

June 2022

The Manger

Connecting Lives to Christ

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

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About

Our purpose as a faith community is connecting lives to Christ, serving God and neighbor, and living our faith. We exist to connect people to Jesus, his message of hope and his saving love.

Because we believe that the power of God's love transforms us, Immanuel seeks to be a place that welcomes, nourishes and empowers all people to grow in faith. Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. for worship.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
517 S. Clinton Street
Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837
517.627.6310 • www.immanuel-gl.org

Us



FOOD FOR THOUGHT...a note from Your Pastor

1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4

As I write this newsletter, the country is reeling from yet another mass shooting. So difficult to put my thoughts and feelings into words, so forgive me if I stop and falter in my writing. Let me start off by saying I am an avid gun owner. I like looking at guns, shooting guns, collecting them, seeing other's collections and hunting. I also understand the intent of the second amendment to the constitution which gives citizens the right to bear arms. I believe in that amendment and the purpose for which it was written.

However, I do not believe, that as a nation, we can continue to journey in this same path of gun laws and regulations and expect different results. We have already become somewhat immune to the shock and horror of horrific mass shooting events because they keep on happening and on a regular basis. But if it were to happen to us! How would we truly feel then? I believe it is time for us to stop touting about "my rights" and "my personal freedoms," and seek to place ourselves in the shoes of those parents and families that lost loved ones in the most recent mass shootings. How would we feel if it happened in Grand Ledge and it affected our families? Would we be able to deal with the sorrow of losing a child, a family member to gun violence?

FOOD FOR THOUGHT continued...

For those who would say that this article is “too political” and pastor should not be writing about political stuff, I give you my response ahead of time. Two things; first, it seems EVERYTHING is political nowadays and if what I say doesn’t ruffle somebody’s feathers it is bound to be trite and insignificant to our spiritual life. My calling is as the spiritual leader of this congregation. Secondly, everything is spiritual! When someone is either so desperate or mentally ill enough to pick up a weapon and take the lives of others, it is a spiritual problem. I believe all of our social issues eventually boil down to spiritual issues. It is not that we don’t pray hard enough or read the Bible enough. It is that we have lost touch with the heart of the Gospel which is Jesus Christ. When we study his teachings, his way, his humility, his love, we are given an example of how to live this human life. When we focus on a spiritual solution to issues, this means we turn first to the example of God in Christ, not relying first on our own human understanding, but seeking God’s will and design.

We are called to let our concerns, the things that matter to US the most, to be the same things that matter to God the most. I’m not asking you to be EXACTLY like Christ, but to be “little Christs” as Martin Luther put it. Or as Paul put it, “Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” (Phillipians)

What I am trying to say in all this is well wishing and prayers and hoping for things to get better is all well and fine. However, when we see things are not getting better, it is time to put on that mind of Christ and spring into action. It is us, not someone else who can be the change in the world that we wish to see, but it will start with us putting down our prejudices and tightly held beliefs in order to empathize with those in the midst of the chaos that we have created. I want peace, but it needs to begin with me. May God abide with all those that are grieving and may God grant us the strength to get involved in bringing about change in the land.

Journeying with you,

Pastor Chuck

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

News from the Grand Ledge Area District Library:

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

— Cicero

I would add that having a church family is important as well. Thank you for listening to me share information on the library's upcoming ballot proposal. If you missed it, or would like more information please go to <https://gladl.org/millage2022/> or contact our library director, Lise Mitchell, at (517) 627-7014.

Peace to all, Joni Henretty Immanuel Member and GLADL Trustee

Also,

June is Pride Month and on June 15th from 6:30-8:00 there will be a video and discussion related to the LGBTQ+ community at the GLHS Media Center.

NEWS FROM the SERVING TEAM

Our May Noisy Offering for the Lutheran Disaster Response – Eastern Europe Crisis Response (Russian Invasion on Ukraine) was \$279.45. Thanks! Our June 12 noisy offering will be for the Grand Ledge Food Bank! Let's make some noise!!!

Thanks to the Grand Ledge community for the recent donations for the Postal Carrier's Food Drive on May 14. Special thanks to the postal carriers for all of their efforts for the food drive collecting and delivering the donations to the Grand Ledge Food Bank. Thanks to the volunteers at the food bank for date checking, sorting, counting and boxing the donations. Approximately 4,400 items were donated! Nice Response!



Thanks for the donation of laundry detergent sent to the food bank as a part of the Gathering Team's response to this event during Lent. Twenty four bottles of detergent were delivered to the food bank to be divided up and distributed to clients.

Thanks for the great variety of snacks donated to the Police, First Responders and Firemen Appreciation event in May. They always are very appreciative of the snacks and like to see us coming!



Immanuel's High School Graduates will be recognized on Sunday, June 5 during the worship service. They will be presented with a quilt created by some of our Immanuel quilters. Special thanks to our quilters who have been creating these quilts which will always remind the class of 2022 of their Immanuel Family. The Serving Team will be hosting a coffee hour immediately following the service to celebrate this major accomplishment with the graduates and their families. Our ten high school graduates are:

Maggie Baribeau, Olivia Buchweitz, Ethan Childs, Ty Fedewa, Madison Fischer, Amanda Gatewood, Alex Karkau, Evan Landry, Owen Smith and Mitchell Stoakes.

God's Work Our Hands: Mark your calendars and watch for a sign up sheet to volunteer on October 1 for a bed build for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. We will also need to raise \$3,750.00 over the summer for this October 1 build of 15 twin beds. Donation envelopes will be available soon and/or designated giving envelopes can be used for this special project. We are reaching out to some of the other Grand Ledge churches for volunteers for the build as 40 volunteers are needed for the project. Watch for more details this summer. In addition, we will be taking donations of bedding for Sleep in Heavenly Peace as a part of our God's Work Our Hand's response. More details will be made available soon!



Welcome to the Family



Welcome to Immanuel's newest members
Christie, Ethan & Aidreana Childs

INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY

This is a reminder that our church directory is an ongoing project! We can instantly make additions and changes, so please let us know if you:

1. Have a new email address
2. Have a new mailing address
3. Have a new or additional cell phone number
4. Have a new member of your family
5. Have a new picture you'd like to use for yourself or your family
6. Are a new or regular visiting member

You can call the church office or email any of this information to office@immanuel-gl.org or directory@immanuel-gl.org.

Also, in case you forgot or are new to our congregation, we have an app that can be easily used by members to access member contact and other information from your mobile device. You must have an email on file with us to access this app, but we are happy to add one for you if you give it to us. Here's a reminder of how it works:

- Simply go to the App Store
- Search for INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY and download the FREE app to begin.
- You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.
- If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office, (517) 627-3810.

SERVING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

Thanks for the great variety of snacks donated to the Police, First Responders and Firemen Appreciation event in May. A group from Immanuel was able to deliver the snacks last week. The Grand Ledge police and fire are always very appreciative of the snacks and like to see us coming!



AROUND IMMANUEL



ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild historically has been a group of women (we will gladly take men or couples) who have taken a month at a time, 2 times per year (for example every Sunday in January and June) to perform the following service:

- change the paraments according the church season
- replace the altar candles when they become short
- fill the baptismal font for baptisms and non-covid times for the sign of the cross
- fill common cups with wine and wafers during non-covid times (currently another group is filling individual cups) this can be done the day before
- clean up common cups post service during non-covid times
- alert Altar Guild organizer when supplies are low

We are also looking for a new Altar Guild Coordinator If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild team, please contact Shari Burg at 517.896.7314.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Beautiful flowers are blooming everywhere, and they need your attention! Immanuel's Memorial Garden is a beautiful setting to pray, remember past members, take church special occasion pictures or just sit and enjoy the day. Anyone can pull weeds and water, no special talent is required besides caring.

There is no schedule, you can work in the Memorial Garden any time of day. If you are interested in helping, please contact

Shari Burg at 517.896.7314.

IMMANUEL QUILTERS

The group of dedicated ladies who make charity quilts here at Immanuel are taking a summer break from making quilts, but not from gathering supplies. It's garage and estate sale season, so if you are out and about at these sales, please keep in mind the following items that can be used and donated to their cause. All donated items can be placed in the red and green Rubbermaid tub near the storage room at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Please make sure items are clean and unstained, but they don't have to be new.

1. Lengths of cotton or polyester fabric (please, no upholstery or heavyweight fabric)
2. Sheets, any size, thin blankets or flannel sheets
3. Mattress pads or Batting
4. White crochet cotton

Thank you and have a great summer!

Luther League II Luncheon

We will meet for lunch at 1:00 pm, Monday, June 13, at Cuginos in Grand Ledge. We would love to have you join us.

Luther League II luncheons are for those who can and would like to meet for lunch with our church friends. We usually meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at a local restaurant for food and fellowship. We order off the menu, so you can order what you like. We take up a small collection (usually \$1.00 apiece) after lunch to be used, at Christmas, for a charity of the groups choice.

This will be our first luncheon get together in over 2 years. There are many new faces in our congregation, as well as, those we haven't seen in a long time. It would be fun to get acquainted and reacquainted. Look forward to seeing you. Please join us.

Please call Kristine Hernden, 517-712-7185, by Thursday, June 9, if you are interested or have questions. This will give us time to contact the restaurant for reservations.

GRADUATES AND OPEN HOUSES

Congratulations to Immanuel's High School graduates!

This group of 10 graduates will be honored during the June 5th Sunday morning service

Maggie Baribeau, Olivia Buchweitz, Ethan Childs, Ty Fedewa, Madison Fischer, Amanda Gatewood, Alex Karkau, Evan Landry, Owen Smith and Mitchell Stoakes.

Alex Karkau is graduating from GLHS! Please join us at his Open House. We would love for his church family to join us and help celebrate his accomplishments.

Friday June 17th

5—8pm

1220 Degroff St. in Grand Ledge

You are Invited to a

Grad Party Open House honoring

Ty Fedwa, graduating from Waverly H.S.

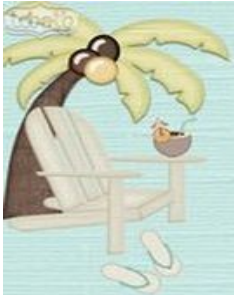
Saturday, June 11th, 10am

at 12406 Broadbent Rd. in Lansing.

RSVP: Mike Fedewa at 517-348-4694 or

Jackie Fedwa at 517-348-4680

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



2 Morgan Bonette

2 Christie Childs

2 Timothy Hubert

2 Evan Landry

3 Nadene Emery

3 Joni Henretty

3 Daniel Landry

5 Claire Blaske

7 Bob Shilton

7 Lori VanHoesen

9 Teresa Barcy

11 Jean Folk

12 Janis Jansen

12 Fred Marsh

12 Mary Jo Stein

13 Pat Anderson

14 Linda Merrifield

16 Tanya Daviste

17 Dorothy Luethjohann

21 Patsy Galvin

24 Aidreana Childs

26 Jim Espie

26 Jackie Fedewa

27 Jim Drown

Happy Anniversary!

18 ~ Fred & Barb Roush

21 ~ Keith & Nancy Storm

22 ~ Richard & Sharon Catey

22 ~ Greg & Karlene Ketola

22 ~ Loy & Trisha Lack

22 ~ Marlin & Jane Kitchen

25 ~ Gary & Bev Lass



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>If you have any questions related to upcoming events, please contact the Trisha at the Church Office 517.627.6310</p> <p>or Pastor Chuck at 989.750.4573.</p>			1	2	3	4 AA Support Group 8am
5 First Fruits Offering Worship with Communion 10am Grad Day	6 Sewl Sisters 10:30am-3pm 6:30pm Support and Serving Mtg	7 7am Men in the Morning Bible Study	8 Line	9	10	11 AA Group 8am
12 Worship with Communion 10am	13	14 7am Men in the Morning Bible Study	15	16	17	18 AA Support Group 8am
19 Worship with Communion 10am	20 Sewl Sisters 10:30am-3pm 6:30pm Council Mtg Meeting	21 7am Men in the Morning Bible Study	22	23	24	25 AA Support Group 8am
26 Worship with Communion 10am	27	28 7am Men in the Morning Bible Study	29	30		