



Friday, October 10, 2025

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY

Women
and
Widows
The Gospel Witness



Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule

Sunday, October 12, 2025

8:30 am - Divine Worship

9:30 – Education Hour Pastor Led Bible Study and

“The Rock” Sunday School

10:45 am – Praise Worship

email: 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



Immanuel Lutheran Ministries
9650 N. Church St.,
Bridgman, MI 49106
269-465-6031 Church Office

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

AS WE GATHER

In our Readings today, we see not only where faith guides but also to whom it ultimately leads. In Ruth 1, we learn of Naomi's difficulties as she faced numerous instances of grief. Yet her faith remained in the Lord and His provision, which would lead her to Judah. Faithful to her mother-in-law, Ruth would be guided not only to a new land but also to the knowledge of the one true God. Widows and women were important to the Gospel witness in the time of Naomi and Ruth. Widows and women are still called to serve the Lord and His church while the church is still called to serve widows and women. May the Lord bless us with his Gospel wisdom that we may all serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ in these last days.

CHURCH NEWS.

Thank you for supporting our 50's Diner Dinner to help raise money for our emergency exit doors for the church sanctuary. We had so many wonderful volunteers from set up and clean up to cooks, bakers, bussers wait staff and the marvelous dishwashers. So much was donated to further our mission! We even had all the boards involved donating items for our silent auction. At the writing of this newsletter the event has not happened, but we appreciate all of the volunteers and donations that went into making this a wonderful event. Thank you to the LWML for all their support and to Sue Berk for donating the beautiful lap quilt for raffle and to Steve Schmitz for his repurposed outdoor bench for a second raffle. To Karen Oldenburg for donating the supplies for rootbeer floats and to Pattie Neal for donating the macaroni and cheese for the children's dinner. We are so blessed with so many loving, caring, generous people and we praise God for all of His blessings to us.

What is Worship? After the readings, we speak together with all Christians the words of the Nicene Creed. Then the pastor preaches on the texts, applying them to this particular congregation. He proclaims to God's people that, though they are sinful, God has made them His own in the blood of Christ. After we respond in thanksgiving (offering) and prayer, we turn to receive God's Word in the **Service of the Sacrament**. In the Lord's Supper, God comes to us in a way He is not present anywhere else. Heaven touches earth in this gift, Jesus – true God and true man – gives His body for us to eat and His blood for us to drink. What a profound mystery.

Annual Voters' Meeting has been set by our congregational president Kurt Hanke, for **Sunday, November 2nd, at noon** in our Life Center. This Voters' Meeting agenda is to set our budget for the year 2026. We will receive Voters' Packets on **Sunday October 18th** for you to review for information regarding our activities through our Boards and Councils for the Annual Voters' Meeting. Please let your voice be heard and prepare to give your opinion about how our church is doing.



Sewing for Missions *The big quilts are on their way! Sandy Vigansky and I packed them up today and I took them to Trinity, Sawyer. There, a good soul has agreed to transfer them to Portage this weekend. We had 30 full-sized quilts, exceeding our goal of 25. Kudos to all!*

Special thanks to Sandy & Sue for putting the quilts out on the pews this Sunday. It was a beautiful sight.

We have around 40 lap quilts still in the cabinet. Sue gave three to her brother who is a 1st responder. Sandy is checking with Corewell to see if they can use some. The Safe Shelter in Benton Harbor will accept them, as well. And I'm checking with Life Plan.

They will all find homes, I'm convinced.

Thank you all for participating in this amazing outreach. I feel blessed to share time with you and to create something useful for a person in need.

Our next quilting get-together is Friday, Nov. 7 at 9am.

Hope to see you there - or before! Suellen Klein

Thank you to Pattie and Dave Neal for donating a brand new handicap toilet in the girl's bathroom by the Life Center. We are so grateful to them for seeing a need and donating the funds to take out the old toilet and replace it with a new taller one. We would also like to thank Dave Neal and Brad Hildebrandt for installing the new toilet on a Saturday.

The Altar Flowers today are in memory of Ray Krieger who passed into the arms of his loving Savior on October 6th in Iowa. His Christian Funeral Service was Friday, October 10th. We pray that God will walk with the family during their time of grief. They have recently lost both parents and can use our prayers.

Operation Christmas Child ~ Have you noticed the **GREEN & RED** boxes in the back of the church? It looks like Christmas already--- because it's time for **Operation Christmas Child**! In October we are collecting donations of hairbrushes, hair bow/ties, kids' scissors, pencil sharpeners, crayons, colored pencils, and small notebooks. All the items donated throughout the year will be packed into those green & red boxes on Saturday, Nov. 1 at 10am. Please come and help; it's quick, easy, and fun. You can also pack your own shoebox at home. Just bring it to church on Sunday, Nov. 9 and we will make sure it gets started on its journey to a child somewhere in the world. It's All About Jesus!



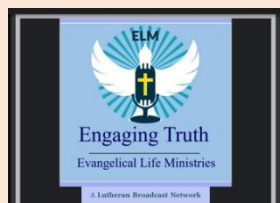
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PASTOR LED BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAYS - 9:30 AM LIFE CENTER
JOIN US!
 STUDYING
 DEMONIC
 FORCES
 FOUND IN THE
 BIBLE



**WE ♥ OUR
 TEACHERS**



“Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study: Starting at 9:30 AM on Sundays in the Family Life Center, Pastor Krengel will lead a Bible Study about the demonic forces found in the Bible. In addition, this study will emphasize how the risen Lord Jesus Christ equips His church to withstand spiritual attacks from inside and outside the church. Lessons will include examples from both the Old and New Testaments including the Psalms and the Book of Revelation. This topic was requested by those currently attending the Bible study hour.”

Please Tune In Tonight on KKHT 100.7 FM “The Word” as Pastor Krengel hosts Sally Krueger, President of the District Chapter of LWML. The topic will be “Lutheran Women In Mission” if you are interested in missions, then this interview is for you. The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League is a leader in world wide mission to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. Listeners will learn in this interview how the risen and reigning Christ miraculously turns pocket change into millions of dollars of effective evangelism ministry. In addition to supporting world wide mission, the women of the LWML also lead outreach efforts in the mission field where they live, work, and worship. The interview si ot about the theory of mission work; rather, President Krueger, and her coworkers in Christ are delivering incarnational ministry that affects the body, soul, mind, and spirit of real people in these modern days.

ECDC NEWS

Our students continued with their studies in the Infant Room while they studied Outer Space this week. The youngest of our students made “asteroids” out of foil. They read books about outerspace like “Love You To The Moon and Back” and sang “Starlight, Starbright” . They made “planet paintings” by rolling marbles around paper in a foil pan with finger paint drizzled in, another keepsake they made by taking orange paint on their palms and putting them at the base of a rocket going to the moon. Their Bible story was “God Made Everything” with Leo the Lion puppet telling the story.

Their Baby Sign this week was the word “Hello”. Thank you teachers for continuing to try to reach the youngest of our children.

Our Toddler Room received two new students this week so the room was getting to know each other. They studied leaves this week, by making leaf rubbings, They went on nature walks collecting and observing leaves, the changing colors and weather they are smooth or rough. They made crowns from the leaves they collected. They read the book “Pumpkin Gospel” comparing pumpkins with what the love of Jesus can do for us. God picks us from a patch to serve him. Lights shine in pumpkins which can shine in us if we give our lives to Jesus. Jesus cleans out the “gunk” in us just like we do when we clean out pumpkins. Great Book! They played in their sensory table by picking up acorns, leaves and twigs with tweezers, great fine motor skills.

Their Bible story was “God Is In Charge of Everything”. They also made a “Smash Painting” very creative.

Our GSRP Room worked on their “Tree Study” this week. They were able to take some walks to see trees, comparing their sizes as well as measuring plants and each other. They started working on creating poems about Lions and Tigers with the help of their teachers. They studied “A, G, D, & M” letters studying sounds that the letters make and drawing pictures of things that begin with those letters. Great job teachers!

Our three year olds focused on a lot of different things this week. They studied the letter “E” and made an elephant picture with the letter. They made straight cuts with scissors and decorated their “Name Ghosts” with those cuts. They started making letter sounds A-Z, painted leaves with Q-Tips and read the story “Pete the Cat” Their Bible story this week was Adam and Eve.

The four year olds studied rectangle as their shape, the color green, the number 3 and the letter “D”. Their Bible story was the Tower of Babel and they drew their own version of the tower. They also made self portraits which hang on the wall they can compare with small mirrors as they walk by.

Ingenious teachers!

Kids! Join us! "The Rock" Sunday School New Time 9:30 am



Join Us! 6:00 pm
Every Wednesday
MIDWEEK FAMILY
WORSHIP SERVICE



"The Rock" Sunday School

Today, at The Rock we are learning the touching story of Ruth. Ruth shows loyalty and love for her mother-in-law, Naomi. After going through tough times, including the loss of their loved ones, Ruth decides to leave her home and go back to Israel with Naomi. Together, they make their way to Bethlehem, but life isn't easy for them. They find themselves poor and hungry, with no money to buy food. Determined to help, Ruth decides to go into the fields to pick up leftover grain after the workers have finished. Back then, this was a common way for those in need to find food since workers were required to leave some grain behind for the less fortunate. Just as God planned it, Ruth ended up working in the field owned by a man named Boaz. He noticed Ruth picking up grain and told his servants to leave more grain for her so she would have plenty. Boaz was a redeemer. He bought Naomi's land and provided for her and Ruth. This was the custom in those days. The closest relative would rescue or redeem his family members from distress and trouble, even though they had nothing to offer in return for his help. Did you know that Boaz is like a picture of Jesus? Jesus is a redeemer, too! He redeems sinners! We are all sinners and deserve to be punished. We have nothing to offer Jesus. But Jesus bought us back from sin. He paid the price when he died on the cross. He took the punishment for sin that we deserve and promises eternal life in heaven to all who trust in him. Isn't that fantastic news? Jesus is our Redeemer!

Don't Forget About our Midweek Family Worship Service every Wednesday Evening. Come and enjoy a relaxed service with your family or on your own, we would love to see you!

Need to make an appointment with Pastor Krengel? You are invited to call him on his cell phone at **832-257-5437** or email him at krengeld@gmail.com. Pastor's normal weekly schedule is to be in the office Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays are dedicated to visiting shut ins. Wednesday he will be in the office at 11 am. Friday and Saturdays are his days off. Feel free to contact Pastor directly.

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. October is here and **we are still collecting items, some things you may consider; socks, toothbrushes, stuffed animals, small games, playing cards, hair combs and accessories, small hair brushes, bandaides, wash cloths, nail files and clippers, sunglasses, jump ropes, yo-yo's, puzzles, craft kits, pencils, pencil sharpeners, markers, scissors and glue sticks (no liquid glue please) small flashlights, batteries, small notebooks and index cards.** Don't forget we are putting together the boxes on November 1st after the Outreach Board meeting around 10:30 am. This is your opportunity to add to the boxes if you have not been able to shop during the summer months. 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.

Let Us Take Care of Dinner for you! To begin with come to our Diner Dinner on October 11th at 5:00 pm and then on Wednesday, go to **Trinity Lutheran in Glendora** who are inviting you to their annual Chicken Dinner fundraiser on October 15th starting at 4:30 pm for meal pickup and 5:00 pm for dine in. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$8 for children 4-10 and children 3 and under are free. They will be serving a chicken dinner with all the trimmings. Tickets are available by calling Ginny Hischke at 269-876-9834. **Dine-in or take out only advance sale.** Deadline is October 12th.



Pastoral VISITATION MINISTRY

*Please Keep
In Your
Prayers*



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, Dave Arndt, Marion Winter, Linda Totzke, and Ken Dickinson

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

Vicki Ott (health issues)
Gerald Kuhn (prayers for healing)
Alex Varvel (growths on his brain)
The Family and Friends of Ray Krieger

Pastor Krengel, Chris Damaske and Betty Korcek, visited this week:
Don Metzger, Duane Vigansky, Linda Totzke, Harriet Fester, AnnaMarie and Wally Mojsiejenko, Ken Dickinson

Healing Needs for the Month

Joyce Hamlin, Judy Roush, Dave Harrison, Brian & Lorrie Tidd, Linda Totzke, Craig Wendzel, Georgia Hildebrandt, Darrell Gast, Delora Rathbun, Fawn Giteronke-Mills, Manfred Moneta, Brett Germain, Sharon Korcek, Jim Benjamin, Karl Kaeding, Carla Weiser, Jeff Rodewald, Debbie Miller, Denny Lawrenz, Natalya Gaidukevich, David Harrison, Christie Ott Hartzler, Erica Anstey, Janet Lamb, Larry Ott, Alex Dixon, Beth Vigansky Ciuizio, 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, Devin Hays (Army Reserves), 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

October 5, 2025 offerings and donations:
Offering Envelopes: \$10,242.00 Year to date: \$261,758.00
Doors: \$200

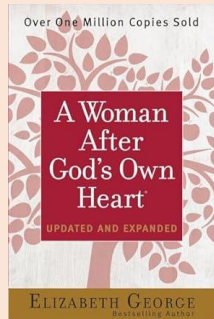
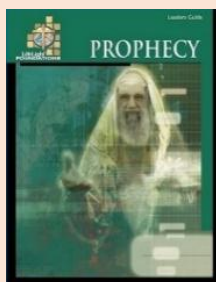
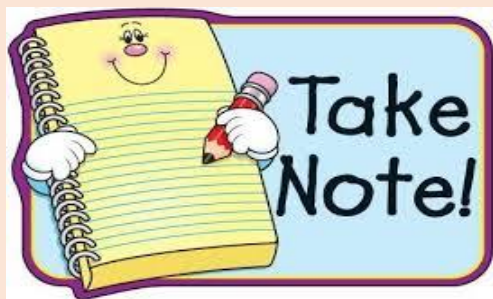
*Thank you to those that give their offerings
when absent on Sunday.*

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Special Days

Birthdays: Pat Stelter (10-12), Robert Heimbuch (10-12), Chad Oldenburg (10-14), Amie Smith (10-17), Edna Holt (10-17), Nikki Smith (10-18)

Anniversaries: Eric & Robyn Kubsch on October 12th, 12 years ago; Dale & Ginni Marschke on October 14th, 47 years ago; Allan & Melissa Barker on October 15th, 20 years ago; Donald & Wilma Scharnowske on October 16th, 60 years ago.

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

Sun. Oct. 12th - Divine Worship Service – 8:30 am
Education Hour Pastor Led Bible Study 9:30 am
“The Rock” Sunday School – 9:30 am
Praise Worship Service – 10:45 am
Mon. Oct. 13th – Bible Study led by Gerry Vigansky – 10am
Handbell Choir Practice – 6:00 pm
AA Meeting – 7:00 pm
Wed. Oct. 15th – Children’s Chapel – 9:15 am
Wednesday Bible Study led by Elsie Hanke 10am
Midweek Evening Family Worship - 6:00 pm
Elders Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
Choir Practice – 7:00 pm
Thurs. Oct. 16th - Breakfast with Jesus at Rochefort’s – 8am
Praise Worship Practice – 6:30 pm
Sat. Oct. 18th – Men’s Network Breakfast – 8:00 am
Sun. Oct. 19th – Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion – 8:30 am
Education Hour Pastor Led Bible Study 9:30am
“The Rock” Sunday School – 9:30 am
Praise Worship Service with Holy Communion – 10:45 am

Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ **Operation Christmas Child Box Gathering – Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 10 am in the Life Center**
- ♥ **Annual Voters’ Meeting – Sunday, November 2nd at noon in the Life Center**

Our Bible Studies are back and in full swing! And new Bible Studies have been added. **Pastor Krengel 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 8:00 am Breakfast with Jesus meets at Rochefort’s in Bridgman. Please take advantage of a bible class on Monday mornings at 10:00 led by Gerry Vigansky and on Wednesday mornings Elsie Hanke leads a Bible class at 10:00 am and they are studying “A Women After God’s Heart”. In addition, Men’s Network Breakfast is back and a great opportunity for men to come together to study many aspects of our faith in addition to a delicious breakfast made by men for men. Why not spend an hour or two out of your week to join these wonderful learning opportunities!

Additional Flowers in the narthex are given by the family of Eunice Merz-Florip in her memory. Eunice’s memorial service was October 3rd, we pray that God has continued with his consoling spirit as they continue to grieve her loss.



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