



THE MANGER ~ February 2009

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Our Vision: To be a welcoming Spiritual community that nurtures an intimate relationship in our daily walk with Jesus and invites participation through sharing our spiritual gifts to the glory of God.

Office: 501 S. Clinton St., Grand Ledge MI 48837
Phone: 517.627.6310; Website: www.immanuel-gl.org



Worship with us every Sunday
at 8:00 am or 10:30 am
Christian Education
Sunday @ 9:15 am
for all ages.

Staff & Team Leaders:

Pr. Rick McKenzie, *Pastor*
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Denise Lund, *Office Administrator*
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Sue Schnarr, *Director of Education*
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support@immanuel-gl.org

A THOUGHT ON JANUARY 20

The ceremonies installing the 44th President of the USA has just finished. The 43rd President has lifted off in Marine One. The power and leadership of this nation has been handed off with personal affection and with civil exchange of ideas into a new administration. I am glad I watched it alone in the privacy of my TV room at home because my emotions were palpable and my tears flowed. Tears of pride. Tears of joy. Tears of hope. For me, it has more to do with the profound change in the dream of this experiment in democracy that is our nation than with politics or ideology.

An 8th grade boy said, "Now when people see a black face on the street, they will not see a criminal or an athlete, they will see a president, a lawyer and a doctor." Whose breast will not swell with humble pride at being a citizen of such a country? What believer's heart will not praise God for being alive in such a moment as this?

By the way, did you hear the quartet playing the John Williams arrangement of "Simple Gifts?" Our Women's Chorus sang a choral version of this Shaker hymn on Jan. 18, prior to the Inauguration. Thank you, Ellen.

Pr. Rick



The church office is open Monday-Friday
from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The staff and team leaders at Immanuel are here to serve you.

If you have any questions or concerns,
please call or e-mail us; we will be happy to talk to you.

THE DESK IN THE ENTRY WAY: A GATHERING WELCOME

It is goal setting time for the congregation, council, and resource teams. Permit me to talk about the desk in the entryway. It is there because of a Gathering Team goal.

The Entryway desk has garnered quite a few comments. And rightly so, because it just appeared with no notice or explanation. It is past time for this.

The Gathering Team helps us gather others to faith in Christ and gathers us to fellowship in our church family. Hospitality Ministries are an important component of both these missions. We want to do better at our hospitality. The idea of the desk is that it will be our Welcome and Information Area.

- It needs to be located so as to be quickly seen when we come in.
- Here visitors can stop for a Visitor's Packet. (Many congregations give them to 1st time visitors)
- Here a specific Guide will assist visitors find what they seek: SS class, sanctuary, restroom.
- Here questions can be asked and information shared.

Here is one of the first welcomes to our church and to our Lord Jesus.

We also hope the desk will be a focal point for member information:

- Sign up sheets for events: potlucks, work days, CROP Walk, etc.
- A place to meet to share information concerning something mentioned in announcements.

The desk is supposed to be our gathering welcome place. This is our hope. We, the Gathering Team, will need the assistance of some of you to make this small thing happen. Needed will be people to man the desk on Sundays, people to become trained Visitor Guides.

We, the Gathering Team, have other Hospitality Ministry goals: renewing current ministries, adding perhaps a technology component. We depend on you to give your gifts of time and talent. We depend on the Lord to lead us to be a welcoming church for the sake of people who might seek him among us.

Any member can reach us at gathering@immanuel-gl.org or through our Council liaisons: Beverly Lass, John Kingsley, Raymond Harris.

Pastor Rick

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 25

Before we leave February, Lent will start.

Ash Wednesday is a Day of Special Devotion. All Christians are called to fasting, repentance and ashes. We will pray and commune along with the people of Trinity Episcopal.

7:00 a.m. Scripture Service at Immanuel

12:00 noon Holy Communion at Trinity
(W. Jefferson, across from GL City Hall)

7:00 p.m. Holy Communion at Immanuel

FEBRUARY HOLY DAYS

(for personal, home use)

February 2: The Presentation of our Lord

Malachi 3:1-4 Psalm 89:1-29

Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40

Almighty and ever-living God, your only begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



TRANSFIGURATION CHOIR CONCERT: FEBRUARY 22

On the mountain the Father spoke to Peter and others, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." These are like his affirmation when Jesus was baptized. Baptism begins the Epiphany season. Transfiguration calls it to conclusion with a high mountain celebration.

Our choir is going to celebrate the themes of light, mission, and revelation that Jesus is the Son of God in a concert to be held on Feb. 22nd (Transfiguration) at the 10:30 service. Come and celebrate with us as we listen to him who is our Lord.

AMONG OUR MEMBERS

DEATH

Joyce Wesley,

our sister in Christ, left this world for heaven on Friday, January 9, surrounded by her family, filled with her faith. Joyce had cancer during all the years she was a member at Immanuel. Often she was on chemotherapy. She was prayer partner for our Kid's Hope USA ministry. Services for Joyce were held on Wednesday, January 14. We give thanks for her life and faith. We lift up Mike, as well as his family.

BIRTH

Neven Ruth

was born January 8 to **Todd and Dawn Byers**. She came with a little problem that kept her in NICU for a few days. But then cleared up and she came home to join **Teagan** and **Kanon** to make a full house. Congratulations!



Women of Immanuel ~ Save the date

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Take time to relax and enjoy

an afternoon filled with fun female fellowship.

Secret Prayer Pals will be revealed. Invitations coming soon.

Silent Auction/Spaghetti Lunch on February 22 following second Service.

This is a chance for you to share your spiritual gifts with our members, meet members of the church you may not know, and fill your belly with a warm meal. What is your spiritual gift? Some examples donations: dinner for 4 at your house, 3 hours of baby sitting, baked goods, artwork, handmade crafts, 5 piano lessons, 2 hours of manual labor. Contact Monica Dyke if you would like to donate or volunteer: 517-323-3358

Shrove Tuesday /Pancake supper February 24 ~ 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Immanuel Fellowship Hall

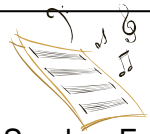
Come enjoy our famous potato & regular pancakes, sausage, & a drink

all for only \$5.00 for adults

\$3.00 for children 5-10 years old

Free for children 1-4 years old

Proceeds go to our youth for Confirmation Camp & National Gathering



Debora DeWitt, Immanuel member, will be presenting a recital at the Grand Ledge Opera House on

Sunday, February 8 at 3 pm. Deb will perform solo piano works by Bach, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, and contemporary composer Louis Andriessen. She will also perform several works with her friend, tuba soloist, Robert Lynn. Advance tickets are \$10, \$12 at the door.

Thank you all so much for your cards, telephone calls, e-mails, food, hugs, teasing, and prayers for healing that you have sent, offered up, made, and given over the past weeks to and for Rick and myself as I have fallen, rocked and "rolled", and acted as a live host to a really "funky" pneumonia. :) While the road to total recovery will take a bit longer than I would like—the medical field has remarked more than once that they are "amazed" at the healing of my fractures. Thanks be to God for the healing power of prayer and thank you my church family for your offering of them on Rick's/my behalf. And, please know that we lift you all up all the time. It works that way. Peace, love, hope, and joy to you this new year. "Turn-a-Light-on-in-the-Hallway and Don't-Inhale-Around-Middle-School-Children"

Ellen McKenzie



*Thanks for all the prayers, calls, cards and visits while I was in the hospital and at home during my recent illness, surgery and recovery. Your support was very much appreciated. A special thanks to Pastor Rick and Donna Gibbons for your visits, Bible readings, Communion and prayers. Praise the Lord for his blessings. God Bless you all!
Richard Catey (Sharon too)*



Kids Hope USA Corner

This is a Kids Hope story I received from the national office this week. I think the sentiments of the children say it all. I'm sure if we asked our students they would say the same things.

An elementary school principal asked five children, each of whom had seen their KIDS HOPE USA mentors only three times, to share one thought about their mentor:

"She's like family," said Natalie.

"I can't wait until next week!" exclaimed Maureen.

"He's kinda cool," observed Tom.

"Sunshine!" gushed Sarah.

"Difference," sighed Heather. When asked what she meant, this little girl said, "She makes a difference in my life."

If you would like to make a difference in a child's life please call me. We are always in need of mentors and prayer partners.

Yours in Christ,
Lyn Danes



HELPING MINISTRY



Have you time to give an hour or so occasionally with members in need?

Volunteers are needed for the Helping Ministry. This ministry is one of caring for one another, answering a need and most of all serving our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We are updating our list of people who have been so helpful in answering the various needs that covered those of all ages and situations. Let us continue to be there when needed and give whatever service that will help them the most, insuring that they know they are cared for and not alone.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Entryway. Please sign up for the service(s) you would like to help with. There are now six of them: Transportation; Groceries; Errands; Meal; Odd Jobs and Sunday Transportation. Please include your name, phone, and e-mail address.

You will receive a call asking you if there are specific day(s) you are available, if advance notice is needed and if there is a limited mileage area you wish to stay within.

For those of you already on the list(s), we hope you will continue even if you might not have been called or were not able to respond to a call for aid. You are still needed!

Thank you!
Joan Nolff, Annette Ryan, Denise Lund
Family Helping Ministry Representatives

NEW STORAGE SHED

Jake Gonzales, a member of our Boy Scout Troop 901, will be building Immanuel a new storage shed for his eagle project. Any members wishing to assist Jake complete this project please contact Wayne Christiansen, 627-2089. The work will be done on the weekends in February.

PRESIDENT OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MEETING

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I want to encourage each member to attend the Annual Ministry meeting of the Congregation to be held on February 8 following the 10:30 service.

This is the third year we have separated the budget meeting from the Ministry meeting and the new format allows us to focus more clearly on the task at hand. We will be discussing and deciding on the direction of our outreach ministry for 2009 and truly need the input of as many members as possible.

Immanuel's 2009 Council met for the first time on January 12 and will meet again at our annual retreat the weekend prior to the congregational meeting. The annual council retreat is a time for us to dedicate ourselves to preparing our ministries for 2009. The annual Ministry meeting is the time for *all* members to voice their opinions on the direction of our outreach for 2009. God has blessed us in many ways, how will we spread that blessing in 2009?

I ask each of you to pray and reflect on how you can spread the grace of Christ in our congregation, our community, and beyond in 2009. Will this be the year you try something different? Our new structure has teams for Gathering, Preparing, and Serving. Each team wants and needs new participants. What is God calling you to?

Minutes from last February's meeting are available in the narthex. I encourage everyone to review them in advance of this year's meeting so we can quickly approve them and move on to new business.

I look forward to seeing each of you on February 8. Let's crowd the basement as we have been crowding the Sanctuary!

God's peace,
Matt Cermak
Council President 2009

As many of you know, Denny Martinich, retired from General Motors last October. There were no opportunities for employment here in Michigan. A long time work associate offered him a job in Colorado! So, December 29 the 5 Martinichs piled in Den's truck and drove to Colorado. It was a wonderful time. We all worked together to make his apartment a home. However, he is very lonely. He would welcome communication from his Immanuel family. Dennis Martinich, 6815 S. Versaillis Apt. 5-202, Aurora, CO 80016. E-mail: d.martinich@comcast.net. Phone: 702.479.8704 (home) 720.670.6840 (cell).

Riddle

When asked this riddle, 80% of kindergarten kids got the answer, compared to 17% of Stanford University seniors.
What is greater than God, More evil than the devil, the poor have it, the rich need it, and if you eat it, you'll die?

Answer: nothing



February 2009



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 Worship 9:15 S School 10:30 Worship	2 10:30 Frozen Chosen - 501 LIFT-501	3 9:30 Staff 11-3 Quilting 12 UpKeepers 7 Boy Scouts	4 10 Toddler Time 6:30 Handbells	5 7:15 Choir	6 8 pm AA	7 8 am AA High School Youth-kitchen
8 8:00 Worship 9:15 S School 10:30 Worship 6:15 SNL	9 1- 7 Wellman	10 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Memorial 9- 5 Wellman 7 Boy Scouts	11 10 T Time 6:30 God's Crusader's	12 7:15 Choir	13 8 pm AA	14 8 am AA High School Youth-kitchen
15 8:00 Worship 9:15 S School 10:30 Worship	16 7 Team Meetings 10:30 Frozen Chosen - 501	17 9:30 Staff 11-3 Quilting 7 Boy Scouts	18 10 T Time 2 Hope Circle 6:30 Handbells	19 7:15 Choir	20 8 pm AA	21 8 am AA
22 8:00 Worship 9:15 S School 10:30 Worship 6:15 SNL	23 LIFT - Cancun Restaurant	24 5-7 Pancake Supper	25 Ash Wed. 7 am Service 10 T. Time 7 pm Service 6:30 God's Crusader's	26 7:15 Choir	27 8 pm AA	28 8 am AA



- Feb. 1 Pete Zipple
- Feb. 2 Hanna Espie, Paige Hart, Mike Danes
- Feb. 3 Wendy Lewis
- Feb. 5
- Feb. 6 Samantha Flanders
- Feb. 7 Callahan Riggs
- Feb. 9 Sarah Cermak, Blaine Teahan
- Feb. 11 Ellen Flanders
- Feb. 12 Bev Lass, David Kuntzsch, Rachel Huson
- Feb. 13 Michelle Pitchford, Emma Landry
- Feb. 14 Barb Wickerham, Melissa Goschka
- Feb. 15 Herm Kruger
- Feb. 16 Joy Powis, Dawn Byers
- Feb. 19
- Feb. 21 Steve Karkau, Kim Zipple
- Feb. 22 Gwyneth Ketola, Ken Turner
- Feb. 23 Linda Hubert, Kanan Byers
- Feb. 24 Dennis Martinich
- Feb. 25 Sharlean Saxton, Cheyenne Dunn, Dakota Dunn
- Feb. 27 Lisa Bower

Celebrating an Anniversary: Tony & Margo Holland

John & Melissa Kingsley
Jay & Julie Cardinal
Jack & Kris Hernden

Dale & Joan Hoffman

Jeff & Brenda Everts and
Jim & Marlaine Teahan

Tom & Angela Blake



RECYCLING CENTER	PAPER	METALS	GLASS	PLASTICS	OTHER
CHARLOTTE AREA RECYCLING AUTHORITY (CARA) <hr/> 201 Hall Street (517)541-0151 Tuesday 10am-noon Winter: 3:00pm-6pm Spring: 3:30pm-7pm Saturday 8:30am-noon	Newspapers w/ inserts White & colored paper Brown/white bags Glossy magazines Catalogs Junk mail Corrugated cardboard Boxboard Phone books Misc. Retail Mail (cards)	Aluminum & tin cans Iron & steel Brass Copper Zinc Lead Appliances <u>no</u> Freon	Clear Brown Green Blue Window panes Mirrors Auto glass no windshields	PETE #1 HDPE #2 natural HDPE #2 colored #3 #4 #5 #6 #7 Grocery bags (HDPE#2 LDPE#4) Styrofoam #6 Cap & Rings	Household batteries Car & marine batteries Cell Phones Cell Phone accessories Athletic shoes Eyeglasses Inkjet/toner cartridges Cooking Oil Mercury Thermometers Compact Fluorescent Bulbs Lt Trash Service \$3/bag
DELTA TOWNSHIP <hr/> 5717 Millett Hwy (517)323-8500 Tuesday 8am-2pm Wednesday 2pm-8pm (Apr-Oct) 2pm-6pm (Nov-Mar) Saturday 9am-2pm	Newspapers w/ inserts Magazines Catalogs White & colored paper Brown paper bags Corrugated cardboard Junk mail	Tin, aluminum Metal appliances* Lawn furniture* Swing sets* Wire & fencing* <u>NO</u> appliances containing Freon*	Clear glass Brown glass <u>ONLY</u>	#1 PETE #2 PETE Polystyrene* *(ONLY cups, containers, egg cartons, meat trays, food trays, packaging foam.)	Lawn mowers Snow blowers Cooking oil Mercury thermometers Cell Phones & access. Household batteries Bicycles Inkjet/Toner cartridges Compact Fluorescents
EATON RAPIDS <hr/> 301 Market St (517)663-1935 7 days/week 7am-11:30pm	Newspapers w/ inserts Mixed office paper	Aluminum & steel cans	Clear glass jars & bottles <u>ONLY</u>	#2 Plastics	*Compost --for residents ONLY Cooking Oil Household Batteries Cell Phones
GRAND LEDGE <hr/> Whitney Street (517)627-2144 7 days/week, 24 hours/day NEVER CLOSED	Newspapers w/ inserts Corrugated cardboard Junk mail, with Office Paper Paper Brown paper bags	Tin cans Aluminum cans	Brown glass Clear glass jars & bottles <u>ONLY</u>	#1 PETE #2 Cloudy HDPE #2 Colored HDPE	Cooking Oil Household Batteries (Sat. only) Cell Phones *Mercury Thermometers Exchange at City Hall*
MULLIKEN <hr/> Corner of Main & Railroad (517)649-2311 Monday & Wednesday 4pm-7pm Saturday 9am-4pm	Newspapers w/ inserts Magazines Mixed Office Paper Phone books Corrugated Cardboard Books Junk Mail	Aluminum cans Tin & tin foil Steel cans	Green glass Clear glass	Clear plastic Colored #2 Egg cartons Milk jugs	Auto Batteries Cooking Oil Household Batteries Cell Phones
SUNFIELD <hr/> 126 First Street (517)566-8972 Monday 12pm-5pm Saturday 9-noon	Newspapers w/ inserts White Office paper Mixed paper Magazines Junk Mail Boxboard Corrugated Cardboard	Aluminum Steel/tin cans Scrap metal	Clear glass jars & bottles <u>ONLY</u>	HDPE #2 cloudy HDPE #2 colored PETE #1 clear PETE #1 colored Plastics #3,4,5 Plastic bags	Computers Phone books Cooking Oil *Cell phones & batteries at Sunfield Twp Library

Eaton County Recycling Centers Rethinking our dependence on natural resources by Reducing, Reusing, & Recycling