder 7: Harold Oesterreich 708-479-7745

Please contact these Elders should you have any needs/concerns/questions.

Donations To Special Groups

Please follow the below instructions for submitting donations via check to any of the following groups.

GROUP

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE

Rays of HOPE

Rays Of Hope

God's Kids Club

Immanuel Lutheran

Include on Memo: God's Kids Club

Ruth Society

Ruth Society

LWML

LWML NID

Pastor's Scholarship Fund **Immanuel Lutheran**

Include on Memo: Pastor's Scholarship Fund
* For Special Group Donations: Clearly write on the outside of your offering envelope where the funds should be designated.

Live-Streamed Weekly Worship

Tune in to Facebook, YouTube Channel or immanuelmokena.org (click connect, live stream) to view the services live from the comfort of your home. Service times are listed above.



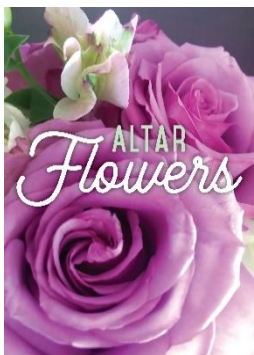
Women's Ministry Corner

RUTH SOCIETY

The November Meeting will be held November 2, 2023 in the Hub. 7:00 p.m. Refreshments; 7:30 p.m. Meeting.

Pastor Aaron will be our speaker and answering questions about communion, etc.

December 7th at 6:00 p.m. we are having our Christmas party in the Hub. It is being catered.



ALTAR FLOWERS

We are now purchasing altar flowers from the Flower Cottage. Two vases are \$40; one vase is \$20. They will deliver the flowers to the church! You can sign up for the current month or the next month on the west wall in the Lobby or other months in the Opportunities

Book. Please make checks payable to the Ruth Society and place in the Ruth Society mailbox D1 in the classroom across from the office. Orders are due one week in advance. If you have any questions or desire specific flowers or colors in the arrangement, please call Marcia Prosen at 708-479-1035.

UPDATE ON REDEEMING LIFE OUTREACH MINISTRIES (RLOM) – New maternity home in East Dundee

Supporting RLOM began way back in May at the Women's Tea – the attendees gave offerings to help with the building of a home that would provide housing for unwed moms and their infants. The tea offerings were followed by donations from Immanuel members which later in the summer were followed by a door offering. All offerings combined were \$1512.61.

Our support for RLOM was added to offerings collected through door offerings from Good Shepherd, Frankfort and Trinity, Tinley Park totaling \$1132.

Through a million-dollar matching grant from LCMS, we received \$1700.

In early October, a check for \$4344.61 was sent to Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries. The new maternity home is nearly ready for its grand opening – occupants are being selected and the house is being decorated and furnishings are being purchased. Because of your generosity and our sister congregations, a dining room set and accompanying furniture will be awaiting the occupants. The dining room, of course, will be a place for meals but will also provide a place for daily gatherings, conversations and opportunities for fellowship.

News of the official opening will be shared soon – thank you so much for supporting this project, sharing Christ's love and bringing hope to moms and babies in Northern Illinois.



Serving The Lord With Gladness Since 1943

FROM THE LWML

LWML NEWS: Read how your mite offerings are working in lands far away and right here in our own back yard – thank you for your support and showing the love of Jesus around the world.

NATIONAL LWML GRANT – 2023-2025 Water and the Word – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya – \$80,000

Students in schools and orphanages sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) lack clean water and regular access to pastoral care. Water and the Word, based in Thermopolis, Wyoming works with the ELCK to improve water systems for the schools. After evaluating a school's needs, Water and the Word installs water harvesting equipment (rain gutters and tanks), locally sourced filters, hand wash stations, and clean water storage systems. Students and staff are taught about personal

hygiene, handwashing, and the importance of drinking only clean water. After installation, an ELCK pastor (trained in water equipment) visits the schools every 3-4 months to ensure that the water system is working, visits with the children, and provides needed pastoral care. This grant will provide clean water and cover travel expenses for pastoral care to students in 12 additional schools and orphanages in Kenya.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT LWML GRANT 2022-2024

Trinity Lutheran Church and School of Tinley Park: \$10,668.90

Trinity Lutheran School is remodeling a room to be a “maker space” with building and crafting material storage along the walls. They will purchase new technological learning materials and open up the room so students can collaborate together and explore the world God created.



WOMEN OF THE WORD

Women of the Word will be meeting the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. Join us!



MEN OF THE WORD

Men of the Word meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m! Join us!



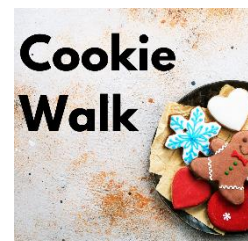
October ended with parties and of course some trick — or — treating. Our Fall Harvest parties were fun and everyone had a great time.

We will be gearing up for Christmas and the teachers will be getting for parent-teacher conferences. Lots of things will be happening during this time as well as all our regular learning of letters and numbers.

The preschool will be selling gifts cards again for Christmas or actually any time of the year. We will be doing it so that you will have at least two chances before Christmas to purchase. I did it last year and even used the gift cards to purchase some of my gifts. We will also be selling the pasta again in early December. All monies will go to updating our classrooms and the playground. Thank you for your prayers and support of the preschool families and staff. I hope everyone has a very blessed Thanksgiving!

COOKIE WALK 2023

From the Board of Fellowship



It's almost that time Again...Get out your cookbooks, mark your calendars (SAT, DEC 16TH 9am) the Cookie Walk will be here before we know it. Anyone willing to bake, please sign up on the Opportunities Board or the Welcome Counter.

The proceeds of the Cookie Walk support the Fellowship events that are planned throughout the year and each year, we have been blessed with fabulous cookies and treats for the community to buy. We thank you for all you do to make this happen.



Thank you for all the calls, cards & prayers!!!
With love & blessings to you all,
Dee Culbertson

From the Kaczmarczyk family:
Thank you to our Immanuel family who sent caring thoughts, cards and prayers for Norm and me during his time spent with cancer treatment in Texas and here at home. These treatments gave him an additional 1-1/2 years to spend with his family and friends. We appreciate all of the Christian love and support given to us.

God's peace,
Nancy and Katie

A heartfelt thank you to Marcia Prosen for your help at my house. - Phyllis Seno

St. John's Turkey Dinner

Saturday, November 4

Dine-in 4:30-6:00 p.m.

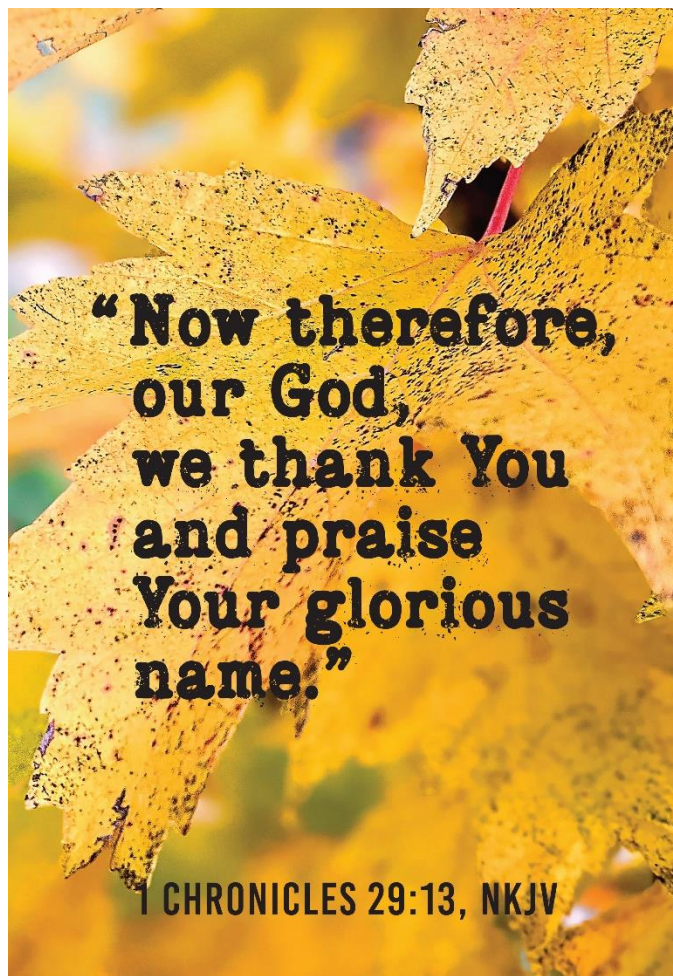
Limited Seating – Tickets Required

Adults \$17; Children 3-11 \$5

Drive-thru Carry-Out Dinner 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Price \$17 – Tickets Required

Tickets must be purchased in advance in the office of St. John's United Church of Christ, 11100 Second Street in Mokena 708-479-5123 OR online at stjohnsmokena.org.





NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 1 Miriam Wilson
- 2 Derreck Miranda
- 3 Barbara Seivert
- 7 Christina Somerville
- 9 Evelyn Bruno
- 9 Paul Somerville
- 11 Tim Baker
- 11 Jason Howard
- 13 Bryan Dillberg
- 13 Phyllis Soyk
- 15 Brian Twait
- 17 Jeannine Diab
- 17 Jack Roberts
- 17 Christian Woerner
- 18 Alison Kiedaisch
- 19 Chris Kloppmann
- 19 Olivia Roberts
- 20 Amy Lydic
- 20 Kevin Smith
- 21 Ryan Krause
- 22 Laura Schwer
- 23 Kenny Thorne
- 25 Sam Olsen
- 27 Robert Cupp
- 28 Megan Golembiewski
- 28 Emma Munson
- 29 Wanda Dillberg
- 29 Nancy Kaczmarczyk

Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 9 Timothy & Miriam Wilson | 37 years |
| 18 Joseph & Barbara Limanowski | 34 years |
| 21 Lindsay & Kevin Ryan | 8 years |
| 24 Edith & Frank Albers | 61 years |
| 28 Jim & Susan Kruspe | 51 years |
| 29 Robert & Marissa Krause | 10 years |

We wish God's blessings on all these people celebrating a birthday or anniversary. If we have forgotten anyone's special day or it is in error, please contact the church office.

Ways to Submit an Offering

- **Drop off** a check (or cash in sealed envelope with your name) in the secure black lockbox by the church office entrance door.
 - **Mail** a check to the office: 10731 W La Porte Rd, Mokena, IL 60448
 - **Electronic Giving** – go to the website, www.immanuelmokena.org, and click on Electronic Giving under the Giving menu. Fill in the secure form with either credit card or checking account information to submit offering.
 - **Joyful Response:** many members already use this service which automatically debits their checking account at a specified interval (weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, etc.) for a specified amount. The form can be found on the Electronic Giving page on the website – just fill it out and drop off or mail to the church office.
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How to find the Live Streaming Worship Services...

- www.immanuelmokena.org – Go to Connect, select Live Stream
- Facebook – Follow us @ImmanuelMokena
- YouTube – Our channel is Immanuel Lutheran Mokena (you can subscribe to the channel to be notified when new videos are posted)