



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Informer

Volume 18 Issue 5

November, 2022

Keep Calm and Listen On!

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Do you like roller coasters? I love them. I can't get enough of them; the more hoops, twists, and turns, the better. I enjoy moving so fast that the world becomes one big blur. Bring it! I find riding roller coasters to be rather therapeutic. Riding a roller coaster is a great way to stimulate anti-stress (happy) hormones in the brain; I'm pretty sure my doctor would prescribe roller coaster rides for me as an anti-depressant. Super-fast twists, turns, and loops can work wonders for a stressful life. But what about when our world feels like we're riding a non-stop roller coaster?

The world today often feels like that and let's face it; we want to get off this out-of-control ride as soon as possible. Not so therapeutic. We try everything under the sun to figure out how to best deal with it. We entertain ourselves with movies, television, and music. Go out to a nice dinner. Visit a friend or family. Take a hot bath. There are many ways we try to reduce the level of stress on the

roller coaster ride we call America. It's not easy with all the noise and confusion. Much like a roller coaster ride, you only hear the screams of others.

All this stress can lead to anxiety and anxiety can be overwhelming. The catch phrase, "Keep calm and carry on," is posted everywhere, but the words seem to fizzle out as quickly as we read them. The Bible has a word for that. "Listen."

Sometimes listening to God's voice is hard, especially when today is crazy and tomorrow looks worse. The apostle Paul wrote, "*Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ,*" (Rom 10:17). Is your faith falling and your stress soaring? In your despair have you been turning to God or away from God? If God's Word no longer holds your attention maybe you need something more. Maybe you need the full package that God provides right here at Immanuel. It's here that God gives you His Word and Sacraments—His means of grace—the tangible to strengthen your faith. The prophet Jeremiah

says, "*Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts*" (Jer 15:16).

All Scripture (God's Word) points to Christ. "*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us...*" (John 1:14). Jesus, the Word made flesh, comes to your rescue. In Him, God has spoken His final Word. It's the most justifying, hopeful, victorious, and enduring Word ever. Jesus came to carry our sins to the cross, bear our burdens on His shoulders, defeat sin and Satan, and then live to tell us about it. With a Word like this, we can say goodbye to stress. We keep calm and listen on! I look forward to seeing you in worship this Sunday. Come listen to more of God's Word at our Advent Midweek Services beginning November 30th at 7pm.

In the Fellowship and Love of Christ,

Pastor Steve Deombeleg

Save the Date!

- 01 - Dining for Dollars at Buona Day School Commission Mtg.
- 02 - Faculty Meeting
- 03 - Elders Meeting
- 06 - Fall Back - Daylight Saving Time Ends 2am
- 08 - Election Day
- 11 - Veteran's Day No School / Adult Volleyball
- 12 - Pantry Saturday
- 13 - Scrip Orders Due / Day School Choir Sings
- 14- 18 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 17 - Dining for Dollars at Panera
- 18 - Adult Volleyball
- 20 - Voters Meeting
- 21 - 25 Thanksgiving Break
- 22 - Holiday Meal Giveaway
- 27 - First Sunday in Advent
- 30 - Mid-week Advent Service

November Birthdays

- 01 - Alicia Blair
- 03 - Leslie Iacovetti
- 04 - Christine Bell
- 05 - Mike Mannella
- 06 - Daniel Stallings
- 07 - Kate Fructuoso - 5th Grade
- 10 - Issac Holston - PreK
- 11 - Jacob Czubernat
- 12 - Jahniya Brantley - Kindergarten
- 14 - Susan Arnold
- 19 - Dorothy Ivers
- 22 - Olivia Deombeleg
- 29 - Jayceon Brantley-Cruz - 3rd Grade

STEWARDSHIP



Time ♣ Talent ♣ Treasure

Participants in Jesus' Ongoing Work

God calls us to be His stewards (Genesis 1:28; 2:15), and we become faithful stewards when we understand and act upon our role as participants in God's plan to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). He wants us to be active, involved, and willing participants in His plan of salvation. He *"desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth"* (1 Timothy 2:4). As participants with the Lord, we become His hands, feet, and mouth through whom He works. In the Great Commission, Jesus tells us that we are to *"go"* (Matthew 28:19). Our Lord's mission becomes our mission so we are to be more than spectators.

Our involvement in the Great Commission is motivated by the Holy Spirit Who takes from us our hearts of stone

and gives us our hearts of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26). With these new hearts, we can begin to understand how much God loves us and all people. Through faith, we know that He sent His Son to suffer and die on the cross for our redemption, which prompts us to commit our time, talents, and money to His service. We live lives with a new perspective, meaning, and purpose. Because of God's saving activity, we willingly surrender our lives and become participants in Jesus' mission to share the life-saving Gospel with all people.

God's Word is clear that we are saved by grace through faith and not by works (Ephesians 2:8-9). However, our mission efforts and works are part of God's plan so they are important to Him. *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them"* (Ephesians 2:10). We are not saved by works but for works. As we

participate in God's mission to seek and save the lost, we know that all of our works are merely responses to what God has already done for us.

By grace, Jesus has redeemed us, and we are a temple of the Holy Spirit Who is in us. We are not our own (1 Corinthians 6:20). He saved us for the purpose of being participants in His plan of salvation. He has gifted us so we can spend our lives serving and glorifying Him. We are not all called to be pastors nor are we all traveling to foreign mission fields as missionaries, but we are all called to serve God in some capacity. If we don't have a sense of mission, we are probably living for ourselves. In the words of the Apostle Paul, *"And He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him Who for their sake died and was raised"* (2 Corinthians 5:15).

May God help us all be eager and willing participants in Jesus' ongoing work.

AS CREATED AND BAPTIZED CHILDREN OF GOD, WE ARE STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL

"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God" (2 Corinthians 5:20).

In Scripture, we see how God has used the testimony of people faithful in their giving to encourage the giving of others. In the book of Acts, we read of Barnabas' gift of property. "Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet" (Act 4:36-37). His gift was an encouragement for others to give. Among the believers, none lacked food or shelter, because those with surpluses were encouraged to share with those in need. Our giving can be a witness to our families, church, and potentially to our neighborhoods. May God grant us His grace to give, so that our giving can be a testimony of our faith to others.

UPDATES & REPORTS



**Pending Grant Applications: (5) 4
New Grants written this month.**

Grant Awards: U-Haul \$150

Food Distributions & Activity:

InKind Food Donations Received:

Costco, EYFP, Michael Lewis Co., Give N Kind, Elmwood Park Community Church Pantry, Norman Distribution, Westchester FP.

Pop Up-Pantry Families Served: 96

Pop Up-Pantry Individuals Served: 343

Friday Food Pantry: families (as of 10/21) 49

Food Relief Agencies & Ministries

Served: Youth Crossroads, Westchester Food Pantry, Lyons Church, St. Paul-Oak Lawn, BEDS Plus-LaGrange, Elmhurst Food Pantry, Leyden Township FP, Inner City Impact, Elmwood Park Panty, Village of Hillside, Downers Grove Soup Kitchen, Housing Forward, BEDS+, Quinn Center-Maywood, St. Peter's Schaumburg, Project 22:9.

Volunteer Stipends Paid Out: \$200 +\$25 Gas Gift Cards

PRE-HOLIDAY FOOD & FUND DRIVE-UPDATED:

This year we will be having a special Thanksgiving Turkey/Ham Giveaway, Scheduled for Tuesday, November 22nd at 11am. The timing of receiving the purchased turkeys and meal kits did not coincide with our regular Saturday distribution and I anticipate the same for December-Christmas giveaway. We will maintain Friday give-

ways during the holidays to manage all the extra food. Thanks to Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry we will be able to purchase turkeys, hams, and meal boxes from Northern Illinois Food Bank.

Last year we gave away a total of 200 Holiday (Thanksgiving & Christmas) meal boxes at a cost of \$35 each (\$7,000). Although the cost of the meal box has risen considerably since last year, we will keep the cost at \$35, beginning fundraising on October 23-

Expansion Project Update:

It was a pleasure meeting with the Batterman Foundation early in October, we hope to have news regarding grant funding for the expansion project. Grant writing and funding is a slow and tedious process, new grant opportunities and news of grants should be coming in the coming year. I am hoping to have an online fundraising campaign ready to roll in December/January as well as a new monthly pantry e-newsletter.

Salaried Position Available: New, future grants written will include a part-time salaried position for Food Pantry & Distribution Coordinator. If you are interested in more information or begin training for this position, please speak to Jayne Siou, call, text or email. (708) 261-2006 or jaynesiou@comcast.net

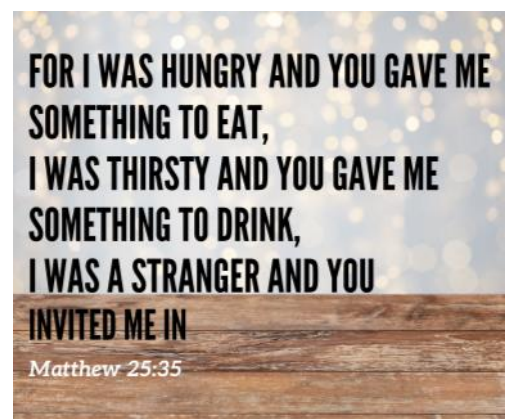
PLEASE PRAY FOR CONTINUED GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR OUR MINISTRY EXPANSION PROJECT.



Versiti Blood Drive Update

Immanuel's September 24th blood drive had twelve registered donors. Ten units were collected which saved up to thirty lives!

Thank you to everyone who participated by providing the precious gift of blood to those in need. Versiti was thankful for the donations and looks forward to Immanuel's support again next year.



From the Principal's Desk



A Gift from the Lord

Valerie Winston

This past month I visited with the kindergarten class. They shared some wonderful thoughts with me about what it's like to be in their classroom. They told me that they were learning how to make their letters right. They are also working on sight words and rhyming. I also discovered that they were learning about bats and spiders. Some of them do not like spiders very much.

They mentioned that their favorite things about kindergarten were playing with Legos and with their friends. They like learning about different things. One student is especially fond of learning math, while many of them seem to enjoy

calendar time. But one of their most favorite things is reading the Bible.

The whole school took a field trip together to a farm. When I asked if they enjoyed the trip, they got very excited as they remembered their time. I asked them what the best part was. I was thinking it might be the hayride or holding baby chicks or even feeding the goats. None of those were mentioned. They did mention riding the train. Imagine my surprise when I found out that the best part of their trip was riding the bus to and from the farm. They said it was so exciting because they had never ridden on a school bus before.

Ms. Patricia Pygman is the kindergarten teacher. Her students have a great love for their teacher. They think she is doing a wonderful job and is very nice and kind. She lets them have recess and is so beautiful. She is so nice that she once let them play with shaving cream. The students also enjoy being around

each other and playing with each other. There are truly wonderful things happening in kindergarten and Ms. Pygman has created an exceptional learning environment for her students.

Psalm 127:3 says, "Children are a gift from the Lord, they are a reward from him." We have truly been gifted by God with these beautiful, enthusiastic children. When I asked them what they liked about being at Immanuel, I did have one student say that they liked seeing me every day. I guess I need to give them some brownie points. But it seems that what they like most of all, is time spent in chapel. They like singing during chapel and like to learn about Jesus. We have been so blessed to have these children be a part of our Immanuel family. It has been a blessing to share God's Word and His love with them. And it is a blessing to know that they are truly feeling and receiving that message and Word, a true gift from the Lord.

Give Thanks
Join Us For Worship

SUNDAYS 9:30AM | THANKSGIVING EVE 7:00PM

FUNDRAISING

Scrip is fundraising while you shop!

shopwithscrip.com 

Shop with Scrip

Scrip fundraising is a no - selling program that enables families to raise money for their church or school. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in

place of cash, checks, and credit cards. You purchase gift cards from your organization at face value, and your coordinator orders those cards from Rasie Right Scrip at a reduced price. The difference is an

instant rebate for Immanuel. Order Forms are in the church hallway or enroll and order online:

shopwithscrip.com
Enrollment Code:
9D337C6F55761



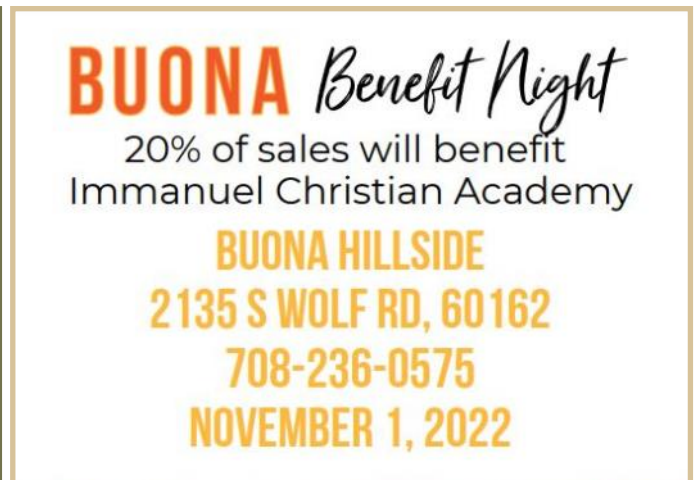
RAISE SOME DOUGH
 Help support us!

20% of sales will benefit
 IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

November 17, 2022
 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm CDT
 11215 Cermak Rd

In Cafe • Drive-Thru • Pick-Up • Delivery

Panera FUNDRAISING



BUONA *Benefit Night*

20% of sales will benefit
 Immanuel Christian Academy

BUONA HILLSIDE
 2135 S WOLF RD, 60162
 708-236-0575
 NOVEMBER 1, 2022

AmazonSmile

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know - same products, same prices, same service. Support your organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com today and choose **Immanuel Lutheran Church & School Hillside, IL**



Email fundraising@buona.com to plan your Buona Benefit Night! Not valid with online, app, phone orders, or Gift Card purchases. Promoting on Buona's premises is prohibited.

We're hiring! Visit Buona.com/Careers

 @BuonaBeef
 @BuonaBeef
 BuonaRestaurants

Market Day - Did you know Market Day offers home direct delivery! Register today at www.marketdaylocal.com and choose Immanuel Christian Academy Hillside as your organization.

FUNDRAISING

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.

Names in italics are school families.



1. *Aguirre Family*
2. *Allen Family*
3. *Allen Family*
4. *Arce Family*

5. Ron & Barb Arndt
6. Susan Arnold
7. Taylor Balslew
8. Leonard Bartels
9. Bell Family
10. Jennifer Bettin
11. Jeffrey Bettin
12. Karen Bimler
13. Blair Family
14. Bud Boese
15. Bozzi Family
16. Ruth Anne Brendemuhl
17. Bob Brown
18. *Brown Family*
19. Doretha Brown & Rashaad Smith
20. *Caldwell Family*
21. Joe & Lisa Chioda
22. *Cruz Family*
23. *Davis Family*
24. *Davis - Valencia Family*

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ADULT VOLLEYBALL

NOVEMBER 11

NOVEMBER 18

**FUN!
FITNESS!
FELLOWSHIP!**

25. Detrall Dearbone
26. The Deombeleg Family
27. Laprika Duff & Jayla Pernel
28. *The Fructuoso Family*
29. *The Garcia Family*
30. Arlene Gasperich

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.

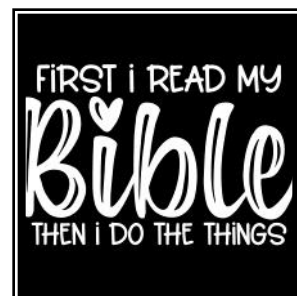
Daily Bible Readings

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Matthew 21:1-22 | 19 Matthew 27:57-66 |
| 2 Matthew 21:23-46 | 20 Matthew 28:1-20 |
| 3 Matthew 22:1-22 | 21 Revelation 18:1-24 |
| 4 Matthew 22:23-46 | 22 Revelation 19:1-21 |
| 5 Matthew 23:1-12 | 23 Revelation 20:1-15 |
| 6 Matthew 23:13-39 | |
| 7 Matthew 24:1-28 | Thanksgiving Day |
| 8 Matthew 24:29-51 | 24 Revelation 21:1-18 |
| 9 Matthew 25:1-13 | 25 Revelation 21:9-27 |
| 10 Matthew 25:14-30 | 26 Revelation 22:1-21 |
| 11 Matthew 25:31-46 | |
| 12 Matthew 26:1-19 | First Sunday in Advent |
| 13 Matthew 26:20-35 | 27 Daniel 9:1-27 |
| 14 Matthew 26:36-56 | 28 Isaiah 1:1-28 |
| 15 Matthew 26:57-75 | 29 Isaiah 5:1-25 |
| 16 Matthew 27:1-10 | 30 Isaiah 6:1-7:9 |
| 17 Matthew 27:11-32 | |
| 18 Matthew 27:33-56 | |

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.





November 2022



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

6 - <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends at 2am</i> 9:30am Worship H.C. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15 Bible Study	7	1 - Picture Re-take Day <i>Buona Benefit</i> 6pm School Commission Meeting	2 8:15am Chapel 3pm - Faculty Meeting 7:30pm Adult Choir	3 6pm Elders Meeting	4- 12pm Packing Lunch Meals for the Homeless	5
13 - <i>Scrip Orders Due</i> 9:30am Worship <i>Day School Choir Sings</i> 10:30am Fellowship 11:15 Bible Study	14	8 Election Day 6pm PTL Meeting 6pm Church Council Meeting	9 8:15am Chapel 7:30pm Adult Choir	10 6pm Stewardship Meeting	11 - Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL 7pm Adult Volleyball	12 11am - 1pm PYHT Pantry
20 9:30am Worship H.C. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15 Bible Study Voters Meeting	21 - NO SCHOOL	15 22 - NO SCHOOL 11am - 1pm PYHT Holiday Meal Giveaway	16 8:15am Chapel 7:30pm Adult Choir	17 School Dental Visits 4pm Home Basketball Game <i>Dining for Dollars at Panera 4pm - 8pm</i>	18 - End of Trimester 7pm Adult Volleyball	19
27 - 1st Sunday in Advent 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15 Bible Study	28 <i>Happy 1st week of Advent!</i> 	29 8:15am Chapel 7pm - Advent Service 7:45pm Adult Choir Practice	23 - NO SCHOOL 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service followed by coffee & pie!	24 - NO SCHOOL Happy Thanksgiving! 	25 - NO SCHOOL	26

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RETURN REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

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Celebrating 170 Years of Christian Education