



# THE MANGER

July/August 2009

Summer Worship Schedule  
Sunday Morning at 9:30 am  
Thursday Evening at 7:00 pm  
(continues through Sept 6)

## Staff & Team Leaders:

Pr. Rick McKenzie, *Pastor*  
rmckenzie@immanuel-gl.org  
Denise Lund, *Office Administrator*  
dlund@immanuel-gl.org  
Sue Schnarr, *Director of Education*  
sschnarr@immanuel-gl.org  
Lyn Danes, *Director of Kids Hope USA*  
ldanes@immanuel-gl.org  
Ellen McKenzie, *Choir Director*  
emckenzie@immanuel-gl.org  
Jim Espie, *Organist*  
Carmen Karkau, *Organist*  
Jim & Kristin Crooks, *Church Maintenance*  
Carol Espie, *Office Custodian*  
Bill DeWitt, *Gathering Team Leader*  
gathering@immanuel-gl.org  
Sue Schnarr, *Preparing Team Leader*  
preparing@immanuel-gl.org  
Den Graeber, *Serving Team Leader*  
serving@immanuel-gl.org  
John Van Hoesen, *Support Team Leader*  
support@immanuel-gl.org

## Immanuel Lutheran Church

501 S. Clinton Street  
Grand Ledge MI 48837  
(517) 627-6310  
www.immanuel-gl.org

## Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday  
8:00 am – 3:00 pm

## CHANGES ARE COMING

This is the last newsletter you will receive by mail, unless you are a member without internet access. As part of a cost saving effort, the newsletter will be sent via e-mail or a hard copy can be picked up in the entryway. This will save the church approximately \$900 a year. To receive your newsletter online you will need to sign up for news@immanuel-gl.org. Visit our website: immanuel-gl.org to sign up for news@immanuel. Please call the church office (627-6310) with any questions or concerns.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 27 - Friday, July 31  
9:00 am – 12:00 noon

### Outdoor Worship Service

Sunday, August 2  
9:30 am  
Bring a lawn chair,  
we will be worshipping in the Memorial Garden.

### Dinner Theater

**Family Night Supper & Show**  
Saturday, August 29  
6:00 pm

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

for Pr. Rick and Ellen  
Sunday, September 13  
following 10:30 worship service

## RETIREMENT: Passing the Baton

My lead this month is about my retirement. I want to tell you a few things. And then I would really like us to stop talking about it.

1. December 31, 2011. I was asked last year when so that the congregation could make long range plans. My plan is to retire at the end of 2011. That is 2½ years away! That is too far away to worry about. There is too much to do for God to worry about it.
2. The Transition Team (3t) was authorized at February's congregational meeting. TTT is laying out a map or a model for how it might happen. 3t is NOT a call committee in any way, shape or form. 3t is:
  - a. Suggesting steps for a smooth transition;
  - b. Proposing a time line;
  - c. Estimating how much money we will have to raise to make it happen.
3. Passing the baton: A good comparison for the idea our leaders want to use is like a relay race.
  - a. The runner runs hard; then
  - b. runs with the next runner until they are both going the same speed;
  - c. the baton is passed off and the next runner takes over the race.

I hope to lead Immanuel right on through without slowing down our ministries or shutting down our planning. A congregation can lose so much forward momentum waiting for a new pastor. We are not a pastor-driven ministry. We are a mission-driven ministry. God's mission goes on undiminished regardless of who the pastor is.

So let's not worry very much about my retirement. Not inside the congregation. And outside...well, tell the good people in the GL community that it is a "long way away." 3t will write a plan by the end of 2009 and let the Council know. They will bring to the congregation for whatever action is needed. The team consists of Lynn Colby, Wayne Christiansen, Larry Kruth, Mike Proper and John Van Hoesen.

In short, I really don't want to dwell on this. I want to keep on leading us forward.

### PASSION FRUITS

Christians who are walking daily with Christ will find these 9 Christ-like characteristics growing in them: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." They will be growing because they are fruits, and fruits grow because that is what fruits trees do. So with the fruits of the Spirit.

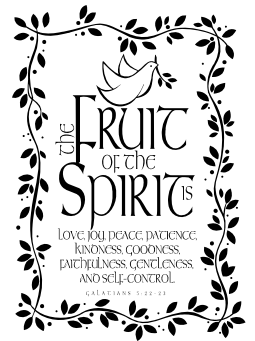
Our NCD Team is getting in gear on our congregation's "Passionate Spirituality." This means simply: excitedly living our faith in God. Christians and churches that are healthy walk what they talk. Plus a bit more: they *want* to walk what they talk. Want, desire, excitement, passion.

So Passion Fruits is my summer sermons. The Holy Spirit is working in us, increasing our desire to grow and our ability to grow. This is a season for growing closer to our Lord Jesus. Or as the Vision God has given us says, "nurturing an intimate relationship...with Jesus."

July 12: *Pastor Alan Kamens*  
July 19: *S. A. M. John McPhail*<sup>1</sup>  
July 26: passionate kindness  
August 2: passionate goodness  
August 9: passionate faithfulness  
August 16: passionate gentleness  
August 23: Self-Control  
August 30: *Pastor John Boerger*

If you have a spiritual desire to live closer to the Lord, this could be a productive summer for you. Please, pray for others in our church family and for our NCD Team to be Spirit-led, too.

*Pastor Rick*



<sup>1</sup> S. A. M. stands for "Synodically Authorized Minister"

### COMMUNITY SOUP NITES

The Soup Group wants to thank all those who have been helping on Monday nights for their time and service. Soup Nite continues to be an excellent opportunity for our church family to support our outreach mission. In this spirit we are looking for groups to take on the meal/kitchen responsibilities on a reoccurring basis. We already have commitments from two groups providing one Monday night a month each. So, whether it's your family, a group of families, your service group or a group of individuals, we would love to give you the opportunity to be a regular part of our mission to provide food and fellowship to our local community.

Please contact Bill DeWitt (763-6967) with your questions or to schedule your group's opportunity to serve at Community Soup Nite.



### Let's Celebrate 25 Years Together

#### Our Pastor's Anniversary

Pastor Rick and Ellen have been at Immanuel for 25 years.

Let's gather for a celebration after the 10:30 service on Sunday, September 13. We would like to have a potluck in their honor.

If you have pictures you would be interested in sharing, please write the year the pictures were taken and your last name on the back of the pictures. Please get the pictures to Dan Landry (phone 214-3904) or Den Graeber (phone 627-3116). Pictures can be left in the copier room at the church in the Serving Team mailbox.

Mark your calendars now for this celebration and stayed tuned for more information in the summer bulletins, as further plans develop.

Thanks!

The Serving Team

The Immanuel Lutheran Drama Team Announces:  
**Family Night Supper and Show under the Stars!**  
**Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup> Dinner 6:00 p.m.**  
**Show 7:00 p.m. at Immanuel Church in the Memorial Garden.**

The evening will begin with an old fashion picnic featuring all the favorites: grilled wieners, potato salad, watermelon and lemonade to name a few! Then a roving band of players will present a fast paced adaption of Aesop's Fables that include six well known and not so well known fables. This will be truly great entertainment for the entire family. You won't want to miss this one – so get your tickets early! All proceeds will go to the Youth Mission trip and Community Soup Supper. Tickets will be \$5.00 for dinner and show for all ages and will go on sale after church service beginning in August.

### Luther League II ~ Monday, August 10

We are having our annual get together with the Jets from St. Michael's at noon on Monday, August 10. We will meet in the pavilion in Delta Mills Park at noon. This year we are providing the main course. Bring a main dish to pass and whatever you would like to drink and your own table service. Water will be available. Contact Carol Van Gilder (627-4956) or Annette Ryan (627-9511) if you need directions or would like to car pool. Looking forward to good food and fellowship.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

### Looking for crocheters and knitters

I would like to reactivate our Prayer Shawl ministry here at Immanuel. I have instructions for knitting and crocheting prayer shawls and would like to find a time when we could meet and discuss how this ministry could benefit our church family and beyond. Please call me at 627-9511 or see me if you would like to be part of this ministry.

God Bless

Annette Ryan



### Immanuel VBS

Monday, July 27- Friday, July 31

9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Children 4 years - completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
welcome.

Register at [Immanuel-gl.org](http://Immanuel-gl.org)



## Kids Hope USA Corner

In the past few months I have shared stories from the National Kids Hope USA office about the mentoring relationship and the impact of one adult and one hour on the life of a child. But, if you were in church on June 14<sup>th</sup> you heard a wonderful testimonial from Amy Reed about the importance of her time with Sarah, her student. Amy is a caring, supportive friend to Sarah and that is something that both of them will cherish for the rest of their lives. Another Immanuel mentor wrote, “Matt said he liked being friends with me and I feel the same way!” One mentor put it best when she said, “We have fun!”

Teachers and staff also comment on the importance of the volunteers. Here are some observations I heard at school during the last week. “My mentors did a fabulous job with their students and were a positive influence in their lives.” “Alan enjoys spending time with his mentor. It is great for him to have a positive role model to spend time with him.” “Allie and her mentor have developed a strong bond.” “Bob was always there for his student.”

One paraprofessional put it in a nutshell, “The mentors and this program are such a blessing for our students. We thank you all!”

Please think about becoming a mentor or prayer partner. There are always students who need that extra attention and support. You can contact me at [ldanes@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:ldanes@immanuel-gl.org) or 517-543-8661 or 517-243-4730.

### From The Healing Prayer Ministry

During a discussion with a fellow member of Immanuel Lutheran the Healing Service was brought up. The question was asked, “Why do we have a Healing Service?” followed up by “Why do we have anointing and the laying on of hands?” I thought back to the recent classes spent together with the four new Healing Prayer ministers and our discussions that covered these same questions.

In both the Old and New Testaments the blessing through the laying on of hands was seen as God’s provision and activity. It was the hand of the Lord. His power and grace, which accepted, blessed, sent forth and healed. Mark 16:17 says that one of the signs that will follow believers, not just holy people, is that they will lay their hands on the sick who will recover. Laying on of hands is both a symbol and a means of the power and the love of God working within the life of the person receiving this ministry. This Christian ministry, through the laying on of hands, is related to the activity of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and is focused in Jesus Christ who, through the power of the Holy Spirit, is present to bless and heal. He works through his committed people who use the laying on of hands to minister to others.



James 5:14 asks: “Is anyone sick? Let him call for the elders of the church and they should pray over him and pour a little oil upon him, calling on the Lord to heal him” (Living Bible). Through our Healing Service at Immanuel we acknowledge that this ministry is focused in Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit it is Christ’s touch which brings the blessing and healing which he alone can give. Therefore, it is Christ who is ministering. We are indeed blessed to receive this great love, this gift that brings so much to us. I hope this answers a few questions.

*Joan Nolff, Healing Prayer Ministry*



## CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

YOU'RE PART OF THE FAMILY!  
IT WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU!

RECEIVE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY PORTRAIT AND FREE DIRECTORY.

### Our Church Photography Dates-

Tuesday, August 11	2:30 to 9 p.m.
Wednesday, August 12	2:30 to 9 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 24	2:30 to 9 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 25	2:30 to 9 p.m.
Saturday, Sept 26	9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### How do I schedule an appointment?

Sign up after worship services on selected Sundays. Can't wait? Go to our church website at [www.immanuel-gl.org](http://www.immanuel-gl.org) to reserve your appointment time!



### JULY HOLY DAYS (for home devotions)

July 3: ST. THOMAS, APOSTLE

Judges 6:36-40      Psalm 136:1-4, 23-26      Ephesians 4:11-16      John 14:1-7

*Everliving God, you strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in the resurrection of your Son. Grant that we too may confess our faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.*

July 22 ST. MARY MAGDALENE, APOSTLE

Ruth 1:6-18      Psalm 73:23-28      Acts 13:26-33a      John 20:1-2, 11-18

*Almighty God, your Son first trusted the apostle Mary Magdalene with the joyful news of his resurrection. Following the example of her witness, may we proclaim Christ as our living Lord and one day see him in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

July 25 ST. JAMES, APOSTLE

1 Kings 19:9-18      Psalm 7:1-10      Acts 11:27-12:3a      Mark 10:35-45

*Gracious God, we remember before you today your faithful servant and apostle James, the first among the apostles to be martyred for the name of Jesus Christ. Pour out upon the leaders of your Church that spirit of self-denying service which is the true mark of authority among your people, through Jesus Christ, our servant, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

### AUGUST HOLY DAYS (for home devotions)

August 15: ST. MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 61:7-11      Psalm 34:1-9      Galatians 4:4-7      Luke 1:46-55

*Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

August 24: ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

Exodus 19:1-6      Psalm 12      1 Corinthians 12:27-31a      John 1:43-51

*Almighty and everlasting God, you gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and courageously to preach your Word. Grant that your Church may proclaim the good news to the ends of the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.*

# ATTENTION CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS

Please let us know who you are!

Island  
Art Fair  
Hospitality  
Day



New Network  
Team or Group

“Identify, promote and offer in service”

We would like to start organizing the Immanuel Lutheran Church artists and craft persons into a somewhat cohesive group (or team) in order to more effectively support such things as the Island Art Fair Hospitality Day display and open house, and other ways in which the artistic and craft talents of Immanuel members (and friends of the congregation) might be offered to God supporting the activities, goals and missions of our church. So . . . please let us know who you are by completing and returning this to the church office.

Thank you. *William Gibbons*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Craft(s) or art media \_\_\_\_\_

Please check those items below which pertain to you:

\_\_\_\_\_ I offer my art/craft items for sale

\_\_\_\_\_ My art/craft is for personal use only

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be willing to participate in the Island Art Fair Hospitality Day

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be willing to accept a leadership role in the [ACT or ICAN]

Which name do you like best? (please circle one)

Arts & Crafts Team (ACT) Immanuel Crafters & Artists Network (ICAN) Other:

**Hello to all the Young Adults (post-high school) and Immanuel folks and families!**

**WHAT is YAM?** This is a young ministry at Immanuel trying to keep in contact with our young adults. We affectionately call it YAM (Young Adult Ministry)

**HISTORY:** We asked our Immanuel family to keep connected with our young adults and many of you did. It is a simple concept. A person or family would adopt a YA (young adult) and pray for them, write to them. They could even send them small gifts.

**RESULTS?** We had a pretty good year. We celebrated at the holidays and continued our connections through the school year.

**WHAT NEXT?** Well, we have new graduating seniors and have a great need for more people to participate. Last year, I had thirty plus young adults, and not enough families! I will be sending out letters to see 1) if the young adult wants to participate, 2) if the Immanuel families want to continue and 3) what new young adults want to be part of this ministry, AND if there are more people who want to help!

**AUGUST:** I hope to have a picnic in mid-August at the church or somewhere ( my house?) to meet and greet young adults with the guides/mentors. This is a fun ministry. I know these young ones need us and we need them! Let us come together as a congregation and help! Young and not so young, rich and not so rich.....we need many. I also hope to get Luther League II and SNL involved.....shhhhh...don't tell them!

Call me, **Jan Martinich at 517-896-4931** or email at [steelerjan@comcast.net](mailto:steelerjan@comcast.net) or catch me on Facebook. If you want to help or have great ideas, I welcome your input. I just want to let you know that our future is bright because of these Young Adults!

Thank you to the many people who have helped with meals and other support while I recover from shoulder surgery! My daughters Lauren and Emily have been fantastic! Lauren now says she knows how to care for me when I am 95!





Dear friends of Immanuel,

Thank you ... Thank you ... Thank you for my never-to-be-forgotten 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration! Thank you for all the beautiful flowers, the one hundred numbered cupcakes, the refreshments, the chocolate candies, the serenading and everyone who helped to make this day so special to me. I was overwhelmed and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*Eileen LaCombe*



# July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10 Toddler Time 4 Yoga	2 7 Weekender Service	3 8 pm AA	4 8 am AA 10 Yoga
5 9:30 Worship	6 10:30 Frozen Chosen	7 9:30 Staff Meeting	8 10 Toddler Time 4 Yoga	9 7 Weekender Service	10 8 pm AA	11 8 am AA 9:30-1:00 Youth Car Wash 10 Yoga
12 9:30 Worship	13 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite 6:30 Church Council	14 9:30 Staff Meeting	15 10 Toddler Time 4 Yoga	16 7 Weekender Service	17 8 pm AA	18 8 am AA 10 Yoga
19 9:30 Worship	20 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite 7 Team Meetings	21 9:30 Staff Meeting 7 Support Meeting	22 10 Toddler Time 4 Yoga	23 7 Weekender Service	24 8 pm AA	25 8 am AA 9:30-1:00 GLPS Car Wash 10 Yoga
26 9:30 Worship	27 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite	28	29 4 Yoga	30 7 Weekender Service	31	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>Vacation Bible School 9:00 am - 12:00 noon</b> </div>						



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

July 2 Samuel Kuntzsch  
 July 5 Sandra Bair  
 July 6 Lonna Blaske  
 July 7  
 July 8 Elena Willems  
 July 11 Priscilla Lane  
 July 12 Jayne White  
 July 14 Bill DeWitt  
 July 15 Teresa Vicary, Emily Zipple  
 July 16 Genoia Smith, Nathan Goschka  
 July 17 Gary Reed  
 July 18 Chelsea Hengesbach, Nancy Zakrajsek  
 July 19 Ernie Zakrajsek, Dan Frysinger  
 July 21 George Ryan  
 July 22 Alex Kingsley  
 July 23  
 July 26 Claire White  
 July 27 Mary Jussila  
 July 28 Gary Dunn, Carmen Karkau,  
           Emily Fedewa, Margaret Houseman  
 July 31 Tara Scoggins

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Gregg & Jean Vicary  
 Dennis & Jan Martinich

Jim & Kristin Crooks

George & Annette Ryan  
 Brad & Denise Lund

John & Shari Burg  
 Mark & Chris Morrall

Frank & Judy LaFay

*Congratulations*

# August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8 am AA 10 Yoga
2 9:30 Worship	3 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite	4 9:30 Staff	5 10 Toddler Time 4:00 Yoga	6 7:00 Weekender Service	7 8 pm AA	8 8 am AA 10 Yoga
9 9:30 Worship	10 7:00 Church Council 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite	11 9:30 Staff 10 Memorial Photo Directory Sessions	12 10 Toddler Time 4:00 Yoga Photo Directory Sessions	13 7:00 Weekender Service	14 8 pm AA	15 8 am AA 10 Yoga
16 9:30 Worship	17 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite 7 Team Meetings	18 9:30 Staff Meeting 7:00 Support Team Meeting	19 10 Toddler Time 4:00 Yoga	20 7:00 Weekender Service	21 8 pm AA	22 8 am AA 10 Yoga
23 9:30 Worship	24 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite	25 9:30 Staff Meeting	26 10 Toddler Time 4:00 Yoga	27 7:00 Service	28 8 pm AA	29 8 am AA 10 Yoga
30 9:30 Worship	31 4:30-6:30 Soup Nite					



## 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 Gregg Vicary, Braeden Riggs  
 August 10  
 August 12 Shari Burg, Kaitlyn Anderson  
 August 16 Nick Baribeau, Richard Catey, Sandy Cory, 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 and Mathew & Tonya Bonette  
  
 Roger & Sandy Love  
  
 Mike & Lyn Danes  
 Pr Rick & Ellen McKenzie  
 John & Sandy Crambell  
 Steve & Wendy Bower and John & Fay Boerger  
 John & Lori Van Hoesen  
  
 Gilberto & Lisa Baptista  
  
 Duane & Sandy Cory and Bill & Barb Paulins  
 Mathew & Jacqueline Thomas  
  
 Jack & Sharon Wolf  
 Fred & Judy Koos