

# The Manger

Connecting Lives to Christ

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## About Us

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**



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT...a note from Your Pastor

And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” Luke 22:19

Recently, while going through my father’s things, I came across a handful of pictures of a fishing trip to Canada that he and I had taken when I was a younger man. The pictures brought back good memories of the trip, the conversations around the campfire and just the great blessing it was to have Dad all to myself. I mean literally. This was a remote fly in camp and it was just he and I. We caught a train in Hawk Junction and a float plane dropped us off at our cabin. We didn’t see another human for four days. We saw moose, loons, otter, heard coyotes and the occasional sound of an airplane in the distance, but no one else. Our conversations sometimes got deep, but more often it was just about where we would fish next (it was a big lake) and what bait or lures we would be using. Preparing meals, sipping suds and fishing. Incredible memories and the pictures really helped cement those days in my mind. So happy to have come across them.

I wonder what kind of pictures the disciples would have taken when they spent time with Jesus? Would it be of him laughing at a joke, playing with children, teaching, healing, a miracle of some kind? Or would they just have been pictures of Him; Living, loving others, sharing bread, walking along the way, praying? It really is too bad they did not have cameras back then.

But what they did experience is something that we still share to this very day, some 2000 years later. (Eat your heart out, Polaroid!) We have the fellowship of Holy Communion! Jesus, reminding us of his love via the sacrifice of his life...and telling us to remember him when we do this! He did this on the night of betrayal and arrest, no doubt a low point in his ministry. But he wanted the disciples to remember this each time they broke bread and sipped from the cup.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT continued...

Why? Because in doing so, Jesus has reminded us of God's incredible love poured out on us. The disciples would go on to face very difficult situations because of their commitment to Jesus and the Way. Some would be persecuted and die because of that faith. Even in those low points after Jesus death, they remembered the promise that Jesus would be with them to the end of the earth. The same is true for us; even if we feel at a low point in our lives, Jesus tells us he is with us! He walks with us through that darkness and Holy Communion is a tangible example of God's grace poured out, a means of grace.

They say a picture tells a thousand words and I think that saying has a lot of truth to it. However, this event that we partake in each week, tells the rest of the story. It is the truth of God and of creation encapsulated in a bit of bread and a sip of wine. It transcends all time and place and it can transform our lives so they align with God's kingdom. It is that which can nourish, sustain and carry us. Praise God for this snapshot!

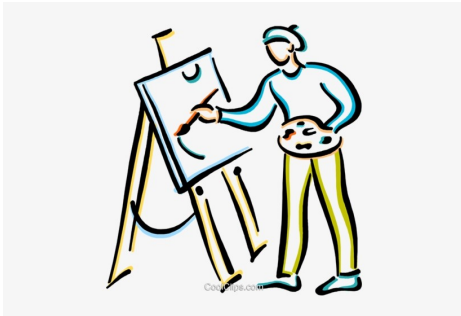
Pictures will fade, memories may diminish, but love never dies.

Journeying with you,

Pastor Chuck



## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



### 48th Annual Island Art Fair

\* Food \* Music \* Crafts\* \* Riverboat rides\*

Saturday August 6th 8am—3pm

206 W. River St. in Grand Ledge

Shuttle bus available from Immanuel Parking Lot

### Grand Ledge Music in the Park '22

\* Free Concert Series \* Jaycee Park \* Thursdays \* 7pm \*weather permitting\*

8/4 ~ **Jack Pine Savages** Darrin Lerner Jr.

8/11 ~ **Stone Street Revival** Nicholas James Thomasma

8/18 ~ **Starfarm** Shelby and Jake



## COUNCIL CORNER

Hello everyone,

I hope summer is going well for all! I want to start this month by saying “Thank You” to some special people who have spent many years helping our church grow and prosper. I am talking about Bill and Barb Paulins. They have both given their heart and soul to Immanuel in so many ways. Both have served on Council and have been in various leadership roles thru the years. For me, it is bittersweet to be writing this because the time has come for them to head into the next phase of their lives. As you know, Bill has officially retired and is looking forward to tinkering around on his own schedule. When I talked with Bill the other day, it was great to see the excitement in his eyes as he talked about the new endeavors he is looking forward to.

Bill has been instrumental in advancing our sound and video systems, that allowed us to keep moving forward during the Covid pandemic. For several years he has also been a major contributor to the Gathering Team; he has become a good friend to all in our church. Bill can be kind of quiet but if he speaks it simply means you need to listen, cause when he speaks it is usually something that he has a true passion for. Julie and I were honored to teach our high school youth in years past with Bill and Barb. They are both truly incredible people, and we are proud to call them friends.

I also want to talk about Barb. She has been a true mentor for me during my time as Council President. She has been a sounding board during frustrating times. She is truly a special person who has led our congregation with distinction. She and Bill have done so many wonderful things to enhance the ministries for the church. Thinking back to an Easter Sunday, coming into the church, and seeing an incredible display of butterflies all over the church. It was one of those time that I walked in and immediately thought “WOW” God is truly great and what an incredible sight that still gets talked about to this day. Barb also served as the Council President during the Call Committees selection of Pastor Chuck.

I could probably go on for hours marveling at the things Bill and Barb have contributed to our church. At some point this year they will be moving up north and leaving Grand Ledge. It is a true loss for our church family and will leave a void that will take several people to equal their contributions. They are an amazing couple who have so much love for Immanuel. They will be missed by all especially Julie and I. All we can do is thank them for everything they have done over the years and will do in the years to come.

Please take the time to wish them well as they move into the next phase of their lives. I can never say enough good things about them. They will be missed, but at least I know for me that they will just be a phone call or email away. However, it will be hard not seeing them every week.

Thank You again, and know that you are truly special people who have meant so much to Julie and I.

Your Brother in Christ

Scott

*Thank you*  
MAY GOD BLESS YOU

## NEWS FROM the SERVING TEAM

Our July Noisy offering for Stony Lake Lutheran Camp was \$180.02. The church council has decided this special noisy offering will be matched. Our August 14 noisy offering will be for the Lutheran Disaster Response. Our support to the Lutheran Disaster Response will be sent in to the ELCA and used for disasters in our country and globally.

The Grand Ledge Food Bank continues to serve the community! If you know anyone in the Grand Ledge School District that needs assistance with food call the food bank at (517) 627-4348. Volunteers are available at the food bank on Tuesdays from 10:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The food bank is in need of plastic grocery bags, if you have extras just drop them off in the grocery cart in the lobby. If you would like to make a food donation you may just drop your donation off in the cart. The director of the food bank recently shared that the June 2022 client count of people assisted was the highest it has been in two years! Let's continue to reach out to help with this important ministry in our community!

The Grand Ledge Island Art Fair is scheduled for Saturday, August 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our church parking lot will be used again this year and a shuttle bus will take our guests to the island. The Serving Team is planning to extend a little hospitality and will help oversee the shuttle bus transportation to the island.

### Bed Build

This year one of our major projects as a part of Immanuel's response to "Gods Work Our Hands" is a bed build for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. In the past we have sent donations of bedding and funds to this national organization whose motto is "no kid sleeps on the floor in our town."

The bed build is scheduled for Saturday, October 1 with registration beginning at 8:30 am and the build likely ending at approximately 12:15 p.m. We will be providing lunch, sodas and cold water. We need 40 volunteers for the build and have extended an invitation to some local churches to make this more of a community event. The build will be on the church property come rain or shine as SHP provides tents. A sign up sheet for Immanuel volunteers is on the table in the narthex. A variety of skill levels are welcome from operating power tools to staining beds. We will be gathering up volunteer signatures over the summer.

As we plan for the build we will be taking donations for this project until the build. In order to build 15 beds we are going to need donations totaling \$3750.00. We are encouraging everyone to consider what you can donate and use the designated special offering envelope in your envelope packet or special envelopes available on the table in the narthex.



As of July 23 donations totaled \$1110.00 so we are approximately at 30 percent of our goal of \$3750.00.

### Bedding Donations

As we continue to help the ministry of Sleep In Heavenly Peace this year, we will be taking donations of new bedding for this national outreach organization. We will be taking bedding donations for twins size beds in addition to the bed build scheduled for Saturday, October 1. This includes twin size sheets, pillows, pillow cases, comforters and mattress pads (all new). Also donations of white vinegar and steel wool are needed for finishing the beds. We will be collecting these items through Sunday, September 11. All donations can be placed on the **SHP** table in the narthex. We have received Thrivent Action Dollars (\$250.00) to assist with this bedding project. Please consider how you might respond to God's Work Our Hands at Immanuel. Thanks!

# AROUND IMMANUEL

## Luther League II Luncheon

Monday, August 8th, 1pm

Buddy's on the Beach in Lake Odessa

Luther League II luncheons are open for those who 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.

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 8/4, if you are interested or have questions.

## Ice Cream Sundae Sunday

Following worship!

Sunday August 7th

Please stay and join us for ice cream and toppings in the fellowship hall.

Let Pastor Chuck know if you'd like to help be a scooper!



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### *Happy*

4 Amy Osburn  
5 Lauren Blaske  
7 Nicole Folk  
7 Jordan Sullenberger  
8 Sue DeWitt  
9 Braeden Riggs  
12 Kaitlyn Anderson  
12 Shari Burg  
14 Ian Henretty  
16 Nick Baribeau  
16 Richard Catey  
16 Jane Kitchen

### *Birthday*

16 Madison Osburn  
16 Amy Kurtycz  
18 Mike Fischer  
18 Dorothy Fulton  
18 Rick Merrifield  
18 James Wheeler  
19 Emily Hill  
20 Den Braeber  
22 Mike Fedewa  
22 John Roesch  
23 Haley Kingsley  
29 Redmond Riggs

### *Happy Anniversary!*

3 ~ Julia & Scott Hoornstra  
5 ~ Sandy & Jim Couser  
5 ~ Michelle & Ryan Dinsmore  
5 ~ Amy & Greg Osburn  
7 ~ Sandy & Roger Love  
7 ~ Mary & Brad Matzke  
9 ~ Lyn & Mike Danes  
10 ~ Ellen & Rick McKenzie  
17 ~ Lori & John Van Hoesen  
20 ~ Barb & Roger Wickerham  
20 ~ Nikki & Michael Racine  
23 ~ Barb & Bill Paulins  
25 ~ Margaret & Bob Gustafson  
25 ~ Sharon & Jack Wolf  
26 ~ Dorothy & Jon Luethjohann  
26 ~ Judy & Fred Koos





# August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Sewl Sisters 11am-3pm  6:30pm Support Team Meeting	2  7am Men in the Morning Bible Study	3	4	5	6 AA Support Group 8am  Art Fair using Parking Lot All day
7 First Fruits Offering  Worship with Communion 10am Ice Cream Social	8  3:30pm Serving Team Meeting	9  7am Men in the Morning	10  Line	11	12	13  AA Group 8am
14  Worship with Communion 10am Noisy offer for Lutheran Disaster Response	15 Sewl Sisters 11am-3pm  6:30pm Council Meeting	16  7am Men in the Morning	17	18	19	20  AA Support Group 8am
21  Worship with Communion 10am	22	23  7am Men in the Morning	24	25	26	27  AA Support Group 8am
28  Worship with Communion 10am	29	30  7am Men in the Morning	31	<p>If you have any questions related to upcoming events, please contact Trisha at the Church Office at 517.627.6310.</p> <p>Trisha Office Hours: Mon &amp; Fri, 9a - 2p, or T-Th via email: <a href="mailto:office@immanuel-gl.org">office@immanuel-gl.org</a></p> <p>or Pastor Chuck at 989.750.4573.</p>		