

The Manger

September 2022

Connecting Lives to Christ

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

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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.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT...a note from Your Pastor

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. Ecclesiastes 3:1,11

As we once again head into the season of autumn, my favorite time of the year, it occurs to me that the truth of this passage has never been more real at this point in my life. The seasons of our earthly time come and go and with them, changes. Life: my oldest daughter is expecting again, due in March of 2023! Death: The weight of my father's passing this summer still catches me by surprise at times. It has given me a much deeper awareness and understanding of grief. Transitions: My mom certainly has experienced her share this year and most recently another as she moved to Texas to live with my sister. Around our house from middle to high school, a wedding coming up and just in general, we seem to be constantly facing transitions. As I see it, these changes are all part of the seasons of our earthly journey which usher in these transitions. And as scripture reminds us, there is a time under heaven, a time that God has set to bring forth God's kingdom. Try as we might, we will not be able to fathom it.

Immanuel also experiences these seasons. We have seen some folks leave the flock and some new folks that have come and are worshipping here and participating in ministry. And as God would have it, another opportunity for great transition has been presented to this body of faith. The one I'm referring to is that Immanuel has begun in earnest to prepare the way for calling a Youth & Family Minister. As our Grand Ledge area grows, we recognize that this faith community needs to be more intentional about reaching out to youth and families with the message of hope found in Jesus Christ. There is much to be done before this prayer comes to fruition, but we believe it is a season that God has designed in order that the Good News can reach more and more people in our area.



We are still looking for a person or persons to head up the Search team that is vital to creating the parameters and structure that will be needed to envision this change and ensure it is a positive one. We hope that you are praying all about this and if you feel called by the Spirit that you would step up and get connected. If you have questions, please speak to a council member or pastor.

Trusting that God is calling all of us to something greater than we can imagine or understand, we press on in hope and faith that God is indeed making all things new and beautiful and God's timing is perfect.

To God be all the glory!

Journeying with you, Pastor Chuck

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Please join Grand Ledge United (GLU) and community members for a virtual session to meet GLPS school board candidates on September 22 at 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

Here are the Zoom details to add to your calendars:

<https://publicsectorconsultants.zoom.us/j/83246189221?pwd=aW4rdUJkRHI5RDJTeFByamUwSUMwZz09>

Meeting ID: 832 4618 9221

Passcode: 748241

One tap mobile +16469313860,,83246189221# US

Congratulations

Welcome New Baby

Jan and Dennis Martinich are sharing the good news that their daughter, Emily Martinich Suva has delivered a baby girl. Mari Jeanne Suva was born on August 19th and all are doing well.

They will soon travel to meet this new granddaughter!

Congratulations!

COUNCIL CORNER

Hello Everyone,

Fall is moving closer, we are seeing football starting training camps (ok I am anyway!) Football tickets will soon be in my hands, and I am looking forward to heading to Spartan stadium where I have gone for most of my life. I love going there, it has been a tradition from the time I was a little boy. I remember grandma would make and pack lunches for my grandfather and me. This is one of my favorite times of the year. I love football; I didn't play but I have done a lot of coaching over the years. Youth football was what I coached. I enjoy working with the younger players having them learn, gain knowledge and watch as they learn things about themselves. The most exciting part for me is when a young player accomplishes a block, or a tackle and it was something they were struggling with. As a coach you have to keep pushing and encouraging, when it finally happens the feeling for both you and the player it is indescribable. I still see former players and we still have that bond we will share for the rest of our lives.

I would like to think that I am doing something around the church to help anyone who is struggling. I truly enjoy every week meeting new people or strengthening the relationship with those I have recently met. We are all God's children, and we have to push each other and encourage each other so we can grow. Not only in our faith in God but understanding God knows what we are capable of, and he puts people in our lives to help us learn where he wants us to go and who he wants us to be.

I bring these things up because we are getting ready to start a new church year. I know it is not a year in the sense that we think of with the calendar, but it is time to start things up again with education and coming back together after our summer break. We have a wonderful opportunity that Pastor talked about in an email he just sent out in a news blast. I am asking and encouraging everyone to give it much prayer and thought. We have an incredible opportunity, and we want this to be a great step forward. The best way to see that happen is by everyone getting involved in the discussions that need to be had and ideas that need to be shared. I am talking to everyone as we are "The Church" and in my mind that excludes no one. When I say everyone, I am talking about old members, new members, also anyone who has visited a few times or are still deciding if they want to make Immanuel their church family. Everyone matters. I was raised Methodist, but I have learned to be a Lutheran. I mean no disrespect, but it is not a whole lot different to me. I still believe Jesus is my lord and savior. I never thought I would be in the position that I am right now, but God has put people in my life that have led me to where I am at and from here, I see it only getting better.

We are all God's children no matter where we came from. We are here together now and we all matter and I would love to see us all join together and help make this church family extraordinary. I want to be there with everyone shoulder to shoulder doing God's work not just for our church family but for our community and the world we live in.

Please, this is my call to everyone to get involved. Know that this is EVERYONES church, no exception. We are all God's family. Thank you all for your time. God bless and hope to see everyone beside me growing this OUR Church.

Your Brother in Christ

Scott



NEWS FROM the SERVING TEAM

Our August **Noisy Offering** for the Lutheran Disaster Response was \$166.88. Our September 11 noisy offering will be for the Grand Ledge Food Bank.

As the **Grand Ledge Food Bank** continues to serve the community it's important to know that if anyone in the Grand Ledge School District needs assistance call (517) 627-4348. Volunteers are available at the food bank on Tuesdays from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. and Thursdays from 10:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. Thanks to everyone that recently donated both plastic and paper grocery bags when the need was so great. Please continue to drop off extra bags in the grocery cart in the lobby. Immanuel has three new volunteers helping at the food bank. Thanks to Jane Goebel and Nancy and Butch Trella. The additional help is much appreciated!

**Grand Ledge
FOOD BANK**

Sunday, **September 11th**, will mark the 21st anniversary of the tragedy of 9/11. After worship we will gather outside (weather permitting) with our local fire department, police department and Boy Scout honor guard. After this brief ceremony and prayer we will enjoy some fellowship with treats provided by the Gathering and Serving Teams.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) Bedding Donations: We will be taking donations of new twin size bedding for this national organization. This includes twin size sheets, pillows, pillow cases, comforters and mattress pads. Also, donations of white vinegar and steel wool are needed for finishing the beds. We will be collecting these items through Sunday, September 11. This is part of Immanuel's response to God's Work Our Hands!



Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build: What a great response we are getting from Immanuel volunteers to be a part of this hands on opportunity! The First Congregational United Church of Christ and the Wacousta Community United Methodist Church have both responded with volunteers. So we will have a great group of volunteers working together. If you signed up to work the October 1st bed build, reg-

istration will begin at 8:30a.m. The build will likely end at approximately 12:15p.m. Lunch will be provided.

We now have exceeded the goal of \$3,750.00 the grand total donated for this ministry after the August 21 donations is \$4,380.00. WOW!!! What a great response! Thank you for your generous donations! Working together we can do God's Work with Our Hands! Reaching out to help wherever there is a need!

Thanks Again!

Den Graeber



AROUND IMMANUEL

Luther League II Luncheon

Monday, September 12th, 1pm

A&W in Grand Ledge

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 Friday

Men's Bible Study & Support Group

Men In the Morning (MITM) will be starting again the Tuesday after Labor Day. September 6 to be exact. Made up mostly of men from Immanuel, we are open to all guys. We study Scripture or read a spiritual book; we support each other in our personal walk; we pray for each other and all our needs. We meet in-person in Immanuel's fellowship hall and/or via Zoom. We meet weekly. On Sept. 6 we will catch up, plan our Fall Study, discuss our meeting times and schedule and pray together. WE ARE OPEN AND WELCOMING to new brothers in our group. See you at 7 a.m.

BYOBreakfast.

Contact Pr. Rick (517.626.9545 or fish.buddy01@gmail.com) or Fred Koos (517.881.0644) for a Zoom invitation and any questions.

Fifth Friday Fellowship

Is it time for fellowship? Please join us at church for Fifth Friday Fellowship on September 30th.

Doors open at 6 pm, dinner starts at 6:30. Bring a dish to share and a white elephant gift in a brown bag (can be either a lunch sack or a grocery bag). After dinner we'll play an easy game to win or trade the gift.



My hope is to enjoy a good meal, each other's company and have some laughs on the fifth Friday of the month. The next Fifth Friday Fellowship is December 30th.

Thank you, Karen Ketola

IT'S QUILTING TIME AGAIN!

The Immanuel Quilting Group will be starting again on Thursday, September 8 and meet each Thursday, except during holidays, from 8:30am to 11:30am. This is a wonderful old-fashioned-type quilting bee! We spend the morning tying premade quilt tops/batting/bottoms and finishing off the bindings. All completed quilts are stacked and prepared to box up to ship to Lutheran World Relief in October. This year's haul will be well over 150 quilts! That's a lot - we can make more if we have more help! Our saying is, "If you can tie a knot, you can help!" We're a friendly, accepting group. Drop in whenever you can during that time frame. Weekly attendance is not required.

REMEMBER, Always on our wish list are:

Cotton fabrics/scrap (larger than 36", if possible), Old blankets, sheets, mattress pads - clean White crochet cotton (thin)

A red/green Rubbermaid donation bin is located in the back of the fellowship hall next to the wooden closets. Thank you!

This year's blessing of the quilts will be on Sunday, October 9, where we will display many of our quilts on the pews for you to see, pray over and send off around the world with your blessings!

We hope you'll join us.

Dear Immanuel Family,

Thank you so much for prayers, visits, calls, and cards for Richard and me. They have meant so much to us. Richard is still doing rehab at home to make him stronger. Two of my sisters are staying with us and keeping us on the straight and narrow. Thankfully with your prayers, we are on the mend. Gods peace and love, Richard and Sharon Cat-

Immanuel,

Thank you for your healing prayers, well wishes and cards while we were ill recently. We are feeling much better and looking forward to complete good health soon.
Wayne and Blanche Schaudt



Dear Immanuel Family,

We couldn't let the opportunity pass without saying thank you for all of the support and great friendships we've made over the last 25 years while attending Immanuel. We've learned so much from all of you (including our awesome pastors) and truly consider you family. Serving God through a variety of ministries has been life changing, and we look forward to continue watching the work of Immanuel through your actions. We'll miss you deeply, please stay in touch. If you are ever in the area, please stop by for a visit.

Bill & Barb Paulins
3910 N Mielke Way
Lewiston, MI 49756

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy

3 Jerry Damon
4 Karlene Ketola
5 Ernie Nostrant
5 Matthew Bryant
8 James Beitel
8 John Kingsley
10 Lori Fischer
13 Bettie Williams
13 Lee Burmeister
15 Gregory Hickok
15 Clara Van Hoesen
18 Collin Blake
20 Denise Proper
20 Madison Fischer
20 Ashley Erickson

Birthday!

21 Nathan Buchweitz
21 Bill Gibbons
23 Dave Rinckey
24 Allison Landry
24 Tyler Williamson
25 Bill Paulins
26 Peyton Goschka
28 Dawn Shilton
28 Carmen Karkau
29 Pastor Chuck Foerster
29 Erin Anderson
29 Aaron Riley
29 Nancy Storm
29 Ron Hoonstra
29 Greg Osburn

Happy Anniversary!

4 ~ Sarah & Ryan Larson
10 ~ Linda & Larry Kruth
16 ~ Sarah & Tony Gatewood
16 ~ Mary & Pastor Chuck Foerster
21 ~ Sharlean & Glenn Saxton
21 ~ Allison & Daniel Landry
22 ~ Rachel & Blake Schneider
25 ~ Carmen & Steve Karkau
25 ~ Nancy & Regis Trella



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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 & Fri, 9a - 2p, or T-Th via email: office@immanuel-gl.org or Pastor Chuck at 989.750.4573.</p>				1	2	3 AA Support Group 8am
4 First Fruits Offering Worship with Communion 10am	5 Office Closed Labor day	6 7am Men in the Morning	7 Line	8 Quilters 8:30-11:30	9	10 AA Support Group 8am
11 Worship with Communion 10am Noisy offer for G.L. Food Bank	12 3:30pm Serving Team Meeting	13 7am Men in the Morning	14	15 Quilters 8:30-11:30	16	17 AA Support Group 8am
18 Worship with Communion 10am	19 Sewl Sisters 11am-3pm 6:30pm Council Meeting	20 7am Men in the Morning	21	22 Quilters 8:30-11:30	23	24 AA Support Group 8am
25 Worship with Communion 10am	26	27 7am Men in the Morning	28	29 Quilters 8:30-11:30	30 Fifth Friday Fellowship Dinner 6:30pm	