



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.

Immanuel Informer

August 2024

Volume 20, Issue 2

Back to School

Greetings in the name of Christ our Lord.

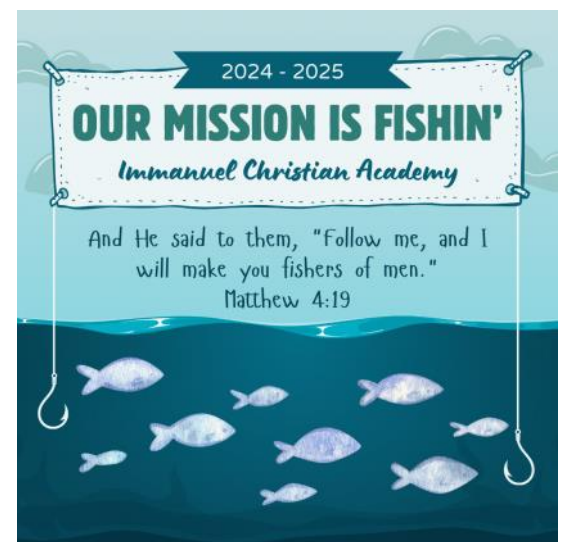
The month of August is the time to return to school. Our new Principal, Dr. Patricia Jackson, and staff are gearing up for a new and exciting year. Immanuel's premier outreach ministry will kick off Wednesday, August 21st. Our teachers are gifted with a passion for teaching academics and the Christian faith to their students. We are grateful for their dedication as ministers in God's Kingdom. We have another new addition to our faculty. Teaching Kindergarten will be Dr. Vickie Casanova. Please be sure to welcome her and Dr. Jackson. Let's remember to keep our staff, students, and their families in our prayers throughout the school year. Welcome them into the family of Immanuel.

As we consider the "Back to School" theme, we see how it applies to us as well. As disciples of Jesus, we are always being taught by our Lord—we are always learning. Immanuel Christian Academy prepares students for the many challenges that life brings. Likewise, the church is where God prepares us for life (and death). Children are always learning in school and we can learn from them—growing in our faith in Christ. The Apostle Paul said it well in Colossians 3:16-17, *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."* Paul talks about a journey that takes us from learning to doing. As the words of Jesus take root in us, we grow in our relationships with one another and our neighbors. *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven"* (Matt 5:16).

Each year we are given the opportunity to do just that as we enter a new school year at Immanuel Christian Academy. ICA is a great mission field that God has placed at our doorstep. It is there to be nurtured, cultivated, and harvested. Shining the light of Jesus into the lives of our students and their families fulfills that command (Matthew 28:19-20). We want to bear fruit for Jesus so that God's Kingdom will grow and people will find joy in His eternal promise. Jesus said, *"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples"* (John 15:8). May God bless what remains of your summer, enabling you by the power of His Spirit, to show His love, mercy, and grace, to all your neighbors.

In the Fellowship and Love of Christ,

Pastor Steve Deombeleg



Put Your Hands Together

A ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Put Your Hands Together News Report

submitted by Jayne Siou, Pantry Director

Private & Online Donations: \$ 1123.00

Pending Grant Applications: 4 **Grant Awards:** None **New Grants Written:** 0

PYHT Food Distributions & Activity: In-Kind Food Donations/Food Rescue Received: 26,633 lbs.

Food Ministry Service Events: 235 Families Served this month (94 Saturday Pantry Day)

PYHT Food Relief Agencies & Ministries Served: Westchester FP, Elmhurst FP, Youth Crossroads, Berwyn FP, St. Paul Oak Lawn, Our Lady of Angels-Chgo., St. Lukes, Downers Grove Comm Kitchen, Leyden Township FP, Interim Housing Center-DuPage, Immanuel DesPlaines, Abundant Children & Family Service Agency

NEWS:

Volunteers, we appreciate you!

Volunteers are the backbone of our Food Ministry, over 3000 volunteer hours per year go into receiving and distributing food to our community and food ministry partners. We couldn't do it without you!

We Need Paper Grocery Bags: Recycle your paper grocery bags at the pantry so we can save money on purchasing them. Plain paper bags, with or without handles are needed!

Thanks to Tom & Jacob Czubernat for building and installing the new Little Free Pantry!

The new little pantry is filled with ready-to eat food, snacks and beverages.

Expansion Project Update:

No news to report at this time.

Fundraising help is needed: Please consider making a recurring donation to our food pantry online, through REALM. A small monthly donation of \$25 or more can make a huge difference in our pantry sustainability and helps cover the transportation expenses associated with food donation pickups from our generous food donors. If you are physically unable to volunteer, this is one way you can show your support for our mission. Thank You!

Pantry Schedule:

Monday, August 5th @4:45 PM-Midwest Food Bank Unloading-Help Needed

Tuesday, August 6th 9:30 AM Donation Sorting Help Needed

Thursday, August 8th 9:30 AM Pantry Day Set-up Help Needed

Friday, August 9th 9:30 AM Pantry Day Food Box Set-up Help Needed

Saturday, August 10th Food Pantry Distribution-Help Needed

***Please pray for continued guidance and support of our expansion project,
Food Ministry Partners and for all volunteers! THANK YOU!***

Blessings on your Stewardship Journey



WHEN WE GIVE, WE REFLECT THE HEART OF GOD.

In our stewardship journey, we are transformed into new people who are changed by the Holy Spirit from self-centered to Christ-centered people. In Christ, we are new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17). He changes us from being selfish people to those who are generous and other-oriented. We move forward in our generosity, learning to give more and more. Our journey will be marked by ups and downs, but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we continue moving forward by God's grace. Our journey and transformation are only complete in our eternal home with Jesus.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Romans 12:9-21

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).



Stewardship Corner

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus contrasts treasures in heaven with treasures on earth. He tells us to be cautious about seeking earthly treasures because they provide no lasting value, security, satisfaction, or happiness. *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal”* (Matthew 6:19). If earthly treasures become overly important, we will experience disillusionment and anxiety worrying about what we possess. Another danger in amassing earthly treasures is that our attention and loyalty is on material possessions. Focusing our thoughts on material things will undermine our relationship with Jesus and take away our joy and interest in His kingdom.

IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



From the Principal's Desk: A Blessed New School Year at Immanuel Christian Academy

Peace and blessings to you all! I am filled with anticipation and gratitude for the blessings God has in store for us as we begin our Christian walk together. So, please feel free to contact me to volunteer to assist with or coordinate the wonderful opportunities that will develop because of our school and church community collaborations this year.

First, I would ask that you join me in welcoming Dr. Vickie Casanova to our school family. Her diverse talents and unwavering commitment to Christian education will truly assist our kindergarten student's spiritual growth and academic endeavors. Please join me in praying for her and all our faculty, staff, Day School Commission, and volunteers as we embark on a new year of ministry.

This year, our theme is "Our Mission is Fishing," from Matthew 4:19 which reads, "And he said to them, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Thus, we will nurture the students academically and spiritually through daily devotions, weekly chapel services, and our curriculum items that are rooted in biblical truth. It is our objective to cultivate a solid foundation of faith for each child we serve.

As we explore innovative programs and initiatives designed to enhance our educational experiences, we pray for your help with programs such as...

1. The creation of a STEM Curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics): This program will help our students to learn critical thinking skills that foster problem solving in their daily lessons through the integration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts.
2. The expansion of our Arts Program: Please help the school by putting your creative talents to work in the areas of the visual arts, drama, music, (i.e., quilting, crochet, knitting, painting (water, color, oil, etc.) and more. We could use your help before school, after school, and during the day with play productions, a community choir, and the planning of summer camps and VBS for next year.

3. The development of a Service-Learning Leadership Program:

We pray that our students live their faith by serving our community. By doing so they will demonstrate Christ's love of them to others. Please assist us in formulating opportunities for our students to serve this year (i.e., nursing home visits, Habitat for Humanity Projects, food pantry assistants, hospital helpers, and more). We would also need your help in hosting a youth group for off campus activities (i.e., skating, bowling, movie night, and fishing trips) and a Christian Lock-in for our students this year for faith formation.

4. The return of School Clubs:

The students are eager to expand their Christian witness, team building skills, and sportsmanship outside of the classroom. As such, they are interested in additional boys and girls' sports, student council, pep squad, kindness crew, dance, boys/girls scouting, gardening club, cooking club, karate, sign language club, debate club, book club, yearbook, newspaper, science and robotics club, Beta Club, math/religion/science bowls, spelling bee, R.O.T.C., and much more. If God has purposed you to have a talent or interest in assisting students in these areas, please contact the school office to learn how you can assist in forming these clubs.

5. The development of an Alumni Affairs Office:

We would love to know where our alumni have gone over the years. We are seeking a volunteer to assist the school in creating an alumni affairs office. This would involve creating a database of previous graduates, sending communications, developing a newsletter, and formulating an account for gifts. We would like for our alumni to visit the school to speak with students during our "Lunch and Learn Program" and prayerfully get to a point where we can have reunions and homecomings. Please speak with me if you are interested in helping with this project.

Our Parent-Teacher League (PTL) is working diligently planning events that will build a keen sense of community in the school and with the church. Your participation in the planning of these events will be appreciated as we work and pray together this year. Please contact the office to learn more about how you can bless our students through your service.

Together this year, I ask for your prayers for our students, families, faculty, and staff. As a church and school, we are united as a community that is Immanuel. Let us shine the light of Christ in all that we do together as we continue to grow in grace and knowledge.

In His Service,

Dr. Patricia Jackson, Principal

Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures gives. Romans 15:4

Getting the Most Out of Your Daily Bible Reading

As you read the Bible each day, allow the Scriptures to speak to you. This daily “dialogue “ between you and the biblical text will reveal new understandings about God, and about yourself.

August - Faith

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Joshua 1:1–18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Judges 16:1–22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Joshua 2:1–24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Judges 16:23–31 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Joshua 6:1–27 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 Ruth 1:1–22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Joshua 22:1–9 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Ruth 2:1–23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Joshua 22:10–34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Ruth 3:1–18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Joshua 23:1–16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 Ruth 4:1–22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Joshua 24:1–33 | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 1 Samuel 1:1–28 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Judges 1:1–19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 1 Samuel 2:1–11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Judges 4:1–24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 1 Samuel 3:1–21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Judges 5:1–31 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 2 Samuel 5:1–25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Judges 6:1–27 | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 2 Samuel 7:1–17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Judges 6:28–40 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 2 Samuel 7:18–29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Judges 7:1–25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 29 Romans 4:1–25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Judges 8:1–28 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 Hebrews 11:1–22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Judges 13:1–25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 31 Hebrews 11:23–40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Judges 15:9–20 | |

Set aside time to
read the bible on a daily basis.

Find a quiet place to read and
reflect on each day’s reading.

Begin with prayer, asking
God for guidance and blessing.

A Month of Prayer

The fellowship of prayer consists of caring people who pray daily for members in the church. Members and their families will be listed in alphabetical order each month. Please pray for both their known and unknown needs. *School Families in italics.*

1. Mindy Ondrovic
2. Phyllis Ondrovic
3. Pena Family
4. Perez Family
5. *The Perry Family*
6. Lynn Rand
7. Susan Redis
8. Gloria Rubietta
9. Joan Rundgren
10. *The Ruffin Family*
11. *The Santos Brantley - Cruz Family*
12. Dot Schneider
13. *Sims Family*
14. *Skinner Family*
15. *Smith Family*
16. Rita Stallings
17. *Steele Family*
18. *Swims Family*
19. Svec Family
20. *Thomas Family*
21. *Thurman Family*
22. Lisa Tipples
23. *Torres - Ortega Family*
24. Lance Turner
25. Wayne & Debbie Valentino
26. Marilyn Weeks
27. Randy & Michelle Weeks
28. Welch Family
29. Dorothy Westphal
30. Philbert Wilcox Sr.
31. Philbert Wilcox Jr.

August Birthdays *“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24*

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 5 - Jayla Pernel | 16 - Rashaad Smith | 26 - Ron Arndt |
| 6 - Paris Thomas | 21 - Lynn Rand | 28 - Johnny Welch |
| 8 - Dave Svec | 23 - Mike Northcutt | 31 - Tracy Bell |
| 12 - Tom Sierawski | 25 - Debbie Valentino | |

AUGUST 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9am Garden Workday
4 9:30am Worship HC 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	5	6	7	8	9	10 11am Food Pantry
11 - Script Orders 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	12	13	14 3pm - 7 pm School Registration	15 Faculty Meetings	16	17 9am Garden Workday
18 9:30am Worship HC 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	19	20 1st Day of School	21	22	23	24 - 11:00am Case for Local Farms talk to benefit the OSHGHC in the church fellowship hall
25 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	26	27	28	29	30 No School Labor Day Weekend	31

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RETURN REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL



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*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10*