



The Gleaner

Immanuel Lutheran Church

August 2018

The Gleaner is a publication of:

Immanuel Lutheran Church
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Immanuel has an online church directory. Visit our website and check it out!
Contact the office for your username and password.

Mission
Joyfully Christian.
Humbly Serving.
Boldly Loving.



He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" - Micah 6:8

Camp Immanuel Weekend Retreat

Coldwater Lake Park
September 14 - 16, 2018
Cost \$75 (scholarships available)

Registrations due by August 3, \$85 after August 3.
Registration forms are available in the office
and in the narthex.

We hope to see you there!!!

A Letter from Pr. Dana.....

Dear friends in Christ,

As I sit writing this letter, it is a beautiful day outside. I hope that you have had a summer that has been a gift of friends, family, and enjoying the outdoors. I know many of us are thinking how quickly the summer has flown by already (it's August!) That being said, I get to announce something we have been waiting for... drum roll please....

We will begin construction on the Narthex/Welcome Center a few weeks after Labor Day and hopefully have it finished by the end of October. It will be a gift to have all the construction done by the date of our next Beer, Brats, and Hymns! We together can lift a cheer to Immanuel's next 40 years of being *Over the Hill, and Still Moving Mountains*.

We hope that the construction does not impede on our Sunday morning worship and we will be diligent to keep things safe and clear on Sunday mornings. I also thought you might like the latest update on what we have done so far with the capital campaign:

\$10,000 – gift to the community to help purchase the William Strickler Nonprofit Center

\$41,390.89 – new projection system (which is no longer projection, but display monitors)

\$3,000 – to create a space for parents/adults to rest and connect

\$3,000 – to the youth

\$50,000 (estimate) – renovation of the welcome center/Narthex area

\$10,000 – to the capital replacement fund (for future building needs)

As the remaining pledged money becomes available, the leadership will be discerning the many requests that have been made about possible improvements (everything from updated bathrooms and fellowship hall to a new sign out front). We will see how much money is available and discern how to best utilize it.

Giving thanks to God,

Pastor Dana Hendershot



ANNUAL MEETING

Immanuel will hold its Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 19 immediately following our worship service. Annual Meeting Packets will be available in the Narthex beginning Sunday, August 5. Be sure to mark your calendars for this important event!

Worship Ministry



Please join us at
Coldwater Lake Family Park
in Weidman
on Saturday, September 16th

Worship at 4:30pm
Potluck at 6:00pm

The Noisy Offering

The noisy offering on August 26 will be given to the Central Michigan Free Clinic.

A collection jar is located in the Narthex throughout the month for your convenience.

Thursday Night Worship

At 7pm on August 23, we will hold our final Thursday evening worship. After each service, we have been asking for feedback on the experience. Thank you to all who have been participating! Looking forward to what this evolves into...hope everyone joins us on the 23rd!

Fall Worship Schedule

Following Camp Immanuel weekend (Sept. 14-16), we will resume our regular worship schedule.

On September 23, we will again have weekly services at 9am & 11am.

Be sure to mark your calendars!

HELP WANTED!!!

Community Compassion Network would like your help!

The Pantry has shifted to summer hours and CCN needs additional volunteers. All kinds of hours and opportunities to serve are available. We need people who will help guests shop, people who will help stock shelves, and people who will assist with guest registration. The Pantry is open from 2-7 pm on Wednesdays and 8 am to noon and 4-7 pm on Thursdays. Take a weekly shift, a shift once a month, or pitch in to help **during Immanuel's shifts, which are August 1 from 2-4:30 or 4:30-7 OR August 2 from 8-10, 10-12, 4-7**

If interested in lending your hands to help feed our neighbors, please contact Peggy Burke at peggybur@gmail.com, Sarah Gilbert at sagilbert204@gmail.com, or check out the website ccnfeeds.org

Ministry with Each Other

Where do I drop off donations???

*Plastic grocery bags for CCN can be dropped into the baskets under the benches outside of the office.

Thank You!!!

Theological Discussions with Pr. Dana

Please join us on Wednesdays at 10:30am, beginning August 22. We will focus on the ELCA Draft Social Statement on Women and Justice. If you would like to view the whole statement, you may view it online [click here](#).

New Members

Anyone interested in becoming a new member please plan to stay after worship on August 26th – we will meet in the fellowship hall. There will be nursery provided for those who have children.



Our Intern, Katie Butler, coordinated the **first Sunday** of the month as a time of fellowship and snacks between the services. Many of us enjoyed it so we put a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for anyone who would like to host a first Sunday fellowship. The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study will host on Sunday, August 5th. Feel free to host by yourself, with a ministry team, a bible study group, or with a few friends. I would love to see if we can continue this new tradition.

August Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Kara Hammond
Barb McCollom
Carolyn Swart |
| 2 | Jim Ferguson |
| 3 | Eric Wyman |
| 4 | Marilyn Zorn |
| 5 | Beth MacGregor |
| 6 | Jan Podolsky |
| 7 | Helen Leemaster
Jeanette Noch
Paul Kruska |
| 8 | Christopher Fultz
Kara Watters |
| 9 | Patricia Alberts |
| 10 | Sarah Keller
Marc Wills
Larry Leemaster |
| 11 | Daniel Keller
Steve Podolsky |
| 12 | Scott Connor |
| 13 | Pam Fultz |
| 14 | Tom Mueller |
| 16 | Dan Hess
Abbie Powell |
| 17 | Sophia Powell |
| 18 | Thomas Ferguson |
| 19 | Jordan Heinrich
Ashton Heinrich
Shirley Howard
Amy Schwerin |
| 20 | Sherry Pulverente |
| 22 | Audrey Douglas |
| 23 | Linda Spycher |
| 25 | Axel Mellinger |
| 26 | Cheryl Geisthardt |
| 30 | Charlie Burke |
| 31 | Julia Simmons
Enoch Torgerson |

(Ministry with Each Other, Continued)



PLAY GROUP

I started taking my son, Owen, to playgroup at Immanuel when it started in November of 2016. Owen was 10 months old at the time. Initially, I started taking him for the socialization as he doesn't go to daycare, but over the last year and a half it has become much more than that!

I look forward to Monday mornings for Owen to play with all the other kids, but also so I can chat with the other moms. We share parenting tips with each other and just chat about life. It is a great time for everyone. Owen has gotten to know the other kids pretty well and always looks forward to playgroup. Sometimes there is an organized activity at the end of "free play time", which is a nice way for the kids to wind down.

We now have a new edition to our family, my 3 month old daughter, Clara. I look forward to her growing and learning with the kids in this group, as well. I highly recommend playgroup at Immanuel for any parent who is looking to socialize their young children in a safe and fun environment!
-Whitney Eidahl



**Sunday, September 9th
(after 10am service)**

Be sure to invite your friends and family to join us for our block party! We are planning to have an inflatable bounce house and slide again. Council will provide the burgers and hot dogs. We ask that you bring a dish to share! We'll also be inviting our neighbors to join us...so please help us to spread the word!!

(Ministry with Each Other, Continued)



Maker Fun Factory VBS 2018 was a huge success! We had 69 kids in our building that week, ranging in age from nursery to elementary. The week was filled with busy outside games, great music, experiments, movies in the KidVid cinema, interactive Bible stories and awesome art projects. A huge thank you to over 40 volunteers that helped with set up, decorations, snacks, set building, leading crews, registration, safety, tear down and supply shopping. Without each one of our incredible volunteers, this week would have been missing an important person that helped to serve all these children. Each of you is deeply appreciated. We are very thankful the time, talents and donations you gave to show the children and families that attended VBS they are loved by God and by the people of Immanuel. Thank you all for your support of VBS each year, we look forward to another amazing week next summer!

Community Input: Praises and Pinches

To be a healthy, faithful community, Immanuel needs to be open with what we expect in all areas of life. If there is anything in our community life that brings joy or causes concern, please share any feelings and questions. Thank you for taking the time to communicate ways we are doing well in our ministry at Immanuel and the areas that need attention. Your Mutual Ministry Team needs your feedback. 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 _____

(Ministry with Each Other, Continued)



Our four choirs will start in September after Labor Day. All choirs are always looking for new members who are dedicated to regularly attending rehearsals and singing on Sundays!! Please email me (Mernie) mbidstrup@charter.net. or catch me after the service with any questions. If Worship Wed. is cancelled for weather so are all music programs.

Children's choir - Kindergarten -5th grade ---- Hand chimes- 2nd -5th grade

Attendance at rehearsal and the Sundays that we play is required to be a part of the hand chimes.

The children's choir/ hand chime choir meets on Wednesdays at 4:00 (earlier time this year). 2nd through 5th grade hand chime practice will be from 4:00-4:45 in the Sanctuary. From 4:45-5:30 the whole group will be together in the Choir room to sing. The children's choir sings at the 9:00 service on the fourth Sunday and at the 11:00 service on the first Sunday of each month. The hand chimes will usually play at the 9:00 service on the fourth Sunday.

Bell Choir - 6th grade through high school- includes some college students

The bell choir usually meets on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:30. Rehearsals may be on other nights as needed. (Our members are not just dedicated to the bell choir but are also very involved in other church and school activities which can cause schedule changes.) The rehearsal is fast paced and fun. The choir plays on the fourth Sunday at the 9:00 service and also plays at festival services. Come and try it- I'd be happy to meet with you and give you a mini lesson before you attend a rehearsal. We'd love to see you!

Chancel Choir- all ages welcome

Chancel Choir sings a variety of familiar and new SATB music. We sing at the 9:00 service on the first and third Sunday of the month. We also sing at all festival services. (Reformation, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter) If you've ever sung in a choir or would just like to give it a try, come to our rehearsal at 6:00 on Wednesdays. We can be pretty noisy and we often talk too much (you know who you are ☺) but we have fun and are a great group of people and we would love to have you join us!

Business Ministry

Contributing Stocks or Bonds

To contribute capital gain property such as stocks or bonds to the church, per IRS Publication 526 you can deduct the Fair Market Value of the asset on your personal tax returns - not the basis in the asset. Immanuel has a brokerage account to facilitate the transfer of these assets directly. If you are interested, please contact the church for information or assistance.

Immanuel Offers Electronic Giving

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. **IMMANUEL NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!!**

Financial Corner

Unified Budget

April \$21,352.14

May \$21,632.41

June \$20,884.07

Average Monthly Needed to meet budget

April \$30,853.11

May \$33,158.28

June \$37,249.69

Capital Campaign Update



Amount Pledged: \$147,945.00

Amount Received: \$121,522.96

August Worship Helpers

Altar Guild

- 8/5 Rose Prasad & Kathy Gatten
- 8/12 Bonnie Berthold & Linda Wicander
- 8/19 Sarah Gilbert & Sandy Warriner
- 8/26 Chris Schuster & Pat Podoll

Assisting Ministers (10:00)

(list not available at time of printing)

Counters

- 8/5 Jacque Jackson & John Lorand
- 8/12 Jodie Mitchell-Beach & Harry Plouff
- 8/19 John Emmons & John Warriner
- 8/26 Chuck McCollom & Cindy Torgerson

Projector (10:00)

- 8/5 Dan & Jennifer Digmann
- 8/12 Dana Mielke
- 8/19 Ted Tuma
- 8/26 Deb LaBlance

Ushers (10:00)

- 8/5 Gabe Goodrich, Pete LaBlance, Bill Jensen
- 8/12 Sam Staples, Dave Keilitz, Ed Berthold
- 8/19 Paul & Jan Kruska, Janice Fox, Rose Prasad
- 8/26 Pete LaBlance, Bill Jensen, Sam Staples

Greeters (10:00)

(list not available at time of printing)

Lawn Mowing

- 8/2 Harry Plouff & Ed Berthold
- 8/9 The Powell family
- 8/16 Steve Podolsky & Gabe Goodrich
- 8/23 Dan & Jan Eversole
- 8/30 Fred & Chris Schuster

