



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.

NOVEMBER 2022



Pastoral Schedule for November 2022 (in-person)

Nov. 6, 2022 Lay Leader Gunder Myran
Nov. 13, 2022 Rev. Robert Garrels
Nov. 20, 2022 Rev. Marcia Schultz
Nov. 27, 2022 Rev. Teresa Foster

(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.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Big Rapids, Michigan
October 26, 2022

OCTOBER 2022 ACTIVITIES OF THE VISION COMMITTEE AND THE CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS TEAM

The Vision Committee and members of the Church Partnership Team held a “future of Immanuel” planning workshop at the home of Sally and Roger Barr on October 15. A number of next action steps were identified at the workshop. Follow-up will occur at the November 6 meeting of the Church Partnerships Team, the November 20 meeting of the Vision Committee, and the December 4 congregational conversation.

- A first conversation with a representative of the United Church will be arranged.
- Pastor David Sprang will provide us with copies of the covenant agreements between other churches (maintain separate identities but share pastor and certain ministries).
- We will establish a template for meetings with other churches.
- We will have an appraisal done of the value of Immanuel’s structures, site, equipment, and other assets.
- We will contact the Shuberg family regarding the deed restrictions for the Fuller Avenue property.
- We will bring Immanuel planning documents up to date for meetings with representations of St. Paul’s in Reed City.
- We will explore the concept of the “United Churches of Big Rapids” as a way to unite Immanuel, the United Church, and perhaps other churches.
- We work on a 3-year timeframe and develop a decision tree that identifies decisions to be made in the next 1 to 3 months, the next 6 months, and the next year.
- We will explore partnerships with other community organizations that may wish to rent space at Immanuel (develop Immanuel as a community resource and cultural center).
- We will get additional information from the Ministry Investment Fund of the ELCA (holder of our mortgage) regarding options as we look ahead to decisions to be made.
- We discussed the five alternative futures for Immanuel—ranging from becoming a member-led church (Future 1--the pathway we are on now), developing partnerships with other churches, selling our assets and moving to a new location, shared use partnerships with other community organizations, and disbanding as a congregation.
- We will continue on our current “Future 1” pathway as “future of Immanuel” decisions are made—become the best possible member-led church (small but mighty) with a focus on our active members, lost souls who may be thinking about returning, and community outreach. We will update our processes and literature for welcoming visitors and friends.

God’s mission in the Big Rapids region will continue forever regardless of the future of Immanuel; our task is to discern God’s will for our members and for the local continuation of His work. ~Gunder Myran

Update on Building Change, November, 2022

Now that Tuba Bach has completed its series of concerts for the fall, work will be able to begin in the narthex. The first event will be the moving of the counter and mailboxes into the fellowship hall.

The books will be totally boxed and delivered to various places. Pictures of the desks for sale, as well as all of their measurements, have been completed and they will be advertised first on our Facebook page and then in the marketplace. The policy for rental is still in process.

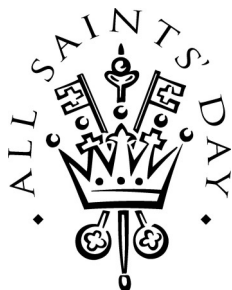
Things will be moving slowly, but every inch/event is a step forward! Carol Wilson Jungck

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.

NOVEMBER Readings Schedule (Readings from New Revised Standard)

November 6th All Saints Sunday/22nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Worship - Lay Leader Gunder Myran - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1: 11-23

Luke 6: 20-31

November 13th - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

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



Readings:

Malachi 4: 1-2a

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Luke 21: 5-19

November 20th - Christ the King

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



Readings:

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1: 11-20

Luke 23: 33-43

November 27th - 1st Sunday of Advent

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



Readings:

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13: 11-14

Matthew 24: 36-44



YTD thru September 2022

Ministry Fund

Giving - \$91,924

Expenses -\$93,055

Building Fund

Giving - \$78,734

Mortgage Payments- \$78,203

IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES



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

6	Don Nelson
7	Cindi Neumann
9	Gil Flores
	Cam Meyer
11	Lee Wolken
	Deb Flores
14	Cheryl Schweitzer
17	Betty Nelson
	Andy Scott
20	Bruce Spengler
24	Ryan Metzger
28	Carol Wilson-Jungck
29	Craig Windquist



3 Tim & Vickie Vogel



Turn Your clocks
back 1 hour on
November 6, 2022



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

Healing & Health Concerns for:
Roger O'Dell, Judy O'Dell, Phyllis Obermier-Striho, Linda & Barry Borton, Bob Krueger, Lucy Fredrick, Marcy Nelson, Alyssa Beeler, Joselyn Hayden and Pastor Dan Ward's wife Susan.

Comfort:

**Rev. Bob Garrels (daughter Julia passed)
Norwood (Woody) Neumann family**

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



Nov. 6, 2022



PARISH NURSE

NOVEMBER

November reminds us that winter is approaching. All the leaves have blown off the trees and the flowers have frozen. Soon the hunters will be in the woods and Thanksgiving will soon be here. This is our month to be extra thankful. First be thankful to God for all your blessings, than your family, friends, neighbors and employers for all the thoughtful and loving care they do for you. If possible, give extra food to food pantries, and give away your clothing not being used by you.

Our Health news for November is on organ transplants.

1. A person may need an organ transplant if one's organ fails to function. Organs that can be transplanted include heart, intestine, kidney, liver, lung, and pancreas. Joining the Donor Registry gives you the opportunity to save and improve lives, and will not interfere with the quality of your medical care. Millions of Michiganders have already said YES. Join them!
2. People needing an organ transplant usually wait a long time for doctors to match donors to recipients in order to reduce transplant rejection. Donated tissue can help up to 75 people, and be used to repair wounds, burns and joints. Donated corneas can restore vision or relieve painful swelling.
3. In the USA today there are 106,000+ people awaiting organ transplants. One organ donor has the opportunity to save up to 8 lives. More than 9,000 Michigan patients have received a life-saving organ transplant in the past 10 years. Many tens of thousands more have benefited from tissue and corneal transplants.
4. Gift of Life Michigan reports that there are about 3,000 people in Michigan awaiting a transplant. There is no age limit or disease that can prevent one to donate his/her organs or tissues. [Will I still be able to have an open casket at the funeral?](#) Yes, donors are afforded the utmost respect and care, and neither organ nor tissue donation need interfere with open casket viewings.

MORE FOOD RUMORS and the Real Story:

1. Rumor – Popcorn beats fruits and vegetables.
 - a. The real story: Fruits and vegetables are a better snack than popcorn.
2. Rumor – Fish oil doesn't prevent heart attacks.
 - a. The real story: Eat fish at least twice a week. For people who have already had a heart attack or stroke and are on medication, taking fish oil may not help. For others, the jury is still out.

3. Rumor – Constipation boosts your risk of colon cancer.
 - a. The real story: No one wants to be constipated. But one consolation if you are: No need to worry that it will boost your risk of colorectal cancer.
4. Rumor – Sugar causes cancer.
 - a. The real story: Cut back on sugar, though the jury is still out on whether that will lower your risk of cancer.
5. Rumor – Cutting back on salt is useless or dangerous.
 - a. The real story: Cutting back on salt isn't dangerous and lowers the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Blood pressure checks will be given when needed.

“He surrounds me with loving kindness and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things.”Psalm 103:4 & 5

*Love In Christ,
Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse*

Meetings in person this month

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 1 at 10:30 am**

Worship & Music comm. **Tues. Nov. 1 at 2:00 pm**

W/ELCA Board meeting **Sat. Nov. 5 at 10:30 am**

Tubabach concert **Sun. Nov. 6 at 4:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 10 at 10:30 am**

Bible Study **Mon. Nov., 14 at 1:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 15 at 10:30 am**

Shepherd's Hooks & Needles **Tues. Nov. 15 at Noon**

Vision committee mtg. **Nov. 20 following Worship**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov, 22 10:30 am**

Hymn Planning committee **Tues. Nov. 22 at 3:30pm**

Thurs. Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Church Off. closed

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 29 at 10:30 am**



**Thanksgiving Nov. 24,
2022**

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. They will have need of mittens, caps and other things throughout the school year.



Salvation Army "Angel Tree" – is up in the Narthex with tags of toys, etc. you can buy for a needy child. Gifts need to be back at the church by **December 13th**. Check with Roger Barr for questions: Roger Barr 248–675-7871.



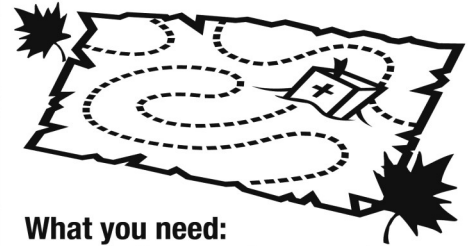
Salvation Army Bell Ringing - Immanuel time will be **Dec. 10th from 9:00am - 4:00 pm at Big Lots door**. There will be sign-up sheet on the counter to pick the hour you would want. We need a minimum of 7 people to sign up for the time slots.



Thanksgiving Day November 24, 2022

FALL SCAVENGER Hunt

Enjoy searching for seasonal aspects of God's creation!



What you need:

- Family members and friends, divided into groups if desired
- Maps of local areas
- Lists of fall-related items (one per person or group)
- Digital cameras or smartphones
- Prizes

What you do:

1. Hand out maps and lists of items (scarecrow, pumpkin, red leaf, squirrel, apple tree, pine cone, acorn, bug, bird, sunflower, etc.)
2. Instruct participants to walk through their assigned area, find and take photos of the items, and report back at a specific time.
3. When everyone returns, share your photos. Award prizes for the most items found, the most unusual item and so on.

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)

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
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
---------------------------	----------------

Welcoming

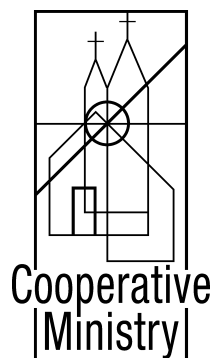
Phyllis Lindsey – Prayer circle	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann-Prayer Circle	(231) 796-8385
Webmaster- Mary Larkin	(231) 796-8273

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
Readers (Volunteer)	
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

