

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 2025



Worship Services and Sunday Activities at Immanuel

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>
<i>September</i>		
7	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
<i>Rally Day</i>	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Rally Day and 60 th Anniversary of Immanuel!
14	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
21	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
28	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
<i>October</i>		
5	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
12	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
19	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
26	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion

From the Pastor's Pen ...

***Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.***

According to our Lord Jesus, this petition is the heart of the prayer He gave us. *Mt 6:14-15*

And on the night He was betrayed, He gave us a new commandment, that we love one another just as He loved us. And how did He love us? He forgave us, at His own dreadful cost. Forgiveness of others is obviously His top priority for us, while at the same time the most difficult thing in the world for forgiven sinners to do, as shown in the disciples' response to Jesus' command to forgive without limits: *"Increase our faith!" Lk 17:5*

How ironic....and how fitting, right and salutary that *forgiveness* has been chosen by the class as the subject of our adult Bible Study beginning session 1, Sunday, Aug 30:

"What is forgiveness?"

Once we've established the definition, this study has potential for many interesting discussions, directions and opportunities for new clarity and healing in the weeks to come. I hope to see you.

I invite and encourage you to bring your Bible and expect the Holy Spirit to do great things for us through His word.

In Jesus' love, *+Pastor*

From the Elders . . .

The Preparations for the Ultimate Passover

Ray Brown

As a former sailor, I am quite aware that most of what goes on in the two thirds of the world that is water, and that seaward realms are where ninety percent of all commerce takes place, is largely unknown to the general public. *Sea blindness*, except when oil prices soar. But there is a similar blindness in many of us (including me) on many Sundays.

Okay, Ray – just what are you talking about? Well, I am talking about our Altar Guild, headed by our Sacristans. Their work with bread, wine, chalice, flagon and linens are accomplished before we arrive for worship and completed after the postlude. Then vessels for sacred work are restored and elements unused returned to earth.

The only time we congregants see the Altar Guild in action is the *Stripping of the Altar* on Maundy Thursday. The rest of the year I tend to take their work for granted.

Tradition? Sure. But passed down from the Apostolic tradents. Before Jesus Christ instituted the Eucharist, He sent ahead Peter and John – probably His two closest disciples – to *prepare* the upper room for a proper Passover celebration. The synoptic gospels all affirm His orders.

Thus our Altar Guild continues in His instructions today. As Mother Mary said to the servants at the wedding in Cana, “Do whatever He tells you to do.”

And performing the Holy Communion liturgy “decently and in order” should perhaps hold special meaning for us Lutherans. We actually believe the Body and Blood of Jesus is made present by the objective Word of God, *ex opere operato*. In with and under the bread and wine.

Some of our brothers and sisters in other Christian traditions hold that the Lord’s Supper is merely a symbolic memorial. Others believe that the Real Presence is strictly spiritual and made possible by one’s individual faith. In considering that, I remember that shortly after the first Holy Communion ten of the eleven recipients deserted. Hard to believe that their faith at that time could guarantee anything to be real. So, those of us who “believe, teach, and confess” the Augsburg Confession trust that the Real Presence has nothing to do with our own individual piety.

Our Altar Guild performs a truly holy work. Maybe I should acknowledge and thank them occasionally.



CONGRATULATIONS on voting to become a Stephen Ministry congregation!! Our caring ministry at Immanuel will be enhanced with trained, committed people prepared and enabled to share Christ's love with our brothers and sisters experiencing the dark times in their

lives. But first we need to actually submit our application to the Stephen Ministry organization. And that must be accompanied by the one-time registration fee of \$1675. Please consider contributing toward making Stephen Ministry a reality here at Immanuel. Donations can be made through our treasury, noting on the memo line: **FOR STEPHEN MINISTRY**. Training can begin once this is accomplished. And our first group of Stephen Ministers can be commissioned next year. Let's make this blessing a reality.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry was founded in the mid-1970's by Kenneth Haugk, an LCMS pastor with a PhD in psychology. Stephen Ministry trains lay people to give one-on-one care to someone experiencing the challenges of life, such as: grief, illness, loss, or family issues.

What makes Stephen Ministry successful is the ongoing training and supervision that provide the Stephen Ministers with the knowledge, practice and support that enable them to be present with those they care for and extend Christ's love to them. Christ is truly at the heart of this ministry.

Stephen Ministry enables people to respond to God's call to care for one another in a meaningful and effective way. Within the caring relationships, GOD works to strengthen faith. HIS presence encourages those receiving care - in the midst of the difficulties they face - to trust HIM.

Our caring ministry at Immanuel can be enhanced, increased and improved through Stephen Ministry. Consider whether God is calling YOU to be part of this new caring ministry.

~ Rev. Dan and Betty Muecke



Birthdays

1 Bonnie Bell
4 Frances Gill
4 Chris Robinson
9 Wayne Alan Garvin
15 Darlene Belleville
16 Linda Simanton
18 Rita Hennessy
18 James Wilkie
18 Karalyn Malaby
20 Scott Martin
23 Marcia Gootee
27 Wendy Wilkie
26 Renee Atkinson
28 Emily Flaherty

Wedding Anniversaries

7 Kent and Beth Freshour
9 James and Wendy Wilkie
11 Bob and Tess Schmidt
16 David and Julie Meyer
21 Richard and Karalyn Malaby

Baptism Birthdays

13 Gina Willson



2 David Sanderson
7 Alex Bell
7 Laura Brulet
11 Ember Meyer
14 Matthew Blakeman
14 Michael Kosa
17 Calvin Ang
27 Howard Helwig
27 Madelyn Kazakis
28 Nikolai Heyman

6 Steve and Debbie Holman
10 Chris and Jacine Robinson
14 Howard and Roseann Helwig
20 Don and Bonnie Bell
29 Robert and Dawn Hackerott

3 Cody Helwig
6 Linda Simanton
9 Donna Houle
13 Beth Rousselle
14 Darlene Belleville
14 Jaedon Stanton
20 Bonnie Bell

God's Servants in September and October

Date	Ushers	Greeter	Lector	Communion Asst	Acolyte
9/7	Rita Hennessy Clive Reid, Jr.	Beth Rousselle	Betty Muecke	Tom Tighe	Russell Bergquist
9/14	Marina Kirsch Helgard Kirsch	Cynthia Grenier	Steve Holman	Kent Freshour	Ava Stewart
9/21	Donna Houle Tom Tighe	Claire Flaherty	Josh Barry	Doug Gootee	Jaedon Stanton
9/28	John Coburn Howard Helwig	Robinson Family	Susan Kamacho	Ed Flaherty	Ryden Meyer
10/5	Kent Freshour April Phelps	Beth Rousselle	Christine Tighe	Doug Gootee	Audrey Kosa
10/12	Marina Kirsch Helgard Kirsch	Christine Tighe	Marina Kirsch	Tom Tighe	Russell Bergquist
10/19	Bob Hackerott TBA	Clive Reid, Jr.	Carolyn Martin	Kent Freshour	Ava Stewart
10/26	Tom Tighe John Coburn	Cynthia Grenier	Betty Muecke	Ed Flaherty	Jaedon Stanton

We Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Dedication of Immanuel's House of Worship on Weston Road



The dedication of the Weston Road church building on Sunday, September 26, 1965 was jubilant. At the 10:30 a.m. Dedication Service, former Immanuel pastor Rev. Walter A. Reuning preached. At the 4:00 p.m. Festival Service, former Immanuel pastor Rev. Walter G. Litke preached. Immanuel's pastor Rev. Robert C. Klemm led both services, and music was provided by immanuel's choir and organist.

The *Manchester Union Leader* newspaper published a long article, wrapping up their coverage of the construction phases.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH DEDICATION was held Sunday morning at the new edifice at Weston and Huse Roads. Principals in the dedication service are pictured above. Left to right are: Robert Dow, Sunday School superintendent; Lawrence Jache, trustee; Walter Theiss, building committee; Donald Mosley, secretary; Edward Hock, building committee; Remi Fortin, contractor; Andrew C. Isaak, AIA, architect; Mayor Roland Vallee; Laurence Partan, chairman of the building committee; Rev. Walter Reuning, who was pastor from 1925-1933 and returned as guest preacher; Rev. Robert C. Klemm, pastor; and Edwin Whitford, president. (Staff Photo by McQuillen)

ACTIVITIES AT IMMANUEL

Please make sure to find the sign-up sheet for each event on the fellowship hall bulletin board. The people running these events need to know how many people might be coming.



September 6th and October 4th
Quilt group at church from 9 - 12
See Claire Flaherty with questions

September 6th – Book Club get together at the 2pm at the Colageo, 63 Broadway, Pembroke. 2 o'clock. Contact Karen Colageo with questions. The book this month is:

The Hammer of God by Bo Giertz



September 7th - Rally Day Sunday School at 9:00am, Church Service at 10:00am service, Rally Day/60th birthday dinner of Weston Rd church building right after service. See Debbie Holman with questions

September 13th at 9:00am Men's Breakfast. Please sign up! There will be another in October. Watch the bulletin for details. See Tom Tighe with questions.



September 20th – Annual Oktoberfest – Sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. This is always a great event. See Cindy Grenier and Howard Helwig for details.

October 4th – Young Adult - activity at Kid's Kove and Twin Bridges Trails in Merrimack. Look in your bulletin for the time of this event. Come play with the huge wooden play equipment. Or there is also a walking trail if you want to walk and see God's beauty. [Twin Bridges Park](#) Richard Malaby is the contact person for this event.



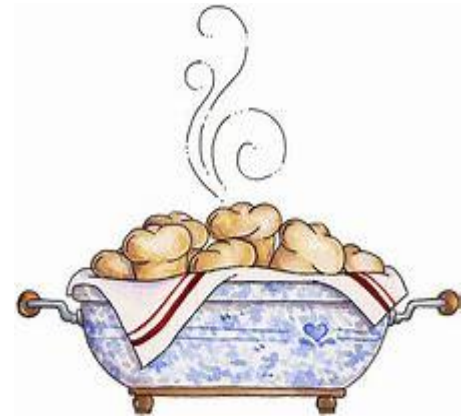
October 26th – Our Annual Pumpkin carving event right after church service. You will need to bring your own pumpkin to carve. A chili lunch will be served.

Breakfast club will meet sometime in September. Check the bulletin for date and time. If you are interested in attending Breakfast Club speak to Debbie Holman or Cindy Grenier.



The number of Activities has grown in the last year. There are many ways to get together with other members of Immanuel. Some Activities meet every month and others occasionally. But it is wonderful knowing the family of God has a way to meet outside the Sunday worship service.

Adult Bible Class Breakfast - One activity that's going away is the Sunday morning breakfast associated with Adult Bible Class. Those of us who have cooked the egg casseroles for this activity for the past several years would like to open the opportunity up to others who may be interested. It has been a blessing but time for us to pass it on. We usually have about 30 people attending. If you'd like to bring a dish to share please don't hesitate! Coffee will still be served!



Look for the Leaders:

Book Club (Dine and Discuss) is run by Karen Cologeo

Men's Bible Breakfast is run by Tom Tighe

Quilting is run by Claire Flaherty

Young Adult is run by Richard Malaby

Breakfast Club is run by Cindy Grenier

For all other Activities contact Debbie Holman

I am always looking for your ideas on ways to get members together. Feel free to contact me with any questions you have about how to plan your activity. Your idea can be weekly, monthly, yearly or one and done.

And now there is a question from me. Have you read the Activity page in the newsletter? If you do, send me a quick email saying Hi! You can also comment on how I can improve the information on upcoming events. Debbie Holman's email address is deborah.holman@live.com

Outreach



We continue to collect for Caregivers throughout the months of October and November. The outpouring has been wonderful so far. Listed below is the flier that was in your bulletin this summer. Please continue to place your donations in the baskets under the coatrack in the Narthex.

****For those making Christmas ornaments please bring your finished ornaments to church by November 16th. Thank you!**

Below are some items that we would gladly welcome:

- **Small bags of ground coffee (no K Cups please)**
- **Small canned hams or spam**
- **Low sodium items like canned soups vegetables and shelf stable packaged meals**
- **Toothpaste**
- **Deodorant**
- **Shampoo, 15 oz or smaller (found at Dollar Tree)**
- **Individually packaged toilet paper (found at Market Basket)**
- **Granola bars**
- **High Protein drinks, like Ensure**

**These are some items that we rarely can obtain for our clients,
so whatever you can help us with would be greatly appreciated.**

Thank you!

Music At Immanuel



**Senior Choir Rehearsal
Every Sunday starting
September 14 at 11:30 am**

**Men's Choir Rehearsal
Once a month starting
September 21 at 8:30 am**

**Children's Choir Rehearsal
Once a month starting
September 28 at 9:00 am**

If you'd like to join any of these choirs, please talk to Rev. Dr. William Bergquist. He's the Minister of Music and will be happy to help you get acquainted with the music programs here!



Invitation to Divine Service at Immanuel

We celebrate a single Divine Service at 10am. We continue to offer audio recordings posted to the church's website after service.

Sunday – Divine Service with Holy Communion preceded by Bible Study and Refreshments.

9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

The area in the left rear of the sanctuary where the pew is marked with blue tape is reserved for people who are mindful of illness. If you sit in these pews, it is required that you wear a mask. All other areas of the church are mask optional.

The Divine Service is printed in the bulletin. Songs are sung from the hymnal unless an insert is provided in the bulletin.

Anyone new to Immanuel should read the Communion Statement:

We joyfully celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We believe that we receive Christ's body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this sacrament, we also give public confession to our unity in the Christian faith. We therefore invite all communicant members of any congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod to commune. Guests are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. As it was with the very first disciples of Jesus, our practice is to receive instruction in the Faith leading to Holy Communion. If you would like to join our instruction class, Pastor would love to instruct you.

Divine Service Recordings

Those who request it receive the weekly Sunday bulletin and announcements through e-mail to support their worship needs at home. Immanuel members may also participate through the website with the audio file shared after the service. Pastor and our media team members attempt to post these recordings in a timely manner for your Sunday worship at home. We hope these recordings are a blessing to you. You may unsubscribe from this emailing at any time by responding to the email with such a request.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Pastor

Rev. Don Colageo

Minister of Music

Rev. Dr. William H. Bergquist

Administrative Assistant

Marcia Newell

Elders

Doug Gootee

Ray Brown

Tom Tighe

Edward Flaherty

Rev. Dan Muecke

Church Council**Congregational Chairman**

Christopher Robinson

Congregational**Vice Chairman**

Richard Malaby

Treasurer

John Klingler

Financial Secretary

Ken Koehlert

Congregational Recording**Secretary**

Scott Martin

Board of Christian Education

Rev. Dr. Wm. Bergquist

Board of Activities

Debbie Holman

Board of Preschool

Bonnie Bell

Board of Property

Vacant

Board of Evangelism

Vacant

Board of Stewardship

Vacant

