



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.

AUGUST 2022



Pastoral Schedule for August 2022 (in-person)

Aug. 7, 2022	Pastor Dan Ward
Aug. 14, 2022	Rev. Teresa Foster
Aug. 21, 2022	Rev. Robert Garrels
Aug. 28, 2022	Pastor Dan Ward

(Live stream on Facebook)

Pastoral duties will be referred to Rev. Teresa Foster. Please first call the church office (231) 796-8273. The referral will be passed on to Rev. Foster.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Big Rapids, Michigan



Dear people of Immanuel,

My name is Lori Weller and I run the Big Rapids office of SLD Read. We are so grateful to be renting your conference room for our new base of operations. We spent the month of June moving in and I am still working on getting everything settled and in its place.

SLD Read is a non-profit community service organization that was established to provide literacy development for students who have not succeeded with traditional teaching methods. Our goal is to provide specialized one-on-one instruction, which will enable the student to develop effective reading, writing and spelling skills. We are a structured phonics program. We do most of our tutoring at the schools during the school year, but we will be doing some here in the space. I will also be doing some testing of students and meeting with parents here.

If you have any interest in our program or being trained to become a tutor, please contact me. My email is lweller@sldcenter.org

We are so thankful to be here and we look forward to doing our work in your beautiful space,

Lori



Picnic Time! We will have a church picnic on **August 28 at 1:00 PM** in Gunder Myran's back yard at 8032 West Royal Rd, Canadian Lakes. Pulled pork sandwiches will be provided by Church Life committee. Please bring a dish to pass and your beverage choice. Table service will be provided. To ensure we have enough tables and chairs, please sign up on the counter in the narthex on the number of people attending and what you plan to bring. Invite your friends and neighbors also. Following the picnic, there will be pontoon boat rides on the main lake at Canadian lakes.



From the Synod newsletter July 26, 2022

The CDC is currently monitoring the spread of the BA.5 omicron subvariant, which is now the most prevalent coronavirus strain in the US. The BA.5 variant is more transmissible than previous strains. The CDC continues to recommend getting vaccinated, getting tested if you experience COVID-19 symptoms, and wearing masks in areas with high transmission rates.

Resources from our North/West Lower Michigan Synod

1. Sunday sermons by our Synod staff will be available Sunday afternoons on the Synod YouTube.
2. On the same Synod YouTube homepage you can view the seminars on racial justice given by our Synod.

If you have a current email address, could you call the office and notify us for future mailings. You may also email Shirley at shirleyh403@gmail.com.

AUGUST Readings Schedule (Readings from New Revised Standard)

Aug. 7th - 9th Sunday after Pentecost

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



Readings:

Genesis 15: 1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16
Luke 12: 32-40

Aug. 14th - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Worship - Rev. Teresa Foster - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Jeremiah 23: 23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11: 29—12: 2
Luke 12: 49-56

Aug. 21st - 11th Sunday after Pentecost

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



Readings:

Isaiah 58: 9b-14
Psalm 103: 1-8
Hebrews 12: 18-29
Luke 13: 10-17

Aug. 28th - 12th Sunday after Pentecost

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



Readings:

Proverbs 25: 6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16
Luke 14: 1, 7-14



YTD thru June 2022

Ministry Fund

Giving - \$67,111
Expenses -\$61,443

Building Fund

Giving - \$58,412
Mortgage Payments- \$57,434

IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES



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

- 8 Dee Neumann
Judy O'Dell
- 14 Wayne Schuberg
Samantha Barnes
- 19 Leah Monger
Craig Hamelund
- 21 Darrell Corrie
Darrell Hamelund
Leigh Lindsey
- 22 Melanie Richardson
- 30 Vicky Scott



- 7 Judy & Roger O'Dell
- 17 Troy & Tammy Lindsey
- 25 Norwood & Dee Neumann



Ongoing prayers for: Jean Swarthout, Elaine White, Len Crystal, Woody Neumann, Nancy McReynolds

Healing & Health Concerns for:

Roger O'Dell, Judy O'Dell, Phyllis Obermier-Striho, Linda & Barry Borton, Bob Krueger, Lucy Fredrick, Marcy Nelson, Fred Zimmerman, Mel Richardson, Mary Sutherland, Alyssa Beeler, Bob Garrels, Virginia Schuberger, Jeremy Sarns, Steve Neumann, Julia Garrels Borgeson, Beth Hamelund, Eli Bazzett and Joselyn Hayden.

Comfort: Alan (Andy) Anderson family
Rev. Jon Fleming family (United)
Rev. Teresa Foster family (mother Isabel passed)

Prayers for our Community churches:

St. Andrew's Episcopal, Augustana Lutheran in Tustin, St. Paul's in Reed City, United Church, St. Peter's Lutheran, First United Methodist Big Rapids, Immanuel Lutheran in Big Rapids (All have had their share of problems with Leadership/Pastors serving the churches these past few years).

World Concerns Prayers:

Our President and Leaders of the Nation
Racism
Prayer of guidance for our neighborhood churches
People hurting, suffering, homeless
Concern for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading in the US/Foreign Countries and people suffering losses during Covid-19 Pandemic
People in poverty (hunger, homeless)
Military troops in the U.S. and abroad
Wounded Warriors
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



PARISH NURSE

AUGUST

August has arrived! Enjoy some last vacation time with parents, grandparents, and children. Schools again will be back in session 2 weeks before Labor Day!

Our Health News for August:

1. August is National Children's Eye Health Month. The idea is to prevent blindness, amblyopia (lazy eye), strabismus crossed eyes, color deficiency (color blindness), and refractory errors near-sightedness, far sightedness, and astigmatism) are the most common conditions affecting a child's vision. Many of these conditions, if diagnosed early (e.g. 3 years of age) can be treated and vision restored.
2. August is Dental Implant Month. According to the CDC (Center for Disease Control) more than 120 million Americans are missing one or more teeth and 35-36 million all of their teeth in one or both jaws. A dentist's affiliation with AAID (American Academy of Implant Dentistry) provides information to those who are missing teeth about available treatment. www.aaid-implant.org or call (312) 335-1550.
3. August is National Psoriasis Awareness Month. Psoriasis is a chronic, non-contagious skin disease that causes flaky, silvery patches on knees, elbows, or scalp. Fingernails, palms, and soles of feet may also be affected. The patches, called plaques, are made up of dead skin cells that accumulate in thick layers. Normal skin cells are replaced every 30 days; in psoriasis skin cells are replaced every 3-4 days. Stress is a factor with this disease and hydrocortisone cream can be used to alleviate some of the external symptoms.
4. August is Immunization Awareness Month. Rely on your doctor to administer infant, child, and adult immunization. There is a new immunization available in 2018 which is 90% effective against shingles, herpes zoster, for those over the age of 50. It is called SHINGRIX and two injections are given within 2-6 months.

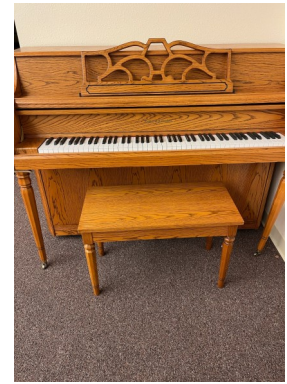
Blood Pressure Checks will be given as needed.

"Above, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins." I Peter 4:8

*Love In Christ,
Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse*

Please note: Free to a good home! Must be able to transport to new location.

This oak, upright Kohler & Campbell piano needs a new home. It has an unstable leg but is otherwise in good shape. Call 231-796-8273 to schedule an appointment to see it and express interest. The dimensions are 22.5" deep x 43" tall x 58.5" long.



Update from Our Brothers Keeper Shelter is open year round, 24 hours a day. It does provide a place for individuals and families to work with staff to find housing, employment and referrals to other organizations that may be able to meet the needs of the guests. We currently have space for 15 men, 15 women and 3 special rooms for guests with children. From October 1, 2021 to June 15, 2022, we have served 203 adults and 44 children for a total of 247. We rely of many sources of funding including grants from the Salvation Army ESP program, Fremont Foundation, Mecosta and Osceola Community Foundations, and the many community donors who find it in their hearts to help others in need. This funding allows us to employ a trained staff as well as provide a secure facility.

Should you or your members come in contact with individuals in need of emergency housing, please feel free to refer them to OBK. A phone call to 231-629-8160 will let you know if there is a bed available and if we are full, we can refer the individual to another source or place them on our waiting list.

We ask that you pray for those who face homelessness that they may find a place of solace and rest so that they can move forward with their lives in a safe, secure environment.

Social Concerns

Immanuel's annual Dump & Run project was the feature story on the Living Lutheran website this past Wednesday. Social Concerns Committee members Roger Barr and Leah Monger were interviewed last week by a freelance writer who produced the story. Read the article at: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2022/07/recycling-to-serve-the-neighbor/>.

Herrick Scholarship Fund Update

Herrick Scholarship applications have been reviewed by the Herrick Fund Committee and recommendations sent to the Council for approval at the meeting in August, with an announcement of awardees thereafter. Three applicants have been identified.

President's Ponderings

I was struggling on what to write for this month, so I was checking some sites for inspiration and found this article on the Synod Website. I encourage you to watch this video. Maybe something will strike a chord with you as we look to the future.

Recently, The Rev. Dr. Chris Suehr delivered a keynote presentation, "Searching for Lost Lutherans: Realities of Mainline Decline" as part of the Lower Susquehanna Synod's 2022 Synod Assembly. Drawing on his recent dissertation research, Pastor Chris addresses some of the common thoughts and questions about the changing church. Building upon decades of sociological research and trends with ELCA data and interviews with former ELCA Lutherans, Pastor Chris discusses our situation today and addresses some of the prevalent and worrisome ideas that haunt church leaders. Watch Now: <https://youtu.be/9MAj0WCoYzI>

Speaking of the future, our annual meeting will be coming up on **October 23**. There are several slots open on the Congregation Council, including mine, so I encourage you to prayerfully consider running for the Council. These are important times for our church. Will you be willing to serve?

In Christ,
Dave

Church Council Meeting Minutes July 10, 2022

Present: Dave Scott, Steve Neumann, Nedra Neumann, Judy O'Dell, Melanie Richardson, Phyllis Cousineau, Carol Wilson-Jungck, Tammy Lindsey
Absent: Roger Barr and Megan Smith

The May Minutes were approved.

The Concert Wall was discussed and it was decided that it can stay up through the month of July for repairs. It was voted against for reduction in fee in exchange for use of cameras.

A building committee was formed for the current remodeling being done.

Submitted by Tammy Lindsey.

People are asking, "what is going on in the church and why aren't we being told about it?"

.Vicki Vogel, Cheryl Switzer and Carol Wilson met on July 12 to begin the discussion about a building use policy. We reviewed the current application for building use meant for events, not actual leases. David Scott will forward the paperwork /agreements for both Tuba Bach and SLD-Read so as to incorporate all of the salient points of both the event and other agreements. We will meet again sometime in August.\

The Conference Room has been occupied by SLD-Read, some of the shelving on the back wall has been removed, holes puttied, and is ready for touch up paint and rug cleaning. That will allow our renter to reorganize and move all of her files, etc. into the room appropriately. Keep in mind that a calendar will be available on the conference room door so that the schedule for SLD-Read use of the room can be seen. They are willing to share if they are not using the room and we have need for the larger table in that area. Other meetings can use the Fellowship Hall or the table in the office area. If privacy is needed the Pastor's office can be accessed.

Bids have been asked for with some received for flooring and painting of the Narthex. We will explore new signage and furniture as needed. The first step will be the moving of the counter/mailboxes into the Fellowship Hall, then the painting, then the flooring and trim.

A decision as to what office furniture needs to be sold/kept must be made and approved by the Council. We will offer it to members initially, and subsequently advertise on Face Book Marketplace. The much loved furniture from the conference room will be moved to the office area and used for our historical memorabilia. Books have been sorted with those being kept boxed and stored until a new area can be completed. The books no longer needed are available for free in the Fellowship Hall, and will be boxed and given as indicated in last month's newsletter.

As we determine the best way forward, we intend to keep the congregation "in the loop." If you have any questions or would like to donate time/energy/ideas to this effort to keep Immanuel afloat, please do not hesitate to step up! We welcome your input and assistance.

~Carol Wilson Jungck

2022 Council Members

Dave Scott, President	(231) 250-5067
Tammy Lindsey, Vice Pres.	(231) 519-1212
Roger Barr, Secretary	(231) 972-8276
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Judy O'Dell	(231) 823-2845
Melanie Richardson	(231) 357-0863
Megan Smith	(231) 287-7022
Carol Wilson-Jungck	(231) 670-3220
Phyllis Cousineau	(231) 796-9574
Steve Neumann	(231) 796-0956

Committee Council Liaisons

Roger Barr - Property committee

Megan Smith – Social Concerns committee

Carol Wilson-Jungck – Celebrate Immanuel (CIF), Healing Garden, Worship & Music

Dave Scott – Finance Committee, Property committee

Steve Neumann - Worship & Music committee

Tammy Lindsey - Stewardship committee

Mel Richardson - Worship & Music committee

Phyllis Cousineau - Healing garden

Judy O'Dell - Church Life committee, W/ELCA

Committees and Organizations

Celebrate Immanuel (CIF)

Bob Krueger, Chairperson (231) 796-2012

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 (2021)

Phyllis Lindsey (231) 795-6400

Shirley Hamelund (231) 796-7763

Steve Neumann (231) 796-0956

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

Bob Krueger (231) 796-2012

David Scott (231) 250-5067

Vision (and Ministry Leadership Network)

Gunder Myran, Chairperson (231) 972-7405

Lee Wolken (231) 972-7756

Nedra Neumann – Small Groups (231) 796-0956

Welcoming Hospitality

Welcoming

Phyllis Lindsey – Prayer circle (231) 796-6400

Dee Neumann-Prayer Circle (231) 796-8385

Webmaster- Mary Larkin (231) 796-8273

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

Millie Gillies, Choir (231) 796-2460

Readers (Volunteer)

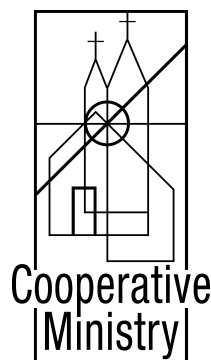
Ron Decker – Ushers (231) 796-2706

Bill Ballard – Ushers (231) 972-4413

Phyllis Lindsey, Worship Asst.
and Intinction Asst. (231) 796-6400

Dee Neumann, Weddings (231) 796-8385

Shirley Hamelund, Weddings (231) 796-7763





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

2022

