

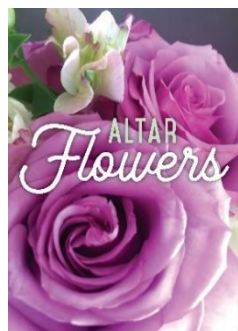
# INTEGRATE

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



Volume 66 No. 1

January 2024



## ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2024

Sign up for 2024 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.

## PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Preschool registration for the 2024-2025 school year is just around the corner. Members of Immanuel have first priority for registration. Here are the dates:

- January 8 – Church Families
- January 15 – Current Families
- January 22 – Alumni Families
- January 29 – General Public



In order to secure your child's class placement, you **must** register AND pay the registration fee of \$90. For more information, contact Tracy Miranda at [preschool@immanuelmokena.org](mailto:preschool@immanuelmokena.org)



## PIZZA AND PLAY

Young families are invited to a **Pizza & Play** Event in the gym on January 16 at 5:30 pm. We will order pizzas and set out a bunch of fun activities for the kiddos to run around and have some fun. We are asking for a \$10 donation per family to put towards the pizza. Children need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please sign up on the Opportunities Board to register so we know how many pizzas to order.

## GIVING TREE

Thank you to everyone who donated through the Giving Tree. We had donations to many different organizations and funds, and they are very thankful for your donations. We will have a summary of the amounts given in next month's *Integrate*.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

God's Kids Club resumes  
Pizza & Play

Sunday, January 7, 10:15 a.m.  
Wednesday, January 16, 5:30 p.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	NOV 2023	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	YOY Change	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
Offering	24,476	305,730	293,768	11,962	4
Interest	74	857	345	512	
Facility	1,540	11,515	3,905	7,610	
Expense	25,066	299,503	290,563	8,940	3
<b>Balance</b>	<b>1,024</b>	<b>18,599</b>	<b>7,455</b>	<b>11,144</b>	

> 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

## Live-Streamed Weekly Worship

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

## Official Acts

- - - - None in December - - - -

## 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

### 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.*





## Women's Ministry Corner

### RUTH SOCIETY

Please note that there will NO meetings in January or February.

The Ruth Society would like to thank everyone who purchased poinsettias to adorn the altar at Christmas:

Richard & Barbara Belanski  
Leo & Kathy Cleary  
Greg & Marsha Flesch  
Bruce & Barbara Malm  
Keith & Colleen Maranto

The Bowlds Family in memory of all our loved ones who have gone before us in the faith

Bob Fleckenstein in memory of Joan

Kerry & Jill Gerken in memory of Armond Salin and Kevin Lietz

Lynn R. Gilmore in memory of parent Bob & Charlotte Gilmore and siblings Charlotte Roberts, Carole, and Paul

Naomi Nagy in memory of Rod

Mary & Harold Oesterreich in memory of Frances & Walter Phelps and Burnette & Harold Oesterreich

Kathy Temple in memory of parents, brother, and sister

Lyn Thorne in memory of Mel & May Krohse and Ken & Chickie Thorne

Gary & Judy Smith in memory of Ruth & Dale Stater and Marjorie & Edgar Smith

Jean & Troy Smith in memory of Ronald & Leslie Mozwecz and Dale & Ruth Stater

Kevin & Maetha Smith in loving memory of Hazel & Bill Mutsch and Bob & Betty Smith

George & Deb Tolsky in memory of George P. Tolsky and John & Rosemarie Warren

Karen & Jerry Vrshek in memory of Kid & Fritzie Bischel and Jerry G. & Adeline Vrshek

Bev & Nick Whittier in memory of our parents Ed & Elsie Walsh and N.T. & Louise Whittier, and brother Greg Whittier

Susan Yost in memory of Margaret Jensen



### WOMEN OF THE WORD

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



### MEN OF THE WORD

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

### FROM THE BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

The Cookie Walk was a huge success. We can't thank everyone enough. The generosity of those who baked, those who shopped, and those who contributed more for others was so appreciated. God bless all of you!







Happy New Year!! We are rested and healthy. The best way to start back at school and finish the year strong. The preschoolers have a lot of learning to do so we are ready to get them in the building to make it happen.

The Christmas services went great and our birthday parties for Jesus were fun. A very nice way to end the year, by sharing the story of Jesus' birth with family and friends.

Thank you to everyone that bought gift cards and pasta. Both were a great success and we look forward to starting up again in February.

It is officially time to start accepting registration for the 2024-2025 school year. I can't believe that it is already time to get this all started again. We have already had several tours of our facility and registrations have been dropped off.

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BLESS US  
in this new year, Lord.



My future is in  
**YOUR  
HANDS.**  
PSALM 31:15, NLT



# JANUARY

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- 1 Dee Culbertson
- 2 Kehlani Kruspe
- 3 Evan Perrin
- 7 Garrett Flesch
- 9 Max Loucks
- 9 Candy Whittier
- 10 Jake Beechy
- 10 Bruce Malm
- 11 Savannah Bubeck
- 11 Randy Krause
- 11 Marilyn Miller
- 12 Nadia Kruspe
- 12 Nancy Mirocha
- 16 Austin Bubeck
- 19 Donald Schwer
- 23 Mark Fuka
- 24 Emily Baker
- 25 Matt Howard
- 25 Maryanne Schultz
- 27 Amanda Farrell
- 28 Sydney Pattenau
- 29 Dave Prosen
- 30 Mackenzie Burke
- 30 Todd Carlson
- 30 Steve Malm
- 31 Ben Howard
- 31 Harold Oesterreich

### Anniversaries

- |                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| 10 Bill & Carole Sluis    | 54 years |
| 22 Brian & Tammy Twait    | 13 years |
| 25 Tom & Lisa Bartnik     | 39 years |
| 25 Michael & Gina Dudczyk | 31 years |
| 30 Frank & Karen Lowhorn  | 20 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.*

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### 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](http://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](http://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)