

Immanuel's Lighted Path

Winter 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

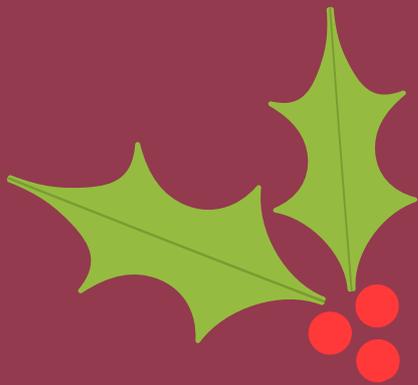
ADVENT BIBLE STUDY
TUESDAYS

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 21

IN PERSON- 4PM
ONLINE LECTURE- 7PM
VIA FACEBOOK LIVE

TOWNSEND TREE LIGHTING & CAROLING

DECEMBER 11- 4:30PM
TOWNSEND PARK



First Sunday of Advent
December 28 11am

*Join us as we prepare for a season of
Hope, Love, Joy and Peace*



Blue Christmas Service
December 19 5pm

The holidays can be difficult. During a time when people expect you to be merry and bright, the grief, loneliness and sadness in our lives does not just disappear. We hope you'll join us for this service of healing and peace to help soothe your soul.

Christmas Eve



Casual Christmas Eve Service
5:30pm

Our annual early evening service allows families with younger children to celebrate Jesus early enough to allow them to get enough sleep so they can be prepared for the big day. We will have refreshments in a small party atmosphere for Jesus' birth.



Traditional Christmas Eve Service
9pm

This traditional Christmas Eve, Candlelight, Carol and Communion service is a great way to celebrate the holiday as we sing the classics and hear the story of the birth of the child who changed the world forever.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Member of Immanuel,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! During this Advent-Christmas season, many of us will be focused on "home". Someone mentioned to me recently that they were excited because international borders have been opened for the first time in almost two years and now they can embrace relatives living abroad. This is one of many losses people have experienced as a result of this Covid-19 pandemic. We have lost connections to loved ones. During this Advent-Christmas season, we will use the theme: "Come Home for Christmas." Christmas is the celebration of God coming to us and reminding us that God is with us.

During the holidays many of us will open our homes and prepare traditional holiday treats. We will open our doors and embrace people who enter with love. Some of us will travel using traditional means, planes, trains, and automobiles. Some of us will use methods of connections that have become all too familiar during the pandemic; smartphones, Zoom, and other online technics; regardless of the medium, we will connect with those we love.

At Immanuel, the worship services and sermons will focus on this theme. In Bible study, we will use the book, "Making Room," by Ed Robb on Tuesdays at Immanuel and at 7 pm online with Facebook Live. Blue Christmas, an opportunity to help us cope with the grief and stress of the Holiday Season, December 19, 2021, 7 pm live and online Facebook Live.

On Christmas Eve:

Casual Family Christmas Eve Worship Service 5:30 p.m.

Traditional Christmas Candlelight Worship at 9 p.m.

These two years have been challenging for the church financially. Having the doors closed for so many Sundays has taken a financial toll. The Bazaar and Chicken Dumpling Dinner was canceled last year which is a major fundraiser. Fortunately, the church did participate in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) in 2020 and 2021.

As the year comes to a close please remember Immanuel as you may support other well-deserving causes this time of year. Immanuel needs your help. You can give by mailing a check to P.O. Box 60, Townsend, DE 19734, or you can give electronically using Givelify or Pay Pal.

In closing, please remember that there is a home toward which to head, it is the invitation too long for the home we call the kin-dom (Kingdom) of God. It is where the family resides, where peace resides, where justice abides, and where hope will arise.

Maranatha, Lord. Come quickly.

Rev. Grant L. Johnson



Christmas Flowers



Christmas flowers in honor or memory of loved ones should be at the church by Saturday, December 18 between 10am and 12pm.

Dedications for inclusion in the Christmas bulletin should be sent to Sue Clark by Wednesday, December 15 Please send dedications to sclark@udel.edu

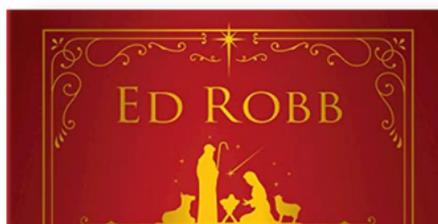
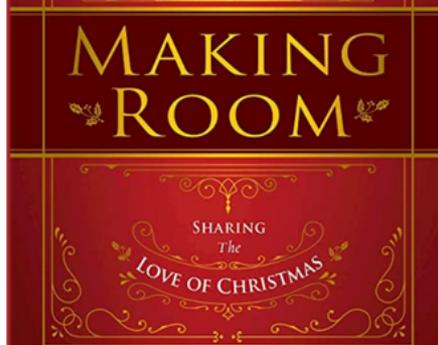
This is a great way to remember and honor loved ones, while making our sanctuary beautiful for Christmas.

Town of Townsend Caroling & Tree Lighting

On December 11 at 4:30pm we will be joining the Town of Townsend for a Christmas Caroling Tree Lighting ceremony at the Townsend Park (just inside Townsend Village). The Town has asked us to lead the singing once again, and we hope that everyone will come out and join us. We're very excited to have the Appoquinimink High School Brass Ensemble joining us.

The 3M's will be providing snacks and beverages for the event.



 <p>ED ROBB</p> <p>MAKING ROOM</p>	<p>Advent Bible Studies</p> <p><i>November 30 December 7, 14, 21</i></p> <p><i>In Person- 4pm</i></p> <p><i>Online Lecture Series- 7pm Watch via Facebook Live</i></p>
 <p>SHARING The LOVE OF CHRISTMAS</p>	

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

We are participating in the Adopt-A-Family program once again. You can choose gifts to donate to our families by taking a tag off of the tree in the rear of the Sanctuary. If you have any question please contact, Tish Borchardt



We are working together with Bethesda UMC to help purchase grocery store gift cards for Neighborhood House. We will be collecting funds until December 5. Please see Christine Benedict or Tish Borchardt if you would like to donate.



Check Out
Our Updated
Website

www.immanueltownsend.com



Each Sunday, after the “Time for Children” in the service, the kids are dismissed to go to WOW. While there, they listen to and discuss a Bible story, often the one Miss Martha has introduced during the children’s time. After that, we do a craft that is related to the story. We also have played games and had a treasure hunt. This fall, we have focused on what it means to be a follower of Jesus, how we can serve others and learning some basic facts. In addition, during the Advent season, we will learn the “word of the day” - hope, peace, joy and love with our Sunday advent poster and explore scriptures related to that word. The craft will be an ornament to hang on the church Christmas tree which the kids will put on the tree during the lighting of the Advent candle time in church each Sunday. This is a multi-age opportunity and we welcome anyone who would like to join us.

Christine Benedict & Sue Clark



Recent repairs and projects completed by the trustees include -

- Trimming of the big oak trees and removal of two trees in the back of the church
 - Trimming of the bushes around the church
 - Repair of the “soft” spot in front of the pulpit
 - Replacement of the railing around the steeple
- Repair of the upstairs heater and the cleaning and maintenance of all heaters
 - Replacement of some lights in Fellowship Hall and in the upstairs rooms
 - Repair of the water fountain

We have some new projects that we are discussing for spring and beyond. We appreciate your patience as we try to keep the church property maintained and in good working order.



As December 31st quickly approaches, please consider these important reminders regarding giving to Immanuel:

Contributions to Immanuel United Methodist Church are tax deductible as allowed by law.

IRS rules recognize a contribution on the day of delivery.

For contributions to be deductible for 2021, they must:



Be Postmarked By
December 31, 2021 and mailed to
PO Box 60, Townsend DE 19734



Be Given As Offering By
December 31, 2021



Be Donated Online at
www.immanueltownsend.com
before Midnight December 31, 2021

Givelify

Download Givelify for free from your phone's app store (Google Play or the iPhone App Store). Search for Immanuel United Methodist Church on the app using either the map or search engine, then tap the heart next to "My Place of Worship" or "Make Home Church" (depending on your phone). This will prompt you to create a personal giving account using your email address



Paypal

As a convenience we now offer online giving for both recurring and one-time donations through PayPal. Click the donate button and you will be directed to a secure PayPal website where you may specify the amount of your donation.

Online Bill Pay

Most banks offer a free feature called online bill pay. If you want to give electronically, this is often the easiest way without additional fees. Add "Immanuel United Methodist Church" as a payee, indicate how often you would like to send a check, and the rest is done for you!



Amazon Smile

Immanuel is listed as an approved organization to receive donations through Amazon Smile, where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to the charities selected by customers. Simply go to smile.amazon.com instead of regular amazon and search for Immanuel United Methodist Church, or click on the icon to the left to go straight to us.

