



Immanuel Lutheran Church
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...he will be called IMMANUEL

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July 2007

FROM PASTOR RICK'S COMPUTER: NATION AND KINGDOM: For Independence Day

"Man Enough for the Job" (from "The Moral Compass" by Wm. Bennett)

An incident is told of the first American war about an officer who set his men to cut down trees which were needed to make a bridge. There were not nearly enough men, and work was getting on very slowly. Up rode a commanding-looking man who spoke to the officer-in-charge, who was urging on his men but doing nothing himself. "You haven't enough men to do the job, have you?"

"No, sir, we need some help."

"Why don't you lend a hand yourself?" asked the man on horseback.

"Me, sir? Why, I am a corporal."

"Ah, true," quietly replied the other, and getting off his horse he labored with the men until the job was done. Then he mounted again, and as he rode off he said to the officer, "Corporal, the next time you have a job to put through and too few men to do it you had better send for the Commander-in-Chief, and I will come again." It was General Washington.

"Who is The Greatest?" (Luke 22:24-27)

Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who exercise authority are called Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serve? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves."

Both democratic nations and God's kingdom are built by people who willingly seek to help with humbleness and integrity, not waiting for another to do what we can do ourselves. This is civic responsibility building strong community, and so a free nation. It is also how vibrant congregations are built, too, and so a God-glorifying Church. As we celebrate Independence Day, we kneel together at the Lord's Table. We rise together to seek opportunity to help with Christ's plan.

Pastor Rick

FROM SABBATICAL...

As I begin my third week of Sabbatical, it feels like an extended vacation from you, my beloved flock. I spent the better part of two weeks doing labor at Stony Lake Lutheran Camp. Middle School-aged youth from Immanuel will be attending there for a week in July, along with adult leaders John Kingsley and Teresa Barcy. One of the things I did to make the youth experience better was to cut out 9 new campsites in the woods on the "Back 40." The overnight tent camping this year will be done in "isolated" cabin groups. Each cabin will have a separate campsite, tent, and fire pit. Each will cook its own meal and do its own activities out in the woods. I think this will be a good change for the program.

All the rest of the work I did was at the "White House." That is an ancient, majestic, and large house built in the early 1900's. "This Old House" would love to get a hold of it and do a restoration here! It has a porch that wraps around three sides of it. I took off all the screens and supporting frames. It is now an open air porch. I spent a day and a half repairing the floor of one of the most used entrance to the porch: rebuilding the supports with new treated wood and laying treated plywood as the new floor. This was my first use of a nail gun. Scary! I also repaired screens on windows (no more mosquitoes or moths) and painted a ceiling (it should last the summer.) And though I didn't build them, the White House has new, larger bunks with actual home style mattresses! So John and Teresa should be comfortable at night.

And I got to teach "Lutheran Theology" to the camp staffs of both Stony Lake and Michi-lu-ca. Now, after an hour or so with me, they are experts, to be sure!

During these two weeks I have read a book and a half. I read "The Eight Concepts of the Bowen Theory" by Roberta Gilbert. It provided just what the title said. I am about half-way through "Generation to Generation" by Edwin Friedman. This takes the Bowen Theory (aka "Family Systems Theory") and presents it for clergy to use with families and with the whole congregation. I will let you know what I learned when I complete it. I am enjoying the reading. Also by the time you read this, I will have gone on the LYO Mission Trip to Berthold Indian Reservation.

My prayer life and exercise life have both improved. Thank you for this time. I as we both (you, the congregation, and me) have promised, I will make efforts to use this time wisely for the Lord's work in me and among us. Thank you for this sabbatical. I pray for you daily. Please do the same for me! Glory to Christ.

Pastor Rick

AMONG OUR MEMBERS:

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

My apologies to graduating seniors and to all. I meant to have this list completed before the June Manger was published. I failed in that. Below is a more complete list, including some comments from our HS graduates:

Brandt Ayoub: Home School and St. Johns HS, attending Alma College
Church has been like a to me...my faith has helped me realize that God does have a plan for me.

Scott Covert: GLHS

Ashley Erickson: Potterville HS, attending Grand Valley State or MSU
The church as always been there for me and with my faith I'm able to get through anything.

Alisha Green: GLHS

Do Hyung Kim: GLHS, returning to South Korea to complete his education.

Lauren Moran: GLHS, attending Kalamazoo College

The church has reminded me to remain compassionate and respectful to the people who surround me.

Cara Rohloff: GLHS, attending Douglas J. Aveda Institute and LCC

The church as helped me understand that I am never alone and that through my faith and family I can achieve my goals.

Collan Rosier: GLHS, valedictorian, attending Georgetown U.

My faith has helped in dealing emotionally with the death of my mother.

Sarah Sime: GLHS, attending LCC

Jordan Sullenberger: GLHS, valedictorian, attending LCC

God has helped me to become the person I am today.

Jake Ward: GLHS

Congratulations again to our High School graduates. Immanuel is your church home and your Christian family – for you graduates who are staying in the Lansing area and those who move away.

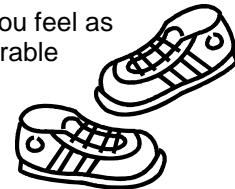
NEWS AND EVENTS:

OUR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Our congregation was “born” in early July. The date is somewhere around July 9, 1871. We were founded by the leadership of three farming families: the Berners, Keblers, Maiers. Descendants of these founding families remain members today-even into the 5th generation! Give God thanks for our 136th anniversary. Church histories are available. Contact Mary Gehlhaar, our archivist (627-6972).

CALLING ALL OLD WORN-OUT ATHLETIC SHOES

Old athletic shoes, are you feeling worn out, rejected, tossed aside? Do you feel as if there is no longer a purpose to your life? Take heart, even in your miserable state, there is still a new life for you! Old shoes, you can be recycled into something new and useful. You will have a new life as tracks, basketball courts, playgroup padding.



Immanuel Lutheran Church will collect old athletic shoes to recycle them. Please **SAVE YOUR OLD ATHLETIC SHOES**. They will be collected 3 times a year and taken to the appropriate destination for recycling.

People of Immanuel: A bin will be located in the COAT ROOM during the month of August. Please save these shoes until August and look for it (or perhaps you might be able to follow your nose) in August.

Environmental Task Force

LUTHER LEAGUE II
Seniors Group

On Monday July 9, 200,we will tour the Eaton County Medical Care Facility, in Charlotte. They will serve us lunch, \$6.00 per person. We will meet at the church parking lot to car pool, the time to be announced later. We hope you will join us to see this State of the Art facility.

PRAYER SHAWLS



This is just a reminder that there are Prayer Shawls in the office that can be picked up to be given to anybody that you may know who can use support during difficult times. They have been made with caring hands and prayers are said by the crafter during the shawls creation. It is a way to reach out to those in need with prayer and love. It is a reminder of God's promise that he is with us always. There is a form that we ask you to fill out when a shawl is given to someone.

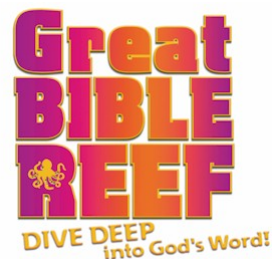
Thank you,
Prayer Shawl Ministry Members

TODDLER TIME IN THE PARK

For: Children birth – 5 yrs.
Time: 10:00 – 11:00 am
When & Where: July 18 – Potterville City Park
July 25- Bellevue Washington Park

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2007
The Great Bible Reef

July 30 – August 3 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm each day.
Registration & volunteer forms are available [online](http://immanuel-gl.org) at immanuel-gl.org



DINNER AND A SHOW



An evening of dinner & theatre at the Ledges Playhouse in Fitzgerald Park. Come to dinner at your preferred time. We may not be able to sit together. Tickets are reserved at the playhouse box office under "Immanuel Lutheran Church". Cost of the show: Seniors and Students-\$10, Others-\$13.

Thursday, August 2

5:30 pm House of Hsu
7:30 pm The Foreigner

Thursday, September 6

5:30 pm Cugino's
7:30 pm Scenes from American Life

FREE LANDSCAPING WOOD CHIPS

The wood chips piled in the church parking lot are free to anyone willing to haul them away. Please help yourself.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE:

KIDS HOPE CORNER

The school year has come to an end, and our Kids Hope program has taken a short break until September. We held our first year-end celebration on June 5th. Mentors, students and their families, prayer partners, and school personnel attended. We ate pizza, did word puzzles, shared laughter, and made friendship bracelets. Look for photos on the Kids Hope bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



The first six months of mentoring has demonstrated just how much impact an hour of one-on-one attention and caring can make in the life of a child. Susan Friend, Greenwood's principal, told us at the June 17th church service that the behavior, school attendance, and academic performance of all the children have improved.

Mentors have been encouraged by the changes taking place in their relationship with their students. The children are making comments such as: "Will I see you in the fall?" or "I'm not looking forward to vacation because I'll miss seeing you (the mentor)." Positive things are happening! Just ask a mentor to talk about their experiences and you will see it in the smiles on their faces. God's love is showing through the caring and commitment of the mentors and prayer partners.

If you have been touched by the stories you've heard during the last six months please give some thought and prayer to becoming one of our mentors or prayer partners. We will need more volunteers to see new students because the present mentors will be moving on to the next grade with their students. Contact me at 627-6310, 543-8661, or on the church [website](#).

YOU COULD BE THE ONE!

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

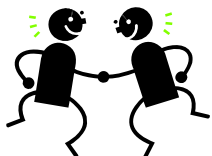
Lyn Danes

Kids Hope Director

ISLAND ART FAIR AND HOSPITALITY DAY

This year's Island Art Fair will be held Saturday, August 4. This is a great opportunity for an exhibit showcasing the artistic gifts and talents of the Immanuel Community.

Our church parking lot has been used for several years as a shuttle lot to the art fair. Why not open up our church and display some of the many artistic gifts and talents of the Immanuel Community and greet our visitors with some Immanuel hospitality.



In order to put the day together we are going to need a variety of spiritual gifts. Gifts that we know Immanuel members have to share with the community. We need people with the gift of organization to help with planning and bringing the actual event together including set up on Friday

afternoon/evening. We are also going to need help directing traffic to keep the traffic flowing well. We need people with the gift of hospitality to help for a couple of hours on Art Fair day greeting and assisting our visitors.

We are going to need:

- ✦ Strong Bodies to help move tables and displays.
- ✦ Artists who would like to have their work displayed.
- ✦ Crafters who would like to display their crafts.
- ✦ Quilters who would like to display their beautiful quilts.
- ✦ Musicians who would like to play their music for periods of time throughout the day.

If you are interested in displaying any of your artistic gifts and talents and using some of your spiritual gifts to assist with greeting, providing music or directing traffic contact Bob and Ruth Buckley (649-2314) or Den Graeber (627-3116).



YOUTH NEWS:

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH YOUTH GROUP EVENTS SUMMER THROUGH FALL 2007

"The Red Sofa Event" held on **Wednesday, July 11th at 4:30 p.m.** Meet at the 501 Building. Come join this fun, fellowship, and food event, and see how popular the sofa will be!!! We'll finish at 8:00 p.m.



Friday, July 27th - the second fun-filled Bible Murder Mystery Dinner Event. Stay tuned for details. You'll receive a letter within the next week telling you what role you can play this time.

August 10th-12th . The youth will camp out with other church families. There will be a separate camping site for the youth where we will have two tents. Come join the fun with church families. There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby for all youth who would like to attend. Please sign this as soon as possible, so that we can help you with transportation.



August 21st OR August 22nd - we're planning a pool party. Stay tuned for details.

August 25th OR August 26th - Car wash and bake sale fundraiser in the church parking lot.





September 15th - Back to School Bonfire and Relay Games.

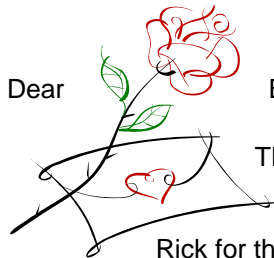
September 22nd - September 23rd - surprise is planned, but hold open the date.



NOTES:

Thanks for all who participated and supported this year's Relay for Life: the walkers, those who brought water, firewood, wood burner, helped set up and take down the tent, everyone that raised money thru various fund raisers, purchasing luminary and feet. Our Church team raised nearly \$3,000, and the overall total raised at last count was \$151,813.95. This effort is something to be proud of in the continuing fight to find cures for cancer. We are open to suggestions for next year's event.

Jean Folk and Annette Ryan



Dear Brothers and Sisters and Friends of Immanuel,

Thank you for being here for us on Bob's Special Day, May 27. Thank you for attending the potluck and bringing food yum yum. Thank you to Teresa Barcy and Sue Schnarr for the cake. Thank you: Pastor Rick for the beautiful service, to Pastor Don for the gospel reading, to the Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study and Doug Carr for laying of hands. Thank you to each of you who gave cards and/or "gifts".

Love to each of you for being there,
Bob & Ruth Buckley

My deepest and heartfelt appreciation to so very many of you for the lovely cards in recognition of my 98th Birthday. I was overwhelmed. Thank you to Bev Becker and Hope Circle for the lovely celebration on Sunday, June 10. It made me very very happy.

Eileen LaCombe

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S DESK:

OVERVIEW OF THE JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

Gathering Team sought Council support for a name tag program. Council gave its support unanimously to the name tag program.

Support Team: TO APPROVE CAROL WEIGEL AND DAN LANDRY TO THE SUPPORT TEAM.

Natural Church Development: Pr. Schleicher has indicated that if Immanuel wants to begin the Natural Church Development program in 2008, we should initiate the first stage survey this fall.

Council Approved:

TO START THE NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN OCTOBER 2007 WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF THE NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM BY COUNCIL AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE INITIAL SURVEY INCLUDING FUNDING OF BOTH PARTS OF THE TWO-PART PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300.

FULL COUNCIL MINUTES CAN BE LOCATED ON THE [IMMANUEL WEB PAGE](#) OR ON THE CREDENZA LOCATED IN THE CHURCH ENTRYWAY ONCE THEY ARE APPROVED.

Mike Proper

CELEBRATIONS:

JULY BIRTHDAYS

2	Samuel Kuntzsch
5	Sandra Bair
6	Lonna Blaske
8	Elena Willems
11	Priscilla Lane
12	Jayne White
15	Teresa Vicary, Emily Zipple
16	Genoia Smith, Nathan Goschka
17	Gary Reed
18	Nancy Zakrajsek, Lauren Rosier, Margaret Clarke
19	Ernie Zakrajsek, Dan Frysinger
21	George Ryan
22	Alex Kingsley
24	Carl Malkewitz
26	Claire White
27	Mary Jussila
28	Carmen Karkau, Emily Fedewa, Margaret Houseman
31	Tara Scoggins

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Karl & Cindy McCormick
- 6 Gregg & Jean Vicary
- 7 Dennis & Jan Martinich
- 22 George & Annette Ryan
- 23 Brad & Denise Lund
- 27 John & Shari Burg
- 31 Frank & Judy LaFay

JULY 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Worship Holy Communion Celebrated	2 10:30 Frozen Chosen	3 9:30 Staff Meeting	4 	5 7:00 pm 'Weekender' Worship Service	6 8 pm AA	7 8 pm AA
8 9:30 Worship	9 6:30 Church Council	10 9:30 Staff Meeting	11	12 7:00 pm 'Weekender' Worship Service	13 8 pm AA	14 8 pm AA
15 9:30 Worship Holy Communion Celebrated	16 10:30 Frozen Chosen 7:00 Team Meetings	17 9:30 Staff Meeting	18	19 7:00 pm 'Weekender' Worship Service	20 8 pm AA	21 8 pm AA
22 9:30 Worship	23	24 9:30 Staff Meeting	25	26 7:00 pm 'Weekender' Worship Service	27 8 pm AA	28 8 pm AA
29 9:30 Worship Holy Communion Celebrated	30 9-12 VBS	31 9- 12 VBS				