



Saturday, May 10, 2024

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule Sunday, May 12, 2024

- 9:00 am - Divine Worship
- 10:15 am – Adult Bible Class led by Chad Hettig
- 10:30 am - Praise Worship
- 10:45 am – “The Rock” Sunday School

*Most of our Worship Services are streamed Live on Facebook
 Immanuel Lutheran Church Bridgman,
www.immanuelbridgman.org



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

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

As We Gather!

The world, the devil, and our flesh challenge the faith of those who believe in Jesus Christ. The Apostle John, who stood at the foot of the cross, who repeatedly witnessed the resurrected Christ, who served as the last living apostle, teaches us today that the church has now overcome the world through Jesus Christ and the church will overcome the world through Jesus Christ on that final day.

CHURCH NEWS

How thankful we were to be able to celebrate Marion and her faithful service to the church this last Sunday. We had a wonderful day with friends, family, and fellowship. We will certainly miss hearing the beautiful music Marion provided full time, but we are so happy for her as she moved into the next season of her life. Marion will continue to be a big part of our church family here at Immanuel. We also want to thank everyone who made this day so special, the choirs, soloists, the people who participated in the 9:00 am service, everyone who brought the delicious homemade food, the people who helped set up, serve, and clean up after the meal, and all who attended the potluck. Immanuel is truly blessed!!

You are invited to the Ascension Day worship service at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Buchanan this **Thursday, May 9th at 7:00 pm.** We hope you can join us, our own Pastor Kregel will be the proclaimer for this wonderful worship service when we celebrate Jesus’ ascension to heaven to be with His Father. The BTW choir will offer a selection from “Worthy is the Lamb”. We hope you will come and celebrate with us!

Please join us today for our semi-annual Voters’ Meeting at **12:00 pm in the Life Center.** Please use your copy of the Voter’s Packet to follow the process of the Voters’ Meeting. The Voters’ Packet is new to our congregation, this packet contains reports from all the boards concerning what they have accomplished since October 2023 and what they are looking forward to this year. Those reports will be available at the Voters’ Meeting if you have not yet received your copy. We rejoice in God’s Word and grace along with the knowledge that God has blessed this congregation and that we are here to do His will.

The Flowers on the altar today are in memory of Sylvia Mae Holmes from her loving family. Sylvia was called her heavenly home in December and her memorial service was yesterday. We pray for Sylvia’s family and ask that God console them.



WHO IS THE MOST AWESOME PERSON TODAY?



*Dear Friends at Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Thank you Immanuel church members for the most sincere "Thank You" for my service to the Lord and our church here. I appreciate all the time everyone took to prepare of ta most wonderful worship service. Pastor's sermon and great hymns, all the special music groups involved in the worship service, the photos displayed, the most delicious foods prepared by our faithful cooks and the ladies who served us, and the lovely bouquet of roses and monetary gift by the congregation. If I overlooked anyone, please know I am in awe of this wonderful day. I thank our Lord for allowing me to serve in this capacity and I will certainly miss this as it has been a large part of my life. We have excellent musicians at Immanuel which the Lord has graciously provided for us. My thanks for your prayers and encouragement throughout these years, in addition thank you for all of the cards and gifts I have received. May the Lord continue to bless Immanuel Congregation.*

Sincerely, Marion Winter

Thank you for your help. We appreciate your donation of gently used purses and toiletry items to this special mission. These purses filled with necessary toiletry items to the Benton Harbor Women's Shelter this week. What a wonderful mission you have donated to. You are a loving, caring and generous congregation which we are grateful for.

The Eva Martin Project Coming in May! In memory of Eva, we (the church and ECDC) will together have a stuffed animal drive in Eva's honor. There will be a labeled box in the narthex for new, (with price tags still on) stuffed animals. The boxes will be placed in the narthex on April 30th and will remain until May 28th. These will be distributed to local hospitals for children to provide them comfort to help soothe them during their hospital stay. Please consider donating to this wonderful non-profit mission. Eva is a relative of one of our ECDC teachers. Let's support our local causes. For more information, please go to theevamartinproject.org.

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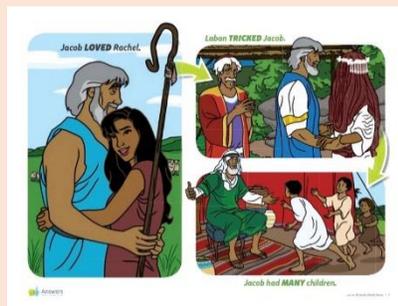
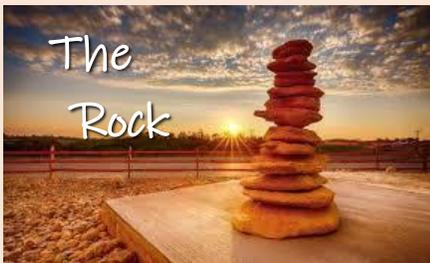
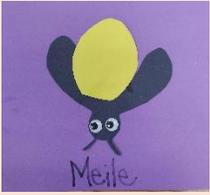
ECDC News

On our way to graduation! Our students are working hard towards graduation. Our four-year olds have finished their alphabet and now will practice writing their letters in preparation for kindergarten. In science they have been learning about the life cycle of acorns and seeds. Exploring how an acorn can develop into a mighty oak tree which then produces more acorns! What a wondrous God we have! They have been learning simple addition using the number 1-5 and studied their daily schedule. They discussed about trying new things, how not to be afraid to do new things and to ask for help if they need it.

The beautiful weather this week was a big draw and they indulged in the opportunity to play outside. Our three-year olds have had a very exciting week with the eggs in their incubator hatching right before their eyes. Three baby chicks are drying out and enjoying the warm environment of the incubator. They also created their own caterpillar after reading author Eric Carle's book "The Hungry Caterpillar", they studied the letter "W" by making Walter the Weasel and made some fireflies after reading the book "The Lonely Firefly" by the same author. Their Bible story was about How Many Times to You Forgive Someone. To celebrate Spring, they created a bluebird and nest from their handprint and strips of brown paper. Outside was a big part of their week as well, summer is coming! GSRP excitement was palatable as they walked to Bridgman Elementary school identifying the house numbers on the way to meet the teachers and tour the school. On the way back from their awesome field trip, they sang the "ABC" song to the delight of homeowners who heard them as they walked. Thank you for showing everyone your learned skills. They also worked on their hallway etiquette, how to stay focused on their goals or instructions with so many distractions in the hallway! They wrote a poem about school. Practicing every aspect of career and work-related avenues to better assess career paths. Our toddler room was busy with outdoor fun every day, except for the rainy ones. They were working on their fine motor skills by stringing beads, making play popsicles with tissue paper and molds, they grouped fruit loops into color groups to make a rainbow and they made bird feeders to watch the birds eat. Their Bible story this week was "God is in Charge of Everything". Our infant room spent a lot of time outside enjoying walks and their play area. Their theme this week was "Outer Space" and they enjoyed reading books about space and the stars, sang songs like "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star". They played with lead Teacher Erin's glowing "Moon Rocks". Great time at school this week!

"The Rock" Sunday School

Today at The Rock, baby and twin, Jacob, has grown up into a man. Now he is looking for a wonderful wife. Jacob falls in love with Rachel and works seven years for her father to be able to marry her. But on the wedding day, Jacob is tricked. What happens next? Read Genesis 28 and 29 or join the fun at The Rock. Our Memory verse for Unit 6: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.





Betty Dehring



Pat Ott



Mary Lou Svorec



Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

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

Continuing Care Facilities: Pat Ott, Bev Gast, Geraldine Wooley, Don Metzger, Skip & Norma Linn, Barry Vance (out of state), MaryLou Svorec (out of state), Rose Briggs, Betty Dehring, Karen Freehling, Dorothea Crocker, Bill Gast, Sam Gaul, Duane Vigansky and Ray Michener

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

Chris Damaske (recovering at home from a hospital stay)
Sharon Schuhknecht (hospitalized)
Cheryl Fischer
Sam Gaul on hospice
Family and Friends of Sylvia Holmes

Healing Needs for the Month

Jeffrey Nemitz (Pat Nemitz's son) Liver Cancer
Larry Ott, Sarah Hogue, David Vehslage, Ray Michener, Tiffany Prosser, Leon Schmaltz, Richard Vonk, Jon Malm, Michael Dick, Louis Collins (Amie Smith's father), Harriet Fester, Ted Joachim, Laurie Ulmer, David J Zilke, Kathy Burkett, Ray Krieger, AnnaMae Yaeger, Jordan Petty, Jane Tym, Kathy Graves, Mary Lou Svorec on Hospice, Gavin Hanson, Sara Buist, Rich Schram on hospice, Carol Berndt, Harvey Burnett, Charles Boreland, Dave Kramer, Marilyn Gelesko, Beth Vigansky Ciuzio, Tom Ulmer, Brenda Cangelosi, Ralph Palmer (Nancy Gast's Son), Laura Laube, Roger Mojsiejenko, Jeff Delvaux, Ray Michener, Terry Graves, Irwin & Margaret Poschke, Dick Gorske, Taylor Joachim

Serving in the Military

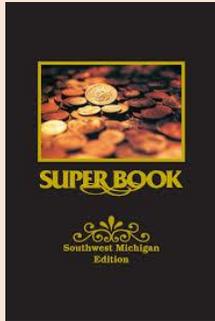
Isaac Maze (Army) SFC Casey LeFever,
MAJ Kenneth Stice, Nathan Anderson, MM1 Timothy Ott,
Jacob Lomoro, SGT Devin Hays, Tom Shepard, Dan Woodruff,
SPC David Helfman, Arthur Gatchel, Ryan Skibbe,
MAJ Joe Chappel, FN Kirk Sebastian Class 2410-A

*We pray to God to grant you His grace,
thank you for serving.*

Finance News

Last week's offering and donations:
Offering Envelopes: \$3,691 Year to date: \$149,613
Marion Winter Dedicated Traditional Lutheran Music Fund:
\$125.00

*Thank you to the members of Immanuel who
continue to give their offerings when absent on
Sunday.*



Thank you to Pastor Kregel and staff who supported our family during John's funeral service and fellowship luncheon. The service and luncheon gave our family consolation and peace during a very trying time. Thank you also for the cards and memorials for John, they are appreciated. A special thank you to the ladies who provided a delicious luncheon and worked so hard for our family and friends. Sincerely, Cathy Benke and Family

SUPERBOOKS are here! They have decided to print the Superbooks again this year! There are many restaurants and services that have joined this year to help you save some money and give your church some added funds. The coupon Superbooks are still \$40, with the church receiving \$8 of that cost. We appreciate Pattie Neal for heading up this fund raiser and we hope you will take advantage of the savings that are in the Superbook!



FREE – For – All: This year's Free-For-All will be June 28th and 29th. Please start saving your donations. Your clean, gently used items such as clothing, books, hardware, toys, kitchenware, electronics and furniture, etc... will be available to our community at no cost. Donation drop-off dates and set-up times will be published soon. This is a big event for Immanuel and we thank you for your support!



National Day of Prayer was this last Thursday and there were many people there to pray from congregations throughout Bridgman! This event was full of prayer and song. We are grateful for everyone who came to pray for our country and leaders.



LUTHERAN'S WOMEN MISSIONARY LEAGUE NEWS

Ladies, How about a Spring Project? Please join us on **Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm** as we reuse and recycle a tin can into a lovely holder for flowers, either fresh or silk to put on a door or hang on your wall as a beautiful reminder of Spring! Please bring a clean 28-ounce tin can for this project. We hope to see you there!



Girls of all ages save SATURDAY, MAY 19TH AT 1:00 PM - Doesn't a spring luncheon sound like fun? A chance to relax with a friend, a sister, or a daughter. Lunch is prepared for you to enjoy. An opportunity to meet Miss Michigan 2023, Maya Schuhknecht and hear her story, plus see a demonstration of her speed painting! Our LWML here at Immanuel is hosting this luncheon presenting delicious sandwiches, salads and desserts made by our members. The ticket price covers the entertainment provided by Maya Schuhknecht. Please come and join us for the Daughters of the King luncheon May 18th at 1pm. Adults \$5.00, girls under 12 are free. Come visit our table before and after our worship services today to buy your tickets! Tickets are also available in the church office. We would love to spend some time with the women of our community! Invite your friends and neighbors.

*Girls of All Ages
Saturday, May 18th
A Banquet for the Ladies
In Your Life*





Special Days

Birthdays: David Montayne (05-06), Micah Baggett (05-07), Beau Walter (05-08), Mason Emens (05-08), Matthew Jones (05-09), Deborah Lawrenz 05-19, Owen Hein 05-10, Angel Cowgill 05-10, Lennox Allmond 05-11, David Ott 05-11, Terry A Eichler 05-11

Anniversaries: Donald & Sherri Skorupa

This Week at Immanuel

Today May 5th – Divine Worship Service w/HC – 9:00 am
Adult Bible Class 10:30 am
Praise Worship Service w/HC – 10:30 am
The Rock” Sunday School – 10:45 am
Semi-Annual Voters’ Meeting – 12:00pm

Mon. May 6th – Bible Study led by Gerry Vigansky – 10:00am
Bridge Club – 12:30 pm
Handbell Choir – 6:00 pm
AA Meeting – 7:00 pm

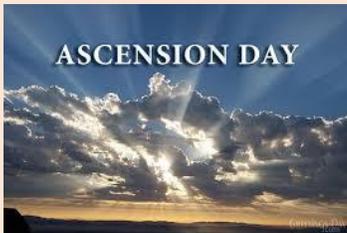
Wed. May 8th – Children’s Chapel – 9:00 am
Bible Class led by Elsie Hanke – 10:00 am
Elders’ Board Meeting – 6:30 pm
Choir Practice – 7 pm

Thurs. May 9th - Breakfast with Jesus - 7:00 am
Praise Team Practice – 7:00 pm

Sun. May 12th – Divine Worship Service – 9:00 am
Adult Bible Class 10:30 am
Praise Worship Service – 10:30 am
“The Rock” Sunday School – 10:45 am

Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ **Semi-Annual Voters Meeting** Today at 12:00 PM
- ♥ **Ascension Day Worship Service** Thursday, May 9th at 7:00 pm at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Buchanan
- ♥ **LWML Craft Night** Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm we will repurpose and reuse a tin can. Watch how it transforms!
- ♥ **Girls of All Ages Luncheon “Daughters of the King”** Saturday, May 18th at 1:00 pm tickets are available for \$5
- ♥ **Confirmation Sunday** on June 2nd with a Unity Service at 10:00 am
- ♥ **Reception for the Confirmands** in the Life Center at 11:30 am.
- ♥ **Patriotic Worship Service** on June 23, 2024 time to be announced.
- ♥ **Free-For-All** June 28th & 29th
- ♥ **Vacation Bible School, “The Great Jungle Journey”** July 8th – 11th from 5:30 pm (Dinner) until 8 pm, invite your friends and neighbors, sign up to volunteer, we could use your able hands!



Girls of All Ages
Saturday, May 18th
A Banquet for the Ladies
In Your Life



Semi-Annual voters’ meeting
Sunday, May 5th
at 12:00 pm

Those Serving in Church This Week



~Volunteers~

Serving God with Gladness!



Greeters: Mark Heyn (9:00 am); Immanuel's Praise Team (10:30 am)

Ushers: Don Burch, Brad Hildebrandt, Dave Neal, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Larry Smith, Bill Gast and Ken Dickinson

Bible Study Leaders: Chad Hettig (Sunday Adult Bible Study at 10:15 am), Gerry Vigansky Monday Bible Study (10am) and Elsie Hanke Wednesday Bible Study (10am).

Lay Readers: Ilene Nemitz (9:00 am), Barb Ackerman (10:30am)

Praise Team: Team Leader, Deb Jaeger; Rich Kubsch, Mark Heyn, Karen Kerlikowske, Pam Hoover, Lori Sukupchak, Sharon Stine, Melissa Barker, Olga Chorna, Pattie Neal, Rylie Catania and Shannah Smith

Soloist: Rich Kubsch (9am & 10:30am)

Altar Guild: Susan Foster, Karen Oldenburg, Annette Ott

A/V Techs: Chad Hettig, Lucas Oldenburg, Cyndi Pedde, Ron Gelesko, Steve Schmitz and Eric Kubsch

Counters: Karen Pedde, Craig Klein, Karen Oldenburg, Carol Berndt

Office Assistants: Lorraine Jasper, Melissa Barker, Suellen Klein, Judy Kubsch and Jennifer Hanson

Trustees: Brad Hildebrandt, Paul Jaeger, Art Brunke

Elders: Gerry Vigansky, Larry Kanous, Paul Jaeger, Allan Barker, Denny Barnes, Steve Schmitz

Organist: Pastor Tom Fischer

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Douglas A. Kregel

Operation Christmas Child is a very special way to share the love of Christ with children all over the world. This year will be an ongoing mission this year, we are asking congregation members to bring in one item per month to fill as many boxes as possible next year. Dollar Tree and Dollar General are stores are good places to look for those items. Please use the labeled box on the table in the narthex to put your hair care items into. In addition, there is a list of items for the next months which you can take with you as you shop, that detail what items we are asking for in each month. This month we are looking for fun bandages, wash clothes and nail clippers. Thank you to everyone who gave to make sure children in other countries can learn about our wonderful God!

Sermon Note Sheets are available on the cabinet in the narthex. This gives you the opportunity to write down some notes that correlate to each of Pastor Kregel's slides. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our faith and the Word.

Evangelical Life Ministries reaches out through radio broadcasts and the month of May is a salute to Women in Ministry. Pastor Kregel interviewed Linda Kurtz of Hope and Care Outreach, a ministry aimed at aiding children in Liberia. This interview will be broadcasted tonight at 7:00 pm (central time) We hope you will tune in to listen to this inspiring interview.

Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph is in need of two teachers this fall, second grade and middle school math & science. If you know of anyone who would be a good fit for our Christian school, please contact Amy Roth at 269-983-3056 or amy.roth@discovertrinity.org.

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"The Marion Winter Dedicated Fund for the Performance of Traditional Lutheran Worship Music: The Board of Finance created a new dedicated fund in honor of Marion Winter's 60 years of service to the Lord. A dedicated fund is a fund that is distinct from the budget of the church. A dedicated fund is, as the name implies, dedicated for a particular purpose. This new dedicated fund intends to help Immanuel Lutheran Church supplement its future offerings of traditional Lutheran worship music. Here are a few ideas, concept, and possibilities for which this new fund might be used: (1) to enable a Lutheran school choir to present at Immanuel (e.g., a local Lutheran High School; or a choir from a Concordia University); (2) to afford ILC a special guest organist, and/or organ concert; (3) to allow ILC to invite special musicians/vocalists to supplement the musical offerings Immanuel already is offering (e.g., a guest musician playing the viola, or a brass quartet). This new dedicated fund would not pay for regular maintenance such as the cleaning of the organ/piano/chimes, or the tuning of the organ/piano/chimes. The Board of Worship will steward this new fund and will coordinate with Pastor Kregel to make decisions on specifically what extra music would be provided. The Board of Worship and Pastor Kregel will keep the musical legacy Marion Winter's has provided ILC in mind as specific plans are made. If you would like to contribute to this new dedicated fund then please make your check out to "Immanuel Lutheran Church" and note that it is for "The Marion Winter Dedicated Fund." A donation to this new fund may be done at any time the donor chooses. Thank you for your consideration."

**Reverend Doctor Douglas A. Kregel,
Sole Pastor**

**Please call the church office for any Pastoral needs.
Church Office 269-465-6031**

Today's Hymns – LSB 469, LSB 664, LSB 655, LSB 770,
LSB 468

*Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 12, 2024 Mother's Day
"The Miracle of Life"*

First Reading: Acts 1:12-26; ***Epistle:*** 1John 5:9-15
The Holy Gospel: John 17:11b-19

**Sunday Attendance: April 21st
9:00am - 93 , 10:30 am - 74
Wednesday Bible Study - 10**