



THE MESSENGER

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
726 Fuller Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307

Website: www.immanuelbr.com

Facebook: @immanuelbr Instagram: ILCbigrapids

Phone 231/796-8273 Fax 231/796-9599

Sunday Morning Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Live on Facebook

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday – 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm - Closed on Friday

Office Staff: Mary Larkin, Administrative Assistant is in the office Tuesday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm. Shirley Hamelund, Office Assistant is in the office Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9 am – 4 pm. The Church office is closed on Friday.

Office e-mail addresses:

Church: immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com

Mary Larkin (Administrative Assistant) marylar726@gmail.com

Shirley Hamelund (Office Assistant/Receptionist) shirleyh403@gmail.com

MISSION: To inspire members to grow in loving devotion to Jesus Christ, caring concern for one another, welcoming outreach, and loving service to our neighbors.

VISION STATEMENT: Immanuel Lutheran Church will be known for welcoming hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity.

JUNE 2023



Pastoral Schedule for June 2023 (in-person)

June 4, 2023 Pastor Dan Ward

June 11, 2023 Pastor John Brown

June 18, 2023 Rev. Robert Garrels

June 25, 2023 Lee Wolken, Lay Leader

June 14, 2023

(Live stream on Facebook)

Please call the church office (231) 796-8273 in case of an emergency. The referral will be passed on to a leader of the church.

June Readings Schedule

(Readings from New Revised Standard)

June 4th - The Holy Trinity

9:30 am Worship - Pastor Dan Ward - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Genesis 1: 1—2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

Matt. 28: 16-20

June 11th - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Worship - Pastor John Brown - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Hosea 5: 15—6: 6

Psalm 50: 7-15

Romans 4: 13-25

Matt. 9: 9-13, 18-26

June 18th - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Worship - Rev. Robert Garrels - in person worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Exodus 19: 2-8a

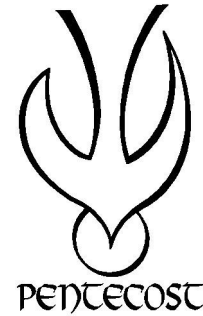
Psalm 100

Romans 5: 1-8

Matt. 9: 35—10: 8 (9-23)

June 25th - 4th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship - Lee Wolken, Lay Leader - In person Worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Jeremiah 20: 7-13

Psalm 69: 7-10 (11-15) 16-18

Romans 6: 1b-11

Matt. 10: 24-39



YTD thru April 2023

Ministry Fund

Giving - \$42,492

Expenses -\$19,610

Building Fund

Giving - \$29,899

Mortgage Payments- \$44,688

IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES



If you were left off this list, or if a birthday or anniversary is listed wrong, please contact the church office.

1	Linda Obermier-Borton
5	Judy Misoni
13	Elizabeth Schweitzer-Griswold
	Tim Vogel
15	Janet Mallett
20	Sally Barr
26	Rev. Bob Garrels
29	Jean Swarthout



1	Todd & Dawn Aardema
	Bill & Barb Ballard
2	Don & Irene Schuberg
6	Don & Betty Nelson
21	David & Vicky Scott
	Rick & Shelly Snavley

Meetings in person this month

- Staff meeting **Tues. June 6 at 10:30 am**
 Worship & Music comm. **Tues. June 6 at 2:00 pm**
 Bible Study **Mon. June 12 at 1:00 pm**
 Staff meeting **Tues. June 13 at 10:30 am**
 Tubabach Summer concert **Sun. June 18 at 4 pm**
 Staff meeting **Tues. June 20 at 10:30 am**

Shepherd's Hooks & Needler **Tues. June 20 at Noon**

Staff meeting **Tues. June 27 at 10:30 am**

Hymn Planning **Tues. June 27 at 3:30 pm**



Ongoing prayers for: Jean Swarthout, Len Crystal, Nancy McReynolds, Leroy Larson.

Comfort:
Phyllis Striho family
Virginia Schuberg family
Pam Nyman family
Bill Pepler family

Healing & Health Concerns for:
 Roger O'Dell, Judy O'Dell, Linda Borton, Marcy Nelson, Charlie Schroeder, Elaine White, Beth Hamelund, Pastor Roseanne Anderson, Denny Greene, Fred Zimmerman, Pam Panek.

World Concerns Prayers:
 Our President and Leaders of the Nation
 Racism
 Prayer of guidance for our neighborhood churches
 People hurting, suffering, homeless
 People in poverty (hunger, homeless)
 Military troops in the U.S. and abroad
 Victims of Human Trafficking
 Victims of natural disasters here & abroad
 Victims of shootings, bombs, terrorist groups
 Victims of hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, volcanoes, devastating tornadoes (Kentucky) and wildfires
 North Korea, Iran, Syria, Puerto Rico, Islamic community in New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Ukraine
 Families of the mass shootings in US
 Shootings & Suicides in returning veterans in Military & their families (general PTSD) (22 suicides every day)
 Wounded Warriors



PARISH NURSE

JUNE

June is here! May we all enjoy summer! Take a walk, visit a neighbor or friend, mow the lawn, plant flowers, or sit outdoors in a lawn chair. Enjoy!

Our Health News for June:

1. June is National Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month. Pain is the leading reason for a person seeking medical care. Because of the heroin epidemic, professionals are now carefully monitoring who gets what prescription and for what reason. Be sure to keep your prescription medicines locked up to prevent anyone from “accidentally” helping himself or herself to any. Medicines that are no longer needed can be discarded in a bin at the sheriff’s office.
2. June is another Blood Donor Month (sometimes the ones scheduled for January get cancelled because of inclement weather). The American Red Cross needs blood donors year round for cancer patients, burn victims, and bone marrow receiving patients. 1(800) RED CROSS.
3. June is Men’s Health and Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Usually prostate cancer grows slowly which gives a person and his physician time to think about treatment. Common side-effects include urinary leakage, bowel problems, and erectile dysfunction. Blood work, a rectal examination and biopsies may be prescribed.
4. The American Red Cross shelters, feeds, and provides emergency support to disaster victims, supplies 40% of the nation’s blood supply, teaches skills that save lives, and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is not-for-profit and depends on volunteers and generosity of the American public to perform its mission.

Blood Pressure Checks will be when needed.

“Where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”Matthew 18:20 NIV

Love In Christ

Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Social Concerns committee is undertaking a joint program with Manna Pantry beginning with the month of April. You will see that a calendar is attached showing an entire year with a different product listed for each month. The focus will last for entire month. There is a tote near the office for donation. Bonnie Clark asked that we be cautious not to donate outdated products. Let's all lend a helping hand to Manna Pantry.

May:	canned pasta
June:	pork & beans and black beans
July:	boxed macaroni & cheese
August:	canned green beans
September:	canned corn
October:	canned carrots
November:	cranberry sauce & boxed dressing
December:	canned tomatoes

Project Starburst - Hello members. Due to a curious set of circumstances, I was selected to join the board of Project Starburst. I know that Immanuel has had a long-term relationship with Manna Pantry, so I hope we can support both. Both pantries provide a similar service with Starburst doing a bit more than just food including diapers and personal hygiene items.

So just like there are certain items for Manna, here is a list of items for Starburst. I hope you will consider contributions for both.

June	Canned Spaghetti Sauce
July	Juice
August	Peas
September	Mushroom Soup
October	Sweet Potatoes
November	Gravy
December	Instant Mashed Potatoes

As I become more familiar with the organization, I'll update here and in the bulletin. Thank you for all you do to support those less fortunate.

Dave

Social concerns - Go and Do Likewise: We will support the Brookside grade school this year. A collection box will be in the narthex for donations from the Congregation. Such things as Kleenex, hand sanitizer, surface wipes will be needed.

FOSTER HOME

Join our dynamic team of foster parents! We offer lots of support, training, and flexibility. Foster homes are needed for youth ages 8 to 17. We have need for respite care and short placements. Foster parents can be married or single, rent or own, and work full or part-time. Payment is provided. Please call Jodie Garner, 42nd Circuit Court—Family Division, 989-832-6398 for a packet of information.

Herrick Fund Scholarship Applications

Attention, returning college students: If you have completed one year of college successfully, you are eligible to apply for a grant from the Herrick Fund for Higher Education. Established in 1989 to honor the memory of the Late Myrtle A. Herrick. The grant is administered under the direction of Church Council. Using interest from the endowment fund, the amount distributed varies depending upon the number of applicants and amount of interest available.

The grant is available to any student, including non-traditional students, pursuing an established curricula of his/her choice. The beneficiaries of this Fund “shall be selected without regard to race, age, location of, or type of higher learning institution.” Herrick Fund applications are due in the church office no later than June 15, 2023. Paperwork is available from Mary Larkin—contact Carol Wilson-Jungck if you would like additional information.



Did you know that, in addition to “Portals of Prayer,” Immanuel has available two excellent little booklets—“The Lutheran Prayerbook”, chock full of prayers for all aspects of daily living and stresses, and “The Lutheran Message,” which contains colorful stories, poetry Bible passages and artwork designed to lift your spirits. You can find them on the carousel (check it out, there’s plenty to see), or on the table next to the offering plate.

Church Council Minutes May 21, 2023

Present: Dave Scott, Steve Neumann, Phyllis Cousineau, Judy O’Dell, Carol Wilson-Jungck, Tammy Lindsey, Bonnie Biers, Roger Barr

Absent: Mel Richardson

The Meeting was called to order at 10:41 AM by President Steve Neumann. The minutes from the April 16, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Carol moved approval. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: There was no Treasurer’s report discussed. A brief written report was submitted.

Committee Reports: No committee reports.

Old Business: Carol reviewed the fee schedule for use of the church. There was some discussion. Carol will have a full schedule at the next meeting. Because of a Wedding in November this schedule is important.

New Business:

Dave will set a meeting day and time for the committee to negotiate the Pastoral income package. This is urgent.

Carol discussed the redecorating the narthex. The shelving has already been moved. She also suggested we contact other churches to see if we could get the newer red hymnal.

Meeting closed at 11:15AM.

Next Scheduled meeting is June 11, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Barr, Secretary

Juneteenth

June 19, 2023



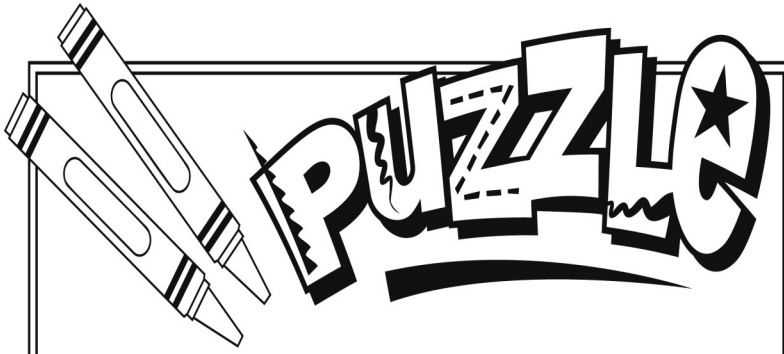
2023 Graduate: Joselyn Rose Hayden, high school graduate from Chippewa Hills.

Parents Eric & Samantha McArthur; Grandparents Steve & Nedra Neumann



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June 18, 2023



A PLANTING PARABLE

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.

WORD BANK: sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water _____
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant _____
3. To plant _____
4. Sharp part of a plant _____
5. What is harvested _____
6. To dry up and shrivel _____
7. Person who plants _____
8. The earth a plant grows in _____

"But the _____₂ falling on good _____₈ refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a _____₅, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was _____₃ n."

MATTHEW 13:23, NIV

Answer: root, seed, soil, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sow

2023 Council Members

Steve Neumann, President	(231) 796-0956
Tammy Lindsey, Vice Pres.	(231) 519-1212
Roger Barr, Secretary	(231) 972-8276
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Dave Scott	(231) 250-5067
Judy O'Dell	(231) 823-2845
Melanie Richardson	(231) 357-0863
Carol Wilson-Jungck	(231) 670-3220
Phyllis Cousineau	(231) 796-9574
Bonnie Biers	(231) 796-1701

Council Liaisons: Roger Barr – Property
Mel Richardson – Social Concerns
Carol Wilson–Jungck – Healing Garden
Dave Scott – Finance
Steve Neumann – Worship & Music
Tammy Lindsey – Stewardship
Bonnie Biers – Church Partnership
Phyllis Cousineau – Healing Garden

Committees and Organizations

Celebrate Immanuel (CIF)

Christian Education

Church Life

Carol Zimmerman, Chairperson	(231) 796-2152
Kitchen Coordinator	
Irene Schuberg, Funeral lunch	(231) 796-7814

Finance

Nedra Neumann, Chairperson	(231) 796-0956
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Roger Barr – Gifts/Memorials	(231) 972-8276

Nominating Team (2023)

Property

Tim Vogel, chairperson	(231) 796-3860
Healing Garden Min.	
Carol Wilson-Jungck, co-chair	(231) 670-3220
Heritage team:	
Carol Zimmerman	(231) 796-2152

Office Staff

Mary Larkin, Administrative Asst. (Tues.-Thurs.)	
Shirley Hamelund, Office Asst. (Mon, Tues, Thurs.)	
Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse (schedule varies)	

Intentional Faith Development

Social Concerns (Risk-Taking Mission and Service)

Roger Barr, Chairperson	(231)972-8276
Lee Wolken –Habitat/Humanity	(231)972-7756

Stewardship (Extravagant Generosity)

Lee Wolken, Chairperson	(231) 972-7756
David Scott	(231) 250-5067

Vision (and Ministry Leadership Network)

Gunder Myran, Chairperson	(231) 972-7405
Lee Wolken	(231) 972-7756

Church Partnership Team

Gunder Myran, Chairperson	(231) 972-7405
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Welcoming

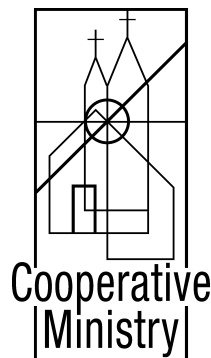
Phyllis Lindsey – Prayer circle	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann-Prayer Circle	(231) 796-8385
Webmaster- Mary Larkin	(231) 796-8273
Leah Monger	(231) 287-7022

Women of the ELCA

Dee Neumann, co-chair	(231) 796-8385
Shirley Hamelund co-chair	(231) 796-7763

Worship and Music (Passionate Worship)

David Scott, A/V team	(231) 796-4618
Dee Neumann, Altar Guild	(231) 796-8385
Carol Zimmerman, Altar Guild	(231) 796-2152
Readers (Volunteer)	
Phyllis Lindsey, Worship Asst.	
and Intinction Asst.	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann, Weddings	(231) 796-8385
Shirley Hamelund, Weddings	(231) 796-7763



Immanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA

726 Fuller Ave.
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Address Change Requested

2023

