



# The Gleaner

Immanuel Lutheran Church

May 2019

*The Gleaner is a publication of:*

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
320 S. Bradley St.  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone: (989) 773-4204  
Email: [office@immanuelmp.com](mailto:office@immanuelmp.com)  
Website: [immanuelmp.com](http://immanuelmp.com)

**Summer Office Hours:**  
**Monday-Friday 8am-4pm**  
**(these will begin in May 24)**

---

Pastor: Dana Hendershot  
Layout and Editing:  
Andrea Redmond

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.**



Spring Clean-up Day is scheduled for  
Saturday, May 4 from 9am-noon.

Bring your gloves and rakes and help us to get  
the building and grounds ready for summer!!  
ALL help is welcome and appreciated.

(Pizza will be served for lunch)

## Save the Date



Camp Immanuel is scheduled  
for the weekend of  
September 13-15  
at Coldwater Lake Family Campground

More information to follow.

# 2019 NWLM Synod Assembly



## North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly 2019

Called to be like Living Stones in a Changing World

The 2019 Synod Assembly is May 16-18, 2019 (Thursday – Saturday) at the Comfort Inn & Suites Hotel and Conference Center in Mount Pleasant and Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Several important events will take place at this Synod Assembly including a **bishop election** (Bishop Satterlee is standing for re-election), vice president election (Sandy Schlesinger is standing for re-election), and electing synod council members and members of several important committees.

Several **special guests** will attend the Assembly. Our churchwide representative, the Rev. Wm. Chris Boerger, Secretary of the ELCA, will preside at the bishop election, give the churchwide report, preside at Eucharist Friday morning and preach at closing worship Saturday morning. **Three Bishops** from Region Six will attend. Bishop Abraham Allende (Northeast Ohio Synod) will preach at Eucharist Friday morning, Bishop Daniel Beaudoin (Northwest Ohio Synod) will offer a reflection on a call story Friday morning. Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt (Southern Ohio Synod) will offer a reflection on a call story Thursday evening.

**Dakota Road**, a nationally known musical group, will provide music at opening worship on Thursday AND during the “Connect, Converse, Contemplate, or Crash” portion of the assembly on Friday at 5pm, which will be held at Immanuel.

A Closing Worship Service and reception will be held at noon on Saturday at Immanuel. All are welcome to attend.

Immanuel’s voting members this year include Pr. Dana, Ryan Douglas, Beth Mundwiler and Thomas Strandskov. Charlie Burke, Peggy Burke, Nicole Ferguson, Jim Hageman, Mary Hageman, Katrina Piatek-Jimenez, and Amy Powell are serving on the Synod Assembly Elections Committee. Linda Wicander is a voting member on Synod Council.

# 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!!!

## Lawn-Mowing Volunteers Needed

We are looking for more people to become part of the church lawn-mowing team. If you are interested, please contact Paul Geisthardt at 989-954-0266.



- 1 **Roze Zeferi**
- 2 **Beth Mundwiler**
- 4 **Jan Kruska**
- 6 **Donna Parr**
- 7 **Jennifer Gallaher**
- 10 **Kathy Marshall**  
**Tony Powell**
- 11 **Leah Wicander**
- 13 **Matthew Strandskov**
- 14 **Julia Hoffman**
- 16 **Haylee Geisthardt**  
**Gabe Goodrich**
- 20 **Trudy Staples**
- 22 **Chris denHeeten**
- 23 **Kennedy Brauker**
- 25 **Michael Deaton**
- 27 **Peggy Burke**
- 29 **George Dunn**  
**Ashley Shellenbarger**
- 30 **Ryan Ferguson**  
**Katie Caleca**
- 31 **Joe Caleca**



God has blessed Immanuel with six new people who have agreed to study to become Stephen Ministers. We are very excited to welcome: Aubyron Anderson, Nicole Ferguson, Denise Kaiser, Sue Knight, Deb LaBlance and Jodie Mitchell-Beach. Their 50-hour training will begin on May 2 and continue through September. Please keep these people and our Stephen Ministry in your prayers.

## VBS Volunteers are Needed!!!

Vacation Bible School will take place July 15-19. If you are interested in volunteering this year, please contact Craig Torgerson at [craig@immanuelmp.com](mailto:craig@immanuelmp.com).

## 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.

## Tax Break for Contributions –people over 70 years-old

If you are over 70.5 did you know that you can give directly from your retirement account to Immanuel Lutheran Church and pay no taxes on the gift? Due to the tax changes that include a higher standard deduction and the elimination of the personal exemption, you may receive the best tax benefit if you donate directly from your retirement account.

### Financial Corner

January \$20,972  
February \$16,155  
March \$22,455

Average monthly amount  
needed to meet budget:  
\$34,404

### Capital Campaign Update



Pledged: \$147,945  
Received \$144,026

## 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 the Community & World

## May Volunteer Opportunities

**“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”  
- Luke 6:38**

Here are some upcoming outreach opportunities for the members of Immanuel to get involved with our community.

### **Community Compassion Network Stationary Pantry**

CCN is dedicated to fighting hunger by providing supplemental food for Isabella County families and relies on grants, donations, and community support. The pantry is located at 1114 W. High Street.

### **Isabella Community Soup Kitchen**

To volunteer with the soup kitchen, call the office at 772-7392 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Stop in anytime at 621 S. Adams St, Mt. Pleasant to fill out a volunteer information form.

### **Red Cross Blood Drives**

May 2, Mt. Pleasant High School, 12-5:45pm

May 15, Beal City High School, 12-5:45pm

May 21, Sacred Heart Parish, 12-5:45pm

May 24, Krapohl Ford, 12-5:45pm

May 30, William Strickler Nonprofit Center, 12-5:45pm

If you have any ideas for other ways members of Immanuel Lutheran Church can get involved in serving our local community, please contact Jennifer Digmann at 989-775-8475 or Paul Kruska at 989-828-5103.



## Ministry with Each Other



Hello!

My name is Karl Mikko, I have been on your prayer list. I would like to thank all who prayed for me during my illness. I found great comfort in knowing I was prayed for, I continue to heal and move forward.

Blessings Karl

---



Thank you to all of our Wednesday night Volunteers, including the Worship Wednesday Teachers, Kitchen Crew and Nursery Volunteers!!!

We couldn't do this program without you!!

See you in the Fall!

---

### 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](http://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!!**

## May Worship Helpers

### Cantors (9:00)

- 5 Kathy Gallaher
- 12 Bill Gallaher
- 19 Lacey Connor
- 26 (10:00) No Cantor

### Counters

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

### Altar Guild

- 5 Pat Podoll & Linda Wicander
- 12 Sandy Warriner & Linda Wicander
- 19 Billie Plouff & Donna Parr
- 26 Sarah Gilbert & Bonnie Berthold

### Projector (9:00)

- 5 Amy Powell
- 12 Gabe Goodrich
- 19 Deb LaBlance
- 26 (10:00) Dan Digmann

### Projector (11:00)

- 5 Susan Shock
- 12 Dana Mielke
- 19 Ted Tuma

### Ushers (9:00)

All month: Dennis & Kathy Marshall, Bill Jensen

### Greeters, Welcome Center, Coffee (9:00 & 11:00)

(lists not available at time of printing)

### Assisting Ministers

- 5 (9:00) Linda Wicander  
(11:00) Natalie Douglas
- 12 (9:00)  
(11:00)
- 19 (9:00)  
(11:00)
- 26 (10:00)

### Lawn Mowing

- 3 Paul Kruska & volunteer
- 10 The Geisthardt family
- 17 The Powell family
- 24 Steve Podolsky & Gabe Goodrich
- 31 Dan & Jan Eversole

### The Noisy Offering

The noisy offering on  
May 26  
will be given to  
People Helping People.

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



On Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, we will  
switch to ONE weekly service  
on Sundays at 10am.

This worship schedule will be  
in effect through Labor Day.

Please be sure to mark your  
calendars!