



The Gleaner

Immanuel Lutheran Church

January 2022

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.



2022 Worship Times

On Sunday, January 9th,
we will resume our regular
Worship Schedule.

Services will be held at 9am & 11am
(both of which will be streamed
to our Facebook page as well.)

A Letter from Pr. Dana.....

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

I first want to thank you for all the ways you overwhelmingly showered me with love this Christmas in gifts, hugs, smiles, masks, and kind gestures. I give thanks to God for you and my heart is overflowing with gratitude and love!

As we begin this New Year of 2022 I want to take a moment to honor each of you. I have witnessed Christ working in your lives. In joy and in sorrow. In exhaustion and in exuberance. In brokenness and in wholeness. There is no doubt that the Spirit is blowing, shaking, and moving among us.

I was reminded recently, by one of you, that sometimes all we need is a prayer. So, instead of seeking out a witty story, a profound thought, a history of last year, or what to expect in this New Year. I simply want to offer a prayer/benediction written by Sarah Bessey.

Please pray with me.

"I pray for the courage to admit you aren't fine. And that when you say those words aloud that you would be met by love and care. I pray that you would remain open to participating in your own healing, even if it comes to you in ways that you resent and fear at first. Just because it is new to you doesn't mean God isn't already waiting for you there, in the doctor's office, in the therapist's room, on the page, in the conversation, in the solitude. May you welcome the love of God to your most tender places.

I pray that you would stay open to the ways God is transforming you. May you be given the gift of the gate and the shepherd, the wilderness and the pasture. And when you are in that place, I pray that, like Mary Magdalene, you will hear Jesus say your name at the moment of your greatest despair, the moment when you believe God is dead and everything is over, because then you will lift your head and rise in hope.

My friend, may you experience curiosity about miracles and the tangible patience of the Holy Spirit, that you would receive your grief and your pain as teachers. I pray that someday when you are given that great and terrible gift of your own rock bottom, may you learn that you are not in charge and that is okay. May you be honest about where it hurts.

May you keep your feet on the ground God created and remember how it feels to worship outside the walls. I pray that you would like your candles and become acquainted with dirty miracles. May you discern the difference between self-care and self-comfort; may you use them both wisely. And as much as you are able, may you choose life.

I pray that you would experience the Holy Spirit in ways that surprise you. That you would become acquainted with the wind and the wave, the eagle and the heron, your strength and your weakness. I pray that you would be right at home, right where you are, in this particular body.

I pray that you would experience the weirdness of the divine. Live in ways that leave you disoriented. I pray that you would be caught off guard when God meets you outside of the box you have constructed and yet remains in the places you have vacated. I pray you will bless the box you once needed for God and that you will treat it tenderly even as you leave it behind you.

I pray that we would both live into the truth of God's mighty, all-encompassing love that holds our answered prayers and unanswered longings, our miracles and our brokenness, our grief and our joy, our ordinary miracles and all of those reasonable things.

May it be so. Amen.

Pastor Dana Hendershot

Ministry with Each Other

Thank You!!!!

We would like to thank you for the very generous Christmas bonuses that were given to us from the Immanuel congregation. We are all truly humbled! We wish you all a very Happy & Healthy New Year!

-Pr. Dana & the Staff of Immanuel



Theological Discussions with Pr. Dana

Join us on Thursdays at 11am
in the Capital Room OR by ZOOM!
(We will not meet on January 6th)

Exegetical Happy Hour

Tuesday, February 1
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!

- 10 Kevin Sullivan
- 13 Karl Mikko
Dan Hoffman
- 14 Debi Mikko
Jim Erickson
Bill Edmondson
- 15 Judy Ramsower
- 16 Danielle Sullivan
- 27 Dave Wyman
- 28 John Warriner
Judy Emmons
Joel Jurick
- 29 Bill Jensen

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

Ministry with Each Other



Campus Care

Bring a friend!
Age 18-24



**INSIDE
BACKYARD
BBQ EVENT**

Free Food

Music & Games

Fun

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 13TH
6PM AT IMMANUEL**

A large, detailed image of a submarine sandwich filled with lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and meat is featured on the left side of the poster. A pink arrow points from the sandwich towards the event title.



Join Us

FOOD 4 THOUGHT

PLEASE RSVP TO ANDREA BY 1/17/22

Wednesday
**JANUARY, 19TH
[AT] NOÓN**

**FOOD &
FELLOWSHIP LUNCH**
AT IMMANUEL

Everyone is Welcome

The poster features a top-down view of various food items including a yellow corn tortilla, a bowl of yellow chips, a red bowl of salsa, and fresh vegetables like jalapeños and onions on a light blue surface.

Ministry with Each Other

Jan 9: The Baptism of Jesus

Jan 16: The wedding at Cana

Jan 23: Jesus goes to Nazareth

Jan 30: Jeremiah

Feb 6: The Disciples

Feb 13: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (ICRH)

Feb 20: Joseph feeds his family

Feb 27: Transfiguration

Mar 6: Tempted

Mar 13: God's promise to Abram

Mar 20: Parable of the fig tree

Mar 27: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Spring Break)

Apr 3: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Spring Break)

Apr 10: Palm Sunday-Holy Week

Apr 17: Easter-The Empty Tomb

Apr 24: Doubting Thomas

May 1: Saul to Paul

May 8: Peter & Tabitha

May 15: Peter's dream

May 22: Lydia

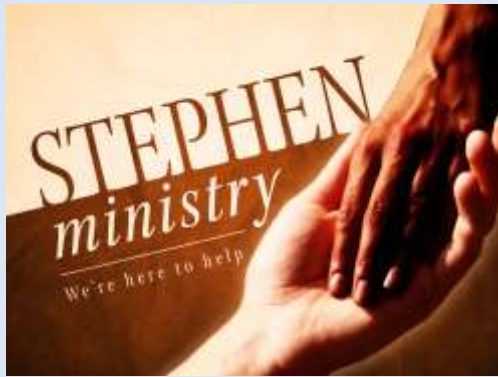
Pre-K through 5th grade students are invited to attend Sunday School! We will continue to follow the lectionary as we did in the fall. We start at 10 AM.

Spring 2022

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Ministry with Each Other



Lonely? Sad? Discouraged?

**Going through a tough time--
emotionally or spiritually?
Struggling with a crisis 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.



January 9-
2pm- ELCA Youth Gathering meeting
(for all attending in Minneapolis this summer)

3-5pm all are welcome to undecorate the church

January 23 -
3-5 youth group

January 28-30 -
Spring Hill Winter Retreat *Cost \$155*

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

Jan. 9- An exploration of John Dominic Crossan's four questions from session 3 as to a way to start the new year

Ministry with Community & World

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.

Thanks to all of the people of Immanuel who helped make Christmas Outreach happen!

A special thank you to Nancy Simon and Penny Endres, for their countless hours getting families signed up and of course, to Peggy Burke, who serves as President, and found a way to continue this tradition, even in the midst of an ongoing pandemic. 1,342 people were served this year!



Immanuel will host the ICRH rotating homeless shelter from February 6-13th.

We will, again, need volunteers to help us make this happen!

Watch for sign-ups coming in January!

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 _____

Immanuel Lutheran Church Endowment Funds

Recognizing that some members of Immanuel might desire to leave a Legacy Gift so that our Church can continue its outreach, Immanuel Lutheran Church has two Endowment Funds you may choose, a Mission Endowment and a Church Endowment.

This article will focus on the Immanuel Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund. Why an Immanuel Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund? The ILC Mission Endowment Fund was created to enhance the Mission Outreach Budget. No portion of the earnings from this fund is to be used for the annual operating expenses of the Congregation. Income from the investment of the principal represents the amount available for allocation for the activities of the mission which have included:

- Stephen Ministry training
- Puerto Rico Relief
- Advent Lutheran Church mission start up, Lake Ann, Michigan
- Living Waters Ministries
- ILC youth group mission trips
- ILC youth group gatherings
- Sarah Keller Uganda mission trip
- Amy Henderson mission trip
- Katrina relief
- Christmas Outreach
- ICRH Restoration House
- Samaritas
- AIM
- Athletes in Action
- Campus Ministry
- Annual graduating seniors gift

The current principal balance of this fund is \$190806.00

How Can I Help?

Remember the Endowment Fund When you do your personal planning.

Consider a special occasion gift. Perhaps a milestone, a birthday or inheritance will provide an occasion to remember the Endowment Fund.

You may consider a memorial gift or remembrance. This is a thoughtful way to honor a loved one.

Join others who have made a thoughtful decision to include the church in their financial planning and when considering their Will & Testament.

Want more information or have questions? Contact a member of the Endowment Committee or Pastor Dana.

Endowment Committee Members: Dave & Nancy Simon, Dan & Jan Eversole, Bill & Kathy Gallaher, Dave & Sue Keilitz, Paul & Cheryl Geisthardt, Chuck & Barb McCollom, Kathleen Marshall, Penny Endres

Business Ministry

2021 Giving Statements

Your 2021 giving statements will be emailed. If we do not have an email on file for you, we be "snail-mail" it to you. If we send yours by email, but you would still like to receive a hard copy, please email Andrea at office@immanuelmp.com.

Budget Year End- November 2021

Spending Plan 2020-21:
\$379,162

Actual Expenditures:
\$46,884

Giving to Date:
\$47,234

2022 Offering Envelopes

These are available in the narthex.
If you are able, please pick yours up on Sunday
OR
if you are not able, please contact the office and
we will mail yours to you!

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 1/2 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 no pay taxes on the gift? Due to the tax changes that include a higher standard deduction and the elimination of the personal exemption it is possible the best tax benefit for contributions to the church is to give directly from your retirement account.