



THE MANGER ~ May 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.

Church Office:
501 S. Clinton St.
Grand Ledge MI 48837

Phone: 517.627.6310
Website: www.immanuel-gl.org



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*
rmckenzie@immanuel-gl.org
Denise Lund, *Office Administrator*
dlund@immanuel-gl.org
Jim & Kristin Crooks, *Church Maintenance*
Carol Espie, *Office Maintenance*
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
Bill DeWitt, *Gathering Team Leader*
gathering@immanuel-gl.org
Sue Schnarr, *Preparing Team Leader*
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Den Graeber, *Serving Team Leader*
[serving@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:-serving@immanuel-gl.org)
John Van Hoesen, *Support Team Leader*
support@immanuel-gl.org

WITH HONOR TO FAITH-FILLED MOTHERS

You painted no Madonna
On chapel walls in Rome,
But with a touch diviner
You lived one in your home.
You wrote no lofty poems
That critics counted art,
But with a nobler vision
You lived them in your heart.

You carved no shapeless marble
To some high soul design,
But with a finer sculpture
You shaped this soul of mine.

You built no great cathedral
That centuries applaud,
But with a grace exquisite
Your life cathedraled God.

Had I the gift of Raphael
Or Michelangelo.
Oh, what a rare Madonna
My mother's life would show.



- Thomas W. Fessenden



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.

PRACTICE HOSPITALITY BY EATING SOUP

Our Community Soup Nites have grown. People have become guests at this meal for differing reasons. Members and guests have served at the Soup Nite for differing reasons. It is a growing blessing for many.

I would like to invite you to come occasionally or regularly. You may be saying, "Well, I don't need the food and I want to leave it for those who do. I am serving by not attending." Fair enough.

Now consider this. If you were to come once in a while that would also be a service offered to someone. If you were to sit at a table with someone you don't know and talk to them about life and church; or if you were to stop at a table to introduce yourself to someone, welcome them to our church and thank them for coming, that would be a witness.

Every time someone visits, for whatever reason, it is an opportunity to welcome them in Jesus' name. This is a place where his love and his grace are alive. He welcomes them and we invite them.

You remember when the faithful ask Jesus (in Matthew 25), "Lord, when did we see you hungry, sick, or a stranger and welcome you?" it implies that we actually see and actively reach out with our efforts. So, consider coming and seeing, eating and welcoming. It is a service, too.

Pr. Rick



SUNDAY NEWS:

MAY 3: GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY/SPRING HEALING SERVICE @ 10:30 A.M.

Gathering Team and Healing Prayer Ministers offer this Healing Prayer Service on Good Shepherd Sunday. The rites of anointing, laying on of hands and personal prayer are offered. You may come for yourself or to be used to help another. You may come as a group. We pray for physical, spiritual, relationship, and financial situations. Invite someone you know in need.

Holy Communion @ 8:00 a.m.

MAY 10: 5 EASTER/MOTHER'S DAY

The Rev. Clay Bates, Assistant to Bishop Schleicher, will be at Immanuel on behalf of a unique program. Lutheran Social Service (ELCA) and Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCMS) are cooperating on an exciting project called "One Church. One Child" to adopt over 200 hard to place children. He will be available for questions after each service.

Holy Communion @ both services.

MAY 17: 6 EASTER/YOUTH CONFIRMATIONS @ 10:30 SERVICE.

Fourteen 8th graders will confess their faith and seek the Confirmation of the community. (See AMONG OUR MEMBERS for names.)

Holy Communion at 8:00.

MAY 21/24 7 EASTER/MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Worship times change through Labor Day.

Weekender Service @ 7:00 p.m. on Thursday

Summer Service Time @ 9:30 a.m. on Sundays begins.

Holy Communion at both services.

MAY 31: PENTECOST SUNDAY @ 9:30

50 days after his resurrection, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. The Church was born.

(Don't forget Weekender Service on Thursdays @ 7 p.m.)

AMONG OUR MEMBERS

BIRTH:

Trystan Timothy, was born to **Tim and Karen Lane** and Joslynn. He came in at 8 lbs. 13 oz. and 22" on March 19. We rejoice with them in this healthy gift from God. (Note: Tim is away training to be deployed to Iraq.)

BAPTISM: At the Easter Vigil, April 11.

Matthew Robert Corbett, Jr., Connor Lee Cardwell
Christian Mathew Thomas, Paige Marie Thomas, Maya Hope Thomas

At a special service on April 18:

Nevan Ruth Byers,
daughter of **Todd and Dawn**, sister to **Taegan** and **Kanon**.

NEW MEMBERS: At the Easter Vigil, April 11

Jacqueline Thomas (Mathew)
Christian, Paige, Maya

1217 Lamb Rd., Mason, MI 749-7964

Jacqueline grew up at Immanuel and rejoined on Holy Saturday. She and Matt are parents to Maya born April 1. She is employed by Jenny Craig. Christian, age 11 and Paige, age 8 are Matt's children. Welcome home.

Lloyd and Betty Hoffner

126 Grand Manor Ave., GL 927-8464

Lloyd and Betty moved to GL from suburban Detroit via Stockbridge after they retired. They moved here to be closer to family including their daughter Kelli and grandchildren and great grand children. Lloyd has been having some heart problems of late, but hopes to be improving and attending church.

Kelli Cardwell (Brian)

Kaitlin

132 Grand Manor Ave., GL 974-1634

Kelli has been off work as she battles to defeat some cancer. She is married to xxx, and daughter to Lloyd and Betty. She is mom to Kristi, Chad and Kaitlin. Kaitlin is a senior at GLHS and works at Olga's Kitchen.

Kristi Cardwell (Matthew)

Matthew Corbett, Jr.*(see above)

1441 Lansing Ave., Lansing 48915 488-7188

Kristi works for Tim Horton's. She and Matthew Corbett are parents to Matthew, age 4.

Chad Cardwell

Conner* (see above)

c/o Kelli Cardwell (above)

Chad is in the National Guard – Special Forces. He was home for Easter, prior to being deployed to Iraq. He wants a church base for his support and a home in the Lord for his son, Conner, age 3.

We look forward to this family joining in with us and growing in their walk with the Lord. We hope to be able to be home support to Chad during his deployment in the mid-East.

CONFIRMED

Nicholas S. Baribeau, son of Steve and Ellen

Nick is a GL Sophomore and has been studying the Catechism and Scripture with Pastor Rick since last fall. We celebrate this important step in his faith and ask the Spirit to guide his further steps as a disciple.

Please pray also for our youth who are eligible to be confirmed:

Jessica Burg, Sarah Cermak, Mary Danes, Greg DeWitt, Peter Graeber, Josh Hengesbach, Janet Henretty, Lauren Huson, Lauren Liss, Redmond Riggs, Adam Van Hoesen, and Jayne White

DEPLOYMENT EDUCATOR:

This summer we will have 2 members deployed to the Middle East: Chad Cardwell and Tim Lane. We also have other family members there. I am looking for 1 or 2 who will help us support them and their families. The job description is open but it means informing the congregation of birthdays, personal needs, etc. Do you know what it is like to be over there, or to be at home away from a loved one? You could be helpful in serving. Contact Pr. Rick.

MAY HOLY DAYS for home devotions

May 1: Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

Isaiah 30:18-21 Ps. 44:1-3, 20-26 2 Cor. 4:1-6 John 14:8-14

Almighty God, You gave to your apostles Philip and James grace to bear witness to your Son. Grant that we, remembering their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May 14: St. Matthias, Apostle

Isaiah 66:1-2 Ps. 56 Acts 1:15-26 Luke 6:12-16

Almighty God, you chose your faithful servant Matthias to be numbered among the twelve. Grant that your Church may always be taught may be guided by faithful and true pastors, through Jesus Christ our shepherd, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May 31: Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

1 Samuel 2:1-10 Ps. 113 Romans 12:9-16b Luke 1:39-57

Mighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord, look with favor upon your lowly servants, that with Mary, we may magnify your holy name and rejoice to acclaim her Son as our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Ascension Day is a movable festival since it is always 40 days after Easter. This year it is May 21. We will celebrate the Ascension on May 17, the Sunday before. This will also be Confirmation Sunday.)



INTRODUCING THE UPKEEPERS AND CHURCH MAINTENANCE STAFF

Who are the Upkeepers? The Upkeepers are the new small group (10-12) men that are volunteering their time and efforts to maintain the property at the church and 501 Building.

Who are their organizational leaders? John Weigel (622-2944) and Duane Cory (627-1409) are their organizational leaders and are working under the umbrella of the Serving Team.

What will they be doing? They oversee and provide our volunteer maintenance services. They have already completed projects like painting the restroom off the nursery in the basement, putting in a programmable thermostat in the 501 Building, replacing furnace filters, repairing railings, kitchen cabinets, fixing faucets and much much more.

What if I notice something that needs some attention? Well.....they are prepared for that also. There is a clipboard in the church lobby on the credenza for members to write down repairs that are needed on a Repair Fix Up Request form.

Who are our new Church Maintenance Staff? Jim and Kristin Crooks. Jim and Kristin are responsible for cleaning the church and doing some maintenance work. For example, they have cleaned out some of our corners and recently cleaned out the Youth Room to remove items stored there and painted the room. It looks great. We just need to keep in mind that this is not a storage area to stash new "stuff." If you have a question or concern about Jim and Kristin's responsibilities please contact me.

We hope that you've noticed how some of these maintenance projects have made our church look cleaner and nicer and appreciate the hard work and efforts of the Upkeepers and Jim and Kristin working together.

Den Graeber (627-3116)
Serving Team Leader.



Reuse - You Already Have It

The act of reuse can have a huge impact on your waste production. Reuse is simply finding a second (or third, or tenth or hundredth) use for a product to prolong its usable life. Reuse is also an important step after you've reduced, but before you are ready to recycle. The most common forms of reuse to minimize household waste are:

Using reusable bags while out shopping – no more paper or plastic!

Purchasing a reusable water bottle

Getting a reusable mug for your morning trips to the coffee shop

Washing out an empty pasta sauce jar – no Tupperware will ever be as good as Its-Already-Paid-For-So-Why-Not-Use-It ware!

Think before you get out something new to use or purchase a one-hit-wonder. Get in the habit of asking yourself, “how can I make this moment a trash-free one?”

Take Stock Keep track of the amount of waste you generate on a weekly basis. How much recycling and garbage is coming out of your household, and of this waste, what could be reused or reduced? Once you have determined areas for improvement, set some tangible goals. Perhaps those three bags of waste can become one, or maybe those disposable plastic water bottles will find their status downgraded to that of unwelcome guests.

Buy in Bulk Much of the waste we generate comes from excess packaging. Bring your own bags and containers, and purchase products in bulk, or in concentrated form, whenever possible.

The Trend of Thrift One of the best places to find items for reuse is at your local thrift store. From clothing to furniture, thrift stores are an inexpensive and eco-friendly place to nab just the right new-to-you item.

Shop at Home Before any outing that may involve a potential purchase, be sure to check your house thoroughly for the items you need. Items from tape to picture frames can often be found lurking in a box in the closet or the murky “everything” drawer in the kitchen.

To avoid impulse buying, consider if a purchase is necessary for at least a week before taking the plunge. In the meantime, look throughout your house for alternatives that you may already own.

Reuse Other People's Stuff Another great way to stave off the urge to shop is to organize a swap with friends. Depending on your interests and needs, almost anything is fair game - clothes, books, toys and CDs are all popular items to swap. (Swap maternity clothes, infant to toddler clothes, prom dresses...)

Free is the Magic Number There are many ways to “shop” online without ever spending a dime. Websites such as Craigslist and Freecycle, have myriad free items that are yours for the taking.

Learn to Love Lending...and your neighbors. If you do find that you need a necessity such as a book or a tool, ask your friends if they have what you need first. As we all learned in the sandbox, sharing is a great way to extend and expand the use and variety of resources. Don't forget about the library too; after all these years, it's still a good place to find a book!

ACTIVITIES



YOGA CLASSES

NEW! Yoga classes every Wednesday beginning April 22 at church from 4:00-5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. -12:00 noon. Wear comfortable loose clothing and bring a mat or towel to lie upon. If you cannot get down on the floor, you will be able to do some of the poses in a chair. This is a "gentle stretching and de-stressing" class using hatha yoga (postures) and relaxation techniques. It is a quiet relaxing yoga that will melt away daily stress and increase

Relay for Life

May 15 @ 4:00 pm - May 16 @ 4:00 pm
Details and sign up in entryway
Contact Jean Folk, 627-9680 or Annette Ryan, 627-9511

100th Birthday Celebration for Eileen LaCombe

Join us as we rejoice with Eileen on her 100th birthday.
Sunday, May 31 2- 4:00 pm ~ Immanuel Fellowship Hall



Happy Birthday!

Looking for an entire day to work on your albums without being interrupted? Immanuel is hosting a scrapbooking retreat on Saturday, June 13th from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The cost of the day is \$40.00 which includes lunch and dinner. All proceeds of the event will go to the Grand Ledge Food Bank. This day is open to church members and the public so please share with your scrapbooking friends! To register, please contact either Beth Hart at 327-3277 or Allison Landry at 925-8551. Early bird drawing for those registrations received by May 25th!

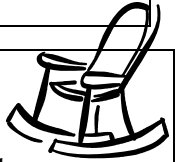
IMMANUEL'S ANNUAL LUGNUT OUTING:

Friday, July 17, 2009 is Immanuel's next Lansing Lugnutt outing. Tickets are \$8 a seat and can be reserved by calling Orv Erickson at 517-645-2865, emailing him at oerickson@sbcglobal.net or just see him after church. Tickets must be ordered and paid for by Sunday, May 31, 2009. GO NUTS!!!!

Luther League II (Senior Citizen/Retirees)

May 11, 2009
Noon – Lunch
Flap Jack Restaurant
1601 S. Waverly Rd., Lansing
Please contact Carol Weigel if attending
627-2944.

Rock-A-Thon



The High School Youth will be having a Rock-a-Thon on Saturday, May 16 to raise money to help them get to the National Gathering in July. The youth that will be taking pledges for the Rock-a-thon that are going are Johnell Clark, Nick Baribeau, Brandon DeWitt, Josh DeWitt, Mark Wolf, and Garrison Reed and anyone else that would like to help and have fun rocking in rocking chairs for 10 hours.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Date: Monday, July 27-

Friday, July 31

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Who: Children ages 4 through completed 5th grade.

How: Registration form on-line at immanuel-gl.org or in the entryway.

Please pre-register to help us plan.

Coming to a church near you!

Immanuel Lutheran's Drama Team will present "Fantastic Fables" for this year's Dinner Theatre. Good hearted fun for the whole family and a fundraiser for the youth trip! Look for exciting details to follow! Tentative dates June 5th and 6th.

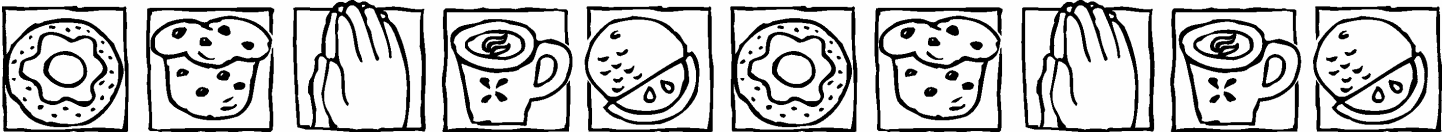
Healing Prayer Ministry

Spring Is Here and summer is surely on its way. We've had the somberness of Lent and the joyfulness of Easter. Many of us groaned when the snow and weather of winter showed itself once again and prayed that it was the last time before spring took over.

To us, in the Healing Prayer Ministry, we know this to be true of the way many of our lives seem to bounce around. We are grateful for those of you that come to us for prayer, for whatever is your need. Sometimes it is for prayers of gratitude, thankfulness, sometimes for concerns for someone, help in making a decision, healing for an illness for self ,family member, friend and help for those who are grieving over the loss of a loved one. We continue to pray for you and your requests after you leave us. What you share with us stays with us in confidence.

Our new Healing Prayer Ministers bring a fresh vitality to our ministry. Not only have we been blessed by them but you, our Immanuel family has also. We look forward to you making use of the Healing Prayer Ministry, as through serving the Lord we serve you as you seek His aid. We are available to you during the Communion service and after each service.

Joan Nolff, Healing Prayer Ministry



Kids Hope USA Corner

In this time of uncertainty and economic concerns we are all looking for positive things in our lives that will give us hope for the future. Being a Kids Hope mentor or prayer partner could be that something for you. Here's a story from the national office of one mentor who found this:

Matt was referred to KIDS HOPE USA because his chronic misbehavior disrupted the entire class and limited his ability to learn. By acting out, this emotionally impoverished first grader hoped to garner the attention he was denied at home and in the classroom. His mentor, Mrs. June, a recently widowed grandmother, reached out to Matt with tenderness and love. "I just fell in love with him at first sight," she observed, and young Matt seemed to feel the same way. Within weeks, the teacher reported that Matt was no longer a discipline problem.

One day Mrs. June asked Matt to describe his favorite sound. He responded immediately: "My favorite sound is your voice, Mrs. June. You always sound so nice when you talk to me."

Matt recently showed Mrs. June a stack of work pages and word lists that he had saved from their sessions. He was saving them, he said, until he was a grown-up, and then he would use them to help a little boy learn to read. "Just like you helped me, Mrs. June." He hoped that she would be around then because he knew she would be proud of him.

Mrs. June reached out beyond her own grief and found a relationship with Matt that lifted up both of them. You can have this type of relationship, too. We are now looking for caring church members, 16 or older, who would like to share their love with a child in need. Please give this some prayerful thought I'd be happy to talk to you about the program any time. You can reach me at ldanes@immanuel-gl.org or 543-8661 or 243-4730 or stop me on Sundays.

We **always** need new volunteers.

Yours in Christ,
Lyn Danes

For AMONG OUR MEMBERS

GRADUATIONS: these we know are receiving degrees from college:

Michelle Dixon – Nursing, LCC

Beth Frysinger – BA, University of Michigan in German and Education

Emily Martinich – BA, Grand Valley State, Communications

Congratulations grads and to your parents', too! If you know of others, let us in the office know.

THANK YOU

From Heifer International –

“Thank you for your...generous gift of an Ark... It is no exaggeration to say that your support and kindness make our work possible. Entire communities are transformed by Passing on the Gift.” Jo Luck, President (posted on the Narthex board.)

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE: The old Outreach Committee and the new Serving Team have for several years opened up the church on the first Saturday in August for the Island Art Fair Hospitality Day. The event this year is August 1 and the Serving Team representatives that worked this previously are not available on August 1.

We are looking to see if anyone in the congregation is interested in providing this community outreach opportunity. In the past we have set up art and craft displays and opened up the church to show our hospitality by providing restrooms, ice water, fellowship and the displays. If interested, call Den Graeber(627-3116).

If no one is interested this year, the church parking lot has been reserved for the day and Immanuel will provide the parking lot only.




OUR LENTEN ALMS REPORT

We gave in order that Christ's sacrifice and victory may go forward. Our Lenten offerings, including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday totaled \$1104. These are equally divided between:

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – to help fellow members in emergency needs, and

THE CENTER FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY in DeWitt, where the Synod Offices and Education Center will be built. About \$1.5 million is needed, in case you would like to help more.

May 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8 pm AA	2 8 am AA Junk-in-the-Trunk 11 Yoga
3 8:00 Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 Worship 2-4 Women's Retreat	4 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Soup Night 6:30 LIFT	5 9:30 Staff	6 10 T Time 4:00 Yoga	7 7:15 Choir	8 8 pm AA	9 8 am AA 11 Yoga
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 8:00 Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 Worship	11 7:00 Church Council 4:30-6:30 Soup Night	12 9:30 Staff 10 Memorial	13 10 T Time 4:00 Yoga	14 7:15 Choir	15 8 pm AA 	16 8 am AA 11 Yoga
17 <i>Confirmation</i> 8:00 Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 Worship	18 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Soup Night 7 Team	19 9:30 Staff Meeting	20 10 T Time 2 Hope Circle 4:00 Yoga	21 7:00 Weekender Worship Service	22 8 pm AA	23 8 am AA 11 Yoga 10-8 Rock-a-Thon
24 <u>9:30 Worship</u> 31 9:30 Worship 2-4 Eileen's Open House	25 4:30-6:30 Soup Night 6:30 LIFT	26 9:30 Staff Meeting	27 4:00 Yoga 	28 7:00 Weekender Worship Service	29 8 pm AA	30 8 am AA 11 Yoga Ayoub Open House

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- | | |
|--|---|
| June 1 Eileen LaCombe, Sherry Wellman | June 16 Tonya Bonette, Duane Cory |
| June 2 Morgan Bonette, Barb Walker, Evan Landry | June 18 Kim Brown, Delaney Fedewa |
| June 3 Nadene Emery | June 19 Christopher Teahan |
| June 5 Claire Blaske | June 20 Richard Wellman |
| June 6 Glenna Miller | June 21 Patsy Galvin |
| June 7 Lori Van Hoesen, Maggie Burnham, David Reed | June 23 Carl Galvin, Scott LaVioette |
| June 9 Teresa Barcy, Amy Wickstrom | June 25 Peg Hellsten |
| June 10 Benjamin Kuntzsch | June 26 Jim Espie, Jackie Fedewa |
| June 11 Jean Folk, Barb Danes | June 27 Jim Drown, Wayne Christiansen |
| June 12 Emily Martinich, Mary Jo Stein | June 28 John Burg |
| June 13 Pat Anderson, Alisha Green, Bob Cermak | June 29 Lynne Erickson, Rachel Kuntzsch |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Richard & Sherry Wellman (6/7)

Bob & Dawn Shilton (6/8)

Ernie & Nancy Zakrajsek (6/11)

Fred & Mary Gehlhaar (6/12)

Fred & Barb Roush (6/18)

Richard & Sharon Catey (6/22)

Greg & Karlene Ketola (6/22)

George & Elizabeth Ayoub (6/25)

Gary & Bev Lass (6/25)

Ritch & Wendy Lewis (6/28)

Russ & Britten Riggs (6/29)