



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



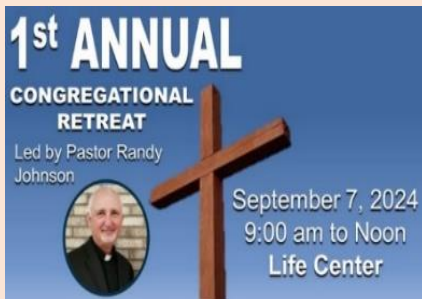
## Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule

Sunday September 8, 2024

- 9:00 am - Divine Worship Service
- 10:30 am – Praise Worship Service
- 10:45 am – “The Rock” Sunday School

\*Most of our Worship Services are streamed Live on Facebook *Immanuel Lutheran Church Bridgman*, or are on our website:

[www.immanuelbridgman.org](http://www.immanuelbridgman.org)



Immanuel Lutheran Ministries  
9650 N. Church St.,  
Bridgman, MI 49106  
269-465-6031 Church Office

*A weekly publication of our announcements from our church leadership, staff and Early Childhood Development Center of Bridgman*

## AS WE GATHER

“From Generation to Generation” is the sermon series we began last Sunday as the Holy Spirit called us to teach the Torah, to teach God’s instruction, to the next generation. Last week we studied the book of Deuteronomy written by Moses. For the rest of this six-part sermon series we will be reading from the Gospel of Mark. In this morning’s Gospel lesson, we discover Jesus being addressed by a Gentile woman. This Gentile persistently asked Jesus to heal her daughter. The Christ received her request and had mercy on her daughter as he healed the girl of her infirmity. This morning, we are called to present the next generation to Jesus to be spiritually healed along with us by the grace of God found in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## CHURCH NEWS

**Thank you to everyone who attended** our first Annual Congregational Retreat! Everyone’s input was much appreciated. This Planning Retreat was to encourage everyone to join and add their voice to the conversation of where our congregation is headed. Your input is important to our Church. We thank Pastor Randy Johnson, from the Michigan District, for facilitating our group conversation. We discussed the current strengths of our congregation; the weaknesses; the opportunities the Lord is providing us; and the threats to our common ministry. The results of the Congregational Planning Retreat will be reported to the elected and appointed Church leaders so that they may be aware of the congregation’s concerns and joys as they prepare the 2025 Ministry Plan (the 2025 Budget). Our awesome Fellowship Board has provided the wonderful refreshments for the retreat.

**Calling All Children** today “The Rock” will meet at 10:45 am after the Children’s Message during the 10:30 am worship service. Thank you to Ms. Sherry, Ms. Cindy and Ms. Sue for teaching our little ones about the Word of God. We pray our children will accept the gift of knowledge given by sharing the stories of God’s goodness and love.

**Do you love the scriptures?** We are looking for layreaders for our 9:00 am worship service. Some of our readers have taken a step back from reading the scriptures during worship services and we are looking for some people to serve as readers each Sunday. We accommodate comfort levels of all our readers. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact the church office at 465-6031.

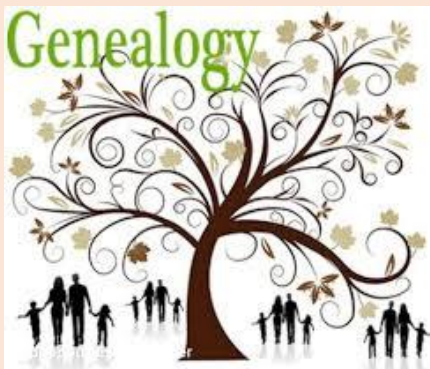
**IN HIS IMAGE**  
DOXOLOGY



**CONVOCAATION**  
on Sept. 13 - 14  
at Trinity  
Lutheran St. Joe

*Speaking the Truth  
in Love*

**Call 983-5000**  
for Details and to Register



**In HIS Image: Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture. September 9<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register!** With the legal redefinition of marriage, there is much confusion regarding gender identity and sexuality. Christian parents, teachers, pastors, singles & couples, and parents all are looking for guidance in navigating these sensitive areas. The 10 local congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LC-MS) will be hosting an In HIS Image Convocation September 13-14 at Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, to be presented by DOXOLOGY, a service organization of the LC-MS. DOXOLOGY is dedicated to equipping people with tools to speak constructively and to live confidently amid the current confusion. Harbor Shores will be providing a meal Friday evening; continental breakfast, snacks, & lunch available on Saturday. The convocation will conclude with a wine and cheese fellowship hour Saturday. The registration fee is only \$10.00 and they are looking for a preliminary number of attendees by August 11<sup>th</sup>. The actual deadline to register is Friday, August 30. To fill out a registration form, please pick up the convocation brochure on the table in the narthex. It will also give you the itinerary for the convocation and more details for the two-day event.

**Genealogy Class** Our Outreach Board is hosting a Genealogy Class on **Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.** Our own Amie Smith will give you the information to find your family history and learn about your ancestors. She can start your search and lead you in the right direction. Think of the stories you can learn and maybe even find out about your famous (or infamous) ancestors. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex to let them know you are coming! We hope to see you there!



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## ECDC News

**A Short week for our students** as they prepare for school to start in earnest next week. An exciting week for students and teachers as they get to know each other and they anticipate what they will learn in the coming year. Some of our teachers have shifted to other rooms for some new challenges and our other teachers have prepared their rooms and lesson plans for their new students to come and learn. Our Infant Room is busy with new little ones to cuddle and help to walk and talk. Their theme this week, appropriate for the start of school, is the ABC's and 123's. They sang the Alphabet Song and Number Song. Plus they read numerous books about the alphabet and numbers they are preparing to learn. They counted everything in sight including their fingers and toes. Their Bible story was "God Is In Charge of Everything" with Ginnie the Giraffe telling the story. Our Toddler Room were starting their study of the Five Senses with sight. They used colored wands to identify colors, they took an eye-spy nature walk to match new words with items they saw on the walk. They also used their eyes to play peek-a-boo. For our preschool rooms, the parents and children enjoyed Open House for the Early Learners and Skill Builders. They listened to the teachers explain their curriculum and goals for the coming year. The children who stayed for day care, are for the most part new, and they started learning about each other, the rules and expectations of the teachers and classrooms. They learned how to walk in the halls without running, how to stay in line behind their leader and how to hold "bubbles" in their mouths to stay quiet. They also got to go outside a great deal to play on the gym equipment and play in the sand. They acquainted themselves with the routine of the room, when they received free time, when they talked about their feelings and emotions. They learned about when they got art time, rest time, book time, movement time and the most important, Bible time. Next week, GSRP will start along with our Preschool classes. We know everyone is looking forward to that time with joy, anticipation and not a little bit of anxiety. Please pray for our teachers and students as they embark on another year of learning. Thank you for supporting this church's mission in prayer and offerings.

## "THE ROCK" News

Welcome back to The Rock! We are starting off a new year of Sunday School fun with Unit 6 learning about Moses and the Book of Exodus. Do you play in the water this summer? Was it cool and refreshing on a hot day? Imagine taking a river ride down the Nile River in a basket! Today we learn about how God protected baby Moses and his basket river ride. Then Moses grows up and becomes a prince. Memory Verse: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

**Operation Christmas Child is a very special way to share the love of Christ with children all over the world.** We are getting down to the last few months of giving for our Operation Christmas Child boxes. We are almost ready to put together the boxes for Operation Christmas Child. For the month of September (last month of collection) we are collecting small flashlights, batteries, small notebooks and index cards. Please use the labeled box on the table in the narthex to put your items into. Thank you to everyone who gave and are giving to make sure children in other countries can learn about our wonderful, loving God!





## Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

**Homebound:** Dollie Schmaltz, Edith Weed, Edna Holt, Irwin and Margaret Poschke, Terry Graves, Kay Cornwell, Harry Rock, and Elizabeth Rock

**Continuing Care Facilities:** Pat Ott, Bev Gast, Geraldine Wooley, Don Metzger, Skip & Norma Linn, Barry Vance (out of state), MaryLou Svorec (out of state), Rose Briggs, Betty Dehring, Karen Freehling, Dorothea Crocker, Bill Gast, Sam Gaul, Duane Vigansky, and Harriet Fester

***For information on how to connect with our church family please call the church office at 269-465-6031***

## Prayers of the Church for Today

James Petty Sr. (recovering from a stroke) James does cleaning for our church

## Healing Needs for the Month

Scott Mulvihill, Char Schram, Connie Schmidt, Karen Freehling, John Stine, Natalya Gaidukevich, Jeffrey Nemitz (Pat Nemitz's son) Liver Cancer, Larry Ott, Sarah Hogue, Ray Michener, Tiffany Prosser, Leon Schmaltz, Michael Dick, Harriet Fester, Ted Joachim, Tara Deam (Jon Crocker's granddaughter) David J Zilke, Kathy Burkett, Ray Krieger, Jane Tym, Mary Lou Svorec on Hospice, Gavin Hanson, Sara Buist, Harvey Burnett, Charles Boreland, Dave Kramer, Marilyn Gelesko, Beth Vigansky Ciuzio, Tom Ulmer, Brenda Cangelosi, Ralph Palmer (Nancy Gast's Son), Laura Laube, Roger Mojsiejenko, Jeff Delvaux, Terry Graves, Irwin & Margaret Poschke, Dick Gorske, Taylor Joachim

## Serving in the Military

Isaac Maze (Army) SFC Casey LeFever, MAJ Kenneth Stice, Nathan Anderson, MM1 Timothy Ott, Jacob Lomoro, SGT Devin Hays, Tom Shepard, Dan Woodruff, SPC David Helfman, Arthur Gatchel, Ryan Skibbe, MAJ Joe Chappel, FN Sebastian Kirk MMN3

## Finance News

Last week's offering and donations:  
Offering Envelopes \$6,995.00, Year to date: \$273,218.00  
Parking Lot: \$50.00

*Thank you to the members of Immanuel who continue to give their offerings when absent on Sunday.*

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**Confirmation Class is starting** this Thursday at Trinity Glendora starting at 6:45 pm and ending at 8:15 pm. This class will be taught jointly by Pastor Krengel and Pastor Liebich both working with the students from both Immanuel and Trinity. Thank you Pastors for your efforts to teach the word of God to our members.

**CAR HOP AT TRINITY GLENDORA TODAY** from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. They will be serving hamburgers, chips, watermelon and root beer floats. The cost is \$8.00.

**Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class may have a new format this year.** Please keep looking for the start of the Adult Bible Class for this year. We will publish the format, date and time of the class when it becomes available. We are looking forward to our learning hour on Sunday.

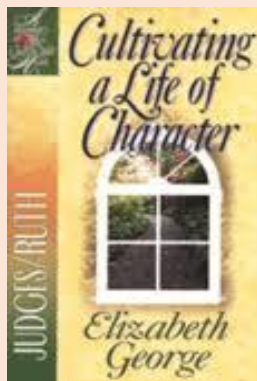
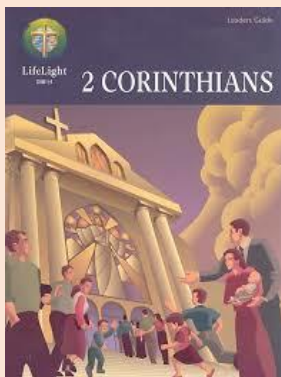
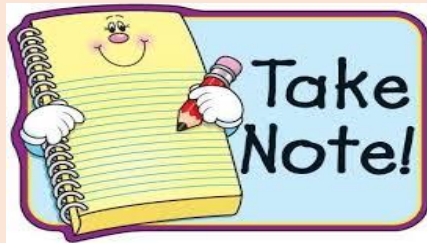
### LUTHERAN'S WOMEN MISSIONARY LEAGUE NEWS

**The LWML is having a Progressive Dinner.** The Progressive Dinner is this Tuesday, please join us at 4:30 pm starting out front under the tent. This dinner kicks off the start of the LWML activities for the year. There are four courses to our Progressive Dinner and you can enjoy each one. We will start at the church, on the front lawn under the tent and move on to the houses of three lovely ladies to enjoy the rest of the dinner. This is such a great evening of fellowship and culinary excellence; we hope you will sign up to be a part of the fun. Please sign your name on the sheet on the table in the narthex so we know how many to plan for and if you need a ride. We hope to see you there!

**LWML Sunday Is October 6<sup>th</sup>** at both worship services. This year we will experience the Blessing of the Quilts. We have had our Sewing for Missions group working diligently to create and craft quilts for Lutheran World Relief and for charity groups. Many of our wonderful quilters have gathered together to work on this important mission and to serve the Lord through their time and talent. They have created some really beautiful quilts to donate and we will ask for prayer over those quilts for a blessing. We hope you will enjoy looking at the quilts which will be displayed over the back of our pews. We hope you will join us for this very special worship service.

**LWML Fall Rally Is Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>** is the Lutheran Women's Missionary League's annual Fall Rally at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Niles. The rally begins at 2:00 pm with registration and the program begins at 2:30 pm. This year's speaker is Dr. Becky Grossmann, Missionary with Lutheran Bible Translators. She will be talking about her mission assist translators in African nations to share the Word of God. There will be an ingathering of socks to be donated to a local homeless shelter. We hope you can be there for this inspirational afternoon.

**Preparing for the Future** We are looking to the future to replace our heating system for the school. Our HVAC units are older and we will eventually need to replace those units. The HVAC unit that runs the school is a specialized unit that meets strict standards for schools. The replacement cost estimate for that unit is in excess of \$190,000 currently. We have started a fund to raise money for this special unit. If you would like to donate to this special fund, please note that on your check or electronic donation. Thank you for always supporting this church's mission, to educate children on how to follow Jesus.



## Special Days

**Birthdays:** Else Reinhardt (09-08), Mae Foster (09-09), Marion Burch (09-09), Daniel Reifschneider (09-10), Andy Korcek (09-11), Chad Ackerman (09-12), Cherrie King (09-13), Lee Green Jr. (09-13), Gerald Vigansky (09-14), James Wall (09-14), Karnryn Wark (09-14), Sharon Tjader (09-14)

**Anniversaries:** Jon & Bev Crocker (09-14) 22 Years

### This Week at Immanuel

- Today Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>** – Divine Worship Service - 9:00 am  
 Praise Worship Service - 10:30 am  
 “The Rock” Sunday School - 10:45 am
- Mon. Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>** – Bible Class Café - 10:00 am  
 Bridge Club - 12:30 pm  
 Worship Board Meeting - 5:00 pm  
 HandBell Choir - 6:00 pm  
 AA Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Tues. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>** – Progressive Dinner – 4:30 pm
- Wed. Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>** – Bible Class – 10:00 am  
 Elder’s Board Meeting – 6:30 pm  
 Choir Practice – 7:00 pm
- Thur. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>** – Praise Worship Practice – 7:00 pm
- Friday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>** – Sewing For Missions - 9:00 am  
 Circuit Convocation “In His Image” 12:30 pm
- Sat. Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>** – Circuit Convocation “In His Image” - 8:30 am
- Sun. Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Divine Worship Service w/ Holy Communion 9:00 am  
 Adult Bible Class – 10:15 am  
 Praise Worship Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30 am  
 “The Rock” Sunday School – 10:45 am

### Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ **Progressive Dinner** on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 4:30 pm
- ♥ **Convocation “In His Image”** at Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph on September 13 & 14 starting at 12:30 pm with registration.
- ♥ **Genealogy Class** Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Life Center
- ♥ **LWML Sunday** October 6<sup>th</sup> both worship services “Blessing of the Quilts”
- ♥ **LWML Fall Rally** Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Niles.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Class** began last Wednesday. Elsie Hanke leads a Bible Study of different books of the Bible and devotionals. They have just begun a study of the book of Judges and cultivating a life of character. Thank you to all of the members who come to study the Word of God in more depth.

**Monday Morning Bible Class** will begin on **Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.** They will continue in their study of the Life Light Series in 2 Corinthians. They will enjoy a little refresher first and then continue their study. We hope you will take some time to learn more about the Word of God through these Bible studies.

## Those Serving in Church This Week

**Greeters:** Sherry & Makenzie Vonk, Lori Wesner (9am);

Immanuel's Praise Team (10:30 am)

**Ushers:** Don Burch, Brad Hildebrandt, Dave Neal, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Larry Smith, Bill Gast and Ken Dickinson

**Lay Readers:** Karen Pedde (9:00 am)

**Praise Team:** Team Leader, Deb Jaeger; Rich Kubsch, Mark Heyn, Karen Kerlikowske, Pam Hoover, Lori Sukupchak, Sharon Stine, Melissa Barker, Olga Chorna, Pattie Neal, Amy Krengel and Shannah Smith

**Soloist:** Rich Kubsch

**Duet:** Laurie Ulmer ~ Pianist and Lori Sukupchak ~ Flautist

**Guitarists:** John "Mac" McElligott, Kurt Hanke and "Sid"

**Keyboardist:** Sid

**Altar Guild:** Sandy Vigansky, Ellen Yeske, Vicki Ott

**A/V Techs:** Chad Hettig, Lucas Oldenburg, Cyndi Pedde, Pattie Neal, Steve Schmitz, Karl Hanke and Eric Kubsch

**Counters:** Karen Pedde, Craig Klein, Karen Oldenburg, Carol Berndt and Cheryl Music

**Office Assistants:** Lorraine Jasper, Melissa Barker, Suellen Klein,

**Trustees:** Brad Hildebrandt, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Art Brunke

**Elders:** Gerry Vigansky, Larry Kanous, Paul Jaeger, Allan Barker, Denny Barnes, Steve Schmitz

**Organist:** Laurie Ulmer

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Douglas Krengel

**We are looking for** help in our Sunday School room for the fall. If you can help with our Sunday School and are willing to spend about one hour per Sunday helping with the teaching of young students, please let the church office know. Thank you to Sue West and Cindy Payne for offering your time and talents to help our Sunday School and those wonderful, sweet children.

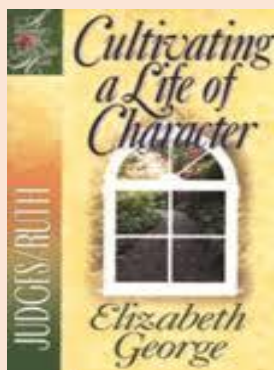
**Everyone Needs Prayer** We are starting up our Prayer Partner program again. We need people to sign up to Prayer Partner with our teachers in the ECDC. Those very dedicated women work very hard to teach our littlest members of our community to know and love God. In this day and age when these young ones will not know God because they do not attend church on Sunday, our teachers become front line warriors to help them to follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to live as a Christian. We are asking the Prayer Partners to drop a note to their partner, share small gifts like a small treat, Bible verse, or a quick text to know they are being thought of. Each Prayer Partner will receive a "Favorites" list of birthdates, things they like and things they are allergic to, in case you are providing a birthday treat. This is not meant to be a financial burden. Write a note, make a bookmark, make some small gift to let your Prayer Partner know that you care. And of course don't forget to pray! Please sign up today!

**Please watch this newsletter** as fall brings us back to our usual schedule. We are looking forward to other activities, choir, bell choir, Sunday morning and Wednesday morning Bible classes. We encourage everyone to come and participate! We will see you there!!!



*~Volunteers~*

*Serving God with Gladness!*





**You are invited** to join the Trinity Trekkers on an adventure to the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum. Starting on October 7<sup>th</sup> you will leave by bus for the Ark and Museum adventure. Some meals are included, there is a two-night stay at the Hyatt in Cincinnati. This adventure is a walking adventure, but worth the time and effort. Scooters are available at an extra cost. Please use the OR code on the flyer to sign up or call Trinity at 983-5000 to get your name on the list. The cost and itineraries are available here.

**We need some help.** We have had some volunteer positions open up on our Boards and we could use your help. Some of Elders have stepped down and we still need a Treasurer for our church. The Elders Board position is for men only according to our church constitution. *“Elders, working along with the Pastor(s), have authority and responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the congregation, staff, and other members. They serve as special assistant to the Pastor(s), in prayer, service participation, group Bible studies, visitations, assimilation, and in meetings with Greeters, Ushers, Altar Guild, Worship, etc. If any Elder has been so empowered by the Pastor(s), that Elder could serve in his (their) stead. The Elders are to perform an annual review with the Pastor(s).”*

The Treasurer position has been vacant for some time. The duties are as follows: *The Treasurer shall supervise the bookkeeper(s) regarding (a) payment of all bills authorized by the congregation, and (b) accurate record-keeping of all disbursements and receipts. The Treasurer shall take steps to assure that all financial records remain the property of the congregation and that all officers and board chairs have appropriate access to such records. The Treasurer will issue financial reports and charts for all of Immanuel’s programs to the Business Council; and will be available to explain Immanuel’s fiscal status at each Voters and Business Council meeting. The Treasurer will serve as a member of The Board of Finance and will be its representative at Business Council meetings.”* (Italicized portions are from Immanuel Lutheran Church Constitution and Bylaws rev. April 24, 2022)

If you would like to volunteer to help this church in her mission, please let the church office know at 269-465-6031.

**Please be aware that these positions are volunteer, not paid positions.**

**Reverend Doctor Douglas A. Kregel, Sole Pastor**

***Please call the church office for any Pastoral needs.  
Church Office 269-465-6031***

Today’s Hymns – 868, 749, 921

*Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

*“From Generation to Generation: to Advocate”*

**Next Week’s Scriptures:** Old Testament: *Isaiah 50:4-10*;  
Epistle: James 3:1-12, 14–18 Holy Gospel: Mark 7:14-29

**Sunday Attendance: September 1, 2024  
9:00 am – 87 ; 10:30 am - 59**

**Wednesday Bible Study - 9**