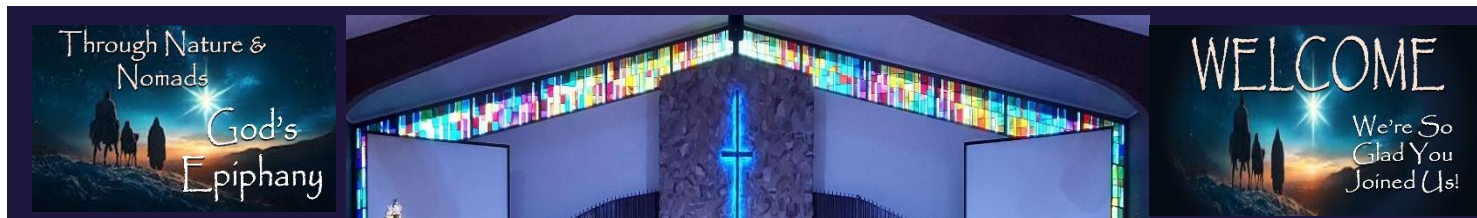




Friday, January 2, 2026

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



Worship Schedule Sunday, January 4, 2026

- 8:30 am - Divine Worship with Holy Communion**
9:30 am – Adult Bible Class led by Pastor Krengel in the Life Center
9:30 am – “The Rock” Sunday School
10:45 am – Praise Worship with Holy Communion

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



Please Join
Us for Our
**MARCH
FOR
LIFE**

Saturday, January 24th 11:00am



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

We humans aren't the only ones celebrating Epiphany! Though the whole earth shall be covered with darkness, "nations shall come to Your light" (Isaiah 60:3).

Isaiah mentions the wealth of all nations, and we are reminded of the Magi bearing gifts. We have gifts, too, of a spiritual nature, connecting other people with our gracious God, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith" (Ephesians 3:12). "Singing camels"? Well, who really carried the gold and silver so far? The camels, Isaiah writes, "shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord" (Isaiah 60:6).

If the camels are praising God, so must we. Get ready to celebrate!

CHURCH NEWS

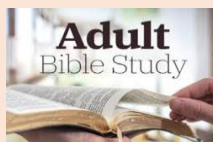
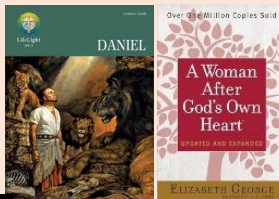
In Celebration of Immanuel's 130th Year we urge you to watch the announcement screen in the sanctuary and the monitor in the administration hallway of some of the years you may remember, watch for relatives and friends in church activities, help us to remember some of the servants of the Lord that were working for Immanuel over the last 130 Years!

March for Life is only a few weeks away! We hope you put this great inspirational event on your calendar and plan to attend! Join us on **Saturday, January 24, 2026** for this event when we show our community our support for the unborn. We will also have a Diaper Drive where we will bring in diapers for distribution to LifePlan and their three locations. We will enjoy an inspirational time of sharing in the sanctuary and then proceed to walk to the flagpole in Bridgman with signs and banners proclaiming our support for the unborn. We will walk back to the church to enjoy some delicious homemade soup and chill! Please plan on being a part of the March for Life!

We are looking for wedding photos for the month of February. We are celebrating our history at Immanuel and with Valentine's Day as the theme we would like you to share your wedding photo! Please take a picture with your phone of your favorite wedding photo and send them to the church office via email ilc@immanuelbridgman.org or text 269-612-8811. We would love to see you on the big screen!

Thank you to Pastor Carl Bassett, Pastor Bassett filled in for Pastor Krengel who is took some time off after the holidays. Thank you for sharing your message with us!

Thank you to all who purchased Poinsettias for Christmas. We love to see our church decorated by these beautiful flowers. Did you know there is a story that says the shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought of as a symbol for the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent His purity. While this is a great interpretation, we need to remind ourselves to see the beauty of Christ's birth and celebrate His coming during this season and into the New Year.



GL Wasko & Sons is a family-owned transportation and warehouse company, that now includes a third generation of the Wasko Family. We think of ourselves as your “dedicated carrier” because we are dedicated to treating our customers like we treat each other with respect and concern for getting every detail right.

Voluntary 2026 Pledge ~ Thank you to everyone who offered their 2026 Pledge to the Lord., This voluntary pledge will be between you and the Lord. It will be kept sealed in that pledge envelope until the middle of 2026, when it will be given back to you by our Finance Board, for you to determine if you are on track with your pledge. You are still able to pledge to the Lord, The Pledge envelopes are on the table in the narthex. We pray that you will consider filling out a pledge slip in gratitude for all of the gifts and blessings that God has given you! Thank you for your generosity in giving this last year and we pray that we will continue on with our mission here at Immanuel.

How Can We Thank YOU? What a blessing you Angels are, taking a special Golden Angel off of our “Angel Tree” and getting them a special gift. You are all so special for thinking of our members who do not have very much contact with others and are not able to attend worship services here at Immanuel. We know that they appreciate you so much and they enjoyed visiting with them. We think of you as very special angels or envoys of the love of Christ. Thank you!

Did You Know? Immanuel will be 130 years old in 2026. We would like to do a little reminiscing. Do you have photos of church life with your family? We would like to take a picture of your photos for display on our big screens in the month of January. If you can help, please submit them to the church office via email ilc@immanuelbridgman.org or text 269-612-8811.

Thank you to the Jaegers (keepers of the flame) who took on the responsibility of putting together the candles and holders for the Christmas Eve Candlelight service and they also took them apart and restored them to the storage area. We are so blessed with caring loving people who take from their time to help the church with whatever the church needs. We are blessed and grateful!

Thank you for buying our cookies! Our expert bakers worked extra hard this year to provide you with over 200 boxes of cookies. We are using the money this year towards our ECDC HVAC system which is older and starting to fail. To replace the system will be in excess of \$120,000. Thank you for helping us raise the necessary funds and keep our students warm.

Thank you to Sandy and Gerry Vigansky for ordering and displaying our poinsettia plants so beautifully to enhance our chancel area and make us look so very festive! They have been creating these displays twice a year for many church seasons, thank you for being very dedicated servants of the Lord!

We Have Some Really Great Bible Studies here at Immanuel! **Pastor Krengel is offering a Bible Study during our 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 Wednesday mornings Elsie Hanke leads a Bible class at 10:00 am and they are studying “A Woman After God’s Heart”. In addition, Men’s Network Breakfast is on the third Saturday of each month 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. Our Monday morning Bible Study is on Advent hiatus and will be back after the holidays, this group is starting a new Bible study on the book of Daniel, with Patty Green leading the discussion, they will meet January 12, 2026 and every Monday at 10:00 am after that until Lent. Why not spend an hour or two out of your week to join these wonderful learning opportunities!

Can you be a scripture reader? We are looking for people to read the scriptures at the 8:30 am worship service on Sundays. You will receive the scripture assignment before the service so you can practice reading them. If you can serve in this manner, please contact the church office at 269-465-6031. Thank you for helping with this very special way to serve.



Can You Help? We are looking for helpers for our Sunday School room. We could use your expertise with children and teaching them about our Lord and Savior using curriculum designed to make an impact on these young minds. Won't you consider helping with our Sunday School room. They meet at 9:30 am between our two worship services. In addition, everyone is welcome to come into the Sunday School room on Sunday and watch these wonderful children learn about Jesus! We hope you will take this opportunity to visit our Sunday School room.

ECDC NEWS

Everyone at our ECDC is getting a wonderful restorative rest and we are grateful for all of the gifts God has given to Immanuel with a fantastic director and staff all enthusiastic, creative and loving individuals!

"The Rock" Sunday School

Happy New Year! Today at The Rock, we are going to start the year off running. We are in the middle of the story of David in 1 Samuel 21-26. David is fleeing from King Saul, who is jealous. The chase is on!

David ran from place to place, trying to stay one step ahead of Saul, who was hunting him. David got supplies from the priest in the city of Nob, but when Saul found out, he had the entire city destroyed. David fled to Gath and acted like a madman to avoid being killed. Eventually, his family and a band of men joined him. David and his men were hiding in a cave one time when Saul entered the cave alone. While Saul slept in his camp, with his army all around him, God caused them all to fall into a deep sleep. David and his nephew, Abishai, sneaked into the camp and got right next to Saul without anyone waking up! David could have gotten revenge on Saul, but instead, he cut off a section of Saul's robe and presented it to him to show that he didn't mean him any harm. Saul left, but he resumed the chase when he learned that David and his men were in the wilderness. David left the camp and called to Saul and his men. He showed them the items he'd taken as proof that he could've killed Saul. Saul recognized that David had spared him even when he had sinned, and he left with his men. David did what was right in some challenging situations. It would have been tempting to kill Saul those times in the cave and in the camp, but David chose to obey God even though Saul was trying to kill him. David showed mercy to Saul, and God protected David.

Bridges: Connecting God's Love from Sunday School to Our Seniors Bridges is more than just a new name; it's a heartfelt initiative designed to foster connections between the children at The Rock and the senior members of our church community. This program aims to bridge generations by creating delightful take-home treats and engaging projects that will be shared during visits to church members who are homebound. In previous years, The Rock has brought joy and warmth to our seniors by making thoughtful gifts for holiday celebrations, including Christmas presents, Valentine's treats, Easter goodies, and summer activity packets. Now, we proudly adopt the "Bridges" name as our mission—uniting youth and seniors through the gift of God's love and creativity.

Thank you to Susan Foster, Ellen Yeske and Cheryl Music for using your time and talents helping to put away and organize the Share Closet. We have had many blessed donations in the last few months and we appreciate you spending your time hanging, folding and organizing the closet so the "shoppers" can see all the wonderful items. You are a blessing to this mission!



**WE ♥ OUR
TEACHERS**



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





Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

Homebound: Dollie Schmaltz, Edith Weed, Edna Holt, Irwin and Margaret Poschke, Terry Graves, Kay Cornwell, Joanne Argue, Harry Rock, Wally & AnneMarie Mojsiejenko, Elizabeth Rock, and Donna Mach

Continuing Care Facilities: Pat Ott, Geraldine Wooley, Don Metzger, Norma Linn, Rose Briggs, Dorothea Crocker, Bill Gast, Duane Vigansky, Harriet Fester, Dave Arndt, 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

Jeffrey Nemitz

No Visitations Through the Holidays.

Healing Needs for the Month

Manfred Moneta, Pastor Greg Lorenz, Nancy Kirk, Vern Nitz Jr., Tina Laminack, Barbara Soos Stelter, Jeffrey Nemitz, Lou Kendrick, Karen Burger, Denny Lawrenz, Vicki Ott, Paul Graves, Dave Kramer, Cameron Magro, Gerald Kuhn, Alex Varvel, Craig Wendzel, Georgia Hildebrandt, Darrell Gast, Brett Germain, Sharon Korcek, Jim Benjamin, Karl Kaeding, Carla Weiser, Jeff Rodewald, Debbie Miller, Natalya Gaidukevich, Christie Ott Hartzler, Janet Lamb, Alex Dixon, Beth Vigansky Ciuizio, Andy Benjamin, Pastor Carl Bassett, Leon Schmaltz, Harriet Fester, 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 Reserve), 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

December 28, 2025 offerings and donations:
Offering Envelopes: \$11,323.00 Year to date: \$355,604.00

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

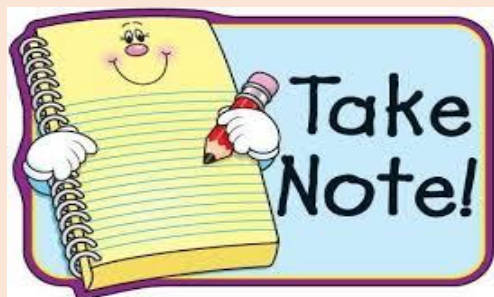
Oldenburg & Sons
EXCAVATING INC



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269-426-4519



God Made
You
Very Special!



Please Join
Us for Our
**MARCH
FOR
LIFE**

Saturday, January 24th 11:00am



Special Days

Birthdays: Shirley Eber (1-06), Brianna Schmitz (1-07), Natalee Zordell (1-07)

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

- Sun. Jan. 4th** – Divine Worship with Holy Communion- 8:30am
Adult Bible Class led by Pastor Krengel –
in the Life Center - 9:30 am
“The Rock” Sunday School – 9:30 am
Praise Worship with Holy Communion –
10:45 am
- Mon. Jan. 5th** - Bible Study led by Patty Green – on hiatus
Handbell Choir Practice – 6:00 pm
Handbell Ensemble Practice – 7:00 pm
Administration Bd Meeting – 7:00 pm
AA Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Wed. Jan. 7th** – Wed. Bible Study led by Elsie Hanke – 10 am
Choir Practice – 7:00 pm
- Thurs. Jan. 8th** – Breakfast with Jesus at Rochefort’s – 8am
Praise Team Practice – 6:30 pm
- Sat. Jan. 10th** – Outreach Bd Meeting 9:15 am
- Sun. Jan. 11th** – Divine Worship - 8:30 am
Education Hour Pastor Led Bible Study 9:30 am
“The Rock” Sunday School – 9:30 am
Praise Worship – 10:45 am

Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ **March for Life Event** – Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 11:00 am.

March for Life will be on **Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 11:00 am.**

This is a wonderful day of praising the Lord for the gift of Life and marching to show our support of those who are protecting lives of the unborn. We will begin in the sanctuary, listen to some wonderful speakers about their missions to protect lives, hear a great message from Pastor Krengel and enjoy some very delicious warm food after the march. We hope you will take this opportunity to join us and make your voice heard!

Sewing for Missions earned some funds from their raffle at the Holiday Village Pop-up Market, which brought them \$90 to use for future sewing needs. The three quilts raffled all went to congregational members to enjoy. Our next sewing morning is Friday, **January 30 at 9am.** Hope you can make it either with a quilt top or just willing hands to help. God's blessings for a wonderful Christmas season, celebrating Jesus' birth!

We can always use members who wish to share their musical talents. Maybe one of your New Year's resolutions could be to join one of our Choirs or our Praise Team. Everyone is welcome to join, we enjoy fellowship and fun while using our unique talents to add beauty to worship. If you have a voice you can sing, if you can count you can play bells, if you play an instrument we can use you too. Our Handbell Choir practices on Monday at 6:00 pm. Our Choir practices on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Our Praise Team practices on Thursday at 6:30 pm. There is also the Beyond the Walls Choir which is seasonal. If you play an instrument, (any instrument!) we would like to invite you to join us also. Let's use our many talents to praise our Lord and Savior.

Those Serving in Church This Week

Greeters: The Berk Family and Don & Marion Burch (8:30 am) Immanuel's Praise Team (10:45am)

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

Handbell Ensemble: Directed by Pastor Tom Fischer, Susan Foster, Cheryl Music, Doug Hamlin, Kathy Michener, Joyce Hamlin and Kim Schmitz

Piano Soloist: Susan Foster

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

Praise Speaker: Shannah Smith

Guitarists: John "Mac" McElligott, Kurt Hanke

Keyboardist/Guitarist: Kunwarjit Singh Multani "Sid" & Lanny Duffel

Altar Guild: Susan Foster, Cheryl Music, Karen Oldenburg

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,

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

Elders: Larry Kanous, Denny Barnes, Paul Jaeger, Mark Heyn, Eric Ott, Larry Smith, Doug Hamlin, Steve Schmitz

Organist: Pastor Thomas Fischer

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Douglas Krengel

Nicene Creed (LSB p. 191) The Creeds of the church grow directly from the teachings of Scripture. Many resources are available to explain this in more detail.

Offertory (LSB p.192-192) Either before or during the offering, the congregation sings this setting of a portion of Psalm 51. It implores God to work through the Word just preached to cleanse and purify the heart as God's people gather their sacrificial offerings and partake of His Supper.

Offering: An Early Christian father, Tertullian, reported that pagans were amazed at how Christians cared for one another. "See how they love one another," the pagans said. The Bible bears this out. The Old Testament Hebrews provided for their priests. In the New Testament, St. Paul exhorts his congregations take up offerings for the church, to provide both for church workers and all the brothers in need. (Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:5-7; Gal. 8:6-7).

***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!*

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 Krengel has posted his hours on his office door.

Offering Envelopes for 2026 are in your mailboxes. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Today's Hymns: LSB 398, 397, 628, 632, 822

Next Sunday Scriptures:?

Last Sunday's Attendance: 52 - 8:30 am; 49-10:45 am

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

