

THE IMMANUEL HERALD

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

Visit Immanuel's website www.immanuellutheran.org

SEPTEMBER 2023

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

September 3, 2023

Jeremiah 15:15–21

Psalms 26

Romans 12:9–21

Matthew 16:21–28

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

“I am with you to save you and deliver you.”

“Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity.”

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Take up your cross and follow Me.

God's plan for His people is deliverance and redemption. Wicked persecutors and ruthless naysayers will not prevail against those who remain steadfast in God's Word. These are the ones who, by God, would be equipped to love, rejoice, contribute, bless, and live! All of His goodness trounces evil and its deception. Jesus prevails against wicked men, carries the cross, endures rage, bleeds, and dies! All this He does because He loves, blesses, delivers, and redeems His people.

September 10, 2023

Ezekiel 33:7–9

Psalms 32:1–7

Romans 13:1–10

Matthew 18:1–20

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

“Warn the wicked.”

“Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven.”

“There is no authority except from God.”

“If your brother sins against you . . .”

God's laws are just. His prophets and pastors exercise authority in condemning sin, wickedness, and evil. Iniquities cannot be ignored; all are subject to God's authority. We are also subject to earthly governments and authorities who strive to restrain unruly behavior. As citizens in both kingdoms, our conduct should reflect humility, love, duty, and honesty. As members of the Church, it is just that we are called to care for and regain unrepentant sinners.

September 17, 2023

Genesis 50:15–21

Psalms 103:1–12

Romans 14:1–12

Matthew 18:21–35

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Joseph is reconciled to his brothers.

“The Lord is merciful and gracious.”

We belong to the Lord.

Parable of the unforgiving servant

In adversity and blessing, we belong to the Lord. Joseph became an emissary of God's mercy despite His brothers' evil intent. As we navigate and process quarrels, judgments, and opinions, human adversity distorts our life with Christ. We belong to Him as we strive to live. We belong to Him as we prepare to die. Christ resolves adversity from His heart, resolving disputes with wisdom, love, and forgiveness. This, too, is our blessing to receive and to share.

September 24, 2023

Isaiah 55:6–9

Psalms 27:1–9

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

Matthew 20:1–16

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

“Seek the Lord.”

“The Lord is my light and my salvation.”

“To live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

Parable of the vineyard laborers

Christ’s compassion and pardon embrace, console, and encourage believers. Sinners will abandon wickedness, confess transgressions, and receive the Lord’s forgiveness. Prisoners of the faith will remain steadfast in conflict, endure hardship, and yet be confident in the Gospel of Christ. God’s kingdom is revealed to us by a continuum of generous, undeserved grace for all those who seek Christ, call upon His name, and believe in Him.

Ministry Notes

Very important discernment reading – PLEASE READ

August 30, 2023

Dear friends at Immanuel,

It was my pleasure to be among you last Sunday for worship and to anticipate our upcoming conversations on Discernment. Thank you for having me by. I've been happy to visit with you in the general group in the fellowship hall some months ago, and among the smaller group every month or so since then.

Last Sunday, I introduced a list of five terms describing the work, the mission, of every Christian church. We will use this list as we discuss and brainstorm at the churchwide meeting **on Saturday, Sept. 16, from 9:00 AM to 11:55 AM** (Save the date!). Please keep this note handy!

Between now and then, familiarize yourselves with these five functions of the Church, and their importance to our being the church. -- Oh, and as part of "familiarizing," will you take time to pray that God would help you personally to grow in each of these five as you respond to situations that He grants to come before you each day? Go for this challenge, and for the blessing it will bring. After all, just reading them isn't why we have them before us.

Worship [λειτουργία "leitourgia"]

This is the assembling together of ourselves as God comes in His Word, and as He encounters us in the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. All else that we do springs from God and us being together in this way.

Witness [μαρτυρία "martyria"]

Your Lord Jesus is made known to the people around you by your words, your truth, your love, your use of repentance and forgiveness with them. Today, so few people know their Savior that our effective witness may be their only lifeline for weeks.

Education/Discipleship [διδασκαλία "didaskalia"]

If you love a person, or if you love God, you're always wanting to know more about them, and as you do, the relationship grows deep. Your life is changed by it. Growing in the Word is essential to life with God. And life can work better that way.

Fellowship [κοινωνία "koinonia"]

It's great to get together for recreation, yet Fellowship here is more like offering a needed ride, a phone call if you're missing, friendly encouragement in the Lord, and being a true friend in the family of God.

Service [διακονία "diakonia"]

Do something sacrificial for someone who doesn't know you, and without expectations. In short, there are times simply to give yourself. Like Jesus did.

See you on September 16.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Elliott M. Robertson

Immanuel Lutheran School Class of '71

Immanuel Lutheran Church Discernment Process Summary

On *Saturday Sept 16*, at 9 AM, our first Discernment Session will take place. This event would be held in the Fellowship Hall and will begin with a time for bible study.

Those gathered would be split into three groups. This will create smaller groups that should provide everyone with an opportunity to participate. It will also provide a venue where a wider array of thoughts and ideas may be introduced. A facilitator will lead

each group through multiple periods of open discussion drawn from the five functions of the church with a description and boundaries set for each topic to be discussed.

Rules for discussion will be introduced to provide each person with an opportunity to participate. Follow-up questions would be encouraged for clarification or understanding, but not in the context of further evaluation of a potential strategy. Information being shared within each group would be noted and later combined with information provided by the other groups.

It is anticipated that this session will take place over about a three-hour time window and would end with a time of prayer. Everyone will gather again at a later date when the ideas coming from this session will be shared and next steps proposed.

We look forward to seeing you on September 16.

Discernment Leadership Team

Pastor Minetree
Steve Heemann
Carolyn Henn
Nickel Lietzau
Mary Ruble

The Book of Revelation Bible Class

Pastor Minetree has been asked to evaluate a new Concordia Publishing House bible study on Revelation. This is an 11-lesson class that is a "deeper dive" into Revelation than most bible studies. This will be an in-person class starting on September 11th at 6:30 p.m. Please register in advance. Registration forms will be available in the Narthex.

Sunday Morning Bible Class

Beginning Sunday, September 10th. The pastor will begin a new Bible class on the Psalms. This class will meet from 9 AM to 9:45 AM. Anyone is welcome to join any of the classes. The classes will meet in pastor's office, space permitting.

Bible Study on the Book of James.

The lunchtime bible class on James continues in September. This class meets twice per month on the 2nd

and 4th Wednesdays. We will meet in the conference room and begin at noon. Bring your own lunch and drink and join us for this time of fellowship and study. You may join this class at any time. See Pastor Minetree for the study sheets.

Like to Sing? Sing with us!

Please join us **THURSDAY** evenings
starting September 7
from 7:00 pm to 8:00pm
in the Sanctuary.

You do not need to be able to read music,
just blend your voices with ours!

Please see Muriel Hopkins after Church or
call her anytime at 410-207-0831.



(Sep/Oct/Nov/Dec)

SEPTEMBER 23, 12 pm to 4 pm LOVIN' LOCH RAVEN COMMUNITY CELEBRATION All residents are invited to this annual celebration with free food and refreshments, games, arts & crafts, raffles, giveaways, and much more. Free and open to ALL Loch Raven residents.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 9 am to 1 pm IMMANUEL LUTHERAN FLEA MARKET. Set up 8 am. Spots (10 x 10 ft) \$10; table \$10. Reservation forms available in Church office. Reservation deadline Thursday, October 12th. More information call church office 410-435-6861.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH. Shrimp Feast/Bull Roast to benefit Immanuel Lutheran 'Til All Have Heard Mission. 1-5 p.m., Rosedale Gardens, 8037 Philadelphia Road. Music provided by the Reputations. Raffle tickets available (winner does not need to be present to win). Tickets \$45/person; call Denise Waicker 443-981-0019 or Gary Stratemeyer 443-827-6958 for tickets.

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.



(Sept/Oct)

An anonymous donation was received in memory of John Rebstock

An anonymous donation was received in memory of Tom Manager

A gift from Eileen Taylor in honor of Jean Heeman's birthday

PRAYER REQUESTS:

-Heavenly Father, we pray that You be glorified through the effort of our *'Til All Have Heard* Ministry. Guide us and Pastor Witt as we seek and pursue avenues to declare that Your Kingdom is coming clearly and powerfully. Give us the opportunity to plant, water, and harvest for Your Kingdom according to Your will, and grant patience to

wait on Your timing and purposes. Lord, in Your mercy/Let us pray to the Lord

- For peace in Ukraine
- The people of Maui
- Elaine Schwab, who will have foot surgery on Sept 5
- Ray Ward recovering from knee surgery
- Harry Bortner who has cancer
- John Pickering, who is in Good Samaritan Hospital
- April's dad, whose cancer is in remission
- Bradley Will, son of Ray, who is losing his battle with cancer
- Naomi for health issues and John Kruelle who is in hospice care
- Diana, friend of Denise Waicker, who has been diagnosed with cancer
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
- Bill Hermann
- Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown

Birthdays:

- 1 Sarah Lietzau
- 2 Elizabeth Flaherty
Jeannine Nash
- 7 Emmaus Witt
- 8 Ryan Heemann
- 10 Rick McDonnell
- 11 Najet Huhra
- 18 Nazareth Witt
- 19 Jeffrey Goeller
Albert Lietzau, IV
- 25 Facia BellePu
- 26 Stacey Dietrich
Elizabeth Nobbs
- 27 Ava Beatty
- 28 Manix Paye, Jr.

Anniversaries:

- 11 Gabriel & Moni Tenabe

| CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | Altar Guild | Lay Reader | Liturgist | Communion Assistant |
| September 3 | Fay Husted | Rick Kruelle | | |
| September 10 | | Carolyn Henn | | |
| September 17 | | Mark Smith | | |
| September 24 | | Gerhard Ehlerding | | |

September 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|-----------|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 9 am Adult Bible Study Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Christ Eritrean | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 6 pm Basics of the Christian Faith 7 pm Choir practice sanctuary | 8 | 9 10 am Compassion Center 2 pm Eritrean Group (Fellowship Hall) |
| 10 RALLY DAY 9 am Adult Bible Study Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Christ Eritrean | 11 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class | 12 | 13 Noon Bible Study and brown bag lunch 6:30 LRIA BoD | 14 6 pm Basics of the Christian Faith 7 pm Choir practice sanctuary | 15 | 16 9 am Discernment Session 1 (Fellowship Hall) |
| 17 9 am Adult Bible Study Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Christ Eritrean | 18 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class | 19 7 pm LRIA Gen'l mtg | 20 6 pm Council | 21 6 pm Basics of the Christian Faith 7 pm Choir practice sanctuary | 22 | 23 9 am Lovin' Loch Raven 10 am Compassion Center |
| 24 9 am Adult Bible Study Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Christ Eritrean | 25 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class | 26 | 27 Noon Bible Study and brown bag lunch | 28 6 pm Basics of the Christian Faith 7 pm Choir practice sanctuary | 29 | 30 Lovin' Loch Raven rain date |
| | | | | | | |

The Baltimore Bulletin Insert

September 2023

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

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR COREY BROOKS *First Evangelical, Odenton*
August 27, 3p. Reception to follow. RSVP 410.672.3352 or
churchoffice@felcodenton.org.

BEREA BOUTIQUE *Berea, Belair-Edison*
Sept. 2, 10a-2p. Second-hand items, excellent condition. Clothing, shoes,
jewelry, purses, etc.

FOOD PANTRY *Bethlehem Lutheran, Baltimore*
Sept. 2, 10a -12 noon, come as needed and receive a bag of food.

READING HELP *Bethlehem Lutheran, Baltimore*
Sept. 2, 11-11:45a. Specialists assist children, youth. Parents please stay.
Pastor present for discussion, prayer, Bible study. Downstairs entrance.

ANNUAL WORSHIP/CELEBRATE UNDER THE BIG TOP *Berea, Belair-Edison*
Sun., Sept. 3, 11:30a. Worship plus cookout and games follow.

RALLY DAY *Faith Lutheran, Eldersburg*
New Sunday School Year at Faith! Sept 3, after 2nd service 12-2p.
Celebrate, discover more re: church, Sunday School, other ministries.

FREE FLEA MARKET *Our Saviour, Ednor Gardens*
Sat, Sept. 9, 9-12, (rain or shine). Receive 10 tickets to redeem for any 10
items. Christmas items available!

SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS! *First Evangelical, Odenton*
Sun., Sept. 10, 9-10a Intergenerational class for Elementary - adults.
Separate class ages 3-5. Come!

FREE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) *St. Paul, Catonsville*
Classes start Mon, Sept 18, 7:15p. Info.:Irene Giguere, 410-747-1619.

LWML FALL RALLY *St. Paul, Catonsville*
September 23, 8:30a.

LUTHERAN BOOKS AND BEER GROUP *St. Paul, Catonsville*
Sept. 28, 7p, The Rathskeller, Elkridge. We read: The Screwtape Letters
from a Lutheran vantage point, w/ good beer, food, fellowship.

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