



The Immanuel Herald

Publication of Immanuel United Church of Christ

November 2025

Pastor's Corner

A Message from Pr. MaryBeth

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

~ Joshua 9:1

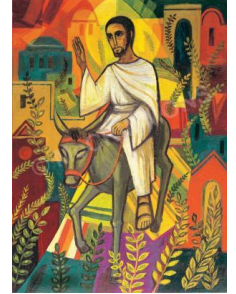
COURAGE

As followers of Christ, what kind of courage do we need to follow Jesus? Courage is the sum of so many things: valor, instinct, determination, tenacity, daring, even a little fear; courage also requires generosity and compassion.

At its core, I am certain, that courage is about life and hope. Sometimes courage sees danger coming a long way off, that has plenty of time to choose an alternative path, yet decides to stay the course, to remain faithful, to endure the mounting fear in order to do one's duty. It is this kind of courage we see in Jesus, on that first Palm Sunday, as he dared to oppose the imperial Roman occupation by leading a procession into Jerusalem.

My Mexican-American family and friends are living on edge: fearful of going to work, to the grocery store, to drop-off and pick-up their children at school. As unbelievable as it sounds, our Christian

sisters and brothers are being targeted for their brown skin, speaking with an accent. Many are US citizens: born here or immigrants; some are permanent legal residents, others are granted asylum (like the Venezuelans we assisted last year). To make this more personal, my daughter is half-Mexican, born in Chicago, lives in Logan Square and walks to work with great caution as ICE is always nearby.



As followers of Christ, what kind of courage do we need to follow Jesus? Jesus rode in the face of fear, animosity and deceit. He rode for the radical concepts of peace, reconciliation and truth. As Christians, we are encouraged to embrace the kind of courage that stays the course toward hospitality, kindness, healing and forgiveness.

The church, this Immanuel church, is called to embrace the kind of courage we see in Jesus. A courage that is generous and compassionate, that, at its core, is about life and hope.

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

~ I Corinthians 16:13

*As always, your friend in Christ,
Pr. MaryBeth*

Notes from the President



Remember when you were young, (or are one of our younger members, reading this, and are young) You would (are) shine(ing) like the sun. Life was(is) good. Then a cloud would cover the sun and dim the sky and put a haze on your vision.

For a brief period (though, the problem felt an eternity) our vision was blurred, life seemed hopeless. But, the cloud eventually passed. Sunny skies came back and birds still sang.

Immanuel UCC, was going through a rough stage these past several years. Today, the clouds are still covering us, but the sun has started to peek out from behind our clouds. Our Choir still sings grandly. With our faith in GOD, love, support, dedication, we move forward as today's family of Immanuelites.

November at Immanuel brings us the joy of reflecting and honoring the lives that have left us this past year. Through our remembrance they continue to live. They still bring us strength and love. Today, tomorrow and forevermore.

At first glance, our pews may appear less than full. I assure you, they are not. You will not see them, but they are here. Feel that cool chill? Hear a low whisper? Feel a brief movement in your (empty) pew? The spirits of Immanuel's Family's past are here with us. Sharing with us their strengths to overcome adversities. Their love, to help us through hateful times. Their faith, to strengthen our love for God.



What would yesterday's Immanuel family say to us if they could? What words would we hear if we could? Without a doubt, they ARE saying to us all, Shine on you crazy diamonds, today and forevermore. We all are the family of Immanuel.

BobO

"Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life."

~ John 8:12 ~

Worship & Friendship at Immanuel NOVEMBER 2025

Sun. Nov. 2, 10am: Worship, Communion
All Saints, Totenfest, Baptism

Sun. Nov. 9, 10am: Worship, Joyful Noise
Adult Class, Jeremiah

Mon. Nov. 10: 7pm: Council, Zoom

Sun. Nov 16, 10am: Worship, Communion
Adult Class, Jeremiah

Sun. Nov. 23, 10am: Worship, Lunch

Decorate for Advent & Christmas

**6:30pm: UCC Worship at Immanuel
Community Service of Thanks**
at Immanuel hosted by Pilgrim-Faith,
Christ Memorial, Salem & Immanuel

Tues. Nov. 25, 6:30pm: Advent Study
Zoom with five UCC Congregations

Thurs. Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Day

Sun. Nov. 30, 10am: Worship

First Sunday in Advent

Adult Class: Names for the Messiah

Adult Class

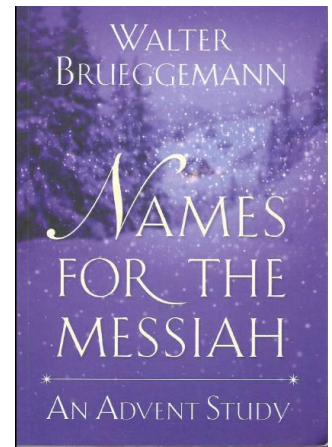
Advent Study

"Names for
the Messiah"

by

Walter Brueggemann

**Two Options
to Participate**



Sunday Morning & Tuesday Evening

"For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us; authority rests
upon his shoulders; and he is
named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace." ~ Isaiah 9:6

"Names for the Messiah" ponders
each title and how the people
understood it then, how Jesus did
or did not fulfill the title, and how
Christians interpret Jesus as
representative of that title.

**This Advent Study will be offered
after worship Sundays,
11:15am-12, Nov. 23, Dec. 7, 14, 21.**
Bring your refreshments and join the
conversation.

Immanuel will also join
Pilgrim-Faith, Peace Memorial,
Salem and Christ Memorial for
**a Zoom class Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16.**

Materials are available!

**Let Pr. MaryBeth know
that you are interested in
either or both class options.**

Prayer for Thanksgiving.

Rich, poor; young, old; sinner, saint.
We are all God's children, and God
transforms each of us into the people
we are meant to be. Broken, we are
mended; separated from others,
we are made one; longing to serve,
we are sent forth.

Thanks be to God. Amen.





It's getting dark around 6 p.m., the temperatures are crisper and the leaves are turning — signs that we are about to fall back. Here's what to know about the end of daylight saving time 2025.

Many countries around the world and most of the U.S. still turn the clocks forward or backward an hour, in the effort to extend daylight hours seasonally, though some argue the practice should be brought to an end. Pennsylvania legislature has advanced bills in recent years to keep daylight saving permanent, but no action has been taken.

The difference is DST would mean later sunrises and sunsets, allowing for more time for outdoor activities after work in the evenings, whereas standard time would mean earlier sunrises and sunsets, which some argue increase safety in the mornings for school children and is more in line with our biological circadian rhythms, according to save standard time. DST is approximately eight months, starting on the second Sunday of March and ending on the first Sunday of November, according to the Uniform Time Act of 1966.

Daylight saving time is not being discontinued in the United States as of now. However, there are discussions around making it permanent. While some states have passed bills for year-round daylight saving time, any changes require federal action. Thus until such legislation is passed, the time changes will continue to occur.

Clocks will fall back one hour on Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 2:00am as Daylight Saving Time ends across most of the United States.

This change will result in an extra hour of sleep for many.

Information came from: Reader's Digest, USA Today and AccuWeather

Speaking of Time ...

Did you notice the November 'Herald' is late? It was me, Pr. MaryBeth: slow to get things done. The last couple weeks have witnessed some changes in my husband's health requiring lots of energy and late nights. He's stable now thanks to doctors and wonderful caregivers! Enjoy the November Herald ~ still lots of news!



Please Keep These Families in your Prayers:

Rosemary Davidson	Pam Gross	Christine Hickerson
Dolores and Al Eriksen	Jim O'Toole	Brad Stone
Diane Eriksen	Andy Busse	Karen Wyka
Samantha Hickerson	Dennis Vail	Jackie Moline
Gary Hickerson	Neighbors at Immanuel Residence	



MISSION, CARE AND MEMBERSHIP

November ~ December

Immanuel will collect specific pantry items to support the children and families at "Our Lady of Tepeyac Elementary School" in Chicago's Little Village community. Many of the families are afraid to meet their children after school and go to the grocery store. Our Latino/Hispanic sisters and brothers are Christian refugees seeking asylum, legal permanent residents or citizens; they are our neighbors, friends and family. As followers of the same Christ, MCM invites Immanuel to help in this small way by donating the pantry items listed below. <https://www.tepeyacelementary.org/>

Canned, jars or dry packages are most desirable that will fit in a child's backpack to take home.

Beans of any kind	Vegetables	Peanut butter
Tomato sauces	Fruits	Jams
Tomatoes	Tuna fish	Crackers
Soups	Chicken	Dessert mixes: pudding
Pasta	Mac and Cheese	Oil for cooking
Chili	Mashed potatoes	Cake mixes
Rice or rice mixes	Canned Milk	Cookies, snacks

IMMANUEL HOT SHOTS FALL BALL LEAGUE

Yes! Basketballs are bouncing with Immanuel Hotshots Fall Ball League is until December 13. **Volunteers** are **needed** to work the **concession stand** for the Saturday

games. The money made from concessions helps pay for the referee and time-keepers. Lend a hand on a Saturday morning, 8am-12noon:

Come all four hours or for just a couple.



Our One and Only
Josh Ritter's
Scout Troop is hosting a
dinner and show.

*Join Troop 618 for a delicious spaghetti dinner
served with a side of theatrical flair!
Whether you're a drama queen or a spaghetti
king, this night is sure to be well-seasoned with
laughter and love.*

SPAGHETTI DINNER & A SHOW!



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER **8** SATURDAY

DOORS OPEN AT 4:00 PM & CLOSE AT 7:00 PM
9701 BRANDT AVE., OAK LAWN, IL 60453



ADULTS
\$15



KIDS
(5-12) \$12
(4 & UNDER) FREE

TROOP 618 - PAYMENT



thanksgiving
gather
thankful family
blessed grateful
together
blessings
november



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