



He will be called
"Immanuel"

The Manger

Immanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter

August 2011

PASTORAL TEACHING: Scripture

All Scripture is God-breathed, and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man (woman) of God may be thoroughly equipped for good works.
(2 Timothy 3:1, 16, 17 NIV)

I am asking you to bring your Bibles to Church for the sermons. I am continually encouraging you to read, pray and study it. So I ought to teach about what we Lutherans believe.

- The terms Scriptures and Bible are synonyms. They contain the 39 books of the Old(er) Testament and the 27 books of the New(er) Testament. (The Apocrypha are not generally accepted.)
- We consider the Scriptures to be "The Word of God" and the books and verses of the Bible to be "the words of God."
- We do not regard them exclusively (as if these alone are the Word of God and nothing else is) for the Bible teaches that God "speaks" or reveals himself, also through what he has made (e. g. Romans 1) and other ways, too.
- We do regard them as holy and inspired Truth but we do not interpret them as literal, scientific or objective history by twenty first century standards.
- We affirm the following: "This church accepts the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of its proclamation, faith, and life."
- Other "things" are affirmed as the Word of God by us also: for example: Jesus is the Word of God incarnated, the Law is the Word of judgment and the Gospel is the Word of grace working upon the world, the Sacraments of Christ are the words of God working upon us for saving faith. There is more.
- Specifically, the Bible is the teaching Word of God in which we are brought to Christ and instructed in God's way.

There are many issues to consider, explore and debate around our Christian Scriptures, but they all resolve the confession, "the source and norm for our faith and life."

Thus we trust the Bible, the source of our faith: 2 Tim. 3:15, "From infancy you have known the holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (NIV) We place ourselves under the Scripture, the norm for our life: Psalm 19:105, "Your word is a lamp for my feet and light for my path." PR

OUTDOOR WORSHIP: Sunday, July 31

Q. What takes place: in the Memorial Garden; under the canopies; on folding chairs; the Sunday morning at the end of VBS week; often – if not usually – brings a rainy Sunday morning?

A. Immanuel's Annual Summer Outdoor Worship Service.
Come on out. Experience a different setting. Bring a friend. Have good time.
Stay for fellowship. Just to be certain: July 31 at 9:30 a.m.

DAILY BIBLE READING

The appointed Old Testament reading for August 2011. These are found on pages 1121-1125 in ELW. Take a few minutes to read and ask “What speaks to my heart today (tonight)?” Then dedicate this day/night to the Lord. This month we read the accounts of Jacob and Joseph (Genesis) and about the birth of Moses and 9 of the 10 plagues. PR

JULY 31 (7 PENTECOST)

Aug. 1: Genesis 31:22-42 Aug. 2: Genesis 32:3-21
Aug. 3: Isaiah 43:1-7 Aug. 4: Genesis 35:22b-29
Aug. 5: Genesis 36:1-8 Aug. 6: Genesis 37:5-11

AUGUST 7 (8 PENTECOST)

Aug. 8: Genesis 37:29-36 Aug. 9: Genesis 39:1-23
Aug. 10: Genesis 40:1-23 Aug. 11: Genesis 41:14-36
Aug. 12: Genesis 41:37-57 Aug. 13: Genesis 42:1-28

AUG. 14 (9 PENTECOST)

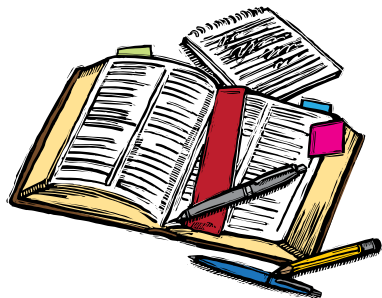
Aug. 15: Genesis 43:1-34 Aug. 16: Genesis 44:1-34
Aug. 17: Genesis 45:16-28 Aug. 18: Genesis 49:1-33
19: Genesis 49:29-50:14 Aug. 20: Genesis 50: 15-26

AUG. 21 (10 PENTECOST)

Aug. 22: Exodus 1:1-7 Aug. 23: Exodus 2:11-15a
Aug. 24: Exodus 2:15b-22 Aug. 25: Exodus 2:23-24
Aug. 26: Exodus 3:16-25 Aug. 27: Exodus 4:1-9

AUG. 28 (11 PENTECOST)

Aug. 29: Exodus 4:10-31 Aug. 30: Exodus 5:1-6:13
Aug. 31: Exodus 7:14-25 Sep. 1: Exodus 9:1-7
Sep. 2: Exodus 10:1-7 Sep. 3: Exodus 11:1-10



TRAINING SEASON

The players will all be doing calisthenics for the fall sports seasons real soon. Here's a "callisthenic" for the Fall Education Season: read the book *"CHRISTIANS AND THE COMMON GOOD: How Faith intersects with Public Life,"* by Charles E. Gutenson of Sojourners, an evangelical, social action organization.

Whether you are preparing to attend Pastor's Class or not, this book gives some help in understanding how to read the Bible in its historical and literary context.

In my class, the last Sunday of each month, we will discuss a chapter of this book. On the other 3 (or 4) Sundays we will be using a DVD and web based, Bible study: "Paul, Rome and the Kingdom of God." If you wish, you get a copy of "Christians and the Common Good" through David Houseman (627-3907) for \$14.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

501 S. Clinton St.
Grand Ledge MI
48837

Phone:

517.627.6310

Website:

immanuel-gl.org

Worship Services:

Sunday @ 9:30am &
Thursday @ 7:00pm

Staff:

Pr. Rick McKenzie
Denise Lund,
Office Administrator
Sue Schnarr,
Christian Ed Director
Lyn Danes,
Kid's Hope Director
Jim Espie, *Organist*
Carmen Karkau, *Organist*
Jim & Kristin Crooks &
Carol Espie, *Custodians*

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: Bring Your Bible

Memo: To Everyone: Adult and Youth, Men and Women; singles and couples
Re: Bring your Bible

1. Bring your Bible to Church with you. I want to use them during the sermons this summer. I am going to study and talk about the *Parables of Matthew*. Having your own Bible will help you to look at the text and to make notes if you want to.
2. It started on July 10 and continues for the rest of the summer, and possibly into the fall months. Bring your Bible each Sunday. (NOTE: I will let the visiting Pastors while I am on vacation know. They might use them, too.)
3. The August sermons will be:
Matt. 25:14-30: The Talents;
Matt. 13:33-34, 44-53
Matt. 18:10-14: The Lost Sheep;
Matt. 25:31-46: The Sheep and the Goats.

So bring your Bible to Church and we will open them up and study them as we let the Lord teach us in his Word.

PR

MEMBER UPDATES

BAPTISMS:

SCARLETT LUELLA HUBERT

Daughter of TYLER AND ERIN had her name inscribed by the blood of the Lamb into Book of Life (Rev. 21:27) on July 10. Her Godparents are Mark Konarska and Allison Curtice.

COLIN FREDERICK MURPHY

Son of Bryan Murphy and MISSY KOOS had his name inscribed by the blood of the Lamb into Book of Life on July 10. His Godparents are Timoteo Vasquez and Joyce Brennan.

May the Christ's grace empower us to keep our parental and congregational promises to him for these our children.

ADOPTION:

Congratulations to Mike and NIKKI RACINE on the adoption of Amari Michael. We share your joy and pray for this new chapter in your life.

DEATH:

BOB CARTER

Our brother in Christ died to this life on June 13 after his second fight with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. Bob and Cathy were married for 41 years. He served at Immanuel on Worship Committee, Property Committee, worship leader, Church Council, Hand Bell Choir and Gathering Team. Bob was instrumental in starting the Grand Ledge Community Band. He was a faithful Marine and a faithful Christian. We hold up to our Lord, our members Cathy and Mara and Will, plus the others in Bob's family. We cling to Christ's promise, "Whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11)

MARRIAGE:

JAKE HICKOK and Janelle Neil

were joined in the Marriage Covenant on July 12, 2011 in the Sanctuary, accompanied by their families and witnesses. Congratulations.

To all members of Immanuel:

“Follow the Yellow Rick Road!” The last leg of that journey involves saying goodbye to Pastor Rick. And, just as carefully as that journey has been planned, so, too, will the goodbye.

I have been asked to coordinate Rick’s retirement celebration, probably to be held after the first of the year. I’m building a committee of helpers and coordinators and need your help and input. There will be a core committee of about 10 people, some of who have already been recruited for their talents in certain areas. Other committee positions are still open, and need to be filled. Many hands will be needed to execute the celebration.

If you are interested in serving or have ideas about how you would like to contribute, please either fill out this form and leave it in my mailbox, specially marked with the other mailboxes in the narthex, or email or call me. We welcome all ideas and participants!

The first committee meeting will be held in late August (TBD), and many decisions will be made at that first meeting. Please submit your forms or emails no later than August 15 so we can include them in our plans!

In peace,
Barb Rinckey
(517) 627-4620
(517) 627-0990 Fax
rinckeybarb@comcast.net

_____ **Yes!** I would like to help! Use me wherever you can!

_____ **Yes! I would be willing to serve on a committee.** My interest is in:

- _____ Food
- _____ Scrapbooking – paper or digital
- _____ Music
- _____ Drama
- _____ Hospitality (invitations, guest list, greeters, etc.)
- _____ Decorations
- _____ Special worship service programming
- _____ Other

I have these ideas:

Name _____

Phone _____ Best time to reach me _____

Email Address _____

FINANCIAL REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 2011

	Balance	Income	Expense	Balance
General Fund	(\$3,354)	\$14,443	(\$16,660)	\$ 1,137
Building/Mortgage	\$4,187	\$1,906	(\$ 2,606)	\$ 3,487

MAY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Through our tithes and offerings we gave to God's work *over and above* our own church needs in the following ways:

- ELCA Mission Giving: \$2,123
Current Lutheran Hospital in Liberia has been rebuilt after the civil war. It has a missionary nurse administrator, one doctor, staff of 100 and serves over 90,000 per year. In 2010, 30 nurses graduated and passed national exams in their school. Our mission gifts support missionary work in Liberia.
- ALTERNATIVE Mission Giving: \$467
Lutheran World Relief: Clean water is a global crisis. LWR helps long and short term, such as water filtration in locations of high risk for disease. Stony Lake Camp needs a modern Boys Bathhouse. This gift will be split. Our youth will be going to camp in June. We will ask how the project is coming.
- LENT SPECIAL: \$904 (\$1,639 total)
SIREN/Eaton Shelter (homeless and abused) and Energy Reduction Projects at Immanuel will each receive half. A check has been sent to SIREN(see thank you notes below).

JUNE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

- ELCA Mission Giving: \$1,369
Senegal Lutheran Mission has a school that teaches children AND their mothers in same building at the same time. Women learn to start their own cottage industries, run the business and market their products. Hope for their children and their homes. Our mission gifts supports missionaries in Senegal.
- ALTERNATIVE Mission Giving: \$382
Our church kids go to Stony Lake for church camp each summer. Improvements to the Boys' Bathhouse are really needed! They may not build a new one, but improve and expand what they have. Half of our alternate mission support this goes here.
- TRANSTION FUND: \$675
The Call Committee is interviewing potential pastors for us. Please pray that the Lord will guide them and lead the right pastor to us.

"We give thee but thine own, O God, whate'er the gift may be."

THANK YOU'S

Two thank you notes were received from SIREN Eaton Shelter:

- "Your congregation's ongoing support means so much to SIREN. We are deeply grateful."
- "The (Roy) family is doing better thanks in large part to support from the churches in Grand Ledge."

From LISA BOWER to the congregation for her graduation quilt, and to Barb Roush for making it.

August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:30 am Staff Meeting	3	4 7:00 pm Weekender Service	5 8 pm AA	6 8 am AA Island Art Fair Youth Fundraiser
7 9:30 am Worship	8 10:30 am Frozen Chosen 4:-6:00 pm Soup Night	9 7:00 pm Church Council	10	11 7:00 pm Weekender Service	12 8 pm AA	13 8 am AA
14 9:30 am Worship	15 4-6:00 pm Soup Night 7:00 pm Team Meetings	16	17	18 7:00 pm Weekender Service	19 8 pm AA	20 8 am AA
21 9:30 am Worship	22 4-6:00 pm Soup Night	23	24	25 7:00 pm Weekender Service	26 8 pm AA	27 8 am AA
28 9:30 am Worship	28 4-6:00 pm Soup Night	30	31			



SEPTEMBER 11

Worship at 8:00 or 10:30 am and then join us for a Cookbook Potluck at noon.

You submitted wonderful recipes now it's your chance to share one of your dishes. Prepare one of your submitted recipes then bring it to the Rally Day Cookbook Potluck.

Didn't submit a recipe, please bring your favorite dish.

Christian Education for all ages starts September 11 at 9:15 am.

IMMANUEL COOKBOOKS

We have collected over 300 of the best recipes from members, family and friends and compiled them into a keepsake cookbook. The cookbooks are available in the church office for a \$10.00 donation per cookbook. The proceeds will go to the Community Soup Night and help send our youth to the 2012 National Gathering in New Orleans.

Luther League II Luncheon
Monday, August 8 at
1:00 pm
Finley's American Grill
Contact Joy Powis
(627-7067) or Vera Ford
(627-5213)
to reserve your spot by
August 4.

Fall in Love again.....

The Most Romantic Gift Ever: A Satisfying Marriage

Roses and chocolates are wonderful, but they can't heal a hurting marriage. Transforming your marriage into a mutually satisfying relationship is the "gift that keeps on giving." With the help of Retrouvaille, it can be done. Retrouvaille is a Christian peer ministry designed to help heal troubled marriages.

Join us at one of the next Retrouvaille program weekends on August 5-7, or September 30-October 2, 2011 at St. Francis Retreat Center, Dewitt. For more information, Call 800-470-2230, or visit our website Helpourmarriage.org. You may also contact Kim or Pete Zipple at 886-1595



Kids Hope USA Corner

August is upon us already, but a few short months ago it was May and the day for our End-of-the-Year at Wacousta. We had planned to have a picnic outside at lunchtime, but the heavy spring rains dictated otherwise. Our picnic was moved to the Art Room.

The children were curious and excited about seeing their mentors on a different day and in a different setting. One sixth grade girl who had only had a mentor since December walked in and handed me a note addressed to the Kids Hope People. She had decided to thank us for being there. She had written:

Kids Hope Mentors-

Thank you so much for all you have done for us kids. I will miss my mentor but she will have another lucky kid.

Rachel

Rachel's note was from the heart because she knew how good it felt to have someone special give her the time and support she needed. The giant smile on her face when her mentor appeared at the door echoed the same story.

If you would like to be mentor and give this wonderful gift to a child please contact me. August is our month to recruit and train volunteers so that we can be ready to mentor by October. You, too, could give "another lucky kid" the gift of love.

Lyn Danes, Director



Happy Birthday to:

August 1
August 2
August 3
August 4 Amy Osburn
August 5 Lauren Blaske
August 6 Madison Osburn
August 7 Garrison Reed
August 8 Jay Cardinal, Ernst Floeter, Sue DeWitt
August 9 Braeden Riggs
August 10
August 12 Shari Burg, Kaitlyn Anderson
August 16 Nick Baribeau, Richard Catey, Amy Kurtycz
August 17
August 18 Dorothy Foltyn, Rick Merrifield
August 19 Emily Hill
August 20 Den Graeber
August 21
August 22 Mike Fedewa, John Roesch
August 23 Haley Kingsley, Ty Fedewa
August 23
August 24 Ben Dyke
August 25 Mary Danes
August 26
August 27 Mary Gehlhaar
August 28 Raymond Harris
August 29 Redmond Riggs
August 31 Dave Brown

Happy Anniversary to:

Pete & Kim Zipple
Dave & Kim Brown
Scott & Julia Hoornstra
Steve & Monica Dyke
Greg & Amy Osburn

Roger & Sandy Love

Mike & Lyn Danes
Pr Rick & Ellen McKenzie

John & Fay Boerger
John & Lori Van Hoesen

Gilberto & Lisa Baptista

Bill & Barb Paulins

Jack & Sharon Wolf
Fred & Judy Koos

YOU NEED TO KNOW

A couple my age said they are interested in joining Immanuel. I visited them. They said, "Well maybe not. Nobody welcomed them either time they worshiped with us." Our surveys say we think we are friendly. We are. But sometimes we need to be reminded. I am reminding us.

Message: A part of worship is greeting people you do not know well. It includes inviting them to coffee hour. It includes introducing them to someone else.

Some people are easier to speak to: families with kids. Some are harder: single men, older couples or older people. Please, be reminded once again to try. Thank you.

ET Team News

The June issue of Immanuel's *Manger* included some important information related to the church Council's adoption in May of the "Covenant for the Care of Creation." It is our goal to have this added to Immanuel's webpage. We hope you read it and regard it as providing an important and urgent framework/perspective for how we go about our everyday life. Recycling, composting, purchasing fresh produce in season from independent local farmers, contacting our elected officials about sustainable land use and energy production and consumption -- these are all important things to do on a regular basis.

There is plenty of information available and of concern from such Internet sources as: the Michigan chapter of the Sierra Club; the Union of Concerned Scientists; the Environmental Defense Fund; the National Resources Defense Council; Food and Water Watch; Pesticide Action Network; and a number of others.

As the result of the Sunday Bible study class sponsored Lenten Fast, Margie and I have made some changes in our lives.

We are now drinking organic milk and vegetable / fruit juices, making our own yogurt, eating local produced organic eggs and using chicken manure for garden composting, washing the dishes by hand (saves water and electric energy), composting our kitchen scraps in a basement worm bin, unplugging the toaster after use (otherwise the light stays on all the time), plus I am riding my bike during the day on local errands and composting all of the local Biggby Coffee shop's coffee grounds. I also continue to recycle all the plastic containers put in the boxes at church on Sundays to the MSU recycling site (driving only a few additional miles), and recycle / compost the kitchen scraps from Teresa's catering business.

I am still interested in recycling egg shells and collecting 3" or larger plastic plant pots for the East Lansing Hope Network brain injury rehab program where I volunteer on Thursday in the greenhouse / conservatory program.

There are significant changes we can make in our lives that reduce help consumption, waste, and fossil fuel use. Some even save money. We encourage you

to continue to explore ways to help God's precious creation. Please feel free to contact me at 627-3907 or davidhouseman199@gmail.com. also visit the very informative ELCA website www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org and on the Immanuel website, the link to the Earthkeeping section.

"On July 13th, our area Congressman, Rep. Tim Walberg voted with the majority to repeal the decades old Clean Water Act. This information came from the Sierra Club. I have sent him at his Washington, D.C. office an e-mail requesting a response to my question - why did he do this? President Obama has said if the bill makes it to the White House, he will veto it."

Thank you to everyone at Immanuel who has been bringing your # 1 to # 7 plastic containers to church, to be recycled at the SU public recycling station instead of going to the landfill. However, please do not include Styrofoam in the bins. MSU does not accept this material, but the Grand Ledge Recycling Center does.

Thank you.



Immanuel's Earthkeeping committee, a part of the Serving Team, invites other members of the congregation to join the Committee - which has already initiated several actions such as expanded recycling efforts and investigating the possibility of establishing a significant area of native plant habitat on the Immanuel property. If interested, please contact David Houseman at 627-3907 or davidhouseman199@gmail.com. We have identified a number of ideas / projects to pursue and welcome others to join us in these efforts.