

The

Gleaner

Immanuel Lutheran Church

August 2015

The Gleaner is a publication of:

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Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(Memorial Day-Labor Day)

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Mission

**Joyfully Christian.
Humbly Serving.
Boldly Loving.**



Letter from Pastor Dana

My summer began with Confirmation Camp, where four girls and I had a week to remember! Living in a Christian community in the beauty of the outdoors is always a gift. We sang our hearts out in praise, immersed ourselves in Holy Scripture, and of course, had fun riding horses, playing in Lake Michigan, and being silly together.

I was blessed to officiate a wedding of a good friend in Grand Rapids and then spent a week with my college friends over the 4th of July. It was a fun week that fed my soul.

I came back- and “poof!”- it was VBS week! We were blessed to reach out to our community and had over 30 children attend. It was inspiring to see how many Immanuel members stepped up as leaders to make the week work so smoothly. It was overwhelming to see that by Friday the energy in the room for Jesus was electric!

We then welcomed a guest from Papua New Guinea, who shared with us about our partner church and gave us the opportunity to celebrate their church’s 129th anniversary.

Following all that excitement, eleven youth, five young adults, and three adults headed to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. It was all over the news. I think my favorite comment was from Colleen Hasten of Grosse Pointe who responded to all the teens wearing bright orange, blue, green, and yellow T-shirts, “It looks like a Skittles factory exploded!” Just as we brought some brightness to the city, the whole experience for those open to the work of the Spirit, was a life changing event! As Natasha T. Miller, an amazing poet, said during a main stage event: “Detroit is a city with more semicolons than periods.” So is our life with God! #RiseUpELCA

Walking to the empty tomb,
Pastor Dana Hendershot

Ministry with the Community and World

Receiving The Gleaner Online:

If you would like to receive The Gleaner by email, please call or email the office. It's also available on Immanuel's website and Facebook page.

Gleaner Submissions:

The deadline for submitting articles and information is the 20th of each month.



GOLF SCRAMBLE FUNDRAISER

August 10th
1:00pm
at The Pohl Cat

Volunteers, Sponsors
& Participants Needed!

For more information, go to:
www.icrhouse.org/golf-scramble

COMMUNITY COMPASSION NETWORK THANKS IMMANUEL!

Thanks to everyone who has dropped off plastic bags for Nutrition Club. During the 2014-15 school year, Nutrition Club used about 30,000 bags for weekend food for elementary students throughout Isabella County. Your contributions made a difference!

Keep those bags coming. Volunteers take your bags, double bag them, and sort them so the bags are ready for the volunteers who give their time to pack twice monthly food.

Thanks, too, to each and every one of you who helped with the recent mobile pantries. During the three distributions at Immanuel, you helped feed more than 690 families with staple foods such as pasta, canned beans and vegetables, crackers, soup, cereal, juice, and fresh produce. For less than \$5000, CCN provided more than 45,000 pounds of food to our neighbors.

NOISY OFFERING

The Noisy Offering, on August 23, will go toward the Isabella County Restoration Home.

Contributions may be made in the Noisy Offering jar in the Narthex throughout the month.



Immanuel Lutheran Church is pleased to offer an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

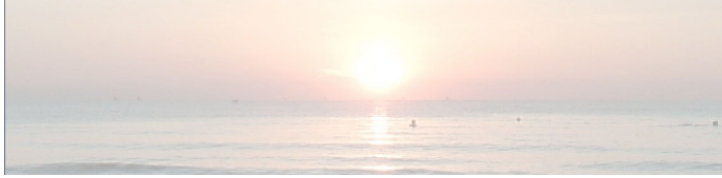
If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

Visit our website, www.immanuelmp.com click on the money sign (\$) and sign up! Please contact the church office if you have questions.

Ministry with Each Other

Camp Immanuel Weekend Retreat

Coldwater Lake Family Park: August 28th-30th



The Camp Immanuel Weekend Retreat is just around the corner! If you are registered and still owe money, you can give your \$50 to the office during office hours. The deadline for payment is August 14th. Toward the beginning of August information packets will be given out to all who plan on attending.

We would like to welcome all to join us Saturday, August 29th, at 7:30pm for Saturday Night Worship! There will be worship music and service followed by a campfire and s'mores! The service will be located in the Hoffbauer Pavilion (far pavilion by the lake) at Coldwater Lake Family Park, 1703 North Littlefield Rd. in Weidman, MI. There will be a \$6.00 day pass fee you can pay at the entrance to the campground.

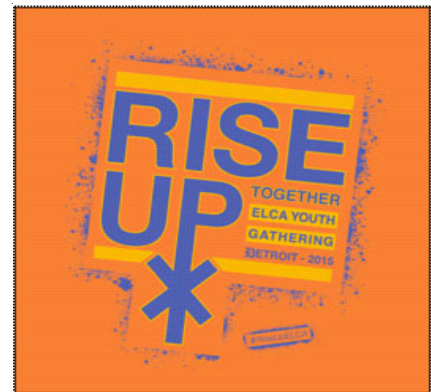
Come build the body of our church with the already 54 registered on Saturday night! All are welcome!

National Gathering Stockholders Dinner

Last month, some of our youth attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit, along with Pr. Dana, Beth Mundwiler, Mark Strandskov and intern Amy Henderson.

As part of their fundraising efforts, this group sold stock to members of Immanuel. These members received postcards from the group while they were away and are now invited to attend the "Stockholders Dinner" on Sunday, August 16th from 4-6pm. We hope you can join us!

Please RSVP to the office if you are able to attend.



Praises and Pinches Form

As a congregation, we are committed to voicing our praises and "not sitting on our pinches"! To be a healthy, faithful community, we need to be open with one another about what we expect in all areas of our life together. If there is anything in our community life that brings you joy or causes you to be concerned, please share your feelings and questions. Thank you for taking the time to communicate about ways we are doing well in our ministry together at Immanuel, and the areas that need attention. Your Mutual Ministry Team needs your feedback in order to best respond to your needs. If you would like a personal response to your praise or pinch, please be sure to sign this form at the bottom.

To discuss a concern directly with the Mutual Ministry Team or one of the Team members, please indicate below.

Praises: _____

Pinches: _____

Desired Outcome: _____

Is it OK to publish in Gleaner? ___Yes ___No (Name must be posted if you wish for this to appear in Gleaner.)

A specific question I would like answered: _____

Name _____

(If you would like a direct response to your Praise or Pinch)

Please return this form to the Praises and Pinches Box located in the Narthex.

Ministry with Each Other



Annual Congregation Meeting August 16th following worship

Once a year the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church must meet to establish a new budget for the coming year, elect new members for the Church Council and elect our delegates for the Synod Convention. These items are mandated by our Constitution and any other issues can be added to the agenda as needed.

This year the congregation will be asked to approve a budget that proposes a 3.4% increase over the current budget. While that may not seem like a large increase, it becomes a monumental increase if giving does not keep pace with the budget needs. To achieve the goal, most members will have to look at their contribution efforts and prayerfully consider increasing by the 3.4% or more. It won't work if only a few participate.

The budget contains something for everyone in the congregation. Maintaining the buildings, paying the staff, insurance, utilities, worship programs, youth activities, bible studies, office administration, outreach programs, capital improvements and supplies all go into the spending required to keep the church going.

As I near my third (and final) term as council president, I want to thank everyone for your wonderful support of Immanuel and ask that you prayerfully consider what you can do to help achieve the budget needs for the coming year.

Join us for the annual meeting and voice your support!

-Dave Simon, Council President



THANKS to Our VBS Volunteers!

Thank you to ALL who made Vacation Bible School a success! This year, we had over 30 children enrolled for VBS and this would not have been possible without all of your help and donations!

Thursday Bible Study

The Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study will begin meeting again on September 10th at 9:30am in the Capital Room. We welcome new members!! For more information, please contact Trudy Staples at 772-0359.

Treasured Recipes

We have uncovered a treasure at church! There was a time, long, long ago when Immanuel put their recipes together and we found a box of the recipe books. Feel free to pick one up in the Narthex.

Theological Discussion

with Pastor Dana

Wednesdays at 10:30am

PLEASE JOIN US!!!!

We will resume on Wednesday, September 9.
All are welcome to attend!!!

Ministry with Each Other

Tuesday Night Worship

This summer Immanuel is offering a weekday service, through Sept. 1, 2015. We are using a service titled, Prayer around the Cross. It includes: scripture, meditation, music, prayer, and communion.



During our weekday summer service on Tuesdays at 5:30pm, intern Amy is offering an opportunity for young children to meet her in the nursery for a biblical lesson and some fun!

Help Wanted

Jodie Mitchell-Beach has been working on organizing Immanuel's Library, which is located in the Narthex.

We have purchased an electronic scanner and printer for this project, so that all of our books can be checked out electronically. This project is time-intensive and Jodie needs your help!

Please contact the office if you are willing to provide assistance while we get our collection organized.



August Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1 st | Barb McCollom
Kara Hammond
Carolyn Swart |
| 2 nd | Jim Ferguson |
| 3 rd | Eric Wyman |
| 4 th | Marilyn Zorn |
| 5 th | Beth MacGregor |
| 6 th | Jan Podolsky |
| 7 th | Jeanette Noch
Helen Leemaster
Paul Kruska |
| 8 th | Kara Watters
Chris Fultz, Sr.
Zoey Sullivan |
| 9 th | Patricia Alberts |
| 10 th | Larry Leemaster
Marc Wills
Sarah Keller |
| 11 th | Steve Podolsky
Dan Keller |
| 13 th | Ida Ziehmer
Pam Fultz |
| 14 th | Tom Mueller |
| 16 th | Dan Hess
Abbigail Powell |
| 17 th | Sophia Powell |
| 19 th | Jordan Heinrich
Ashton Heinrich |
| 20 th | Sherry Pulverente |
| 21 st | Cheryl Leider |
| 22 nd | Mary Nedela |
| 23 rd | Linda Spycher |
| 25 th | Axel Mellinger |
| 26 th | Cheryl Geisthardt |
| 29 th | Hugh Stevenson |
| 30 th | Charlie Burke
Kent Krynock |
| 31 st | Julia Simmons |

August Worship Helpers

Cantors

- 2 Amy Henderson
- 9 Joe Caleca
- 16 Sarah Gallaher
- 23 Kathy Gallaher
- 30 Kathy Gallaher

Counters

- 2 Chuck McCollom & Sue French
- 9 Jacque Jackson & John Emmons
- 16 Jodie Mitchell-Beach & Harry Plouff
- 23 John Emmons & volunteer
- 30 Chuck McCollom & Sue French

Altar Guild

- 2 Chris Schuster & Judy Emmons
- 9 Linda Wicander & Marilyn Zorn
- 16 Paula Krueger & Kathy Gatten
- 23 Bonnie Schaeffer & Denise Little
- 30 Jan Kruska & Linda Hoedt

Projector

- 2 Gabe Goodrich
- 9 Amy Powell
- 16 Dan Digmann
- 23 Dan Keller
- 30 Deb LaBlance

Ushers

list not available at time of printing

Greeters

list not available at time of printing

Nursery Attendants

list not available at time of printing

Assisting Ministers

- 2 Tony Powell
- 9 Amy Powell
- 16 Dave Simon
- 23 Meaghan McCollow
- 30 Bill Gallaher

Lawn Mowing

- 7 The Keller family
- 14 Tony & Amy Powell
- 21 Dan & Jan Eversole
- 28 Fred & Chris Schuster

Special Music for the Summer

Do you have a musical talent you'd like to offer during worship this summer? Would you like to sing a song? Play and instrument?

Think about it, pray about it and hopefully you'll be led to share some of your musical gifts with us this summer.

Please contact Pr. Dana or Gail Caleca if you are interested!