



The Gleaner

Immanuel Lutheran Church

October 2021

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.**



A Letter from Pr. Dana....

Dear Friends in Christ,

At the annual meeting on September 19, I prayed, "Come with a fire that refines, Water that refreshes, Wind that topples, Breath that fills...Come, Holy Spirit, and restore your Church." I have a strong feeling that to be a church with a refining flame and wind that topples—we cannot do things as we have always done them. A fire requires the breath of the Spirit, continuous care, attention, and new logs. If you have ever sat at a campfire and admired the flames, while they stay the same and offer warmth and beauty for a time, eventually you need a new log. You can think of these logs as our ministries and people. Things change/adapt/evolve with every new log in a fire, and things are changing around here.

We can celebrate that we've offered this community a Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day for the past 30+ years. We even did it in 2020, which is pretty miraculous in and of itself. God has used us to touch so many people's lives! While we are not offering a Thanksgiving Dinner for the community in 2021, we do have a team of people doing research on the current need for this service. In 2021, this community has a soup kitchen which provides a Thanksgiving meal and a food pantry (CCN) which hands out turkeys and all the fixings. It is sad to pause this ministry we so dearly love. Yet, it is time for it to become a new log. We may be renewing the ministry in 2022 or God may surprise us with another need to meet.

Speaking of new things, we're getting three new staff members! Leadership has decided that for one year, we will hire temporary part-time staff to give us time to work towards a new and exciting opportunity for staffing. Please be sure to watch for announcements on who the new hires are and welcome them with the love of Christ: The Children's Ministry Coordinator, The Youth Ministry Coordinator/Tech Guru, and a Faith In Action Coordinator.

The new and exciting opportunity for the future is to become a part of seminary training for ELCA pastors. We have been approved as a site to receive what the church calls a Vicar. Think of a student teacher or medical residency. In this gleaner, we have included detailed information on what a Vicar is and what becoming a part of seminary training means for our congregation. We will be having lots of conversations about the details this year. I hope all of us get involved!

This letter is an invitation to stay alert to the work of the Spirit among us and the fire that God is igniting. Let our church be a beacon of Christ's light in the world. Rekindle the flame within us.

In Christ,
Pastor Dana Hendershot



Pr. Dana will be out of town for continuing education the week of October 22-30

If you would like to occasionally receive scripture/inspirational texts from Pastor Dana please text "Trinity" to 474747 to sign up.

What is a Vicar?

Internship is an integral part of seminary training for ELCA pastors. At most seminaries, the seminarian spends a full year with a congregation in the third year of their four-year program. During this internship, the student learns what happens on a day-to-day basis in a congregation. They practice some of what they have learned in the classroom. Much like a medical residency or student teaching, an internship puts into action the theories that have been studied.

While in our midst, the intern is called “vicar.” The vicar will be involved in all aspects of worship except celebrating communion. They will preach regularly as *preaching is one of the most important opportunities on internship.* The vicar will also be involved in the education program teaching both confirmation students and an adult class. The vicar will visit the sick and the homebound. The vicar will complete a project, of their choice, during their year with us. The vicar and I will regularly meet to review how they are growing in their pastoral identity.

What does that mean for the rest of us?

As a member of Immanuel, your role is to provide feedback to the vicar so that they gain a sense of how their ministry is received. “Good sermon, Vicar” is a nice compliment but does not provide insight into why the proclamation struck a chord. The vicar’s preaching will be different from mine and offer the congregation diversity in stories, perspective, and ways to hear the Word. It will be a gift for our community. After all, many of you have been listening to me for over 10 years already!

In addition to informal feedback from all our members, eight members of the congregation serve as the internship committee. They provide primary support and formal evaluation for the intern. The committee also serves as an avenue for you to provide more feedback. The committee may indeed seek feedback from you! They will also plan a “welcome party” and a “sending party.” That’s right, more reason to celebrate together!

Once we celebrate the vicar’s year with us, they are sent back to seminary for their final year of school. Following that year, they will enter a process for first call and once they receive a call, they will be ordained.

How much do you pay them?

The cost to participate as an internship site runs anywhere from \$35,000-\$45,000. For example:

- Stipend paid directly to student (taxable): \$1,800/month X 12 months *\$21,600.00*
- Administrative/tuition fee paid to seminary (one-time cost): *\$ 1,000.00*
- Travel fee paid to seminary (one-time cost) & then to student according to distance traveled to internship site: *\$ 500.00*
- Housing including gas, electricity, cable/internet, water, garbage (taxable, but we ask the internship site to cover this tax for the student): *Market value in your area*
- The Housing must be fully furnished (kitchen, bedroom, living room...)
- Cost for student & supervisor to attend area Cluster Meetings: *Varies (e.g., tuition, travel, lodging)*
- Mileage reimbursement expenses for church business: *IRS Rate*

Why would we do this?

My dream is to become a congregation that is well known in the internship process, a place where students want to be the lucky one assigned to us! The place I interned, Trinity Lutheran Bradenton, FL, is on their 23rd intern. My first call, Christus Victor Lutheran, Naples, FL, is also on their 23rd intern. Our Bishop, Craig Satterlee, did his internship at Trinity Lutheran in Midland, MI. Messiah Lutheran, Bay City, MI, accepted an intern this year because of a geographical restriction. In Michigan, we have a unique opportunity to become a long-standing site, similar to the Florida sites where I was blessed to do ministry.

It is an opportunity for us to be a blessing to the Church and for the vicars to be a blessing to us. In my first call, I loved how our vicars changed from year-to-year. There was new excitement, and they each connected closely with different members. I look forward to discussing this opportunity more at our annual meeting.

Worship Ministry



Beginning Sunday, October 10, we will have a list in the Narthex for you to write down the names of anyone you love that has joined the church triumphant in this past year. We will honor them on Sunday, November 7th. If you would like to have their photo displayed, please email a digital copy to Andrea at office@immanuelmp.com by Friday, Oct. 29th.

Adult Forum on Sunday mornings between services

Led by Sue Bergeson

We will be doing a video series titled, "Living the Questions."

Invitation to Journey

- Oct. 10 – An Invitation to Journey
- Oct. 17 – Taking the Bible Seriously
- Oct. 24 – Thinking Theologically
- Oct. 31 – Stories of Creation
- Nov. 7 – Homeless Shelter Sunday – no forum
- Nov. 14 – Lives of Jesus
- Nov. 21 – A Passion for Christ: Paul
- Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving weekend – no forum

Altar Flowers



Please sign up in the Narthex if you'd like to purchase flowers for the altar.
The cost is \$45.00
(Please return vase)



Immanuel will be offering a blessing of the animal's service at our outdoor pavilion on Saturday, October 2 at 3:00 p.m. All animals are welcome. We will move the service inside if weather is not permitting. Please bring your animals on a leash or caged. This is open to the community so please spread the word to friends and/or family who would like their pet to be blessed!

Ministry with Each Other

Exegetical Happy Hour

Tuesday, October 5
4:30-6:00pm
Cheers Neighborhood Grill

Exegesis is a Greek word defined as, “a critical explanation or interpretation of a text, especially a religious text. Traditionally the term was used primarily for work with the Bible.”

We'll gather together the first Tuesday of each month and read through the scripture for the month. We'll discuss our own interpretations and experiences with the scripture-all while enjoying a Happy Hour together! You can come and go as your schedule allows. Consider it an exegetical open house.

I hope you will join us!

Theological Discussions with Pr. Dana

Thursdays at 11am

(We're going hybrid – offering in-person and online – the link to join via zoom is on the website)

Tuesday Women's Bible Study

This group meets on
Tuesdays from 9:30-11am

Please join us!

Please contact Judy Emmons at 772-3831
if you have any questions.



- 1 Sue French**
- Cliff Moss**
- 3 Sarah Gilbert**
- 4 Paul Geisthardt**
- Kathy Smith**
- 5 Cindy Keller**
- 9 Craig Kreiner**
- 10 Abby Geisthardt**
- 11 Holly Hoffman**
- 12 Cheryl Strandskov**
- 14 Roxanne Lueder**
- Tad Richards**
- 16 Dana Mielke**
- 17 Eric Podolsky**
- 18 Gage Shellenbarger**
- 19 Pete LaBlance**
- Natalie Douglas**
- 23 Patty Jo Bugh**
- 24 Gail Caleca**
- 28 Pat Podoll**

(Ministry with Each Other, Continued)



Lonely? Sad? Discouraged?

**Going through a tough time---emotionally or spiritually? Struggling with a crisis in life?
Or simply feeling down?**

Consider letting a Stephen Minister help. A Stephen Minister is a member of our congregation who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free, and very helpful.

To learn more, talk with Pastor Dana, Chris Schuster, Fred Schuster, or Gail Mitchell.

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 _____

Children & Youth



Sunday School

Pre-K through 5th grade students are invited to attend Sunday School! This fall, we will be following the "lectionary" and learning more about the Gospel message each Sunday.

Fall 2021 Calendar

Oct. 10	A Rich Man's Questions	Mark 10: 17-31
Oct. 17	James & Jon	Mark 10: 35-45
Oct. 24	Bartimaeus Sees	Mark 10: 46-52
Oct. 31	A Message from God	Deuteronomy 6: 1-9
Nov. 7	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	
Nov. 14	Be Ready	Mark 13: 1-8
Nov. 21	Christ the King	John 18: 33-37
Nov. 28	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	
Dec. 5	Zechariah	Luke 1: 68-79
Dec. 12	Children's Christmas Program	



Youth Group- 6th-12th Grade

We are meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays for fellowship, fun, snacks and to connect with God. In October, we will meet Oct 10th and 24th.

Questions: Contact Thomas Strandskov or Beth Mundwiler



ELCA Youth Gathering is July 22-29, 2022

All students who will be entering 9th grade in the fall to those who graduate in 2022 are able to attend. We are heading to Minneapolis for service, worship, and to learn about God's Boundless Love. Registration and \$150 deposit needs to be turned into Beth Mundwiler by October 31st. Questions? Contact Beth Mundwiler bmundwiler@gmail.com

Ministry with Community & World

Celebrate Socktober!



Each night in the United States, an estimated 600,000 people live on the streets. This October, we want 2 million people to show that even a small act of love, such as donating a pair of socks, can make a big difference in the lives of our neighbors who are homeless.

LET SOCKS BE THE STARTING PLACE!

During the month of October, bring in "NEW" socks of all sizes, colors, patterns, and varieties to benefit the homeless in our area!

*Collection baskets will be located by the office and sanctuary.
The youth group will be delivering the socks in November.*



Immanuel will host the ICRH rotating homeless shelter from Oct. 31-Nov.7.

Volunteers and food donations will be needed. Sign up links will be sent out in the near future!

The Care Store

is always in need of household items!

When you buy one for your home, consider buying one for someone in need. Place these items on the shelf in the hallway by the office and we'll get them delivered to those who need them.

Refugee Help

LIRS Support of Afghan Refugees For two decades, the U.S. Government has employed Afghan allies to serve alongside U.S. Troops, diplomats, and other government employees as interpreters, translators, cultural advisors, drivers, and more. More than 18,000 Afghans who served alongside them face a severe backlog in the processing of their Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs). LIRS has taken the lead in resettling our Afghan allies and their families and is currently looking for assistance in supporting these refugees in Western Michigan.

How can I help?

Samaritas is organizing the resettlement of refugees in Western Michigan. They have expressed a need for housing options for refugee families to Western Michigan. Options can either be temporary/transitional or permanent. They are looking for both 1/2/3 bedroom apartments and larger single family homes.

Other supplies for families, such as house furnishings and supplies for babies and young children, are also needed. Monetary donations are also being accepted and will support rental homes or apartments. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, have housing leads, or items to donate, please contact Chris Cavanaugh, Samaritas' Director of New American Resettlement for Western Michigan at ccava@samaritas.org.

Learn More: <https://bit.ly/3yGQEHl>

Donate: https://secure2.convio.net/lirs/site/Donation2?df_id=4081&4081.donation=form1&mfc_pref=T/

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.



Volunteers needed!

Saturday, October 9th

9am-noon

(Bring your gloves!)

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 Monthly Report: YTD as of August 2021

Spending Plan 2020-2021: \$371,627
Actual Expenditures: \$281,683
Giving to Date: \$286,540

Last year comparison: August 2020

Actual Expenditures: \$284,645.46
Giving to Date: \$286,896.94

Isabella Community Soup Kitchen

The ICSK is in the process of remodeling their kitchen and needed a place to “borrow” for a few weeks.

Immanuel will be loaning our kitchen space to them on Mon, Wed & Fri in October from 7am-noon, so that they may continue to feed our community!

Let's Update the Photo Directory!

Did you know you can update your own photos and information on the online directory?

Please take a few moments this month to update the directory with a new photo of your family. Also, check your personal information and update if needed.

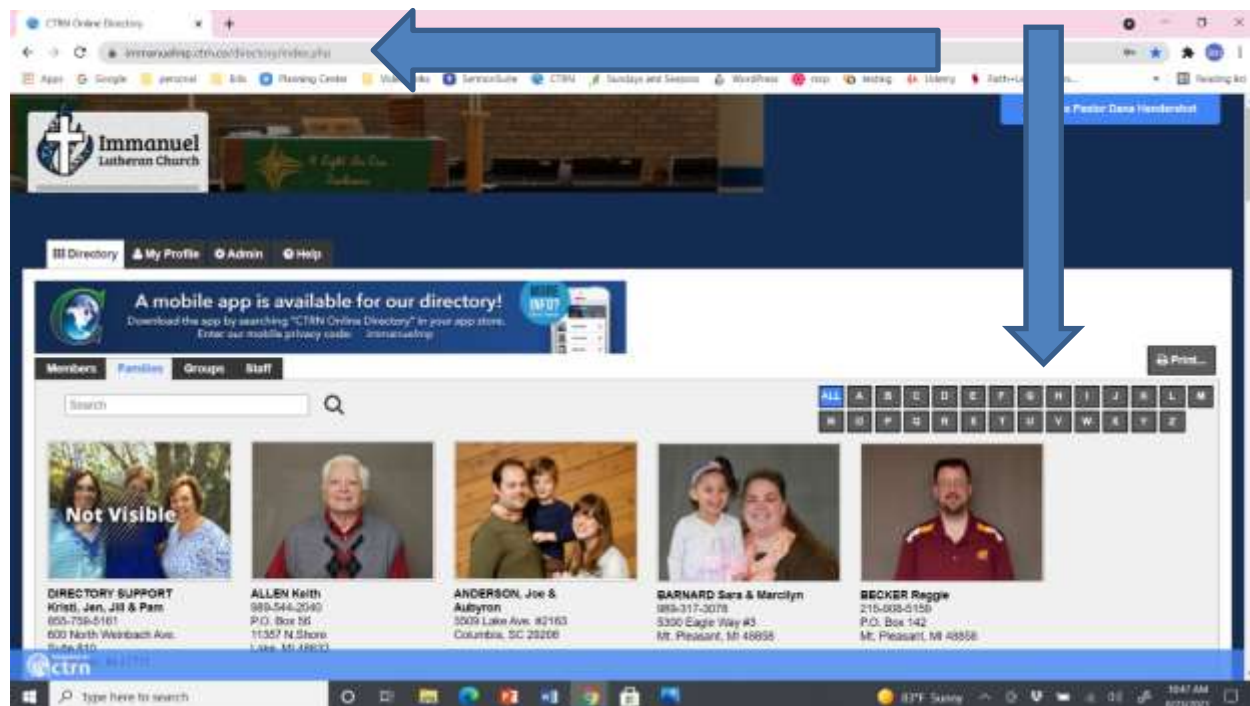
This can be done through the app on your phone or through your computer online.

If this is too overwhelming for you, please send a photo to Andrea: office@immanuelmp.com

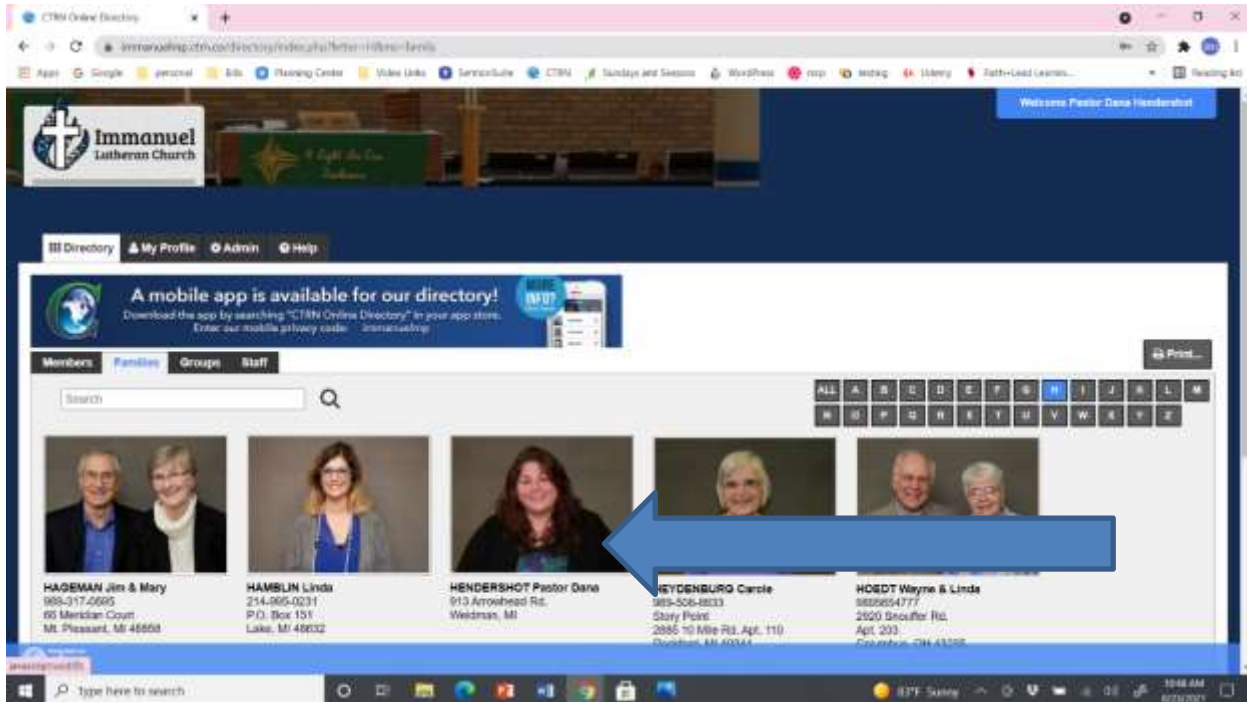
There are two areas to pay attention to when updating.

1. Your family profile
2. Your personal profile

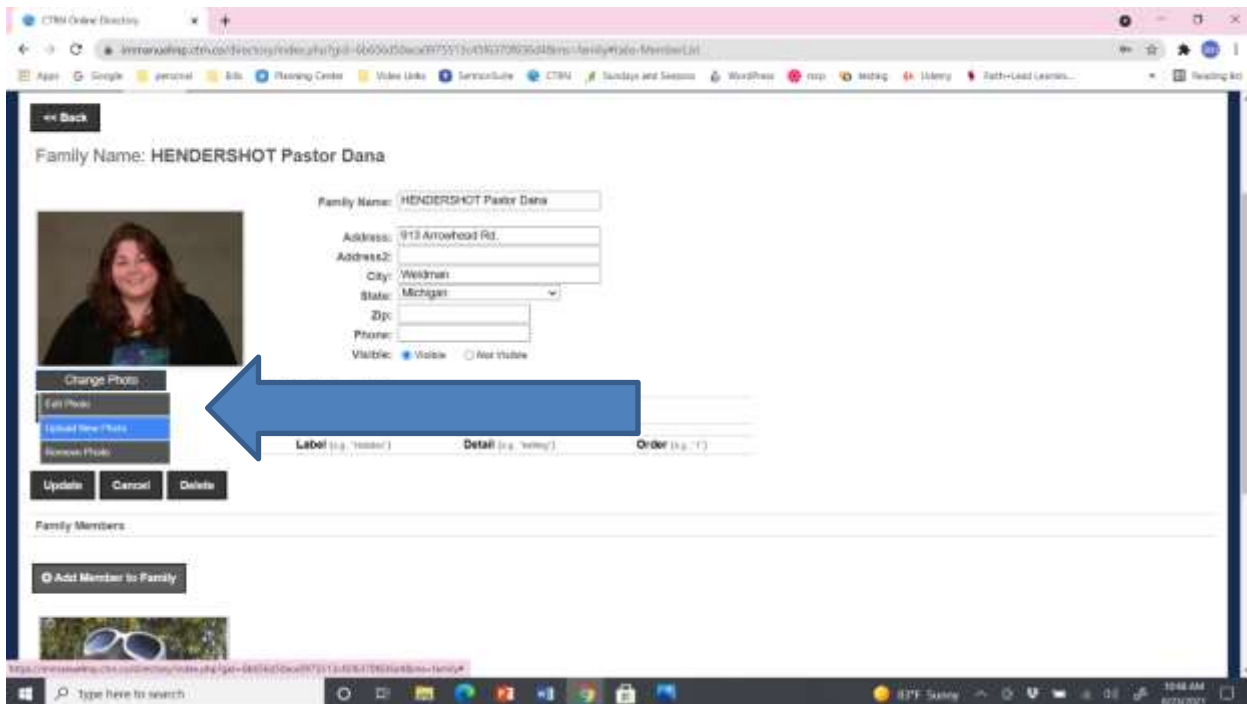
Step one: Go to the online directory and find your family profile



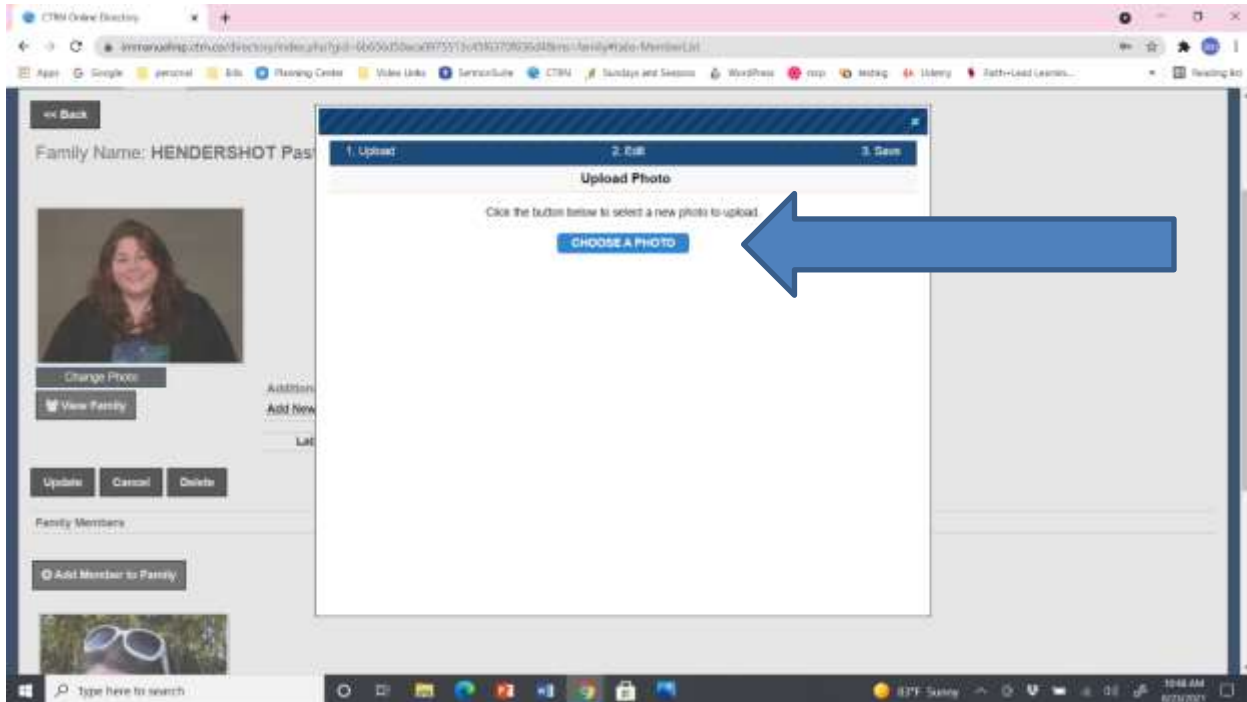
Step two: Click on your profile



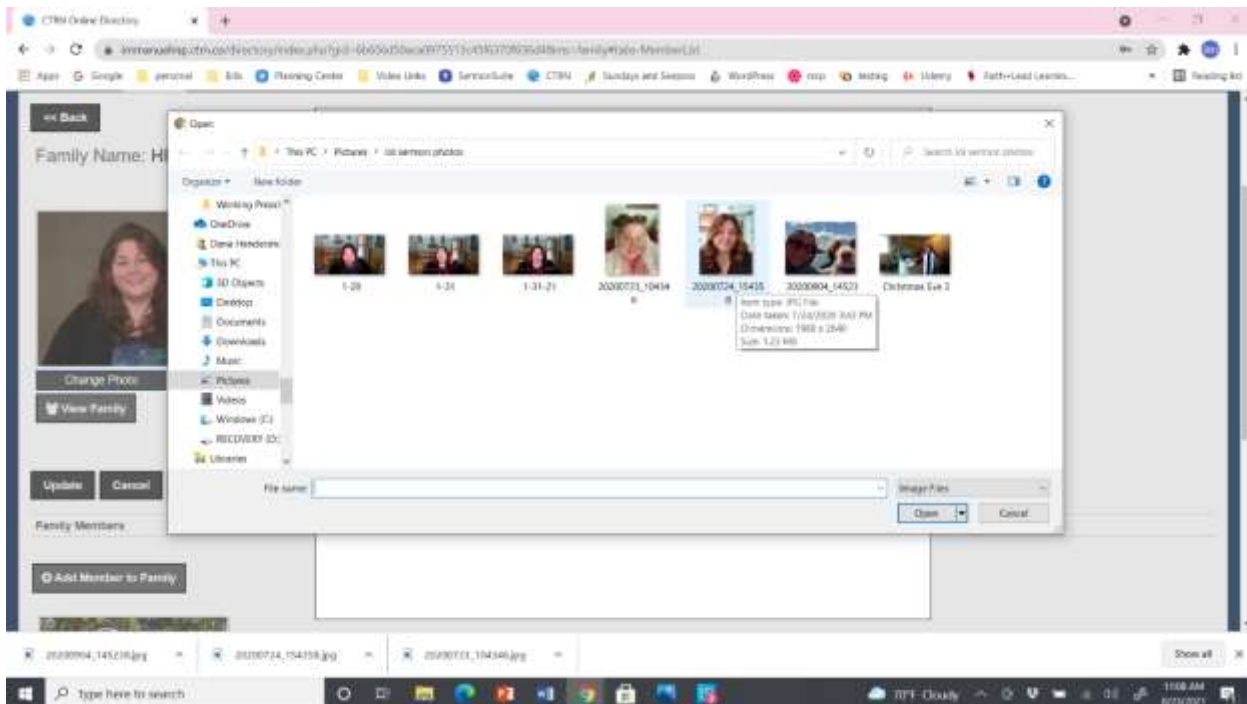
Step three: Click on change photo and then upload new photo



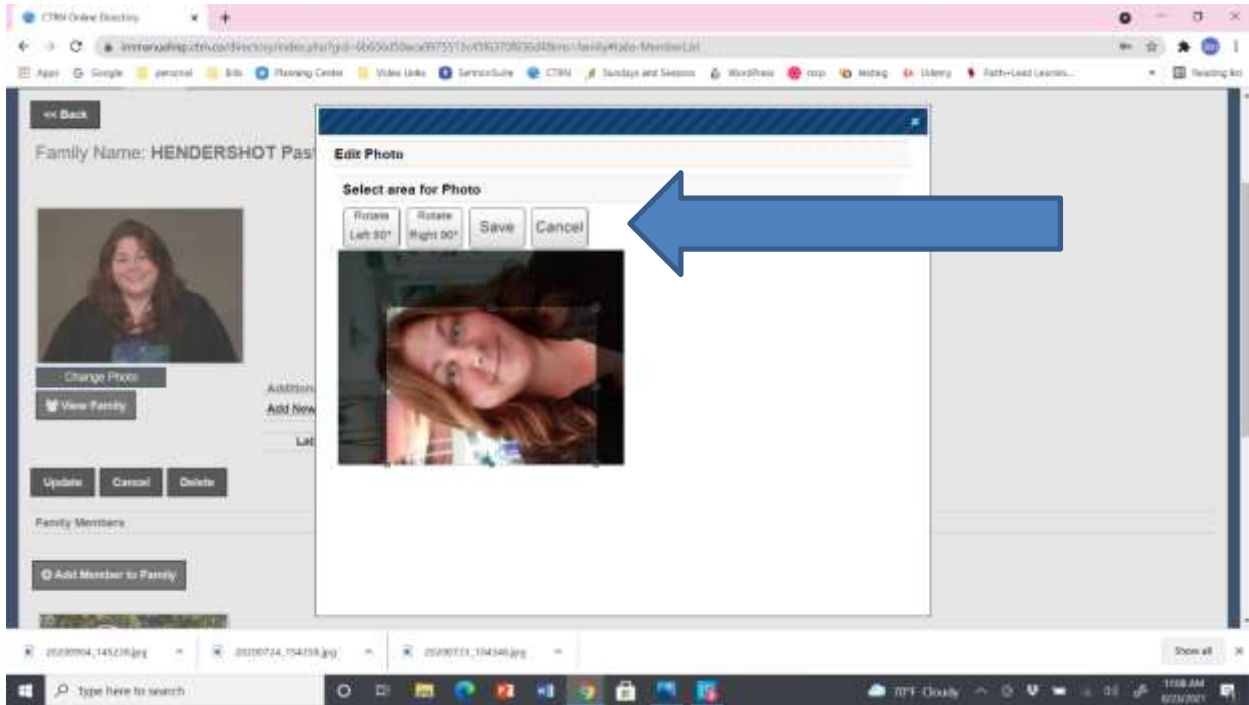
Step four: Click on choose a photo



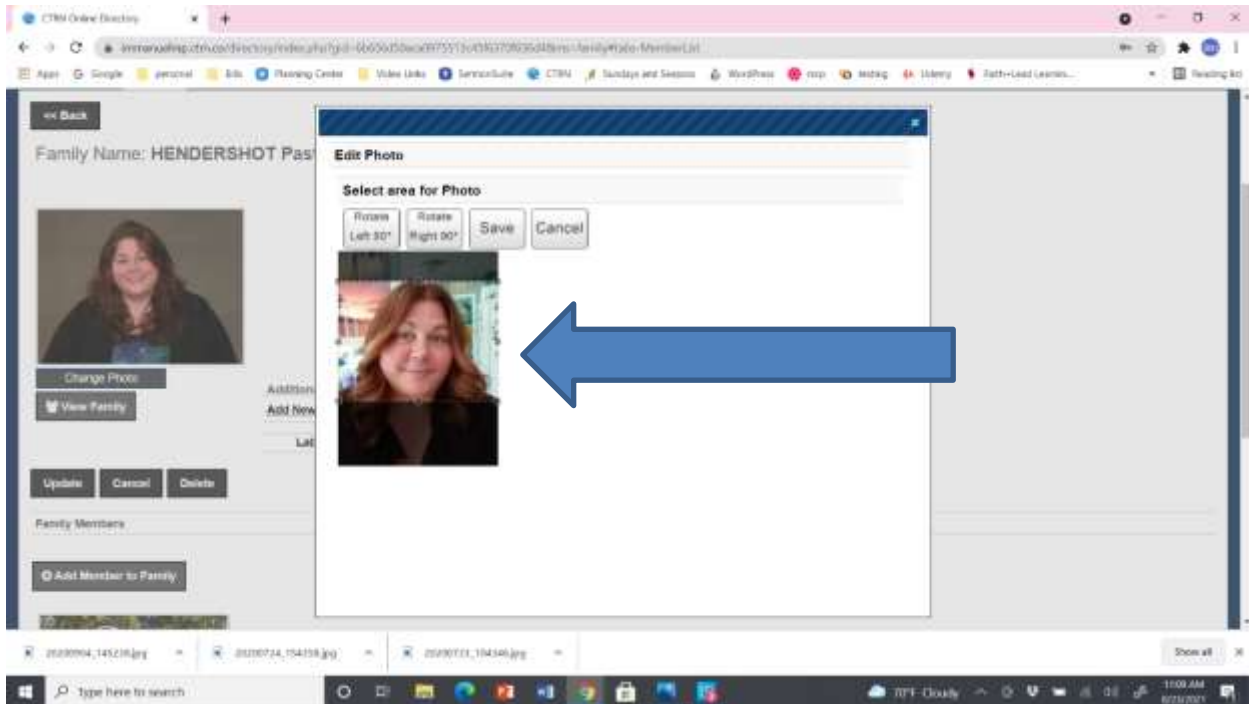
Step five: Find a photo on your computer and click on it



Step six: Position the photo you just uploaded




Step seven: Make sure you stretch the box to fit the photo



Step eight: Click update

CTM Online Directory

Family Name: HENDERSHOT Pastor Dana



Change Photo

View Family

Family Name: HENDERSHOT Pastor Dana

Address: 913 Arrowhead Rd.

Address2:

City: Weidman

State: Michigan

Zip:

Phone:

Visible: ☒ Visible ☐ Not Visible

Additional Information:

Add New Information

Update Cancel Delete

Family Members

Add Member to Family


20200904_145216.jpg 20200724_154158.jpg 20200701_104346.jpg Show all

Type here to search

11:09 AM 6/23/2021

Step nine: Scroll down and click on your personal profile

CTM Online Directory




Change Photo

View Family

Update Cancel Delete

Family Members

Add Member to Family



20200904_145216.jpg 20200724_154158.jpg 20200701_104346.jpg Show all

Type here to search

11:10 AM 6/23/2021


Step 10: Go back to step three and do it all over again!

CTM Online Directory

interwamp.ctmz/directory/index.php?real=3a1b0c1447628545e807c9d30946b-MembersInfo

Back Update

Pastor Dana Hendershot



Change Photo

Edit Photo
Upload New Photo
Remove Photo
None

First Name: Pastor Dana
Middle Name:
Last Name: Hendershot
User Name: dnhender
Password:
Primary Phone:
Cell Phone: 616-299-8638
Primary Email: pastor@interwamp.com

Address:
City: Weidman
State: Michigan
Zip:

Visible: ☒ Visible ☐ Not Visible
Receive Emails from Directory Administrators: ☒ Yes ☐ No

2020004_145236.jpg 20200724_154358.jpg 20200721_104346.jpg Show all


type here to search

TPF Cloudy 10:10 AM 6/21/2021

Step 11: Don't forget that update button!

CTM Online Directory

interwamp.ctmz/directory/index.php?real=3a1b0c1447628545e807c9d30946b-MembersInfo



Change Photo

Family: HENDERSHOT Pastor Dana
Group: Church Council Staff

Middle Name:
Last Name: Hendershot
User Name: dnhender
Password:
Primary Phone:
Cell Phone: 616-299-8638
Primary Email: pastor@interwamp.com
Birthday:

Address: 913 Arrowhead Rd.
Address2:
City: Weidman
State: Michigan
Zip:

Visible: ☒ Visible ☐ Not Visible
Receive Emails from Directory Administrators: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Additional Information: Add New Information

Labels (e.g. 'Address') Detail (e.g. 'Address') Order (e.g. '1')

Update Cancel Delete

2020004_145236.jpg 20200724_154358.jpg 20200721_104346.jpg Show all

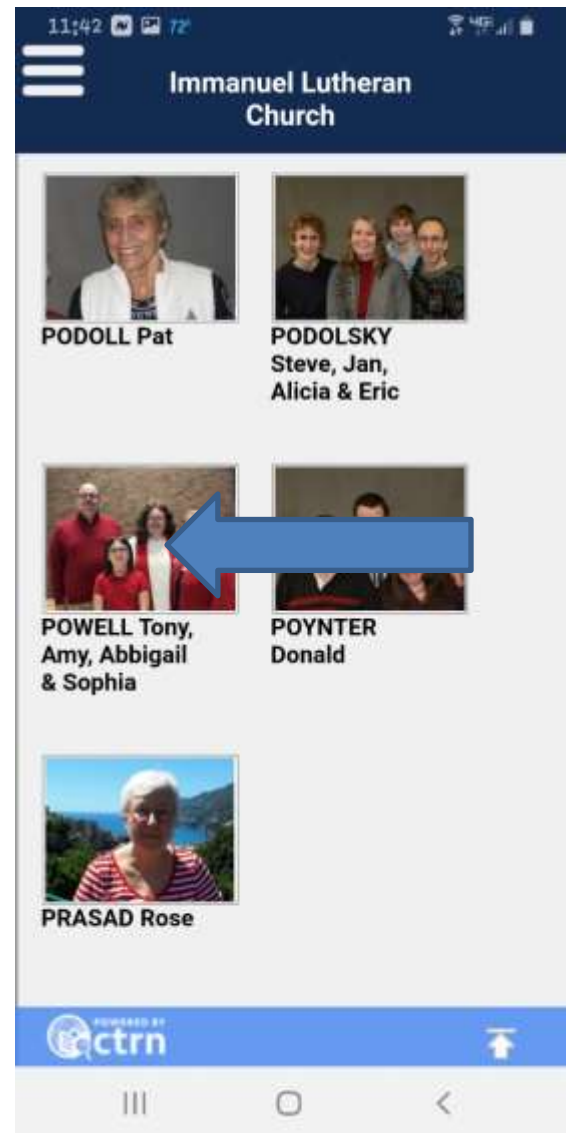
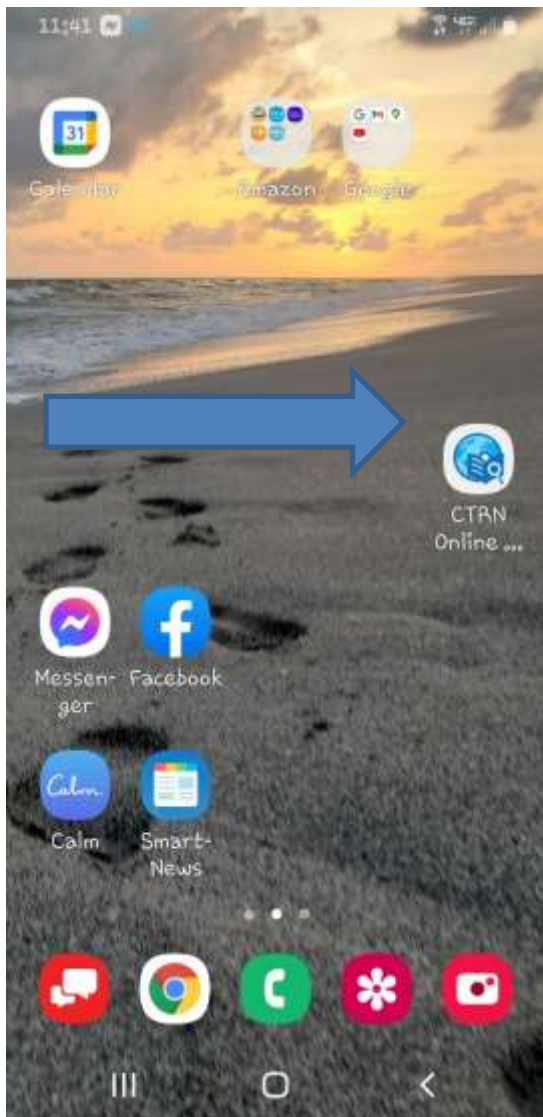
type here to search

TPF Cloudy 10:11 AM 6/21/2021

Final step: Please make sure that you update any incorrect information for your address, email, and phone numbers too! Those you fill in and don't forget that update button!

The app works similar, but the family photo and personal profile pictures are on different pages.

Here are a few screenshots:



11:42 72°

Immanuel Lutheran Church

<< Back

Family Name: POWELL Tony, Amy, Abbigail & Sophia



Change Photo

View Family

Family Name: POWELL Tony, Amy, Abbigail & Sophia

Address: 210 S. Bradley St.

Address2: #112

City: Mt. Pleasant

State: Michinan

AT&T 1:57 PM 84%

Im.

Directory


My Profile

Help


Logout

I J K L M N O P Q



R S T U V W X Y Z



ALLEN Keith



ANDERSON, Joe & Aubryon

AT&T 1:58 PM 84%

Immanuel Lutheran Church

<< Back

Amy Powell



Change Photo

First Name: Amy

Middle Name:

Last Name: Powell

AT&T 1:58 PM 84%

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Zip: 48858

Family: POWELL Tony, Amy, Abbigail & Sophia

Group: Church Council

Receive Emails from Directory: Yes No

Administrators:

Additional Information: Add New Information

Label (e.g., "Hobbies")	Detail (e.g., "knitting")	Order (e.g., "1")

Update Cancel Delete