



Friday, August 9, 2025

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



## Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule

Sunday, August 10, 2025

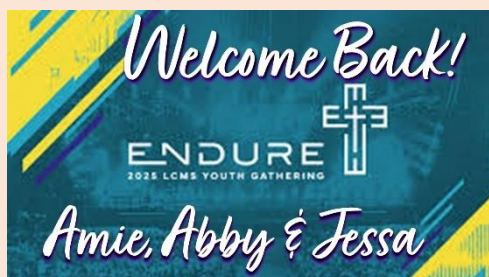
8:30 am - Divine Worship  
w/Holy Communion

9:30 – Education Hour Pastor  
Led Bible Study

10:45 am – Prasie Worship  
w/Holy Communion

email: [ilc@immanuelbridgman.org](mailto:ilc@immanuelbridgman.org)

\*Most of our Worship Services are  
streamed Live on Facebook  
[Immanuel Lutheran Church Bridgman](https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchBridgman),  
or are posted on our website:  
[www.immanuelbridgman.org](http://www.immanuelbridgman.org)



Immanuel Lutheran Ministries

*A weekly publication of our announcements from our church leadership, staff  
and Early Childhood Development Center of Bridgman*

## AS WE GATHER

This morning, we will continue our study of the Old Testament. Last week we enjoyed an example of the Writings. Today we will focus on an example of the Law from the Book of Genesis. By the end of the month, we will have enjoyed a selection from all three literary collections found in the Old Testament: the Law, the Writings, and the Prophets. Moses left us with a record of his forefather in the faith, Abraham. We discover that God reckoned Abraham's faith as righteousness. Not only is this true for Abraham, but it also is how God reckons righteousness to us in these last days.

## CHURCH NEWS

**We want to welcome everyone to our annual church picnic this morning.** The picnic is a time for us to enjoy fellowship with our church family and we are glad you are here. Today we are going to sing some really great hymns, sing praises to our God with contemporary songs and relish wonderful grilled food and shared dishes through a delicious potluck from our awesome cooks and bakers here at Immanuel. As usual we are meeting in our backyard under the tents starting at 9:00 am with a hymn sing. The worship service will begin at 10:00 am. After the service we will enjoy some great food. We have a large obstacle course and a waterslide for everyone to enjoy after worship is completed. Lets have some fun!!

**Please welcome back** Amie Smith, Abby Rydwelski and Jessa Rydwelski as they arrived back from the LCMS National Youth Convention in New Orleans! They joined over 20,000 youth from across the country where they learned more about their faith, joined workshops, met great youth and youth leaders from across the country and learned more about serving our Lord. They will give you a brief talk today during worship about their experience in New Orleans. Thank you to everyone for your support and work to get these young people an inspirational experience in serving the Lord. May God keep you safe on your journey!

**Prayers are needed.** Please keep in your prayers the Family and Friends of Ray Michener who passed away on July 11, 2025. Ray's Christian Funeral Service was yesterday. In addition, please keep in your prayers the Family and Friends of Cindy Lauver who passed away on March 18, 2025 in Indianapolis. Her memorial service was this past Monday, August 4, 2025. We pray that God will console the family and friends and walk with them as they honor their loved ones.



**Extra prayers are needed** for this little boy Auggie who can use all the prayers he can get. Auggie is suffering from cancer, however, he now has sepsis and cannot receive his cancer treatments until he is cured of the sepsis. Please pray for this little one, so he can get back to healing his cancer.

**Please consider donating to** a special fund to help the victims of the floods in Kerr County, Texas from the rains impacting the Guadalupe River and one specific area, Camp Mystic, which lost 27 campers and counselors. Thrivent will match up to \$250,000 to aid the 132 plus victims of this flood. Please consider donating some funds to this special need. You can write your check to Immanuel and put in the memo section "Texas Floods". We will send all donations to Thrivent to receive any matching funds available.

**Christ Family Fun Festival** is coming up soon! Please think of joining us on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Christ Lutheran in Stevensville. The gates open at 4:00 pm and you can enjoy some really great music by Echo Grace a local group of singers and band members who enjoy Christian music, our own Praise Team will have a chance to sing as the opening group. In this day and age when very few things are free, why not take advantage of a free family festival with music, kids games, robot demonstrations, science experiments and of course food trucks!

**Calling everyone young and old!** We are looking for ideas to enhance our gymnasium with inspirational scripture and graphics to showcase on our walls. Currently we have nothing in the gymnasium except one banner donated by the Jaeger's which show who we are and what our mission is. We are looking for scripture suggestions and artwork to enhance those scriptures. Please share your ideas with Kurt Hanke or the church office. We are blessed with many talented and creative members, we hope you will share your talents!

**Do we have your contact information?** Please consider filling out an update to information form. In some cases if your landline has been discontinued we do not have any way to contact you via cell phone or email. If you would, please fill out an update to your contact information sheet to add to our directory. You can turn those completed sheets into the church office or put in the offering box in the narthex, or hand to an usher or leader. Thank you for your assistance!



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**Korn Dog Booth and Outreach Opportunity.** Berrien County Youth Fair Volunteers Needed: Trinity, Berrien Springs, is hosting an outreach booth at the fair. They are inviting our members to help host this opportunity to share the Gospel. The Friends of Berrien Springs Korn Dog Booth is looking for volunteers as well. We do receive compensation for the hours served in the Korn Dog Booth which goes to our Mission Fund. This fund is sending three people to the LCMS National Youth Convention this month, what a blessing. This year the sign-up procedure is different, you would have to go online to reserve your space/hours in the Korn Dog Booth. You can come to the church office to sign up if it is easier for you or you can sign up on your own by going to [2025 Korn Dog Shift Schedule - Volunteer Schedule - original - Google Sheets](#) to sign up for your shift. Berrien County Youth Fair is August 11<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> this year, don't forget you get into the fair for free if you work the Korn Dog Booth. Contact Amie Smith, the Chairwoman of the Board of Outreach, if you would like to serve.

### ECDC NEWS

What a hot week for our children and staff here at Immanuel. Many of the rooms chose to do water play outside and focus on that theme this week. Our infant room studied Pirates and Mermaids this week. Their clever lead teacher Erin put together a play list about pirates and mermaids for the littlest ones to listen to during the day. They learned the baby sign language sign for "Friends" and taught that to the children. They painted pirate hats, made a triangle black with finger paint and used their magic paint dots to make colors on a paper mermaid's tail. Their sensory bin activity was touching pom pom balls with beaded necklaces hidden under the pom poms, very creative teachers! Their Bible story was "God is in Charge of Everything" with Ginny the Giraffe puppet helping to tell the story.

Our toddlers continued on with their water study by talking about the uses for water. They made bubbles in dish water and their sensory table, they also blew bubbles outside watching the wind catch them and float away. They played with ice cubes in their indoor sensory table, feeling how cold they were and how they eventually melted back into the form of water. They created shark heads out of paper plates and made watermelon slices for their bulletin board, putting the seeds in with paint dots. Their Bible story was "Jesus Came to Save Sinners" with Marvin the monkey puppet helping to tell that story.

Our Primary Room was busy this week with watermelons as well creating watermelon pictures with paint and paper. They also spent a lot of time outside enjoying the splash pad and sprinklers. With all the hot weather they spent as much time getting wet and trying to stay cool. Their special activity this week was making their own pizzas and the Pizza Hut in town! They walked down to Pizza Hut and were able to use the ingredients at Pizza Hut to make their own personal pizza. That is so great that they were able to see how pizzas were made! Well done teachers for your ingenuity in getting the restaurant to help the children learn! One of the children's mother is a police officer and she came in to give the children a talk on bicycle safety. The children then went out to practice the safety they were just taught. Thank you to Holly Higgs for helping the children to be more safe on their bicycles.

Our school age room was very challenged this week, they had to move to the preschool room in the new part of the school to avoid the loud bangs and equipment noise being made by the roofers working above their heads. They were able to pay attention to their "P's" and "Q's" by making fruit pizza, making their own pizzas at Pizza Hut, making pom pom shooters, playing on their splash pad, hanging out in the preschool room playing games, doing puzzles and trying to stay busy inside out of the very hot, humid weather.



**HOORAY!** Our roof replacement has started. We will be blessed this week again with a work crew who will be replacing our roof and skylights in the Life Center and old portion of the school. Please be patient with the noise and mess created from roof replacement. Please refrain from parking in the handicap spot against the Life Center during the week, the crew is afraid of damaging vehicles parked under where they are working. We pray for the safety of the men working on the roof and for a quick completion. Thank you to everyone who gave from their generous hearts for this necessary repair.

Thank  
You!

**Organ repair** was completed this week. Thank you for the donations that made this repair possible! Our organ was bought used many years ago and needs many repairs to keep it in working order. We are blessed!

**Operation Christmas Child 2025:** We are still collecting items for our Operation Christmas Child boxes. All items collected will be added to our boxes for November. In August we are collecting pencils, pencil sharpeners, markers, scissors and glue sticks (no liquid glue please). Thank you for your support of all items for these very important gift boxes. We want to continue to support this inspirational mission. We hope you can and will take some time to shop for the box.



### Planning Committee Update

*The Planning Committee met again this month to continue our work on church governance. Building on the research we've done, we are now in the process of blending the Constitution models we studied into a version we believe will better support the needs of Immanuel. Our aim is to present a draft of a possible Constitution and By-Laws at the Congregational Planning Retreat (CPR) in late September. This retreat will give members an opportunity to review the draft, offer feedback, and help shape a shared vision for our governance structure. Input from the CPR will be incorporated into the final documents, which we hope to include in the Voter's Packet for the fall congregational meeting.*



*The committee remains committed to keeping the congregation informed and working closely with members to ensure the final documents reflect our shared mission and values. We're deeply grateful for the prayers, questions, and thoughtful input many of you have already shared—it's been a meaningful part of our work. As we continue this process, we welcome your continued support, feedback, and especially your prayers as we move forward with this important work.*







## Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

**Homebound:** Dollie Schmaltz, Edith Weed, Edna Holt, Irwin and Margaret Poschke, Terry Graves, Kay Cornwell, Joanne Argue, Harry Rock, and Elizabeth Rock

**Continuing Care Facilities:** Pat Ott, Geraldine Wooley, Don Metzger, Norma Linn, Marylou Svorec (out of state), Rose Briggs, Dorothea Crocker, Bill Gast, Duane Vigansky, Harriet Fester, and Marion Winter

***For information on how to connect with our church family please call the church office at 269-465-6031***

## Prayers of the Church for Today

Linda Totzke (Cancer diagnosis)  
Earl Schmitz (hospitalized in Illinois)

**Pastor Krengel, Chris Damaske, Mark Heyn, Betty Korcek, Paul And Deb Jaeger visited this week:** Edith Weed, Joanne Argue, Harry Rock, Elizabeth Rock, Don Metzger, Harriet Fester, Terry Graves, Norma Linn and Gerry Wooley, Linda Totzke, Dorothea Crocker, Myra Clark and Pat Ott.

## Healing Needs for the Month

Sharon Korcek, Jim Benjamin, Karl Kaeding (Cancer treatments), Norma Linn, Carla Weiser, Marcia Hanke, Jeff Rodewald, Debbie Miller, Denny Lawrenz, Natalya Gaidukevich, David Harrison, Christie Ott Hartzler, Erica Anstey, Janet Lamb, Larry Ott, Alex Dixon, Beth Vigansky Cuzio, Dave Kramer, Andy Benjamin, Pastor Carl Bassett, Leon Schmaltz, Darrell Gast, John Stine, Jeffrey Nemitz, Harriet Fester, Ray Krieger, Marilyn Gelesko, Tom Ulmer, Roger Mojsiejenko, Terry Graves, Irwin & Margaret Poschke, Dick Gorske,

## Serving in the Military

USN Military Police Brady Leimbach,  
Specialist Isaac Maze (Army) SFC Casey LeFever,  
Maj. Kenneth Stice, Nathan Anderson, MM1 Timothy Ott,  
Jacob Lomoro, SGT Devin Hays, Tom Shepard, Dan Woodruff,  
SPC David Helfman, Arthur Gatchel, Ryan Skibbe,  
MAJ Joe Chappel, FN Sebastian Kirk MMN3

***Please keep in your prayers USN Military Police, Brady Leimbach (Larry and Vicki Ott's Grandson) who is being deployed.***

## Finance News

July 20, 2025 offerings and donations:  
Offering Envelopes: \$; Year to date: \$

***Thank you to those that give their offerings when absent on Sunday.***

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## Special Days

Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

### THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

Sun. Aug. 3rd – Hymn Sing 9:00 am

Outdoor Church Service, no communion  
10:00 am

Church Picnic – immediately after service

Mon. Aug. 4th – Lauver Memorial Service 11:00 am

Bridge Club - 12:30 pm

AA Meeting – 7:00 pm

Wed. Aug. 6th – Midweek Evening Family Worship - 6:00 pm

Thurs. Aug 7th - Breakfast with Jesus at Rochefort's – 8am

Praise Worship Practice – 6:30 pm

Sun. Aug. 10th – Divine Worship Service 8:30 am

Pastor Led Bible Study in Life Center 9:30 am

Praise Worship Service 10:45 am

### Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

♥ **Christ Family Fun Festival** – Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> starting at 4:00 pm **FREE EVENT!**

**Our Bible Studies** are taking a hiatus or summer break.

However, they will be back after Labor Day! **Pastor Krenzel is**

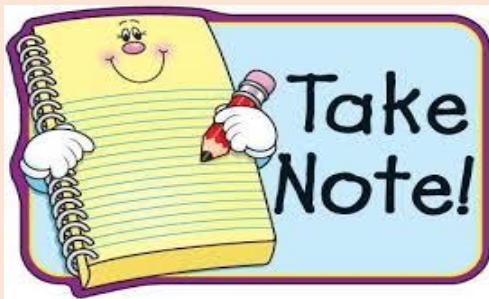
**offering a Bible Study during our new Education Hour on**

**Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Life Center.** In addition,

every Thursday morning at 8am Breakfast with Jesus meets at Rochefort's in Bridgman. After Labor Day Gerry Vigansky leads a bible class on Monday mornings at 10:00 and on Wednesday mornings Elsie Hanke leads a Bible class at 10:00 am. Come join these wonderful learning opportunities!

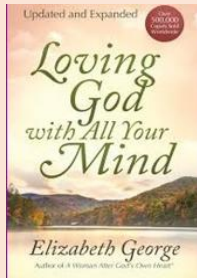
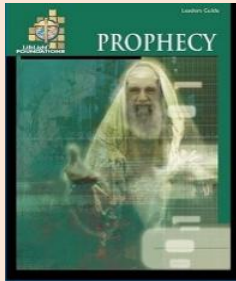
***Welcome Visitors!** We are blessed you are joining us today! Thank you for spending your time in worship to join us in prayer, study and song. Please take some time to share your contact information with us by signing the guest book in the narthex. God bless your time with us!*

God Made  
You  
Very Special!





### Those Serving in Church This Week



**Greeters:** Brad & Debbie Hildebrandt, Larry & Diane Kanous (8:30 am); Immanuel's Praise Team (10:45 am)  
**Ushers:** Don Burch, Brad Hildebrandt, Dave Neal, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Larry Smith, and Ken Dickinson

### Lay Reader:

**Pianist:** Pastor Thomas Fischer

**Praise Team:** Team Leader, Deb Jaeger; Rich Kubsch, Mark Heyn, Karen Kerlikowske, Lori Sukupchak, Sharon Stine, Melissa Barker, Pattie Neal, Amy Krengel and Shannah Smith

**Guitarists:** John “Mac” McElligott, Kurt Hanke

**Praise Speaker:** Shannah Smith

**Keyboardist/Guitarist:** Kunwarjit Singh Multani “Sid” & Constantine  
**Altar Guild/A/V Techs:** Chad Hettig, Lucas Oldenburg, Cyndi Pedde, Pattie Neal, Steve Schmitz, Karl Hanke Brianna Schmitz and Eric Kubsch

**Counters:** Karen Pedde, Craig Klein, Karen Oldenburg, Carol Berndt and Cheryl Music

**Office Assistants:** Lorraine Jasper, Melissa Barker, Suellen Klein, Cheryl Fischer

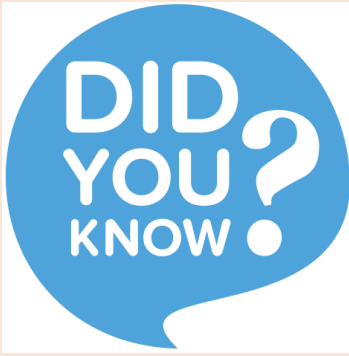
**Trustees:** Joe Rydwelski, Dale Marschke, Art Brunke, Brad Hildebrandt and Paul Jaeger

**Elders:** Larry Kanous, Denny Barnes, Paul Jaeger, Mark Heyn, Eric Ott, Steve Schmitz

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Douglas Krengel

**New Worship Service Times** Don't forget, we have changed our Sunday worship times to 8:30 am for traditional worship and 10:45 for Praise Worship. In addition, we have added a **Midweek Family Worship on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm**; this week the service will take place in room #6. The pattern of informal, casual, worship. The theme for the sermon will be the same as the theme provided the Sunday before; however, the liturgy will be very simple like unto a family devotion, or a devotion shared at Family Camp (45-50 minutes). The message will be offered in brief segments. In between each segment will be a Gospel Activity. There will be one Praise Song at the beginning and one Praise Song at the end of each Family Worship service (recorded music will be used). The dress code is come-as-you-are. Our prayer for Family Worship is that the families attending the Immanuel Childcare, VBS families, the families that are visiting Bridgman for a summer vacation, and the families who prefer an evening service, will enjoy Family Worship. Please let your neighbors and friends know about this relaxed, casual worship service.

**Special request** We are not sure you are aware that we have no full-time janitorial staff here at Immanuel and some of our spaces are cared for only by the Fellowship Board or paid staff, some of whom are not here on a full-time basis. We have noticed that with all of our rooms that are being used for meetings, Bible Study and Midweek services are not being cleaned and straightened after they are used. We respectfully request that you clean up after yourself. If you have spilled on a table, please clean it up, if you drop some food on the floor, please pick it up, if you see the garbage is full, please take it out. If you see books, Bibles or writing utensils left on tables, please put them away. Our staff have been taking the time to clean up, but that is taking away from their normal duties. We would really appreciate your assistance with this issue. Thank you!



**Free for All**



**Did you know?** Immanuel Lutheran Church will be 130 Years old on June 14, 2026! We are looking for some congregation members to head a committee which will look at ways we can celebrate our 130 years. If you would like to be a part of the celebration planning, please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex.

**Outreach is renovating again!** Take a look at the renovated space that was the nursery. Thank you to the Smith Family for creating a restful space for children and adults to come to for some quiet time during the worship service.

**Our Patriotic Worship Service has moved.** This year we will celebrate our veterans, military and first responders around Patriot's Day which is September 11<sup>th</sup>. So, on **Sunday, September 14, 2025** we will enjoy some of the same elements of our Patriotic Worship Service. We are hoping to include the Honor Roll which is a video tribute to all veterans, military persons and first responders. We hope you will spread the word about the worship service and invite those who might not be aware of the service.

**Handbell practice begins on Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm** this is a little earlier than in the past and is in preparation for our patriotic worship service in September. To all our Handbell "Ding-a-lings" please pick up MORE music for the Patriotic Worship service on the table in the narthex. The Chimes Ensemble will practice right after the handbells meet. We are so grateful for Pastor Fischer and our leadership for voting for Pastor Fischer to work with our handbell choir in order to keep playing. Not many churches have handbells nor have a larger handbell choir to use as part of their music program. We are grateful and feel very blessed to be able to use the instruments to enhance our worship services. Thank you Lord!

**Did you know?** Our Share Closet and the Free For All have offered so many wonderful items to many community families in need. The Share Closet is filling up again, what a blessing! We received several monetary donations, people that are so grateful for the free items they shared what little money they had to help our mission. The newspaper showed up at our Free For All and interviewed Dorothy Ott and volunteers who provided the background information of the history of the Free For All and how it has grown through the years. With the money that was collected, it was decided that more shelving units could be used for the Share Closet. Thank you, Ellen Yeske and Susan Foster for taking the initiative and time to put together the new shelves. We are so grateful for the Ott Family, the Berk Family, and all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work planning, gathering, organizing and storing the items that we are able to give away and share our many blessings from our God!

**Today's Hymns:** LSB 905, 770, 785

**Next Week's Scriptures:** Genesis 15:1-6, Hebrews 11:1-16, Luke 12:22-40

**Sunday Attendance: July 13, 2025**

**8:30 – 80 , 10:45 – 42**

**Wednesday Evening Worship Service –**

**Rev. Dr. Douglas A. Krengel, Sole Pastor**

***Please contact Pastor Krengel for any Pastoral needs.***

**Pastor Krengel's Cell Phone: 832-257-5437**

**email: [krengeld@gmail.com](mailto:krengeld@gmail.com)**