

Immanuel Monthly

June 2016



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Making more and stronger disciples of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
522 S. CHURCH STREET — WATERLOO, IL — 618.939.6480
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From Our Administrative Pastor...

Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion. Psalm 103:1-4

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Immanuel,

Psalm 103, part of which is written above, is a great hymn of praise. The psalmist was so elated over God's blessings (forgiveness, healing, redemption, God's love and compassion) that he was about to bust. He needed to praise the Lord with his whole being. I picture the man smiling, singing, gesturing with his hands, and moving his body to and fro. He must have been filled with God's joy and peace.

Because Psalm 103 reflects the joy we feel over God's blessings so well, we often use it in worship, particularly during special occasions. To be sure, we use it during festivals like Easter and Christmas, but we also use it for church anniversaries, Thanksgiving services, and ordinations. We use it because we feel God's blessings at a special time. A time when we could bust for joy!

I mention this because Immanuel is approaching a special time for our congregation. A time when we could all bust with joy! During a special service on Sunday, June 12, at 3:00 p.m., Rev. Merritt Demski will be installed here at Immanuel as our Associate Pastor. We've known Rev. Demski and his wife, Veronica, for almost two years now, and they've shown us how much they love the Lord, God's Word, and God's people through their words and actions. We're truly blessed to have them in our church family and this is truly a time to celebrate!

And so be sure to join us on June 12 at 3:00 p.m. to celebrate and praise God for God's blessings of a faithful pastor and his wife. Dr. Bruce Hartung, a professor from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and a friend of Rev. Demski, will be our guest preacher. A gifted counselor, Dr. Hartung has helped many pastors and seminary students improve and prepare for their ministries with his words of wisdom and practical advice. Having him preach will be a great way to start our work together as pastor and congregation. God is good!

And be sure to stay after the service for a dinner in honor of Pastor and Mrs. Demski. A caterer will provide chicken, mashed potatoes, corn and sheet cake, and our members will provide the desserts and side dishes. If your last name begins with A-M, please bring a dessert. If your last name begins with N-Z, please bring a salad or side dish. The dinner is sure to be a time of wonderful food and fellowship.

And so, my brothers and sisters in Christ, let's praise the Lord with all our souls, always remembering his benefits. The benefits of forgiveness, healing, redemption, love, compassion—and a new pastor and his wife! See you on June 12!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Group



Installation

A "Note" from our Music Director

Thanks and Praise!

The Fall to Spring 2015-16 Music Season is now history, but the *music selections* prepared for Immanuel's worship services continue to be "heard in my head."

It would take quite a bit of newsletter space to share all of the titles, notes, words, etc. of all the music selections that were heard throughout the previous music season. The various soloists, instrumentalists, Adult Choir members, Agape Ringers, Immanubells, and Sunday School Choirs did a wonderful job of sharing music selections that focused on the themes of worship.

The following is a quote from a Hallmark card I received from a fellow music friend:

"Music has the power to **raise our spirits** and **lift our eyes to heaven.**"

I hope the music prepared and presented this past music season *did* raise your spirits; and, also *pointed* your eyes to heaven!

Romans 12: 6 tells us that **"we have different gifts, according to the grace given us."** Whether you are praising Him from up in the balcony, down front by the bell tables, near the altar's piano, or in the pews, your *musical gifts* are a gift to all who worship.

May God bless and keep you during the summer months. Plan to join Immanuel's Music Ministry in the fall! Opportunities to do so will be highlighted in the July/August newsletter and weekly bulletin notes.

To Him be all **Thanks and Praise!**

Serving Him,



Praise
and give thanks to *the*
Lord

**Openings are still available in the
M/W/F class at Immanuel's
Preschool for the 2016-2017
school year!**

M/W/F Class for 4 yr. olds

8:30—11:30am

Children must be 4 by 9/1/16.

\$50 registration fee (non-refundable)

\$110/month tuition (Sept—May)

Visit our website

(www.immanuelwaterloo.org) or contact the
office (immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com or
939-6480) for more information or to get a
registration packet.

Support Our BASIC Youth Group!

1. Immanuel's BASIC youth group sponsors a coffee & doughnut fellowship each Sunday morning from 8:45-9:00am and 10-10:15am outside the multipurpose room. **If you would like to sponsor a Sunday, please sign up on the list on the table.** All freewill offerings are appreciated!
2. Recycle your aluminum cans! There is a large trash can in the kitchen for those cans. If you have a large amount and put them in trash bags, you can put the bags over by the white shed at the corner of the parking lot.
3. The paper recycle bins are located in the back of the education building. Load them up with your paper recycling products!
4. The ice machine is available and ice can be purchased for a freewill donation during office hours, and on weekends before and after worship. Simply load your container with the large ice scoop and place your money in the donation can.

Thank you for your support!

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to...

- 1 Amanda Drewes
Adam Eggemeyer
- 2 Bradley Altes
Jane Moeser
- 3 Jim Heise
Kathy Netzeband
Taylor Scheibe
- 4 Alex Naumann
Kristin Wilhelm
- 5 Michael Jones
Christine Mitchell
Joan Rehmer
Norma Shive
- 6 Tyler Ervin
Jack Horrell
Saundra Mueller
- 7 Brady Drewes
Kaylee Tucker
- 8 Liam Garner
Lauren Heise
Curt Wittbracht
- 9 Marie Dietzel
Lois Rabbermann
Sophia Thompson
- 10 Isabel Gibbons
- 11 Lucas Altes
Don Moeller
- 13 Linda Allscheid
Oliver Valerius
Shirley Williams
- 14 Ryan Gruber
Kyleen May
Karen Valerius
- 15 Robert Menke
- 17 Carol Hart
Jenny Wittbracht
- 18 Kolton May
Imogene Myrick
- 19 Gary Altes
- 20 Taryn Niemeyer
- 21 Fylicia Horn
- 22 Drew McDaniel
- 23 Clem Ruesler
Ken Schanz
- 24 Robert Blattner
Nola Cottner
Quinn Rodenberg
- 25 Madison Eybel
Andrew Haare
- 26 Carol
Matzenbacher
- 27 Bonita Lieb



- 27 Logan Urspruch
- 28 Tina Herschbach
Blake Reisner
John Reisner
Lori Smothers

Happy Anniversary to...

- 2 Tim & Deborah Joellenbeck, 4 yr.
- 5 Andrew & Andrea Glessner, 6 yr.
- 6 Glenn & Barb White, 41 yr.
- 8 Dan & Pam Kettler, 42 yr.
- 10 Ken & Susan Stratman, 21 yr.
Tom & Norma Wheatley, 56 yr.
- 12 David & Tina Herschbach, 23 yr.
Jay & Leron Pryor, 45 yr.
- 14 Tom & Sandy Bequette, 20 yr.
Merritt & Veronica Demski, 7 yr.
Tom & Connie Naber, 30 yr.
David & Kathie Naumann, 30 yr.
- 15 Jim & Lois Heise, 53 yr.
- 16 Eddie & Emily Reece, 4 yr.
- 19 Aaron & Christine Thompson, 6 yr.
- 20 Justin & Lindsey Braun, 7 yr.
Brian & Carol Hart, 29 yr.
- 21 Eric & Janis Milton, 30 yr.
- 22 Bill & Sue Bradshaw, 25 yr.
- 24 Josh & Crystal Becker, 10 yr.
- 26 Eric & Kristin Wilhelm, 12 yr.

Parish Leaders

Pastors:

- Rev. Dr. Tony Troup, 618-340-8375 Administrative
As of June 12, 2016...
- Rev. Merritt Demski, 847-254-9666 Associate

Church & School Staff:

- Lisa Clamors, 618-719-4954 Office Secretary
Ann Frank, 282-6597 Music Director
Sandy Mueller Housekeeping
Ken Schanz Groundskeeper/Maintenance
Cindy Troup, 618-340-0757 Preschool Director

Church Council:

- Lee Eggemeyer, 458-8555 President
Alan Stumpf, 618-719-9033 Vice-President
Laura Kinzinger, 939-8175 Secretary
David Powell, 618-974-9222 Treasurer
Warren Frank, 282-6597 Financial Secretary
Taryn Niemeyer, 939-7982 Christian Education
Allen Jacobs, 939-3035 Church Properties
Colby Crook, 618-910-2825 Evangelism
Sandy Mueller, 618-420-1373 Social Ministry
Alan Stumpf, 618-719-9033 Spiritual Ministry
Pat Kelly, Sr., 636-373-2967 Stewardship
Sandy Nichols, 618-719-3424 Youth Ministry

Other Volunteers:

- Cindy Troup Sunday School Superintendent
Louise Nobbe Head Sacristans
Leron Pryor
Hazel Moeckel
Sandy Thompson Flower Coordinator
Lisa Clamors Women's Christian Ministry
Janet Crawford Fellowship Committee

Field Education Students:

During the summer months, we do not have any field education students.

Have you ever thought about joining one of Immanuel's Boards or committees? If so, please contact the appropriate person listed above.

Elders' Shepherding Program

(Families whose last name begins with)

A-B	Rodney Clamors, 618-719-4023
C-D	Jim Crawford, 618-799-8789
E-Ha	Scott Janssen, 214-629-6975
He-Hu	Bob Polansky, 618-979-0918
J-K	Jason Valerius, 458-4890
L-Mel	Wayne Collmeyer, 618-719-7235
Men-My	Cal Neeman, 939-5137
N-P	Elden Niemeyer, 939-7982
R-Sche	Larry Taake, 939-4757
Schi-Sw	Jerry Grant, 939-5032
T-Wel	Bill Holtgrieve, 939-9105
Wem-Z	Larry Goessling, 939-8824

Elders and Pastors:
Alan Stumpf, 618-719-9033

Monthly Collections

Board of Social Ministry:

June: House of Neighborly Service (HNS)

This is a community food pantry in Waterloo that helps all those in Monroe County. Items needed include all non-perishable food items, paper goods (i.e. paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, etc.), and all kinds of cleaning supplies. There is a barrel in the narthex for your donations. Thank you!

Sunday School:

June: Waterloo Area Churches' Help Network

Each month, the Sunday School classes take a monetary offering for a specific charity. Thank you to all of the Pre-K through 8th grade students that contribute to these collections each month!

Bi-County Backpack Program:

This is an ongoing collection that supports children in Red Bud, Valmeyer, and Waterloo throughout the year. See the weekly bulletins for a list of items needed.

Do You Have an Email Address?

Did you know that you could be a good steward by receiving our newsletter via e-mail? Call (939-6480) or e-mail (immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com) the church office and let Lisa know to remove you from the mailing list and add you to the e-mail list.

Bible Study Opportunities!

Sunday Education Hour: This Bible study hour consists of Sunday School for the youth (3 years old to 8th grade), a young adult Bible study (high school & college age) on *"What Does It Look Like to Be a Christian in Our Culture?"* led by Vicar Merritt in the youth room; a DVD study *"Daniel at Immanuel"* led by Pastor Troup in the overflow room; and a DVD-based Bible study on various topics for young adults and families led by Scott & Jen Janssen and Tim Scheibe in the church basement kitchen.

Men's Bible Study: A DVD Bible study "Who Am I? What Am I Doing Here?" led by Pastor Troup is held at Burger King every Tuesday at 6:30am.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Class: This Bible study and fellowship time is held every Wednesday at 9:30am. This class is led by Rev. Merritt Demski. They are studying the Book of Romans.

Ladies' Bible Study: We are taking a break for the summer. We'll resume in August!

Adult Information Classes: None at the present time. Watch the bulletins & newsletters for information on the next class.

Everyone is invited to attend one or more of these Bible studies! Bring a friend!

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Please note: The names listed below will remain on our public prayer list for two weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise. Thank you.

We Pray for our Fellow Parishioners:
Millie Menke, Erwin Liefer, Doris Horn, Roland Muench, Virginia Horn, Cathy Goforth, Phyllis Brown, Shirley Moeckel, Donna Lieb, Lana Mueller, Nathan Grant

We Pray for Friends and Relatives of Parishioners:
Michael Washausen, Nina Van Kamp, Ken Horn, Susan Higgins, Al Gruber, Donna Huffman, Gordon Curd, Jane Walter, Kurt Klotzer, Nicole Bachelier, Ginny Sweet, Darren Stein

We Pray for Those in the Service of Our Nation:
Dusty Hansen, Alicia Kirkley, Dustin Bender, Aaron Bommarito, Alex Naumann

We Pray for Our Missionaries and Special Missions: Eric & Linda Funke (Tanzania), Unity Lutheran Elementary School (East St. Louis, IL), Erica Crawford (Eastern Asia through July)

CONGRATULATIONS, NEW OFFICERS!

During our congregational meeting last month, we elected the following new church officers. These officers will be installed during the 10:15am service on Sunday, June 12, 2016.

Congregational President:
Lee Eggemeyer

Congregational Treasurer:
Dave Powell

Director, Board of Christian Education:
Taryn Niemeyer

Director, Board of Stewardship:
Pat Kelly, Sr.

Director, Board of Church Properties:
Allen Jacobs

Congratulations and God's blessings to all of you! Special thanks to Dawn Rubemeyer for serving as a past officer!

April 2016 Official Acts

Baptism:

4/17/16—*Caleb Alan Glessner*, son of Andrew & Andrea nee Jones Glessner

Peaceful Release from Membership:

Jim & Karen Bouquet

Our April Finances

Total Deposits	\$ 36,048.32
Total Expenses	\$ 30,476.04
Over/(Short)	\$ 5,572.28

April 30, 2016 Balances:

Checking	\$ 99,859.59
Scholarship Fund	\$ 9,096.36
Narthex Exp. Fund	\$ 2,480.00
Nobbe Mem. Fund	\$ 7,986.00
Loan	\$ 43,084.17

2016 Year to Date:

Deposits	\$148,143.90
Expenses	\$135,484.08
Over/(Short)	\$ 12,659.82
Unpaid Obligations	\$ 0.00

April Church Attendance

April 2016 (4)	1045
April 2015 (5)	1003
April 1986 (5)	1456

2016 Weekly Average (as of 4/30): 240
As of 4/30/16, there were 870 baptized members.

June 2016 Worship Helpers

Dates	Times	Ushers	Servers	Lectors	Acolytes	Greeters	Media Team
Sat, Jun 04	5:30pm		Greg Wiegand	Keda Bachelier	Sophia Alu	Marilyn Collette	Haley/Hannah Vernier
Sun, Jun 05	10:15am	1				Ushers	Greg/Paul Hoeffken ®
Sat, Jun 11	5:30pm		Rodney Clamors	Rodney Clamors	Tyler Cooley	Marilyn Collette	Lisa Clamors
Sun, Jun 12	7:45am	2	Wayne Collmeyer	Joey Birrittier		Barb & Courtney Heimburger	Laurie/Dave
	10:15am	10		Karen Hodapp	David Broske & Drake Downing	Ushers	Wyatt/Kyra Drewes ®
Sat, Jun 18	5:30pm		Chuck Keller	Keda Bachelier	Evan Fink	Marilyn Collette	Kelley Keller
Sun, Jun 19	7:45am	4		Kim Holtgrieve	Aaron Lloyd & Alex Whelan	Charles & Phyllis Lloyd	Pam Nagel ®
	10:15am	3	Howard Shive	Wayne Collmeyer	Griffin Nichols & Kaden Nichols	Ushers	Mitchell/Tim Scheibe
Sat, Jun 25	5:30pm		Wayne Collmeyer	Nyla Bartels	Jack Metzger	Marilyn Collette	Lisa Clamors
Sun, Jun 26	7:45am	5	Chuck Keller	Veronica Demski	Ian Schrader & Grace Herschbach	Ushers	Kelley Keller
	10:15am	6		Warren Frank	Jacob Williams & Madalyn Valerius	Wayne & Cathie Collmeyer	Greg/Paul Hoeffken ®

Usher Teams:

- 1 Roy Unterseh, Jim Stueve, Dennis & Raymond Brandt, Ed Arras
- 2 Chuck Keller, Craig Mehner, Larry Taake, Dawn & Chase Rubemeyer
- 3 Rodney & Lisa Clamors, Alec & Michael Trout, Ollney Mueller Jr.
- 4 Bill Stueve, Charles Lloyd, Kevin Whelan
- 5 Robert Mesnarich Jr., Pam Nagel, Don & Carol Matzenbacher
- 6 Jason & Nick Valerius, Wade Marshall, Gerald Woodcock, Tim Troup
- 7 Alan Stumpf, Larry Decker, Max & Ross Schrader
- 8 Larry Goessling, Jim Smothers, Dave Wiese, Cal Neeman, Dean Harbison
- 9 Jim Crawford, Allen Jacobs, Don & Joey Birrittier
- 10 Elden Niemeyer, Sharon Osterhage, Wayne Hargrave, Wyatt Drewes
- 11 Lee Eggemeyer, Ken Schanz, Roger Schanz, Curt Wittbracht, Eric Eggemeyer

Vestment Colors:

6/1—6/30 black

Saturday Accompanists:

6/11—Joan Ruwald
6/4, 6/18, 6/25—Ron Jones

Collator:

Nede Bachelier

June 2016 Altar Flowers

6/4—6/5 Outdoor Service

6/11—6/12 Given to the glory of God by Dave & Julie Powell in memory of their grandchildren, Evan & Lydia Kelley

6/18—6/19 open

6/25—6/26 open

The 2016 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Sign up early for the weekend you would like! As your weekend gets closer, Sandy Thompson, the flower coordinator, will contact you to give you more details.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Meeting

Does someone you know suffer with mental illness? If so, a meeting for family & friends of those with mental illness is held at Immanuel at 7:00pm on the 2nd Monday of each month in the overflow room. Rev. Royal Boeder leads this meeting. Visit www.nami.org for more details.

Remember, all of our services are on our website. Go to <http://immanuelwaterloo.org> and click on *View Past Services* on the right menu to view all of the services held at Immanuel.

June 2016				Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3	4
				9:30am - Adult Bible Study 7pm - VBS Volunteers' Meeting	7pm - Ladies' Bible Study		5:30pm - Worship
				5	6	7	8
7:45am - Worship 9am - Bible Study 10:15am - Outdoor Worship 11:15am - Pretzels & Ice Cream	Pastor Troup's Day Off	6:30am - Men's Bible Study @ 7pm - Elders' Meeting		9:30am - Adult Bible Study			9am - Scrapbook Day 5:30pm - Worship
				12	13	14	15
Birritier 7:45am - Worship 9am - Bible Study 10:15am - Officers' Installation 10:15am - VBS Commissioning 10:15am - Worship 3pm - Rev. Demski's Installation	Pastor Troup's Day Off 9am - Vacation Bible School @ 8pm - Men's Prayer Group	6:30am - Men's Bible Study @ 9am - Vacation Bible School @ 7:15pm - Board of Christian Ed	9am - Vacation Bible School @	Pastor Demski's Day Off 9am - Vacation Bible School @ 7pm - Church Council	9am - Vacation Bible School @ 12pm - VBS Closing Program 12:30pm - VBS Water Party	5:30pm - Worship	
				19	20	21	22
7:45am - Worship 9am - Bible Study 10:15am - Worship & VBS 6pm - BASIC Youth Group	Pastor Troup's Day Off	6:30am - Men's Bible Study @ 6pm - Portawestfalica Parade	9:30am - Adult Bible Study	Pastor Demski's Day Off			5:30pm - Worship
				26	27	28	29
Collmeyer 7:45am - Worship 9am - Bible Study 10:15am - Worship	Pastor Troup's Day Off 8pm - Men's Prayer Group	6:30am - Men's Bible Study @	9:30am - Adult Bible Study	Pastor Demski's Day Off			

Our Website Is Where It's At!

Want to stay up to date? Go to our website (immanuelwaterloo.org) and check it out! Be sure to subscribe to the calendar, and you'll have the most up to date info on Immanuel's activities and events.

Also, click on Announcements/Blogs from the homepage to get access to all of the weekly announcements, updates, and newsletters. *Notice that something is missing? Let us know!*

Congratulations, Graduates!

During May, many of our very own Immanuel members reached a wonderful milestone in their lives...Graduation! Some from grade school, some from high school, and some from college! Here are a few who submitted information...

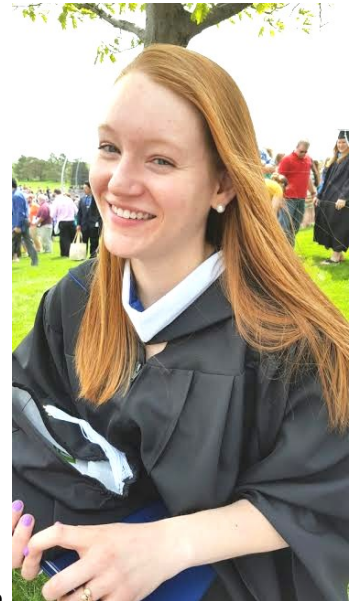
April Kirkley graduated from SLU Law School.

Leah Maag finished her requirements in December (a semester early) but officially graduated from Concordia University, Nebraska, in May. She has been accepted into the Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College in St. Louis and will begin those studies in January. *(pictured to the right)*



Chase Rubemeyer graduated from Waterloo High School. He will attend Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) on a soccer scholarship and will likely major in business. Chase and his parents Mitchell and Dawn hope he can continue playing soccer at a four-year university after a year or two at SWIC. *(pictured to the left)*

Allie Snodgrass graduated cum laude from Illinois State University in Normal, IL on May 7th, 2016. Allie graduated with a degree in International Business with a focus in marketing, and a minor in Spanish. She will move to Chicago for the summer where she will work with a company called DialogTech as a Marketing intern.



Angela Stratman graduated from Waterloo High School.

Matthew Stratman graduated (8th grade) from Waterloo Junior High School.

Alec Trout graduated from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Following serving as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) at the National Youth Gathering in July, he will be moving to the Washington DC area and begin Missouri State's DSS program in Washington DC to earn a Master's degree in Security Studies. *(pictured to the right)*

Madalyn Valerius graduated (8th grade) from St. John Lutheran School in Red Bud, IL. She was the valedictorian of her class. She'll attend Waterloo High School in the fall.

Haley Vernier graduated from Lutheran High School South and will be attending Illinois State University in the fall where she will major in Criminal Justice & Psychology.

Hannah Vernier graduated from Waterloo High School and will be attending Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) in the fall.



We know that there are many others within our congregation who graduated from grade school, high school, or college, and we'd like to congratulate all of them as well!



Greetings from the Women's Christian Ministry (WCM)!

School's Out for the Summer! And, the WCM will be taking a break from our activities over the summer months as well! But, we have a few more activities in the works for later on this summer and fall!

Ladies, young and old, are invited to a **"Christmas in July" Tea Party & Luncheon** on **Sunday, July 24th**. Details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now! It's sure to be a fun & relaxing event with our focus on living, and enjoying, our vocation as women of Christ.

We also plan to have another **Freezer Meal Workshop** in **late August / early September**, just in time for "back to school" planning. Watch the newsletters and bulletins for more details!

If you plan to make crafts for the **Wurstmarkt Country Store**, you may want to get a head start. **October 2** will be here before you know it! The proceeds from the Country Store are used to hold our many activities throughout the year! Our annual **Bunco Night** is also on our schedule for **Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00pm** in the multipurpose room!

Join the WCM! - Are you looking to get to know more women from Immanuel? Are you looking for inspiration for your everyday life? Do you wish you could do something special in service to others? Do you just need to have some "You" time? If so, you just described the Women's Christian Ministry!

We offer fresh and new ideas, fellowship, fun, faith and service! We have only six regular informal meetings per year where we have lots of chit chat and interaction, and we even manage to get our business done! Our activities are decided on by our members and YOU can be part of those decisions! Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every odd month (Jan-Mar-May-July-Sept-Nov) at 7:00pm in the overflow room. **Come to the next meeting on July 19th and try us out!**

Thank you for your continued donations to the Bi-County Backpack Program! This is an ongoing collection, and there is a list of needed items in the bulletins. There is a basket in the narthex for your donations. Thank you!

Our next Women's Christian Ministry meeting will be Tuesday, July 19th at 7:00pm in the Overflow Room. Hope to see both familiar faces and some new ones!

In Christ,

Lisa Clamors

"How good and pleasant it is when sisters live together in unity!" Psalm 133:1

Start Saving Your Items Now!

Immanuel's Annual Rummage Sale will be held on **August 5-6, 2016**.

Preview Sale—August 4th—5-8pm

*Drop-off items and help us price and organize items:
August 1-3, 8am—7pm
August 4, 8am—12pm*

*Help is needed during the sale as well.
Please contact Lois Ruff (939-8387) if you are willing to help!*



An Update from Our Missionary Partners...

Funke News: Vibrant Views

This is what God the Lord says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: “I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand...” Isaiah 42:5-6a

For the last three weeks our homeschool themes have been colors. Michael was already showing an interest in colors, but he can now identify eleven different colors and excitedly points out color wherever we go. Michael’s observations have greatly increased our awareness of God’s creation around us, from the yellow flowers high up in the trees to the blue dress of a friend at church to the brown dirt under our feet. As if to punctuate the lessons, Eric spotted a vibrant double rainbow earlier this week. Vibrant—defined by Merriam-Webster as “having or showing great life, activity and energy” or “very bright and strong”—is an apt description of this last month. We are amazed and inspired by the vibrancy of nature and the people around us.



Mwanza Trips

At the beginning of this month, we were concluding our two-week Easter break. For four of those days we journeyed to Mwanza to enjoy some rest and rejuvenation. We had a wonderful time catching up with friends and exploring an expansive hotel playground. We came home with much more energy. Then later in the month, we learned that the founder of Forever Angels, where Michael used to live, was going to be visiting. Since we hadn’t seen her in two and a half years, we decided to make a short trip. This was Michael’s first visit to the baby home since he became part of our family, and he did beautifully. All of the caregivers were so excited to see him! He understandably only wanted to be held by us, but loved getting to spend time on their playground. The trip reiterated that from now on he comes home with us.

Our School

The students have now all returned from Easter break and classes are back in full swing. Eric and the assistant headmaster have been talking to phone companies about having internet installed at the school. The library/computer lab are also coming along. All the rooms now have electricity and are painted a friendly yellow. All that’s left now is putting in the ceiling board and air-conditioning. Lord-willing, we will start moving everything in during the June break.

Deaconess Love

Last year the first seven deaconesses were consecrated in our diocese. They have been working in their communities caring for the poor, visiting the sick, encouraging the marginalized. However, two from that original class were being trained in a longer English-speaking program in Kenya. This month Stella Matari and Matrida Sanga completed their program and returned to Shinyanga. They were commissioned on April 24, and we were so thankful to be a part of that special day. As a deaconess herself, Linda gave a speech on Deaconess Louise William’s five images of diaconal service. She also presented them with deaconess stoles handmade by Trinity Lutheran in Loveland, Colorado, and letters from her deaconess community in the U.S. Matrida will be taking over a human care project in the diocese office, and Stella will be starting a food and clothes bank. We pray that God will bless their upcoming ministry.

Adoption Update

On April 21st, we had our first adoption court date. At the last minute, we discovered that our lawyer and two social workers couldn’t be there, but since this was just when they mention our case and schedule the real date, we still went. We are thankful that our friend Abel came with us for moral support. When we arrived, we discovered that our judge wasn’t there either, so we were 0 for 4. Yet, everything still seemed to go smoothly, and they still gave us a court date. Praise the Lord! Please pray with us that May 26th goes smoothly and that it is the last court date we need. On Eric’s birthday (April 27th) that was his birthday wish. Michael continues to warm our hearts and bring joy to our lives every single day.

Written by Eric & Linda Funke on May 5, 2016.

Would you like to receive the updates (complete with pictures) by email straight from Eric & Linda? If so, email Linda at Linda.Funke@globallutheranoutreach.com and ask to be on their email update list.

Vacation Bible School—June 13-17—9:00-11:45am

VBS Safety Policy: To ensure the safety of our children, parents will be asked to come into the church for pick up at the conclusion of VBS daily. You will find your children with their class in their pew. Preschool classes will have a sign in/out sheet. For older classes, we ask that you verbally communicate with their teacher when picking up your child. Children will not be released to older siblings. Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

Note to parents, guardians and friends of VBS: There is no fee for VBS. Each student receives a t-shirt (which costs us about \$5) and each family will receive a music CD (about \$5). If you would like to underwrite VBS costs, you may make donations to Immanuel Lutheran Church and write VBS in the memo space. There will also be an offering to support mission work during the week of VBS as well. Also, see the list below for other ways that you can help during our 2016 VBS.

VBS 2016
June 13-17
9:00—11:45am

*Co-sponsored with Holy Cross Lutheran
 Church, Wartburg. Held at Immanuel.*

Student Registration

Classes for children born before 6/13/13 and who have not entered 7th grade.
 One registration form per student, please.

Student's name _____

Birthday (mm/dd/yyyy) _____

Grade (2015/2016 School Year) _____ Age _____

T-shirt Size (Circle one) YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL

Parents' names _____

Phone _____ Alt. phone _____

Address _____

Food allergies Y _____ N _____ (List:) _____

Medical concerns Y _____ N _____ (Explain:) _____

Siblings attending VBS (names and ages) _____

Church affiliation _____

Church membership at _____

Transportation needed (pending availability)? Y _____ N _____

In the event of an emergency, contact the following person first:

Emergency contact person _____

Relationship to student _____

Phone _____ Alt. phone _____



VBS 2016
June 13-17
9:00-11:45am

Volunteer Registration

Name _____

Phone Number _____

T-shirt Size (Circle one)

AS AM AL AXL AXXL

I'd like to help in one or more of the following ways:

- _____ Teacher: Grade preferred _____
- _____ Teacher's helper
- _____ Craft helper
- _____ Kitchen helper
- _____ Recreation helper
- _____ Registration helper
- _____ Donations:
 - _____ Snack items
 - _____ Monetary contributions

Days I can help:

All week M T W Th F

Friday afternoon closing & picnic

WORSHIP SERVICES

SATURDAY

5:30pm

SUNDAY

7:45am & 10:15am

Holy Communion is celebrated at every Saturday service, at the 7:45am service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, and at the 10:15am service on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of each month.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm

***Pastor Troup's day off is Monday.
Pastor Demski's day off is Thursday.***



2016

Don't forget to visit us on the web...

immanuelwaterloo.org

You'll find our weekly announcements and updates, our calendar, and other important information!



May God continue to bless you:

Change Service Requested



Immanuel Lutheran Church
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Waterloo, IL 62298

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