



Friday, May 23, 2025

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



## Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule Sunday, May 25, 2025

9:00 am – Divine Worship Service  
10:30 am – Praise Worship Service

\*Most of our Worship Services are streamed Live on Facebook

[Immanuel Lutheran Church Bridgman,](https://www.immanuelbridgman.org)  
or are posted on our website:

[www.immanuelbridgman.org](https://www.immanuelbridgman.org)

### ANNOUNCING NEW WORSHIP TIMES

Beginning June 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Worship  
Services are 8:30 am & 10:45 am  
Education Hour 9:30 am



10:45 am – "The Rock" Sunday

**Immanuel**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& PRESCHOOL  
Bridgman, Michigan LCMS



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 the message will focus upon the Apostle John's confession of Christ as the Lamb who sits on the throne. This image of the Lamb will be contrasted with the animals used to represent other false gods. In addition, the Lamb on the throne will be contrasted with the various uses of lambs in the Bible. Finally, the congregation will be invited to join Jesus' approach to living our Christian life as a lamb who is part of God's flock – a lamb who is following the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

## CHURCH NEWS

**New Worship Service Times** For some time requests have been coming in to establish a learning hour between our worship services that will accommodate all our congregation members. At last week's Voters' Meeting a vote was taken to change our worship times. Beginning on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> our traditional or early worship will start at 8:30 am, then we will have an Education Hour beginning at 9:30 am, with Pastor Krengel leading a Bible Study (location to be determined) and when Sunday School is in session, their start time will be at 9:30 am as well. This allows the children to spend time with their family in worship and our teachers to spend time in a worship service of their choice. In addition, the voters approved the reinstatement of a midweek evening worship service. This will be a casual family style worship. The structure of this service will be developed by Pastor Krengel and the day and time will be announced. Thank you to everyone who came to the voters' meeting to share your opinion with our leadership!

**Vacation Bible School** will be starting before you know it. This year's Vacation Bible School will focus on the life of Jesus, they will learn about him, his ministry and how to live for his glory. This Bible school is unique in that the children will learn about apologetics, which is a skill the children will develop to use reasoned arguments and evidence to defend our faith and address objections that other people offer. This will help to strengthen their faith as well as offer to others a reasonable explanation to doubts. The children get to experience the Old West with crafts, science, Bible study and snacks all geared to enjoy the western theme. We hope you will sign up the young'un in your life. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex and can be turned into the church office or Shannon Jones, our fabulous VBS organizer! Please consider joining the volunteers to provide instruction, help with games, crafts or get creative with the snacks. Please join us for our next meeting on **June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:45 am** in the Life Center. We can always use the extra hands and skills our generous volunteers offer!

***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!*

**Ascension Day  
Worship Service**  
Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm  
*Join us at 5:00 pm for Dinner and  
Fellowship!*



**Ascension Day Worship Service** is being held here this **Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**. We are blessed to host this service for those churches in our circuit who are not able to have their own Ascension Day Service. In addition, our hard-working Fellowship Board has organized and cooked a wonderful meal for before the worship service. You can enjoy a delicious **dinner at 5:00 pm**, before attending an inspirational service celebrating the Ascension of our Lord. Guest preacher is Rev. Dr. James Wright, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Berrien Springs. Please join us as we join in praising our God through song and prayer!

**Confirmation Sunday** is June 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am and we are blessed with two wonderful young ladies this year, Avery Barnes and Brooklyn Wheeler. Please join us in a Unity Worship Service and reception after the service to get to know the newest members of our congregation! There is only one worship service this Sunday.

**We have been blessed with** the Eva Martin Project again this year. In memory of Eva, we (the church and ECDC) will together have a stuffed animal/comfort blanket drive in Eva's honor. There is a labeled barrel in the narthex for new, (with price tags still on) stuffed animals and comfort blankets. The boxes will be placed in the narthex on May 1<sup>st</sup> and will remain until May 30<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://theevamartinproject.org).

**Eva's Toast Fund Raiser** In memory of Eva Martin her family will offer a French Toast breakfast fund raiser on **Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> from 7-11 am.in Baroda Park**. For an \$8 donation you will receive french toast, sausage and coffee or orange juice. Eva's family wanted to create a mission to promote healing and comfort to little ones and their families who find themselves in the worst situations. The blankets and stuffed animals that you have donated go a long way to comfort children in the hospital. They couldn't do their mission without the love and support of many supporters, and their mission is supporting the children and families in our area.

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Sunday School Teachers.

THANK  
you!

**Congratulations** to our graduating college students Samantha Rydwelski and Emily Kerlikowske. Sam graduated from Southwestern Michigan College, nursing school last week and Emily graduated with a teaching degree from Concordia University Wisconsin and will start her career at Mars Elementary School in Berrien Springs as their kindergarten teacher. In addition, Samantha Rydwelski will be getting married next month to Parker Soulard and Emily Kerlikowske is engaged to Sam Newman and are going to be joined in wedlock next year. So many wonderful events have been gifted to two wonderful young women. We pray that God will bless the careers you have chosen!

### ECDC NEWS

What an exciting time for these young students as graduation day is here! We are so blessed that our GSRP and Skill Builders classrooms had graduation day this week and are moving on to public school education. It was an exciting time for families and children as they went through commencement. Enjoyed photo op booths with a delicious buffet laid out for both classes!

Our GSRP room celebrated a picnic indoors this year because of the weather but they enjoyed the time with their families. They graduated in fine style with cap and gowns for every student with their families looking on. We pray for all of them to receive the protection of God's love and grace on their educational journey.

Our Skill Builders room full of four-year-olds enjoyed commencement to pomp and circumstance and a walk on stage to receive their diploma from their teacher Ms. Abby. Their pictures from birth to now appeared on the big screen for all to see. They also enjoyed a photo op with their families and a great potluck meal! What a wonderful celebration for these students!

Our three-year-olds were very busy this week as they went to the Potawatami Zoo to see the animals they studied the week before. They also enjoyed a pajama day and movie seeing Moana II, they also enjoyed their family cookout in the Life Center this last Tuesday, What a busy week for these students.

Our toddler room continued on with their weather study by studying cold weather. Great week to study the cold weather since it was a little chilly outside. They cut and sponge painted snowflakes, colored with white crayons on black paper to make a snowscape. They played with the snow they saved in their freezer from the first snow last winter and they made sno-cones as their snack for the day.

Thank you to creative teacher Lindsey for keeping those students learning and experiencing new things.

Our infant room was busy studying about pets. They painted cats and birds, played with laminated numbered dog treats. Their Bible story was God Made Everything with Leo the Lion helping to tell the story. They sang "How much is That Doggie in the Window" and play with stuffed dogs and cats. A very challenging school room but still learning constantly! Thank you to all our teachers!

### "The Rock" Sunday School

The "Rock" is going on Summer Break! Coming back in the fall they will meet at 9:30 am during the newly established Education Hour. We are so very grateful to Ms. Shannon, Ms. Sherry, Ms. Cindy and Ms. Sue for all of their hard work and knowledge they have shared with our young members. They work hard each week to make sure the students are learning about Jesus, the Gospel and the Bible in order to sustain their faith in their journey through life. We are so blessed with the dedication that these women offer with this very necessary ministry! Thank you!



## Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

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

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

Norma Linn (fractured ribs & vertebrae) recovering at Pine Ridge Rehabilitation Center  
Carla Weiser (Breathing issues)  
Jeff Delvaux

**Visitations this week** by Pastor Krengel, Chris Damaske, Betty Korcek and Suellen Klein: Myra Clark, Betty Dehring, Pat Ott, Rich and Karen Gorske, Buster and Lorraine Jasper, Dorothea Crocker, Jackie and Ray Krieger and Duane Vigansky, Visitation only to Elizabeth Rock

## Healing Needs for the Month

Marcia Hanke, Dante & Hailey Silva-Lewis, Jeff Rodewald, Debbie Miller, Denny Lawrenz, Natalya Gaidukevich, David Harrison, Ted Joachim, Christie Ott Hartzler, Erica Anstey, Janet Lamb, Larry Ott, Alex Dixon, Beth Vigansky Ciuzio, Dave Kramer, Andy Benjamin, Pastor Carl Bassett, Leon Schmaltz, Darrell Gast, John Stine, Jeffrey Nemitz, Ray Michener, Harriet Fester, Ray Krieger, Marilyn Gelesko, Tom Ulmer, Roger Mojsiejenko, Terry Graves, Irwin & Margaret Poschke, Dick Gorske,

## 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

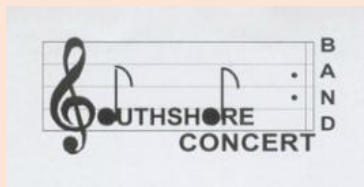
May 18, 2025 offerings and donations:  
Offering Envelopes: \$4,359.00 Year to date: \$141,082.00

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

**Have a Safe Memorial Day!** Let us take time this Memorial Day to express our gratitude for those who have served and to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Let us also take time to reflect on the meaning of freedom and the importance of protecting it for future generations. Thank you God for those who have protected our freedom and for the families who have suffered because of their loved ones service. Our church office will be closed this Monday in observance of Memorial Day. Have a blessed and safe holiday!

*"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" John 15:15*





**Thank you for the Beautiful Geraniums** provided by Marilyn Krieger. Every year in the spring we are gifted by lovely, large planters full of vibrant red geraniums for the front of our church doors. Marilyn creates such a welcoming entrance to the church as a gift. These blooms remind us of the glory and miracles that God gives to us every day. We are blessed with these loving gifts and we know that they are being cared for by Marilyn Krieger and Art Brunke daily with water and fertilizer, throughout the spring, summer and fall months. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us and a wonderful way to praise the Lord.

**Did you notice** the beautiful banner hanging in the chancel area on the east wall? That banner is a traveling banner which was created at the Michigan state LWML Convention last year. Groups of LWML ladies created this lovely banner using the theme "Taste and See that the Lord is Good" Psalm 34:8. This banner inspires us to experience God's goodness and grace as we grow spiritually, being nourished by His Word. Thank you to the St. Joseph Zone for sharing this beautiful banner with all of the churches in the zone. We are able to have this banner for about one month, and we are grateful.

**Operation Christmas Child 2025:** Like last year, we will be collecting each month, items to add to our boxes for November. Thank you for your support of small combs, hairbrushes and hair accessories for the month of April. We want to continue to support this inspirational mission. **In May we are collecting fun band aides, washcloths, nail clippers and nail files.** We hope you can and will take some time to shop for the box.

**FREE – For – All:** This year's Free-For-All will be June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. 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!

**Southshore Concert Band invites you** to a free encore performance of 'Tetelestai: Images of the Sonrise' at Howard Performing Arts Center, Andrews University on June 1 at 3:00pm. The concert will musically trace the resurrection of Christ and features two vocalists in addition to the band. This concert was very well received at the LMC Mendel Center when performed on Palm Sunday; here is your opportunity to hear it!

**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 help with the celebration, please contact the church office at 269-465-6031 or email at [ilc@immanuelbridgman.org](mailto:ilc@immanuelbridgman.org)

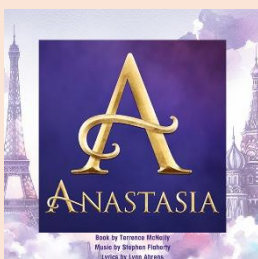
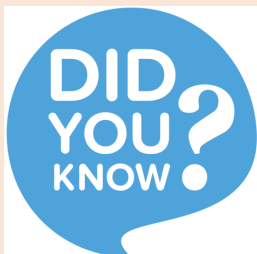
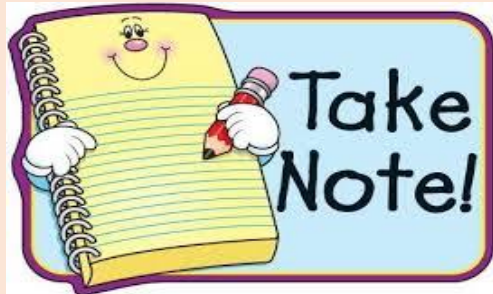
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## Special Days

**Birthdays:** Chris Dow (5-25), Lyndsay Oldenburg (5-25), Constance Ott (5-26), Aaron Nitz (5-27), Eric Ott (5-27), Annette Ott (5-28), Aliczander Hildebrandt (5-29), Kathy Burkett (5-30), Logan Zehm (5-30), Stephen Dehring (5-30), Vicki Ott (5-30)

## This Week at Immanuel

Sun. May 25<sup>th</sup> – Divine Worship Service - 9:00 am

Praise Worship Service - 10:30 am

Mon. May 26<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day Church Office Closed

AA Meeting – 7:00 pm

Thurs. May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Breakfast with Jesus at Rochefort's – 8am

Fellowship Meal for Ascension Day – 5pm

Ascension Day Worship Service – 6:00pm

Praise Worship Practice – 7:00 pm

Sun. June 1<sup>st</sup> – Confirmation Sunday Unity Worship Service  
10:00 am

## Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ Confirmation Sunday Unity Service – Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am ~ **Only One Service this Sunday**
- ♥ Free For All – Friday and Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- ♥ Wonder Junction Vacation Bible School – July 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 5:20 pm Kid Friendly Family Dinner; 6:00 pm VBS

**Did you know?** Worship Anew Worship Services are now broadcasted on **South Bend – CW 1.25 (FOX) Sunday 11:30 am.** For those of you who missed the inspirational programming we are grateful to CW for offering this worthy program. Why not take a peek?

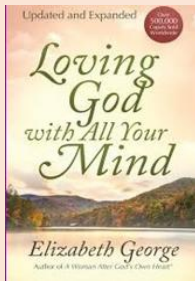
**The Share Closet is open.** Did you know, we are so blessed to have this ministry? If you look in the Share Closet, it is filled with plenty of items! That's just one story of many that shows how much this ministry is needed! If you have some time to spare, come and look at the closet and see the great ministry that is going on! Thank you to Abby Verslage, Cheryl Music, Susan Foster and Ellen Yeske for continuing to help organize and clean up the closet. Thank you for all your donations for this great Outreach!

*We would like to thank everyone at Immanuel for their caring thoughts, prayers and cards for the Skip Linn and his Family. We appreciate the outpouring of care and love you shared with us. Thank you to the Fellowship Board who gave of their time and talents to create a loving time of fellowship for the luncheon and the delicious desserts donated by our bakers. We are so grateful for all that was done in memory of Skip.*

*With gratitude, the Family of Skip Linn*

**Did You Know?** Our own Ilene Nemitz is starring in the musical "Anastasia" at Twin City Players Theater June 6<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>. She is playing the Imperial Duchess and will be singing as well. We have all benefited from the blessing of Ilene's voice in our worship services, please take some time to enjoy a wonderful performance.





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