

The 2019 Annual Report



Immanuel Lutheran
CHURCH AND SCHOOL



As Jesus gathers His children at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, we look back over this last year and thank the Lord for His gift of joy. We found joy everywhere. The joy of sins forgiven, the joy of heaven, the joy on the faces of young men and women, the joy of coming to school, the joy of being in worship, the joy of sharing with those who need our help, the joy of helping others, the joy of serving those who serve us, the joy of accomplishment and most importantly, the joy of Jesus.

His joy is such good medicine for each of us.

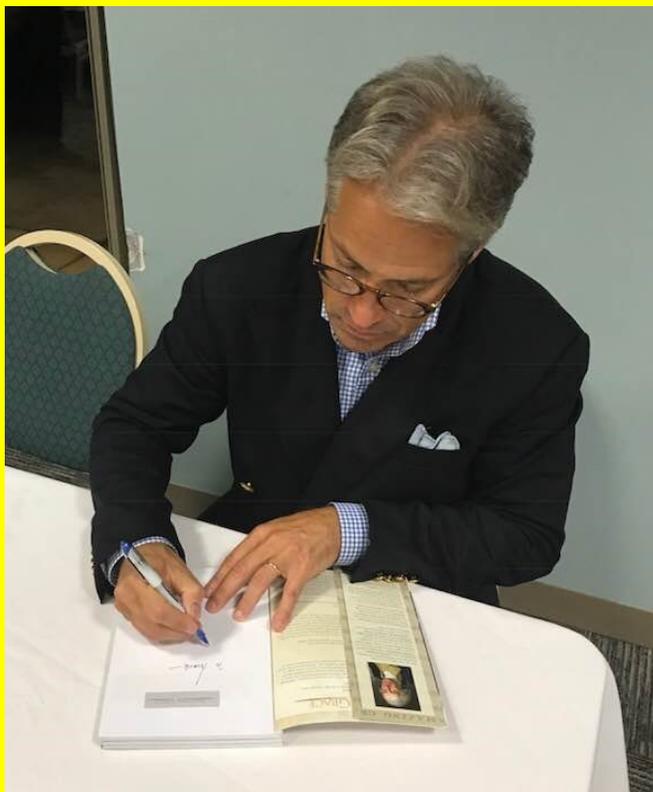
Join us as we look back over this past year
and thank the Lord for the joy that is ours in being children of the heavenly Father.



*Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, so that we may sing for joy
and be glad all our days. Psalm 90:14*

September 2018

On September 25, 2018, Immanuel Lutheran Church was buzzing with excitement as hundreds of people came to attend a Share Joy event. We hosted best selling author, Eric Metaxas and he shared with us some insights into the life and times of Martin Luther. The evening was filled with humorous moments, funny stories, enlightening questions and answers as well as some wonderful fellowship as we heard from this author, who through research for his book, Martin Luther, enriched our understanding of the Reformation and what it still means for us today. We heard how God used Luther to change the world through his simple, but profound, understanding of God's Word and his ability to challenge the rulers and leaders of both church and state.



Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Isaiah 12:6

November 2018



As part of our year of sharing joy, Immanuel Lutheran Church invited veterans and their families to a free dinner honoring their work, their service and their sacrifice to our nation. We gathered on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2018, to give a special evening to those who so richly deserved it because of their dedication to freedom. Many volunteers helped to plan, prepare, fix, serve and clean up after the dinner, and we were able to share the joy of Jesus with those in our community even as we thanked the Lord for the allegiance of those who so bravely served our nation in the armed forces.

"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you."

Psalm 5:11

January 2019

As part of our Share Joy initiative, our children in the preschool and day school, along with their families, donated first aid supplies to fill 500 Kits for Kids.



Each kit contained aspirin, toothbrushes, hydrocortisone cream, combs, clippers and many other needed items. In each backpack, our school children included notes of love and shared the joy of Jesus.



These Kits for Kids were sent by our friends at Project C.U.R.E. to Cambodia and the Congo where they will be given to families who visit health clinics. What a remarkable way to share joy with those who desperately need it!

March 2019

On March 31, members and friends of Immanuel were blessed to listen to an organ recital featuring Miss Emily Woock, the Director of Music Ministries of Redeemer Lutheran Church of Elmhurst, Illinois. Miss Woock shared a marvelous talent with us, offering to the Lord “Tidings of Comfort and Joy”. It was a magnificent afternoon of music which included the singing of some classic Reformation hymns as well as a charming duet with one of her students for the hymn, “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”. The recital included a door offering for our friends at Lutheran Church Charities and their Comfort Dog Ministry. Many Comfort Dogs joined Levi at the festival celebration and enjoyed meeting and greeting all those who came to the recital. What an amazing opportunity to share the joy of music with others.



*“Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout
aloud to the Rock of our salvation.”*

Psalm 95:1

APRIL 2019

“Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”



God's people gathered together on April 21 to hear and experience the great good news of Jesus' resurrection from the grave. More than 1,200 saints of God packed the pews of Immanuel to witness, once again, this life changing day when Jesus springs out of His grave and becomes the firstfruits of those who have been raised from the dead.

As we gathered at our

Sonrise worship we sang:

For the sheep the Lamb has bled,
Sinless in the sinner's stead.
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high;
Now He lives no more to die. Alleluia!



Pastor Yonker who had preached the “Whole (Damned) Truth” on Good Friday—that Jesus suffered the full and total abandonment of God while being nailed to the cross; proclaimed the Easter good news of sins forgiven and life restored! Pastor shared about how Jesus is “all in” for you and for me—“all in” to save us from our sins and “all in” to guarantee us eternal life with Jesus in heaven. “Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!”

June 2019

Jesus says, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

John 15:11



"They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away."

Isaiah 35:10



"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13



During the middle of June, Immanuel Lutheran Church and School was transformed into an African wilderness as more than 250 children participated in Vacation Bible School. Our theme was ROAR, and more than 100 volunteers shared the good news that when "life is wild, God is good!" What joy we had in welcoming all of these students and volunteers to our campus during the week. The amazing songs we sang, the lessons we learned, the friends we made and the love of Jesus shared with His children made it an amazing, incredible, joy filled week!

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