



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule

Sunday, February 9, 2025

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 posted on our website: 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

Today we hear of Isaiah, who calls himself “a man of unclean lips.” We read as Paul asks the rhetorical question, “What am I to do?” And we identify with Peter, who confesses, “I am a sinful man, O Lord.” In short, we recognize that these people are just like us! But like all three, we have already been caught by our gracious God. Isaiah was called to write for God, Paul’s pen brought the Gospel to the early church, and Peter led the disciples in spite of himself. With them, we have been caught in the “net,” the good news of God’s love and forgiveness. Today our worship is designed to move us outward, to fish for people who feel unclean, don’t know what to do, and are leaderless; people who have not yet realized God’s gracious love. Ready to go fishing?

LITURGICAL TIDBITS

On the Gloria in Excelsis: This is one of the very oldest hymns sung by Christians. The earliest reference to it occurs in a letter written in A.D. 112, when Christians were still being ruthlessly persecuted by the Roman Empire, Pliny the Younger, a Roman governor, was writing to the Roman emperor Trajan to seek advice concerning how to conduct the trials of Christians. In this letter, he describes how Christians worship: “On an appointed day they had been accustomed to meet before daybreak, and to recite a hymn antiphonally to Christ, as to a god.” While bizarre to a pagan like Pliny, Christians easily recognize this reference to the Gloria: “O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.”

The Flowers on the Altar today are in memory of Mike Pedde from his loving wife, Karen and their family. Thank you for honoring your memories of Mike by gracing our altar area with these lovely blooms. If you would like to give flowers on a Sunday to honor a family member or friend, please sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or contact the church office for details.

Please join us next Sunday, as we welcome Dr. Jim and Susan Kaiser from the Lutheran Bible Translators. Dr. Jim and Susan Kaiser are excited to help translation teams finish their translations of the Bible in Ethiopia and Sierra Leone. In the early 1980s, Susan helped establish a literacy program for the Loko people of Sierra Leone. Jim and Susan helped to translate the New Testament for the Kono people of Sierra Leone, and later assisted the Old Testament translation project for the Chaldean people of Iraq. Jim and Susan live in Macomb, MI. They have three grown sons, all born in Sierra Leone, and seven grandchildren. The Kaisers are thankful for all partnerships in getting God’s Word into people’s hands and hearts.



FREE FOR ALL

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING
Sunday, Feb. 16th 12pm



Family in Need We are in need of some help for a family that has come on hard times. We are looking for non-perishable goods for this family. The family has their child in our GSRP program and we found that he had some very specific needs recently. Our Bible Study groups and boards have already donated a great deal of clothing for this young student who had many needs, however they are still looking for non-perishable food for the family. Any help would be very much appreciated. A great big thank you goes out to everyone who donated this past week, it was a tremendous outpouring of generosity and love. This church family is so loving, generous and supportive and we give thanks to the Lord for this wonderful family.

Free for All Planning Meeting: Please join us Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00 pm in the Life Center to begin planning this year's Free-For-All. Agenda items include setting the date and compiling a To Do List. All hands are needed as this is a huge undertaking. If you have questions, please call Sue Berk, 269-921-2977.

YOU ARE INVITED TO a Special Voter's Meeting on **Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 12:00 pm** in the Life Center to vote on the contract for roof replacement. This is the only agenda item for this Special Voter's Meeting. We hope you can join us for this special vote on the roof replacement. There is a Voter's Packet, one page for this Special Voter's Meeting, on the table in the narthex. make sure you pick up this Voter's Packet today!

Preparing for the Lenten Season will be a time of reflection and learning about the origin of the church and the office of public ministry. Pastor Krengel will delve into how the church came to be, the "rock" on which it was built and how the office of public ministry was developed from the apostolic office, Jesus, as the risen Lord, sending out the apostles into a sinful world. Lent begins late this year, starting on March 5th with Ash Wednesday. We hope you will take this opportunity to join us during our midweek journey towards salvation.



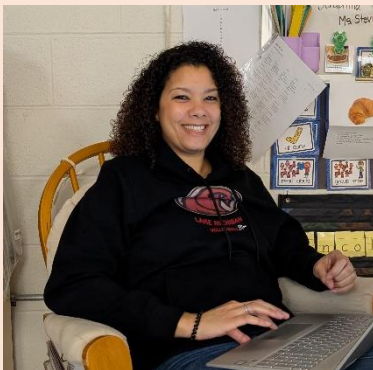
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ECDC NEWS

PLEASE MEET OUR VERY SPECIAL GSRP TEACHERS!



Heather Nicole Adams is part of our team of Great Start to Readiness Program teachers. Heather was born in Rapid City, South Dakota, and she can boast of two half-brothers, both named Robert, (to avoid confusion one is called Bo and one is called Bud). Not to mention, her biological father's name is Robert and her stepfather (who adopted her) whose name is Robert as well! Heather is married and lives in Baroda with her second husband, Dylan who works for Cook Nuclear Plant. Heather was blessed with three children, Kayleigh, Eli and Isaiah. Sadly, Isaiah suffered from many medical issues and was called to his heavenly home at the age of 8 weeks old, Isaiah would be eleven if he had lived. Kayleigh is now 17 years old and a senior at St. Joseph High School. Kayleigh is a highly accomplished student, being a part of the National Honor Society, Key Club, Academic Mentor, and Peer to Peer (a group working with students with Autism). She also is involved with sports, Varsity Softball, Volleyball and Rugby. Kayleigh is planning on attending Aquinas College (Grand Rapids) in the fall majoring in Mathematics and Secondary Education (like her mother). Kayleigh will enjoy her last summer at home working as a barista in Sister Lakes at Driftwood and spending time with her boyfriend, Alex whom she met in sixth grade at VBS. Heather's son Eli, is finishing up his freshman year at Lakeshore High School and is quite the athlete. Eli plays baseball, basketball and golf. Eli keeps everyone smiling with his charismatic personality and wonderful sense of humor, he enjoys the outdoors, especially working on his golf game at Harbor Shores with the First Tee club. Eli has earned the "Student of the Week Award" and is also a member of the Key Club, where he loves to volunteer to help others and become a leader in our community. Eli is continuing in his high school journey towards athletic training, sportswriter or a sport's analyst. Heather also takes care of their two rescue dogs, Pudge, a Corgi and a shepherd/golden retriever mix, Maple, she also has the responsibility of Moe their rabbit. Heather likes to read in her spare time, thrillers, mysteries, romance and fiction novels created by women authors. Heather also loves to bake, making wonderful creations that appeal to the taste buds and to the eyes. She is often asked to provide treats for friends and family for a little extra money. Her whole family likes to travel locally mostly, but have gone further afield, they like to tent camp, hanging their hammocks at campgrounds in the northern part of the mitten of Michigan, and they do travel a lot for the traveling sports teams her children play on. Heather's future goals are to achieve her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. Heather was brought to our ECDC by looking for a job on the advice of her friend Diana who had worked for us and had told Heather what a great place it was to work. How blessed we are that Heather was led by God to our ECDC!

Working on this awesome team, is our congregation member, **Stevie Irene Hill**. Stevie was born in Berrien Center. Stevie's father lives in Edwardsburg and her mother, just moved back to Niles after living in Florida. Stevie has two brothers, Jonathan "Jon" and Michael "Mike" and two older half-sisters, Tara and Julie. Stevie is blessed with two children, Tatyanna "Tat" who is 18 years old and Hazen who is 15 years old. Tatyanna is a senior at Bridgman High School and is a very accomplished student and athlete. Tat enjoys playing on the Volleyball, Basketball, Softball and Track teams, and being well over six feet tall, she is a very valuable member on all those teams. Tat also keeps busy playing in the orchestra and marching bands at Bridgman HS. She is the Band Master and plays the trombone for the orchestra and plays on the drumline for marching band. Not to be outdone by the extra curricular activities, her academics are outstanding! Tat is on the honor roll, in the National Honor Society, and she is president of the Student Senate, wow, she is one busy young lady. Tat is going to go to Lake Michigan College in the fall and play on their volleyball team. She is planning on staying in their dorms. Her hopes are to attend LMC for one or two years and then attend Hope College studying psychology, possible going into social work or therapy. Stevie's son Hazen has the love and support of his mother and older sister, but he has his own challenges to cope with. Hazen is autistic and is quiet, shy and feels more comfortable reading, and remaining introspective. Hazen is completing his last year of middle school at Bridgman, enjoying his group of friends which has grown over the years. Going into high school is exciting but also is very challenging. Hazen loves to read, like a favorite book "Warrior Cat", he is very intelligent and is a great writer. Hazen likes to play video games when he is not reading. Stevie also takes care of two cats, Peach and Tiana. Stevie loves to keep her home organized and clean, having two busy teenagers in the house, makes that a challenge for her. Stevie is always busy taking care of her family since she is a single mom, she sometimes she does not have the time to spend out at the movies or indulge in many hobbies. She does like to enjoy coffee with friends, go out window shopping with friends, enjoy a good binge watch on streaming media and enjoys shopping. Stevie's goals for the future are to ensure her children reach all of their future goals and will work very hard to make sure they are happy and secure. Stevie would like to travel, having visited Washington DC and Florida but she is hoping to travel to Italy one day. Stevie was led to us by working here as a teacher, to give her the funds so she could attend cosmetology school, but ended up studying for her CDA, becoming one of our most valued staff members. Her care and love of the students is unending and we are so blessed that God led her to our ECDC.



Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

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

Continuing Care Facilities: Pat Ott, Geraldine Wooley, Don Metzger, Skip & Norma Linn, Barry Vance (out of state), Marylou Svorec (out of state), Rose Briggs, Betty Dehring, Dorothea Crocker, Bill Gast, Duane Vigansky, Harriet Fester and Marion Winter

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

Linda Kuhn on hospice

Healing Needs for the Mont

Cheryl Fischer, AnneMarie Mojsiejenko, Erica Anstey, Sarah Hogue, Marion Winter, August Zilke (Tiffany Rydwelski's Father) Pastor Carl Bassett, Leon Schmaltz, Darrell Gast, Jared Simpson, Merry Sneed, Terry Combs, Georgia Hildebrandt, Rick Russell, Mike Dick, Mike Stine, Denny Lawrenz, Tim Smith, Derek Davis, James Petty Sr., Scott Mulvihill, Char Schram, John Stine, Natalya Gaidukevich, Jeffrey Nemitz, Ray Michener, Tiffany Prosser, Michael Dick, Harriet Fester, Ted Joachim, Tara Deam,, Kathy Burkett, Ray Krieger, Jane Tym, Gavin Hanson, Sara Buist, Harvey Burnett, Charles Boreland, Dave Kramer, Marilyn Gelesko, Beth Vigansky Ciuizio, Tom Ulmer, Brenda Cangelosi, Ralph Palmer (Nancy Gast's Son), Laura Laube, Roger Mojsiejenko, Jeff Delvaux, Terry Graves, Irwin & Margaret Poschke, Dick Gorske,

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

Thank you to the members of Immanuel who continue to give their offerings when absent on Sundays

Finance News

February 2, 2025 offerings and donations:
Offering Envelopes \$7,111.00 Year to date: \$41,495.00
Roof fund \$20 Total Roof fund \$92,318

Today's Hymns: LSB 611, 827, 718

Sunday, February 16, 2025 *Jeremiah 17:5-8;*
1 Corinthians 15:1-20; Luke 6:17-26

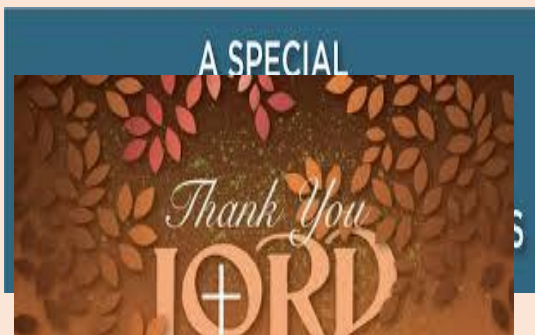
Sunday Attendance: February 2, 2025

9:00 am – 68; 10:30 am – 54

Wednesday Bible Study - 12



Get Your
FREE
VALENTINE
 in Harding's Market Lobby
 Fri. February 7th 2-5 pm



Valentine Give-Away Our Valentine Give-Away on Friday was a wonderful success! They gave away so many valentines, all crafted by our ECDC children with loving messages sent to people willing to take a valentine in the Harding's Market in Bridgman, thank you to the Outreach Board for your fabulous idea of having the children create the valentines and passing them out to the shoppers. Showing our Love of Jesus is one way to bring people to Christ, to enrich their lives with the Word.

We Need Your Help! Our very busy Outreach Board is planning on repurposing the old kindergarten room/Café. This room will become a multi-purpose space for our upcoming pre-teens and teens for a youth group space and also for an extra meeting space. They are planning on a redesign to accommodate both purposes. The space is currently being used by Bible Study groups, VBS crafts, and meetings, but Outreach is looking for a space for our teens to be able to meet up for Bible studies and/or other activities. The renovation of the room is an exciting opportunity to breathe new life into the room by enhancing and modernizing the amenities in the room. We look forward to embarking on this transformative journey by creating a space that will allow all members of the church to utilize the room. The primary objective of the renovation project is to remove/re-home/reorganize and dispose of items that are being stored in the room currently. We would like to create a comfortable, welcoming and aesthetically pleasing environment for all. We are also looking for these new or gently used items: *A futon (grey or black ideally leather for ease of cleanup) and a *Mini Fridge. Thank you to everyone who pared down the list of needs by donating the items and to the person who donated \$200 for this room. Our blessings are many and you have reached out to share what you have been blessed with! Thank you!

GOD IS GOOD! We are so very grateful for all of the generous donations that were given in these last months for the Donation Challenge that was issued by one of our congregation members for the roof repair/replacement! Through your generosity we have met the \$20,000 challenge and the matching funds have been added to our growing totals. In addition, another anonymous member has donated an additional \$20,000 to our roof fund, which makes us truly grateful and humble by the outpouring of donations to repair our roof. We have all of the bids we require for the roof replacement/repair, and it looks like we are ready to bring the decision to the Voters of Immanuel. We pray that we will have a large enough turnout at the Special Voters Meeting on Sunday, February 16th at 12:00 pm. We hope to get enough voters so we can begin the process of repairing/replacing our roof. We are so grateful and feel that God is **INDEED** with us! **Well Done Immanuel!**

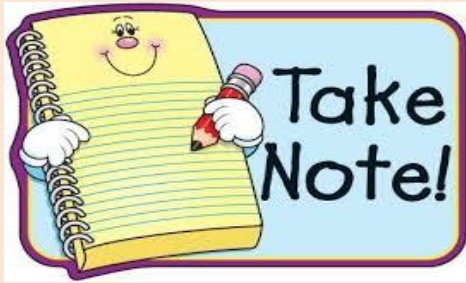
***"A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher."* Luke 6:40**

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Special Days

Birthdays: Carol Hadley (2-09), Donna Mach (2-09), Justin Ott (2-09), Michael Ott (2-09), Ray Krieger (2-09), Chris Damaske (2-10), Karl Kaeding (2-10), Amber Vonk (2-11), Robert Ruff (2-11), Sam Jones (2-11), Ethan Smith (2-12), Tiffany Rydwelski (2-12), Brad Hildebrandt (2-13), Don Burch (2-13), Linda Miller (2-13), Amanda Brown (2-14), Kinsley Smith (2-14), Mark Heyn (2-15)

Anniversary: Kevin & Susan Berk (2-13) 43 Years

This Week at Immanuel

Today, Feb. 9th – Divine Worship - 9 am

Praise Worship -10:30am

“The Rock” Sunday School – 10:45 am

Mon. Feb. 10th – Bible Class led by Gerry Vigansky – 10:00 am

Bridge Club – 12:30 pm

Handbell Choir – 6:00 pm

Worship Board Mtg – 7pm

AA Meeting – 7:00 pm

Tues. Feb. 11th – Free for All Planning Mtg. – 6 pm

Wed. Feb. 12th - Bible Class Café led by Elsie Hanke – 10am

Choir Practice – 7:00 pm

Thurs. Feb. 13th - Breakfast with Jesus at Rochefort’s – 8am

Praise Worship Practice – 7:00 pm

Sat. Feb. 15th – Men’s Network Breakfast – 8:00 am

Sun. Feb. 16th – Divine Worship Service with Holy

Communion- 9:00 am

Praise Worship Service with Holy

Communion- 10:30 am

“The Rock” Sunday School – 10:45 am

Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ **Men’s Network Breakfast** – Saturday, February 15th, 8am
- ♥ **Free for All Planning Mtg** – Tuesday, February 11th 6pm
- ♥ **Special Voter’s Meeting** – Sunday, February 16th 12pm
- ♥ **Ash Wednesday** – March 5, 2025

Everyone Needs Prayer! We still in need for people to sign up to be Prayer Partners with our teachers in the ECDC. Recently we have hired new teachers and we need some prayer partners for them. Those very dedicated women work very hard to teach our littlest members of our community to know and love God. 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 to help them get to know their partner better. Please sign up today!

Goodlife Choir – Our Beyond the Walls Choir is ready to sing again for Lent. Please join us on **Saturday, February 22, 2025 and Saturday, March 1, 2025**. Practices will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Bridgman from 10:00 – 11:15 am. The theme for this year’s program is “He is Risen.” Watch the bulletin for further details.

Discipleship is living every day to the glory of God in front of other people and inviting them to join you in the journey.



Those Serving in Church This Week

Greeters: Karen Pedde & Steve Pedde and Jere (Corky) & Jeannie Dehring (9 am); Immanuel's Praise Team (10:30 am)
Ushers: Don Burch, Brad Hildebrandt, Dave Neal, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Larry Smith, and Ken Dickinson
Lay readers: Vicki Ott (9am)
Chimes Ensemble: Susan Foster, Cheryl Music, Rebekah Hettig, Kathy Michener and Joyce Hamlin
Handbell Choir: Directed by Pastor Tom Fischer, Susan Foster, Suellen Klein, Melissa Barker, Cheryl Music, Bev Barnes, Rebekah Hettig, Lori Sukupchak, Kathy Michener, Joyce Hamlin, Kim and Steve Schmitz.
Praise Team: Team Leader, Deb Jaeger; Rich Kubsch, Mark Heyn, Karen Kerlikowske, Lori Sukupchak, Sharon Stine, Melissa Barker, Pattie Neal, Amy Kregel and Shannah Smith
Guitarists: John "Mac" McElligott, Kurt Hanke
Keyboardist/Guitarist: Kunwarjit Singh Multani "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, Cheryl Fischer
Trustees: Brad Hildebrandt, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, Art Brunke
Elders: Larry Kanous, Denny Barnes, Paul Jaeger, Allan Barker, Mark Heyn, Eric Ott, Steve Schmitz
Organist: Pastor Thomas Fischer
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Douglas Kregel.

"The Rock" Sunday School

A Love Story: The Gospel is the Good News

Hearts, you see hearts everywhere you look this time of the year. Red hearts decorate store windows for the upcoming Valentine's Day. Cards with funny and loving verses line the aisles of stores. It's that time of the year again. It's time to find the perfect box of Valentines for your friends and classmates. What theme will you give this year? Kittens and puppies? Horses? Dinosaurs? Superheroes? Cards that make you laugh? How do you choose the best Valentine to give?

God gave us the best Valentine ever. God gave us his only son Jesus, to show His love for us. **John 3:16 states, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."** Wow! This is such a wonderful message that God wants us to give to everyone. The gospel is the good news that God gave us his son Jesus. Jesus died for sinners, but He rose again! Those who put their trust in Him will be with God in heaven someday. God wants to share this good news. The Rock will be making Valentine's Day cards to share God's love. To whom are you going to share God's message of love?

2024 Offering Statements are available by request through the church office by calling 269-465-6031 or email us at ilc@immanuelbridgman.org. Let us know if that is something you would like for your records.



**Praise
Team**



We can always use member's who wish to share their musical talents. Maybe one of your New Year's resolutions could be to join one of our Choirs or our Praise Team. Everyone is welcome to join, we enjoy fellowship and fun while using our unique talents to add beauty to worship. If you have a voice you can sing, if you can count you can play bells, if you play an instrument we can use you too. Our Handbell Choir practices on Monday at 6:00 pm. Our Choir practices on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Our Praise Team practices on Thursday at 7:00 pm. There is also the Beyond the Walls Choir which is seasonal. If you play an instrument, (any instrument!) we would like to invite you to join us also. Let's use our many talents to praise our Lord and Savior. If you have any questions you can contact Pastor Fischer or the Church office.



Operation Christmas Child 2025: Like last year, we will be collecting each month, items to add to our boxes for November. Thank you to all who contributed throughout the last year. We want to continue supporting this wonderful ministry so in **February we will be collecting small stuffed animals.** This should be relatively easy with Valentine's Day Friday. There are sweet little stuffed animals everywhere for you to send some love to children who do not know the love of God.



The Share Closet is open. Did you know, we are so blessed to have this ministry? Again this year, Harbor Country Missions put a call out for warm clothing to give to the people in need in Bridgman. We were able to answer that call with so many coats, boots and warm blankets. If you look in the Share Closet, it is filled with plenty of items! That's just one story of many that shows how much this ministry is needed! If you have some time to spare, come and look at the closet and see the great ministry that is going on! Thank you to Cheryl Music, Susan Foster and Ellen Yeske for continuing to help organize and clean up the closet. Thank you for all your donations for this great Outreach!



Thank you to Nancy Kirk for decorating our bathrooms for each holiday or season. It lifts people's spirits and makes them smile. Thank you for your time and talents! We are indeed blessed!



Did you know? Worship Anew Worship Services are now broadcasted on South Bend - WSBT 22.2 (FOX) Saturday 8:30 am. For those of you who missed the inspirational programing we are grateful to WSBT for offering this worthy program. Why not take a peek?

Rev. Dr. Douglas A. Kregel, Sole Pastor
Please call the church office for any
Pastoral needs.

Church Office 269-465-6031



Thank you to all of the members of Immanuel who provided the necessary items for our needy family this week. We could never have imagined the response from you nor the generosity you showed. Our hearts are full of appreciation and gratitude! The Teachers of Immanuel ECDC