

THE IMMANUEL HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5701 LOCH RAVEN BOULEVARD
BALTIMORE, MD 21239

Visit Immanuel's website www.immanuellutheran.org

AUGUST 2024

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL: In addition to the in-person services, all Services are live streamed also. The live stream is available at the following Youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqkp9bt5FmMFDmfW0QNplUw/videos>

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL AT 10:00 a.m.

August 4

Exodus 16:2–15

Psalms 145:10–21

Ephesians 4:1–16

John 6:22–35

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

I will rain down bread from heaven for you.

“The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season.”

Be patient, bearing with one another in love.

“My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.”

“He gave them bread from heaven to eat.” These words confirm that God not only satiates the hunger pangs of Israel, providing quail and bread, but also feeds our spiritual hunger. He provides Jesus, the bread of life for all who believe. Jesus is that sacramental nourishment for His people, forgiving sin and increasing our bond in true faith. It is this one faith that unites apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, and all saints in every time and place.

August 11

1 Kings 19:1–8

Psalms 34:1–8

Ephesians 4:17–5:2

John 6:35–51

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

An angel provides bread and water for Elijah.

“Taste and see that the Lord is good.”

Live a life of love.

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven.”

Bread from heaven sustains God’s people for life’s temporal and eternal journey. Prompted by an angel, Elijah consumes cake and water that mysteriously appear, sufficient for forty days and nights. Mysteriously and rightfully, Jesus claims to be the living bread that came down from heaven. He willingly engages in the human story, in the flesh, giving Himself up as an offering and sacrifice to God. Because this Christ is our bread of life, we will live forever.

August 18

Proverbs 9:1–10

or Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18

Psalms 34:12–22

Ephesians 5:6–21

John 6:51–69

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Walk in the way of understanding.

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

“Be filled with the Spirit.”

If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever.

Divine intervention is difficult to comprehend. Jesus expounds on difficult words, “Whoever feeds on My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.” Christ speaks these words of eternal life. We believe them; we claim them as our own through faith. This faith from God enables us to repudiate foolishness, embrace wisdom, turn from sin, and live forever in the light of the Holy One—Jesus Christ, our Lord.

August 25

Isaiah 29:11–19

Psalm 14

Ephesians 5:22–33

Mark 7:1–13

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

“[They] honor Me with their lips, while their hearts are far from Me.”

“There is none who does good, not even one.”

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Jesus rebukes the scribes and Pharisees.

The Church is to be responsive to the authority of God. As Creator, He is the Potter, shaping and caring for all creatures. Through His words, deaf people hear and blind people see. In marriage, wives are filled with joy, respecting their husbands; husbands unquestionably love their wives sacrificially. In the Church, the commandments of God gently prevail over the traditions of man. In all these relationships, God’s authority remains thoroughly righteous and gracious.

Ministry Notes

Building on Christ, Equipping for the Future
Update as of August 1, 2024

Building on Christ, Equipping for the Future (formerly referred to as Discernment) has become the focal point of ministry at Immanuel since the concept was introduced by Rev. Elliott Robertson at a “Meet and Greet” session that took place in May 2023. The consensus of the group was to request that Pastor Robertson serve as Facilitator for this renewal of ministry at Immanuel.

Building on Christ, Equipping for the Future initiative was proposed to provide a new focus on the challenges that we are facing and the realization that changes are necessary if we are to continue in ministry. Immanuel faces a number of critical issues that are common to many congregations within main line church denominations to include decreasing membership and the erosion of financial resources. Continuing on our current path will most likely lead to closing our church as our financial resources are depleted.

Last September, a special congregational meeting was held with those attending sharing ideas and possible strategies that would lead to the repositioning of the ministry. These areas were then developed into specific initiatives and the group reassembled on Saturday, June 8 where all who were present were asked about specific area(s) of interest. The result of these activities was a definition of three primary areas of focus: Financial, Spiritual, and Projects. This then led to the formation of 12 teams, four in each area. A convener was assigned to each group in order to assist each group in getting started, follow the progress of each group, and providing additional direction and encouragement as needed.

Building on Christ, Equipping for the Future - List of Projects and Team Members

Names of Recommended Team Members were listed in alphabetical order. Leadership of each team to be determined by each group. Changes in team structure following initial convener conversations may not be reflected.

Financial Teams - Nickel Lietzau, Convener

TEAM 1 - Engage Commercial Real Estate Developer from LCEF – Looking for the best use of property and building space possibly in the context of a new LLC. WILL BE WORKING COLLABERATIVLY WITH TEAM 2. (Sandy Collins, Steve Heemann, and Rick Kruelle).

TEAM 2 - Idea of selling / renting a portion of the building to a major tenant and retaining the sanctuary, office, and 2 classrooms in which to operate the church. WILL BE WORKING COLLABERATIVLY WITH TEAM 1. (Bill Hermann, Gabe Tenabe, Denise Waicker)

TEAN 3 - Engage a Gift Planning Counselor (Carolyn Henn, Sally Hermann, Lillian Noel,)

TEAM 4 - Explore the potential of a relationship with Good Samaritan Hospital (Jerry Ruble, Gary Stratmeyer,)

Spirituality Teams - Denise Adah, Convener

TEAM 5 —Re-establish the Prayer Circle (Lola Barnes, Ed Keefer, Gwen Heemann, Joyce Marani, Laura Pickering, Guenter & Elaine Schwab)

TEAM 6 – Increase Opportunity for Home Bible Study) (Sheila Gordon, Joyce Marani, Mary Ruble, Pastor Lucas Witt, Sylvia Witt)

TEAM 7 – Each One Reach One / Friendship Sunday
(Eugene Anderson, Joan Goeller, Carolyn Henn, Ray Ward)

TEAM 8 – Renewed Stewardship Emphasis
(Sandy Collins, Carolyn Henn, Rick Kruelle, Denise Waicker)

Project Teams - Sheila Gordon, Convener

TEAM 9 - Investigation of Historical Designation / Seeking grants
(Eugene Anderson, Gerhard Ehlerding, Delores Harvey)

TEAM 10 - Develop Resources for New Families Coming into Immanuel
(Sheila Gordon, Joan Goeller, Emalee Smith, Anthony Summers) WORKING COLLABERATIVLY WITH TEAM 12.

TEAM 11 – Improvements for Building Accessibility /“Neat and Tidy”/ Relationship with Current Building Users
(June Dennis, Mark Smith, Gary Stratmeyer, Deborah Thomas)

TEAM 12 - Ministry to Children and Young Families
(Sharon Minetree, Phylis Rebstock, Emalee Smith)
WORKING COLLABERATIVLY WITH TEAM 10.

Efforts were made in the formation of the above teams to match the activities to the areas of interest of each participant as shared with us on the Area(s) of Interest Forms that had been previously completed. It was also the intention to involve every member of the congregation in at least one of the 12 teams. If you do not see your name included above and would still like to participate, please contact the Convener of that area.

The coming months will be a critical time during which the people of Immanuel come together not just to re-tool our ministry, but to do so while embracing a deeper sense of spirituality which becomes the foundation for these efforts.

In October 2024, Immanuel Lutheran Church will celebrate 160 years of ministry since the founding of the congregation on October 3, 1864. We pray that the Lord will bless the work that lies ahead and continue to guide us so that Immanuel may continue to reach others for Christ for the next 160 years.

Lay Readers:

August 4, Mary Ruble

August 11, Rick Kruelle

August 18, Mark Smith

August 25, Gerhard Ehlerding

Communion Assistant/Liturgist Schedule:

First Sunday of the month communion assistant – Denise Waicker

Third Sunday of the month communion assistant – Sylvanus Ibenana

Second and Fourth Sundays liturgist – Rick McDonnell

CHURCH FLOWERS

If you would like a special arrangement, the procedure is to call Denise Waicker at (443) 981-0019 or Denisewaicker@mac.com. Denise needs to know the date you select and the statement you want to include so that she can order the flowers for that Sunday. The cost depends on your selection. Pay by cash or check (make payable to *Denise Waicker*) and give to Denise Waicker in person or mail checks via the postal service.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For peace in Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza
- Denise Waicker, who had surgery
- Donna Gerhard, who had serious surgery
- Lillian Noel who will have surgery soon
- Leonard Harper who is beginning dialysis
- Ray Ward who is recovering from hip replacement surgery on July 5
- Jerry Ruble who had back surgery and is recuperating at Good Samaritan Hospital
- Judy Stratmeyer, sister of Denise and Gary, who had bypass surgery
- Lillian Cooperman, friend of Ray Ward, who has stage 4 colon cancer and is not doing well
- Ray Will, who has been diagnosed with neck cancer
- Winnie Kruelle who has been diagnosed with cancer

Birthdays:

- 3 Susan Libby
Kevin Wolff
- 5 Sylvanus Ibenana
Louise Lietzau
- 6 Denise Adah
- 8 Eugene Anderson
Arline Panaggio
- 9 Erik Elbers
- 11 Sylvia Witt
- 16 Audrey Montgomery

- 19 Steve Heemann
- 21 Lola Barnes
Theresa Storrer
Zipporah Witt
- 22 Kweenia BellePu
Cathy-Jo Bland
Cecelia Woah-Tee
- 23 William Hermann
- 25 D. Scott Wegner
Deborah Thomas
- 27 Sheila Gordon
- 28 Sharon Minetree
- 29 Amy Elbers
- 30 Sandra Hasselbarth

Anniversaries:

- 1 Mark and Emalee Smith
- 2 Robert and Kelly Clark
- 7 William & Sally Hermann
- 8 Eyibio & Denise Adah
- 16 Guenter & Elaine Schwab
- 20 Albert & Danielle Lietzau V
- 30 Lucas & Sylvia Witt

CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE				
	Altar Guild	Lay Reader	Liturgist	Communion Assistant
August 4 August 11	Sally Hermann/Margaret Mitchell			
August 18 August 25				

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 8 am Cemetery Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Comm. 12 pm Christ Eritrean	5	6	7	8 Noon John Zoom class	9	10
11 8 am Cemetery Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Comm. 12 pm Christ Eritrean	12	13	14 6:30 pm LRIA BoD	15	16	17 10 am AA Group event Courage to Change
18 8 am Cemetery Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Comm. 12 pm Christ Eritrean	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 8 am Cemetery Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Comm. 12 pm Christ Eritrean	26	27	28 Noon Bible study and lunch 6 pm Council	29	30	31

The Baltimore Bulletin Insert

August 2024

Events of area LCMS churches, entities, and Recognized Service Organizations Deadline for September edition: August 20th

Pray for the churches and ministries seen in The Baltimore Bulletin Insert!

FREE FLEA MARKET *Our Saviour, Ednor Gardens* August 10, 9a – Noon, We are inside so we are open, rain or shine. Each person who attend receives 10 tickets which can be redeemed for 10 items. This is our outreach to the community to share the bounty with which the Lord has blessed us!

CRAB FEAST *Lutheran Mission Society*
Crab Feast, August 24, 3-6p, \$65, call 410.636.0123 for tickets. Annapolis Ev. Lutheran Church, 32 W. Central Ave., Edgewater, MD

BOWLING FUNDRAISER *Orphan Grain Train, Millersville* “SPARE No One - Helping the Needy”. Sat., Sept. 14, 5-7p. Severna Park Lanes, 8400 Ritchie Hwy., **Wanted: Sponsors and Bowlers.** More info. and to register: www.ogt.org/md or call Linda Zahn 443.517.9557

FOOD PANTRY, READING HELP, PASTORAL CARE *Bethlehem, Baltimore* Receive a bag of food as needed.
Reading Specialists assist children, youth (Parents please stay).
Pastor present for discussion, prayer, Bible study. August 3, 10a -11:45a

SAVE THE DATE: *Lutheran Mission Society*
Annual Dinner and Retirement Celebration for Rev. Dr. Maack and Susan Maack, Nov. 3rd, 2-5p, Kurtz's Beach. Ticket information coming soon.

FREE ORGAN
Rodgers Essex Organ, Model 645, Two manual Stoptab Console. Purchased new from R.A. Daffer in 1988. Contact Linda Zahn at znam23@verizon.net.

This insert only happens because your church submits items.

*A service of The Wyneken Project, appreciating the fellowship we share.
Submit your event to Secretary@MartiniLutheran.org
For locations of churches see LCMS.org > Locators & Directories*