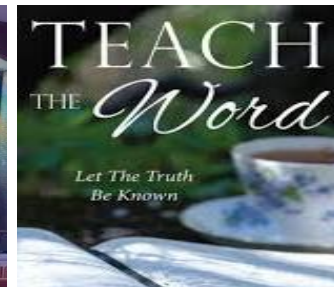
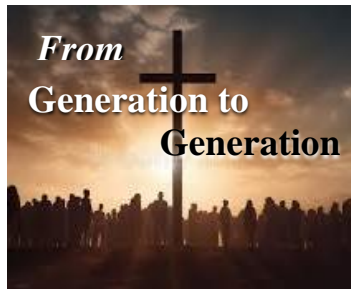




Friday, August 30, 2024

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



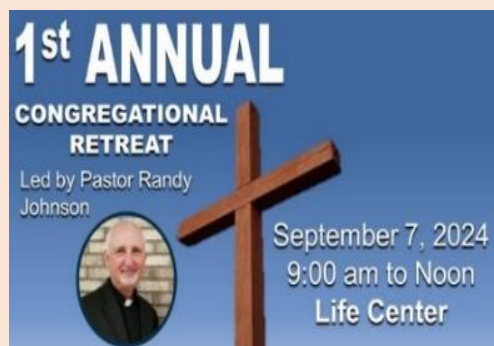
Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule Sunday September 1, 2024

9:00 am - Divine Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 am – Praise Worship with Holy Communion

*Most of our Worship Services are streamed Live on Facebook *Immanuel Lutheran Church Bridgman*, or are 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

This morning, we will begin a six-week sermon series called “From Generation to Generation”. In this sermon series we will learn that God calls for his church to pass on the message of salvation from one generation to the next. In particular, we will discover the Lord’s call for the church to teach, to heal, to advocate for, to receive, to provide peace to, and to bless the next generation. This morning, we will meditate on the book of Deuteronomy – a book Moses was inspired to write specifically to teach the next generation about the one, true, and most gracious God who enables each the church to pass on the faith throughout the ages.

CHURCH NEWS

Please join us this Saturday for our first Annual Congregational Retreat this coming weekend! This will be a Planning Retreat for everyone to join and add their voice to the conversation of where our congregation is headed. We will meet at the Church this Saturday from **9:00 am until 12:00 pm** (Noon) in our Life Center. Your input is important to our Church. In order to receive the input of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Pastor Randy Johnson, for the Michigan District, will facilitate our group conversation. We will seek to identify the current strengths of our congregation; the weaknesses; the opportunities the Lord is providing us; and the threats to our common ministry. This is not a Voters Meeting. Any member of Immanuel Lutheran Church may attend and join the conversation. The results of the Congregational Planning Retreat will be reported to the elected and appointed Church leaders so that they may be aware of the congregation’s concerns and joys as they prepare the 2025 Ministry Plan (the 2025 Budget). Our awesome Fellowship Board has planned some wonderful refreshments for the retreat. Please use the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex to let us know you are coming! It is only a couple of hours of your time and we want to hear what you think. We hope to see you there!

Thank you Pastor Fischer for giving us a wonderful hymn sing this holiday weekend. Pastor Fischer is now our Part-Time Music Director of Traditional Music and he started his job with a great hymn sing! Thank you also to Ilene Nemitz for leading us in the hymn sing and Chad Hettig for his narration! We are so blessed and what a way to celebrate Labor Day weekend, than to praise the Lord through Song!

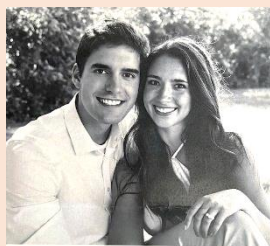
IN HIS IMAGE
DOXOLOGY



CONVOCAION
on Sept. 13 - 14
at Trinity
Lutheran St. Joe

Call 983-5000
for Details and to Register

*Speaking the Truth
in Love*



In HIS Image: Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture With the legal redefinition of marriage, there is much confusion regarding gender identity and sexuality. Christian parents, teachers, pastors, singles & couples, and parents all are looking for guidance in navigating these sensitive areas. The 10 local congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LC-MS) will be hosting an In HIS Image Convocation September 13-14 at Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, to be presented by DOXOLOGY, a service organization of the LC-MS. DOXOLOGY is dedicated to equipping people with tools to speak constructively and to live confidently amid the current confusion. Harbor Shores will be providing a meal Friday evening; continental breakfast, snacks, & lunch available on Saturday. The convocation will conclude with a wine and cheese fellowship hour Saturday. The registration fee is only \$10.00 and they are looking for a preliminary number of attendees by August 11th. The actual deadline to register is Friday, August 30. To fill out a registration form, please pick up the convocation brochure on the table in the narthex. It will also give you the itinerary for the convocation and more details for the two-day event.

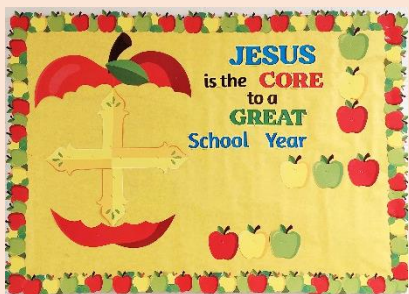
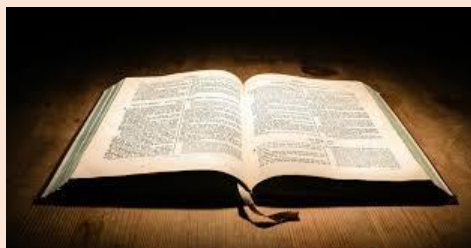
Please keep in your prayers Kole Hanke and his bride-to-be, McKenna Smith, as they will enter into the state of Holy Matrimony this coming **Friday, September 6th**. In addition, Ashley Ackerman is getting married to Gil Gawel on **Saturday, September 7th**. We pray that God will bless both of these unions and that He will guide and keep them secure in His Word and sacraments.



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Do you love the scriptures? We are looking for layreaders for our 9:00 am worship service. Some of our readers have taken a step back from reading the scriptures during worship services and we are looking for some people to serve as readers each Sunday. We accommodate comfort levels of all our readers. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact the church office at 465-6031. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

ECDC News

The temperatures are soaring and our children are enjoying the outdoors and water play before school starts on September 9th. We have had some teacher reassignments. Our Lead Teacher, Stevie Hill is now handling the challenging GSRP school room with Ms. Heather Adams. Ms. Lindsey Denuyl will now be the lead teacher in the Toddler Room. That is a very challenging room as well as those young toddlers are always stretching their limits, learning new skills and growing so fast, the teachers work very hard to keep up with all the new skills they are learning. God Bless our Teachers and all that they do to help their students. With Public School starting, the school age room was in and out most of the week. New students have started and they needed to know the rules of the room and what was expected of them. Ms. Abby spent most of the time getting to know the new students, talking with them about their new school rooms and teachers at public school. Devotions and emotional socialization was the focus for these students, although they did enjoy making some fish of their own that were able to blow bubbles! Very creative. The Primary Room were in the same boat, trying to get their room ready for preschool to start. They were able to make some very creative flowerpots for the kids to take home. They did work on devotions all week for the children and had movie/pajama day on Friday before Labor Day Weekend. Our Toddlers enjoyed their new teacher, Ms. Lindsey as she started working on the children's gross motor skills by using spoons and forks to move sand in their sand box. Pretending to eat the sand but managing to hold the small granules on to the utensils. They read books about meal etiquette and their Bible story "God Is Good", they created chalk pictures on their board, bringing chalk from home to share with their friends. They found a spider in their room which led them to sing "The Itsy Bitsy Spider". They also decorated their bulletin board with colorful "cappuccinos". Farm was the theme for the Infant room as they decorated pink pigs with chocolate pudding for their pig pen. They finger painted the barn with red finger paint, sang "Old MacDonald Has a Farm" and "BINGO". They played with feathers and their Bible Story was God Is Good with Zoe the Zebra. Thank you to our creative teachers, we are blessed!

Operation Christmas Child is a very special way to share the love of Christ with children all over the world. We are getting down to the last few months of giving for our Operation Christmas Child boxes. We are almost ready to put together the boxes for Operation Christmas Child. For the month of September (last month of collection) we are collecting small flashlights, batteries, small notebooks and index cards. Please use the labeled box on the table in the narthex to put your items into. Thank you to everyone who gave and are giving to make sure children in other countries can learn about our wonderful, loving God!



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 Harriet Fester

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

Family and Friends of Shirley Akright (Carol Moneta's sister)

Healing Needs for the Month

Scott Mulvihill, Char Schram, Connie Schmidt, Karen Freehling, John Stine, Natalya Gaidukevich, Jeffrey Nemitz (Pat Nemitz's son) Liver Cancer, Larry Ott, Sarah Hogue, Ray Michener, Tiffany Prosser, Leon Schmaltz, Michael Dick, Harriet Fester, Ted Joachim, Tara Deam (Jon Crocker's granddaughter) David J Zilke, Kathy Burkett, Ray Krieger, Jane Tym, Mary Lou Svorec on Hospice, Gavin Hanson, Sara Buist, Carol Berndt, Harvey Burnett, Charles Boreland, Dave Kramer, Marilyn Gelesko, Beth Vigansky Ciuizio, 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 Sebastian Kirk MMN3

Finance News

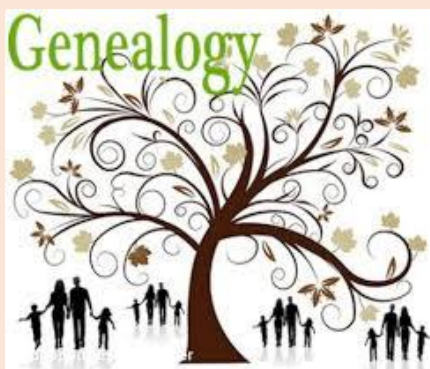
Last week's offering and donations:
Offering Envelopes \$5,302.00, Year to date: \$266,223.00
HVAC \$150.00; Parking Lot: \$150.00

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

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Community Picnic and Car Show on Sunday, September 8th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. An Outdoor Worship Service will precede the picnic at 9:30 am.

CAR HOP AT TRINITY GLENDORA on September 8th from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. They will be serving hamburgers, chips, watermelon and root beer floats. The cost is \$8.00.

HOLY COMMUNION:

Jesus Christ instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion to assure us that our sins have been forgiven and that we have life and salvation through faith in Him. You are invited to participate in Holy Communion if your public confession is:

- Confess your sins to God
- Believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.
- In repentance you desire to live a new life in Jesus Christ
- Recognize the Real Presence of Jesus Christ's Body and Blood is IN, WITH, and UNDER the bread and wine in the Sacrament.

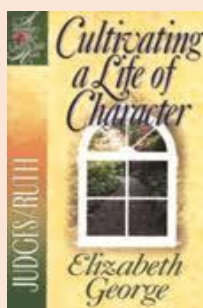
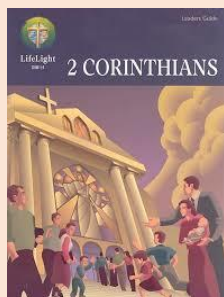
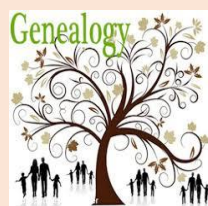
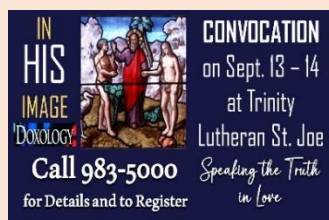
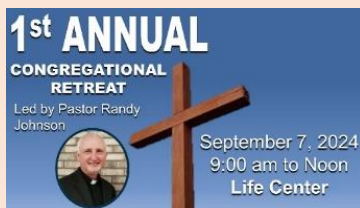
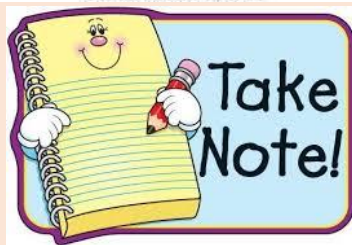
Children and those who have not been confirmed are invited to come forward and fold their arms over their chest to receive a blessing during our communion celebration. If you are partaking of Holy Communion today, we offer two types of wine in individual cups; the red wine has alcohol in it and the white wine has had the alcohol removed. Please feel free to choose the wine which makes you the most comfortable. If you would like to be served Holy Communion at your seat, please raise your hand, contact one of our ushers, greeters or Elders prior to the start of the service.

LUTHERAN'S WOMEN MISSIONARY LEAGUE NEWS

The LWML is having a Progressive Dinner. The Progressive Dinner is approaching fast, please mark your calendars for **Tuesday, September 10th starting at 4:30 pm.** There are four courses to our Progressive Dinner and you can enjoy each one. We will start at the church and move on to the houses of three lovely ladies to enjoy the rest of the dinner. This is such a great evening of fellowship and culinary excellence; we hope you will sign up to be a part of the fun. Please sign your name on the sheet on the table in the narthex so we know how many to plan for and if you need a ride. We hope to see you there!

Preparing for the Future We are looking to the future to replace our heating system for the school. Our HVAC units are older and we will eventually need to replace those units. The HVAC unit that runs the school is a specialized unit that meets strict standards for schools. The replacement cost estimate for that unit is in excess of \$190,000 currently. We have started a fund to raise money for this special unit. If you would like to donate to this special fund, please note that on your check or electronic donation. Thank you for always supporting this church's mission, to educate children on how to follow Jesus.

Genealogy Class Our Outreach Board is hosting a Genealogy Class on **Thursday, September 19th at 6:00 pm.** Our own Amie Smith will give you the information to find your family history and learn about your ancestors. She can start your search and lead you in the right direction. Think of the stories you can learn and maybe even find out about your famous (or infamous) ancestors. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex to let them know you are coming! We hope to see you there!



Special Days

Birthdays: Kathryn Lemon (09-01), Katherine Hanke (09-01), Jeffrey Wasko (09-02), Allison Reifschneider (09-02), Connie Allee (09-05), Kari Hanke (09-06), Dorothy Ott (09-06) Charlotte Schram (09-07), Kandin Schuler (09-07), Adeline Miller (09-07)

Anniversaries: David & Shelly Ott Jr (09-01) 23 years, Richard & Karen Gorske (09-05) 60 years

This Week at Immanuel

Today Sept. 1st – Divine Worship Service w/Holy Communion 9:00 am

Praise Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:30 am

Mon. Sept. 2nd – Happy Labor Day! CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Bridge Club 12:30 pm
AA Meeting – 7:00 pm

Wed. Sept. 4th – Bible Class Café – 10:00 am

Friday, Sept. 6th – Praise Worship Practice – 7:00 pm

Sat. Sept. 7th – 1st Annual Congregational Planning Retreat – 9:00 am

Outreach Committee Meeting – 9:15 am

Sun. Sept. 8th – Divine Worship Service - 9:00 am

Praise Worship Service - 10:30 am

Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

♥ **1st Annual Congregational Planning Retreat** on Saturday, September 7th from 9am until Noon led by Pastor Randy Johnson

♥ **Progressive Dinner** on Tuesday, September 10th starting at 4:30 pm

♥ **Convocation “In His Image”** at Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph on September 13 & 14 starting at 12:30 pm with registration.

♥ **Genealogy Class** Thursday, September 19th at 6:00 pm

Happy 90th Birthday Pat Ott! Pat enjoyed family and friends who came to visit her on her birthday this last Wednesday. We pray that God will be with her this year with all the challenges that the world has to offer!

Wednesday Morning Bible Class will pickup where they left off. On **Wednesday, September 4th at 10:00 am** Elsie Hanke leads a Bible Study of different books of the Bible and devotionals. They have just begun a study of the book of Judges and cultivating a life of character. Thank you to all of the members who come to study the Word of God in more depth.

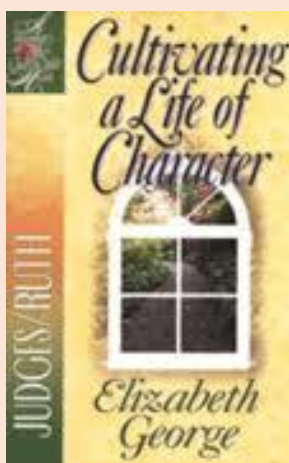
Monday Morning Bible Class will begin on **Monday, September 9th at 10:00 am**. They will continue in their study of the Life Light Series in 2 Corinthians. They will enjoy a little refresher first and then continue their study. We hope you will take some time to learn more about the Word of God through these Bible studies.

Adult Bible Class may have a new format this year. Please keep looking for the start of the Adult Bible Class for this year. We will publish the format, date and time of the class when it becomes available. We are looking forward to our learning hour on Sunday.



~Volunteers~

Serving God with Gladness!



Those Serving in Church This Week

Greeters: Nancy Seldomridge, Gerald & Sandy Vigansky (9am); 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

Lay Readers: Ilene Nemitz (9:00 am); Judy Kubsch (10:30 am)

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

Pianist/Keyboardist: Pastor Tom Fischer

Guitarists: John "Mac" McElligott, Kurt Hanke and "Sid"

Keyboardist: Sid

Altar Guild: Sandy Viganski, Ellen Yeske, Vicki 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,

Trustees: Brad Hildebrandt, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Art Brunke

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

Organist: Pastor Thomas Fischer

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Douglas Krengel

We are looking for help in our Sunday School room for the fall. If you can help with our Sunday School and are willing to spend about one hour per Sunday helping with the teaching of young students, please let the church office know. Thank you to Sue West and Cindy Payne for offering your time and talents to help our Sunday School and those wonderful, sweet children.

Everyone Needs Prayer We are starting up our Prayer Partner program again. We need people to sign up to Prayer Partner with our teachers in the ECDC. Those very dedicated women work very hard to teach our littlest members of our community to know and love God. In this day and age when these young ones will not know God because they do not attend church on Sunday, our teachers become front line warriors to help them to follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to live as a Christian. We are asking the Prayer Partners to drop a note to their partner, share small gifts like a small treat, Bible verse, or a quick text to know they are being thought of. Each Prayer Partner will receive a "Favorites" list of birthdates, things they like and things they are allergic to, in case you are providing a birthday treat. This is not meant to be a financial burden. Write a note, make a bookmark, make some small gift to let your Prayer Partner know that you care. And of course don't forget to pray! Please sign up today!

Please watch this newsletter as fall brings us back to our usual schedule. Bible Class led by Elsie Hanke will begin this **Wednesday, September 4th, 2024 at 10:00 am**. We are looking forward to other activities, choir, bell choir, Sunday morning and Wednesday morning Bible classes. We encourage everyone to come and participate! We will see you there!!!



You are invited to join the Trinity Trekkers on an adventure to the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum. Starting on October 7th you will leave by bus for the Ark and Museum adventure. Some meals are included, there is a two-night stay at the Hyatt in Cincinnati. This adventure is a walking adventure, but worth the time and effort. Scooters are available at an extra cost. Please use the OR code on the flyer to sign up or call Trinity at 983-5000 to get your name on the list. The cost and itineraries are available here.

We need some help. We have had some volunteer positions open up on our Boards and we could use your help. Some of Elders have stepped down and we still need a Treasurer for our church. The Elders Board position is for men only according to our church constitution. *"Elders, working along with the Pastor(s), have authority and responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the congregation, staff, and other members. They serve as special assistant to the Pastor(s), in prayer, service participation, group Bible studies, visitations, assimilation, and in meetings with Greeters, Ushers, Altar Guild, Worship, etc. If any Elder has been so empowered by the Pastor(s), that Elder could serve in his (their) stead. The Elders are to perform an annual review with the Pastor(s)."*

The Treasurer position has been vacant for some time. The duties are as follows: *The Treasurer shall supervise the bookkeeper(s) regarding (a) payment of all bills authorized by the congregation, and (b) accurate record-keeping of all disbursements and receipts. The Treasurer shall take steps to assure that all financial records remain the property of the congregation and that all officers and board chairs have appropriate access to such records. The Treasurer will issue financial reports and charts for all of Immanuel's programs to the Business Council; and will be available to explain Immanuel's fiscal status at each Voters and Business Council meeting. The Treasurer will serve as a member of The Board of Finance and will be its representative at Business Council meetings.* (Italicized portions are from Immanuel Lutheran Church Constitution and Bylaws rev. April 24, 2022)

If you would like to volunteer to help this church in her mission, please let the church office know at 269-465-6031.

Please be aware that these positions are volunteer, not paid positions.

Reverend Doctor Douglas A. Kregel, Sole Pastor

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

Today's Hymns – 869, 867, 790, 797, 655

Sunday, September 8th, 2024
"From Generation to Generation"

Next Week's Scriptures: Old Testament: *Isaiah 35:4–7a*

Epistle: James 2:1–10, 14–18 Holy Gospel: Mark 7:31–37

Sunday Attendance: August 25, 2024
9:00 am – 92 : 10:30 am - 57