



## Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Lutheran Ladies Chat

*A monthly electronic newsletter of  
interest to women.*

Hello Women of Immanuel:

JAN 2012

You may or may not have noticed that recently Immanuel has, in addition to our activities open to all, some “women’s activities”. This is certainly not because women of Immanuel need separate activities to become leaders or have their voice be heard! It is because for the most part, women process information differently than men.

Last summer we held a women’s bible study on the book of Ruth. I think most of the women who attended that study would agree that much of the sharing and fellowship would have been very different if men had been part of that study.

With that in mind we are holding two “day retreats”, led by Pastor Sandi, at Immanuel, on Grief. These gatherings will be limited to about 15 women from Immanuel and their close women friends and family. This will form a group that is both intimate and safe. The dates for these day retreats will be Saturday, Feb 4, 2012 and Saturday, Feb 18, 2012 beginning right at 9:00 am and ending at 1:00 pm. We will also have the opportunity to continue our fellowship over a light lunch that will be provided @ 1:00 pm.

We invite all women of Immanuel who are experiencing grief in any one of its expressions: the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, the loss of a dream, a hole in your heart, or sadness at some of the circumstances of your life, to come and explore where God is in your feelings, and how a supportive group of women can be a lifeline in your grief.

In addition I’d like to highlight some other activities that are of interest to women that will be held in the next few months: some are sponsored by Evangelism, some by Women of the ELCA, and some were created out of a need or an interest by some women in our congregation. We invite you to join in any of these activities.

As I speak to women I often find that a lot of our activities are not well known in our congregation. To address that need this will be the first issue of a monthly email that will be sent to all women of Immanuel targeting things that we hope you are interested in. If you do not want to get this email please let Pastor Sandi or O’B Rock know and we’ll miss you, but we’ll take you off the list.

+ Peace & Blessings *Pastor Sandi*

### UPCOMING WOMEN’S GATHERINGS:



**Grief Day Retreats- Saturday, Feb 4, 2012 part 1 and Saturday, Feb 18, 2012 part 2- 9:00 am-1:00 pm-**Please see above for a complete description



**Crafters Circle - First & Third Thursdays of the month 7-9 pm.** Come and bring any portable craft. If you need help there is probably someone there that has some ideas or maybe you can help someone who is stuck. This group also makes Prayer Shawls, and lap blankets. Leader, Sandy Mann [skipsand1@verizon.net](mailto:skipsand1@verizon.net)



**Prayer Beads Workshop -Thursdays, Jan 12, 26, & February 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. 7:00-8:30 pm.** Did you know that prayer beads have been used by protestant people for quite a long time? Learn about the history and current use of prayer beads by Lutherans. We’ll pray some of the prayers and make prayer beads for you to take home. This study will be free. Leader, Pastor Sandi, Bev Bailey, Marlene Sparks. [beverly2bev@yahoo.com](mailto:beverly2bev@yahoo.com)



**Beads for Life - Second Thursday of the month beginning in March.** The beads we work with are made by women in Africa from paper. Come and make a bracelet or a necklace, not only are they beautiful, but you are helping an African woman out of poverty. There is a \$5.00 fee for materials. Leader, Mary Thake [marythake@yahoo.com](mailto:marythake@yahoo.com)



**Women of the ELCA Region 7 Spiritual Retreat April 27-29, 2012 -9:00-3:00.** “Angels Among Us” A Gathering of 125 Women for a weekend of doing what renews your spirit, listening to inspirational speaker, bible study, workshops on varied topics, sleeping, reading, praying. **Pastor Sandi will be our chaplain!** Contact O’B Rock [obrock@comcast.net](mailto:obrock@comcast.net)



RI/SE MA **Spring Gathering-May 12, 2012-“Ordinary Women Extraordinary Courage-Claim Your Space for Peace,** “will be our theme. Leymah Gbowee, the Nobel Prize winning speaker @ Triennial, had a documentary made about her life. “Pray the Devil Back to Hell”. It documented how she organized the women of Liberia to end the war that was killing their sons. It will be shown in the morning and discussed after lunch. See O’B Rock for more info [obrock@comcast.net](mailto:obrock@comcast.net)