

Pray for and Live in Peace

from WELS Transformed Teen Devotions

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

"Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." These are the famous words of JFK (John F. Kennedy) from his presidential Inaugural Address on January 1, 1961. Wise words! Rather than seeking to be served by others or by your country, seek to serve your country and others. Certainly, a country filled with such humble servants and attitudes would be blessed with peace, unity, and strength.

Such wise thoughts don't belong only to worldly leaders of the past though. Our God desires the same thing. As we live under a government that he has established for our good, God wants us in turn to serve our government. But not to worry! This doesn't mean you have mandatory community service, military training, or political campaigns in your future! (Though, feel free to do so if the Lord moves your heart in such a way.) Rather, God wants us to serve our communities and our government in simple, humble ways.

The verses for our consideration today help us to understand some of these ways we can show love and serve others. So what can I do for our country? Pray! Paul told the young pastor Timothy that he (and now we) can offer petitions, or requests to God, on behalf of the government. For example, we might pray for God to strengthen and support those who have difficult and challenging jobs. We can also pray fervently for God to give wisdom and diligence to those who lead. Other prayers we can offer include prayers of thanksgiving for those who lead. Yes, you heard me right—thanksgiving. Even if we disagree with those who lead and their laws or policies at times, we can still be thankful that we have leaders whom God has allowed into positions that serve our good.

When we have attitudes that are eager to serve our country through our humble living and fervent prayers, we will in fact accomplish

much. We will do the very thing that Paul wrote at the end of verse two—we will contribute “peaceful and quiet lives” that let the light of Christ shine through us in all we can do. What a profound joy, then, that as we serve Christ in love, so also we serve our neighbor and our country. God bless us in such service!

Prayer: *Lord of all, in this coming week of national thanksgiving, give to me a humble heart of thankfulness that is eager to pray for and serve others, including those who serve me in our government. Amen.*

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Masks in Church

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. **Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*** (Phil. 2:3-4) Even as the official mask mandate issued by our governor may expire, this pandemic is far from over and numbers are going up at an alarming rate in our area. For this reason, we ask that, out of Christian love and concern, everyone continues to wear masks while in the church building. Thank you for helping work together to protect each other as brothers and sister in Christ’s love!

Children’s Christmas Eve Service

Due to the pandemic, parts of this year’s Children’s Christmas Eve Service will be recorded in advance and shown on the screen at church in a special Christmas Eve service at 4:30 pm, Pastor Fricke will open and close the service in person. It will also be available online. Parents, more information will be coming home with your children soon. Please let your child’s teacher know if they will be participating.

Advent Devotionals

Martin Luther College has once again provided our congregation with Advent Devotionals. They can be found on the table in the main hallway. Please pick one up for your family and use this wonderful tool to prepare your hearts and minds for the coming of our Savior!



Candy Bag Volunteers

We will once again be making up peanut/candy bags for our students participating in the Christmas Eve service, these bags also go to the choir, visiting children, and our shut-ins. Some candy and peanuts have been purchased and we are looking for 5-6 volunteers to help fill the bags. We would also welcome donations of candy. If you are willing, contact Carla in person or by church email. Thank you!



Luminary Deadline

Just a reminder that the deadline to turn in the forms for luminaries in memory or honor of loved ones is **December 18**.

Meals for Pastor Fricke

Thank you to everyone who provided a meal in some fashion for Pastor Fricke. (He now needs someone to donate a gym membership after all those delicious meals!) Now that most of his family has joined him in the parsonage, they are making sure he is well fed.

Twice is Nice December 2020 News

TiN will have 50% off on all Christmas items December 14 - 23; 75% off

Christmas items runs from December 26 -

30. We're easy-to-find and open Mondays-

Saturdays from 10 am-4 pm: just a minute east on the

Hwy 18 exit off the 26 bypass at 907 W. Racine St., next to the

Jefferson Piggly Wiggly. As always, new volunteers are welcome! Help us support the mission of Lakeside Lutheran High School.



New Sign Committee

A committee has been working to consider design proposals for our new church sign. If you would like to lend your ideas and input to this group, please contact Dale Naatz (920) 297-0329 or any of the church council members.

Save the Date

Immanuel's annual voters' meeting will be on **January 24, 2021**.

Many important ministry decisions are made at this meeting and we value the input of ALL our members!

New Beginnings “Change for Life”

We are excited by the response to our Change for Life program this year! The Change for Life program is a group effort to help support *New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers*, which is a WELS-based home for single mothers. This program supports the well-being, continuing education, spiritual growth, and personal progress of generationally-poor mothers and babies. Starting in November, baby bottles will be placed out for anyone to take home and fill with change. Return them to church once you have them filled.



Donate Menards Rebates

The Immanuel Outdoor Decorating Team has big plans for making the outside of our church building beautiful and meaningful for some of the major holidays. Would you be willing to donate your Menards rebate cards to help cover the cost for these projects?

Online Worship

We understand that just because we are gathering together for worship, this virus has not gone away. Anyone who is considered high risk, who is feeling sick, or who is just not comfortable with gatherings yet is encouraged to continue to worship at home. Videos of our worship services will still be posted to our website regularly.

Giving Options

What a blessing to have members who continue their regular offerings during this uncertain time. Thank you so much for making the support of God's work a priority in your life! Immanuel must continue to meet our financial obligations. Physical (check) offerings can be mailed to the church address. We are very happy to now offer online giving through our church website. Click on the orange button that says ONLINE GIVING and follow the easy steps to set up offerings. Thank you!

Blue Butterfly Thrift Store

Local WELS ministries are excited to announce the opening of a new thrift store in Oconomowoc, which is planned to open in early December 2020. Alpha Resource Center, Christian Family Solutions (WLCFS) and Tomorrow's Choice are working together to raise funds

and support primary ministry areas that relate to the sanctity of life, mental health counseling and senior care.

COVID-19 Notice

Enhanced health and safety measures are still in place to keep our church open. You must follow written guidelines and the directions given by the ushers and pastor. Everyone in our church building is required to wear masks. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and people with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By visiting Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19. Let's help keep each other healthy!



Employment Opportunities:

St. John School in Jefferson is in need of a Teacher's Aide that will be able to serve for the second half of the school year to begin after Christmas Break. Hours are from 8:30 to 11:30 am Monday - Friday when school is in session. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact the principal, Mr. Peter Lemke at 920-674-2922 or plemke@sjlwels.org. Or contact our School Board Chairman, Allan Meske at allan.meske@gmail.com.

St. John School in Jefferson is considering adding the hot lunch program back in January. Although currently not approved, we need to understand if there is any interest in filling 2 cook positions. Hours would be Monday - Friday from 10 am-2 pm. If you have any interest in this position, please contact the school office at 920-674-2922.

Luther Preparatory School is seeking a full-time janitor to assist with cleaning, maintenance and repair of school buildings and residences, and upkeep of campus grounds. Interested candidates can go to WELS.net and click on the "Careers" link at the bottom of the page for an application.

Offerings vs. Budget as of 10/31/2020

Offerings: \$252,773.03 Budget: \$286,683.33 Difference: -\$33,910.30

December Usher Teams

12/3	Thurs	6:30 pm	Jim & Gail Will
12/6	Sun	8:00 am	Baum Family
12/6	Sun	10:00 am	Braunschweig Family
12/10	Thurs	6:30 pm	Emrath Family
12/13	Sun	8:00 am	Gordon & Rhonda Butzine
12/13	Sun	10:00 am	Buxa Family
12/17	Thurs	6:30 pm	Jerry & Kay Schultz
12/20	Sun	8:00 am	Demoe Family
12/20	Sun	10:00 am	Deb & Terry Frey
12/24	Thurs	4:30 pm	Morris-Robinson Family
12/24	Thurs	6:30 pm	Jim and Barb Buglass
12/25	Fri	9:00 am	Dale & Jackie Naatz
12/27	Sun	8:00 am	Joseph Family
12/27	Sun	10:00 am	Klausch Family
12/31	Thur	6:30 pm	Altreuter Family
11/29	Sun	10:00 am	Pat Kleinsteiber/Kathleen Crawford

*Thank
You*





DECEMBER

Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jacob Fenner, 12/1 | Tamra Buglass, 12/15 |
| Madyson Heald, 12/1 | Leia Hartwig, 12/15 |
| John Hanke, 12/3 | Benjamin Buxa, 12/16 |
| Ray Lauersdorf, 12/3 | Tammy Hartwig, 12/16 |
| Gordon Butzine, 12/4 | Orville Schultz, 12/16 |
| Robert Jr Lemke, 12/4 | Michael Walters, 12/16 |
| Stephanie Schulze, 12/4 | Cassie Naatz, 12/17 |
| Eric Shuppe, 12/4 | Troy Naatz, 12/19 |
| Mason Baneck, 12/5 | David Streich, 12/19 |
| Cooper Woolley, 12/5 | Brianna Klausch, 12/22 |
| JoAnn Meinel, 12/7 | Tara Olszewski, 12/23 |
| Linda Buxa, 12/11 | Evelyn Bainbridge, 12/27 |
| Gail Maron, 12/11 | Marcus Streich, 12/27 |
| Cody Schultz, 12/11 | Earlynn Zimmerman, 12/27 |
| Madalynn Bessel, 12/12 | Laura Fricke, 12/29 |
| Ian Olszewski, 12/12 | Taylor Buglass, 12/30 |
| Glenn Rummler, 12/12 | Angela Heald, 12/30 |
| Jameson Baum, 12/13 | Daymian Hudson, 12/30 |
| Vicki Morris, 12/14 | Grayson Meyer, 12/30 |
| Toni Braatz, 12/15 | Landon Meyer, 12/30 |



Couple	Years	Date
Alvin & June Miller	70	12/2
Orville & Marilyn Schultz	67	12/5
John & Joyce Hanke	35	12/28
Paul & Jane Schmidt	15	12/11
Tom Earle & Lisa Maass-Earle	3	12/30
Brian & Alyssa Toczyski	1	12/7



WELS
W4095 County Rd B • Johnson Creek • WI • 53038
Pastor Joe Fricke
website www.immanuelinfarmington.com
email immanuelinfarmington@gmail.com
phone (920) 699-2283