

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



## PARISH NEWS

### AUGUST 2021



"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear."  
1 John 4:18a

There are times when a healthy dose of fear is a good thing. When you're camping in bear country, it's important to take simple precautions, such as hanging up your food so you don't wake up in the middle of the night with a bear helping itself to your provisions. When you're driving in a snowstorm, it's best to slow down so you don't spin out. Living through a global pandemic, it's a good idea to wear a mask and get vaccinated, if you're able, to keep yourself and others safe.

These are good things to keep in mind, but not all fear is created equal. A healthy dose of fear can keep us safe, but when we allow fear to govern our lives, it can have the opposite effect. Unchecked fear of those who are different can lay the groundwork for prejudice and hate. A fear of change can lead us to stagnation instead of growth. Such fears are understandable, especially when we consider how much brokenness there is in the world.

It's into this world of danger that the gospel speaks. Through the perfect love of God revealed to us in Christ Jesus, fear is answered with hope, division is answered with reconciliation, sin is met with forgiveness, death gives way to new life.

Whatever reason we have to fear, in Christ we have an even greater reason to have hope.

In peace,  
Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

## PLEASE OBSERVE COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

During in-person worship or other events and activities at Immanuel, please help us limit health risk:

- Do not attend if you have tested positive for COVID-19, have experienced COVID-like symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath) or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive within the past 14 days.
- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth.
- Practice safe hygiene (e.g., coughing or sneezing into your elbow.)

All indoor worship services are streamed live on Immanuel's YouTube channel.

[CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN LIVESTREAM WORSHIP, 9:30 A.M. SUNDAYS](#)

## COFFEE/REFRESHMENT TIME, ADULT EDUCATION BEGIN AUG. 1



Beginning Aug. 1:

-- **Weekly coffee/refreshment time** following the service will take place outside near the firepit, weather permitting. We need hosts to help set up for coffee time. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the main sanctuary-level hallway outside the vestry.

-- **In-person Adult Forum education** will begin 15 minutes after the end of the service in Spong Common Room.

During the Aug. 1 Adult Forum, Stories of COVID, we'll catch up and share stories about faith and life during our time apart. Upcoming topics include:

- Aug. 8 — Lectionary Study led by Don Arney
- Aug. 15 — Community Policing led by Paul Simonich
- Aug. 22 — Stump the Pastor with Pastor Micah
- Aug. 29 — Lectionary Study with Pastor Micah

## WANTED: ASSISTANCE DURING HOLY COMMUNION



Now that more people are gathering for worship in person, we need stewards who can watch and, as necessary, replenish the trays of wine and juice during Holy Communion.

If you could help as a communion steward, please contact Karen Bame, [bamek@umkc.edu](mailto:bamek@umkc.edu).

## TENDING OUR GARDEN: SPOTLIGHT ON OAKS INDIAN MISSION

Immanuel has provided financial support to Oaks Indian Mission for many, many years. Located in Oaks, Okla., in the heart of Cherokee Nation, Oaks cares for abused, abandoned or neglected Native American children, and provides them with a safe and stable environment in which to grow and mature in God's love.



Oaks Executive Director Rev. Don Marshall is grateful for Immanuel's continued support.

"Oaks Indian Mission is a faith-based ministry and, unlike many social-service agencies, is dependent almost solely upon financial support from individuals and congregations such as Immanuel Lutheran," he says. "Through your gifts, we are able to meet the basic needs of Native American children who are in our care, along with providing education and other opportunities that help prepare them for fulfilling, faithful lives.

"The partnership between Immanuel and Oaks impacts these young lives in a multitude of ways — physically, emotionally and spiritually," Rev. Marshall continues. "It is a partnership in ministry that has blessed this historic mission for decades, helping to transform the lives of countless kids along the way."

Immanuel transforms lives by supporting organizations such as Oaks Indian Mission. Check future issues of *Parish News* for additional Tending Our Garden articles that illustrate how our "garden of ministry" extends far beyond our church walls.



*Immanuel's support for Oaks Indian Mission has helped to transform the lives of countless Native American children.*



## TENDING OUR GARDEN: VOLUNTEERS REMOVE WEEDS AND DEBRIS, ADD BEAUTY



Care for creation in Immanuel's little corner of the world was the work of energetic church volunteers during the second 2021

Spruce-Up Day, July 17.

And the work continues. Immanuel volunteers regularly tend and water the flower arrangements outside each entrance to our building, and plans already are in the works for a third spruce-up day, when volunteers will remove dead trees.



*Thanks to all Immanuel garden volunteers, including Vicki Swanson, Milan Hanson and others who regularly water the flowers outside each entrance.*

## GET READY TO FEED THE HUNGRY HUNDREDS BY DONATING SACK LUNCH ITEMS



**Feeding the Hungry Hundreds** is the theme of the 2021 God's Work Our Hands service weekend, Sept. 11-12 at Immanuel.

One activity planned for the weekend is a long-time favorite — packing sack lunches for needy people, especially children and the homeless, who are served by Metro Lutheran Ministry and may have no other source of nourishment.

“We first introduced the sack-lunch-packing event several years ago, with the goal of gathering enough items to pack 500 sack lunches. But thanks to your generosity, we packed more than 600 lunches that first year,” recalls Karen Bame, a Social Ministry Committee member. “We increased the goal by 100 sack lunches every year since then, and you always have far exceeded it. For 2019, our goal was 700 sack lunches, and you donated items to pack more than 800 brown-bag meals.”

That's why, as we joyously return to in-person ministry after more than a year apart, **our goal is to gather enough items to pack 1,000 sack lunches.**

“It's an ambitious goal, but a worthy one,” Karen says. “The people of Immanuel always step up when there is a need and, since we took a year off from the sack-lunch ministry because of COVID-19, this is an opportunity to extend extra kindness to the many hungry hundreds.”

To create 1,000 sack lunches, we will need:

- 1,000 tuna salad or chicken salad kits, which are available at Dollar Tree stores.
- 1,000 Slim Jims or beef jerky sticks.
- 1,000 snacks (granola bars, or individual bags of Cheez-Its, chips, pretzels or cookies).
- 1,000 pre-packaged cups of fruit or applesauce.
- 1,000 bottles of water.

**Please add these items to your weekly shopping list between now and Sept. 12, and place your donations in the purple bins in the main hallway on the sanctuary level. You'll see updates about how many of each item we still need in upcoming Weekly Announcements emails.**

Thank you for helping to Feed the Hungry Hundreds!

## **KENYAN CHILDREN'S FUND SEEKS MORE SPONSORS**



During July, several Immanuel families joined those who sponsor needy young people through Immanuel's global mission project, the Kenyan Children's Fund (KCF). Thank you! Today, the KCF still needs sponsors for 13 children in Masii, Kenya, who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS or otherwise left without care.

The cost to sponsor a child is only \$390 per year, which pays for food supplements, clothing (especially required school uniforms), school supplies, medical care and other essentials.

To sponsor one or more needy children:

- By check, please make your donation payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church, designating KCF in the memo line.
- Via the Tithe.ly online giving program, select KCF from the drop-down menu.
- Arrange a direct contribution from your bank.

For more information, contact Mary Jo Moore, 816-309-7858 or [maryjom50@gmail.com](mailto:maryjom50@gmail.com).



*Children sponsored by the KCF get monthly food supplements, clothing, school supplies, medical care and more. Your sponsorship of one or more children will be a blessing.*

## NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Linda Fewell, who currently is serving as Immanuel's interim administrative assistant, has been granted a temporary hiatus from duties as a member of the congregational council and the personnel committee, thus avoiding a conflict of interest.

Searches for a permanent part-time administrative assistant and a building superintendent are moving forward.

The Pastor's COVID-19 Advisory Committee continues to monitor local conditions and updates from health experts. The group's intent is to gradually add in-person activities while remaining safe.

Pastor Micah soon will begin contacting vendors to get price quotes and upgrade recommendations for replacing the church office computers. Newer computers will help keep Immanuel's data secure.

Volunteer tele-care ministers are beginning regular contact with 33 Immanuel members. Contact Pastor Ann Rundquist, [pastorannrundquist@gmail.com](mailto:pastorannrundquist@gmail.com) or 785-643-7697, to become a tele-care minister or to receive calls.

## WELCA: FOOD, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

The Immanuel Women of the ELCA (WELCA) met for a July 9 lunch at the home of Pastor Ann Rundquist to plan, pray and partake in delicious food.

Around the table are (seated left to right) Ingrid Peterson, Lila Aamodt, Pat Durie, EB Walker, Mindy Rash, Karole Jacobsen, Peggy Dollard, Connie Ross, Kathy Linder, Carolyn Brauer, Carmen Norris, (standing left to right) Pastor Ann Rundquist and Connie Benolkin.



WELCA continues meeting for weekly scripture study at 1 p.m. Wednesdays via Zoom. The Aug. 4 study material, "Dear God, thank you for ..." is on pages 32-33 in the July/August issue of *gather* magazine, which is a ministry of WELCA.

To participate in or ask questions about WELCA activities, contact Pastor Ann, [pastorannrundquist@gmail.com](mailto:pastorannrundquist@gmail.com) or 785-643-7697.

## AUGUST SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

**8/1**

**First Reading** Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

**Psalmody** Psalm 78:23-29

**Second Reading** Ephesians 4:1-16

**Gospel** John 6:24-35

**Assisting Minister:** Beth Callstrom

**Psalmist:** Jeff Fox

**Media:** Kevin Fewell

**8/15**

**First Reading** Proverbs 9:1-6

**Psalmody** Psalm 34:9-14

**Second Reading** Ephesians 5:15-20

**Gospel** John 6:51-58

**Assisting Minister:** Catie Tomlin

**Psalmist:** Beth Callstrom

**Media:** Michael Hamlin

**8/29**

**First Reading** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

**Psalmody** Psalm 15

**Second Reading** James 1:17-27

**Gospel** Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**Assisting Minister:** Connie Ross

**Psalmist:** Connie Benolkin

**Media:** Milan Hanson

**8/8**

**First Reading** 1 Kings 19:4-8

**Psalmody** Psalm 34:1-8

**Second Reading** Ephesians 4:25, 5:2

**Gospel** John 6:35, 41-51

**Assisting Minister:** Melodee Blobaum

**Psalmist:** John Anderson

**Media:** Jack and Tori Friedrich

**8/22**

**First Reading** Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

**Psalmody** Psalm 34:15-22

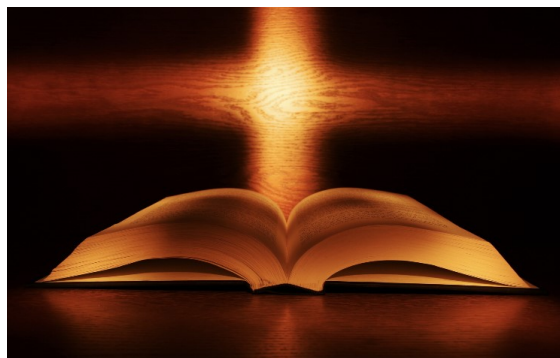
**Second Reading** Ephesians 6:10-20

**Gospel** John 6:56-69

**Assisting Minister:** Vicki Swanson

**Psalmist:** Linda Fox

**Media:** Milan Hanson



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events at Immanuel —

### Every Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

10:15 a.m. Refreshments outside

10:30 a.m. Adult Forum in Spong Common Room

### Aug. 3

10 a.m. Coffee and Conversation via Zoom

6 p.m. Executive Committee via Zoom

7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee via Zoom



**Aug. 4**

1 p.m. WELCA Bible Study via Zoom

**Aug. 5**

7 p.m. Social Ministry Committee in Spong Common Room

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or [office@immanuelkc.org](mailto:office@immanuelkc.org)

## MORE NEWS TO USE

**SUPPORT IMMANUEL BY SHOPPING AMAZON SMILE**

Amazon Smile will donate a percentage of your shopping dollar amount to Immanuel with every purchase you make — and there's no extra fee. Simply click the link below to join. Make sure you see the Smile logo when you access your account in the future.

[Support Immanuel on smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

After you register, you can download the Amazon Smile mobile app for your phone. See easy instructions [here](#).

**JOIN TITHE.LY**

Tithe.ly is Immanuel's online tithe and donation tool. Download the app or sign up via the website to make donations safely and securely. Simply:

- Sign up
- Search for Immanuel KC
- Donate

To get started, [click here](#).

**DOWNLOAD DEVOTIONS FOR YOUR E-READER**

*Christ in our Home* daily devotions are available for purchase each quarter for Kindle and other electronic reading devices. Purchase and download the devotions from the ebook store where you shop.

**CHURCH OFFICE WILL CLOSE FOR LABOR DAY**

The Immanuel office will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, in observance of Labor Day.



# THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

**Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day!**

## **Members of Immanuel**

**Joe & Lori Clanin, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Theresa Draper, Ann Erickson,  
Family of Carol Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karmeier, Dottie Keough,  
Rev. Keith Klockau, Mary Nelson, Gerry Niewald, De Pfofner, Deanne Schlehuber,  
Family of Larry Taylor, and Carolyn Wilson.**

## **Friends of Immanuel**

**Baby Reylyn & family, friends of Peggy Dollard**  
**Bakeberg family, friends of Betty Pera**  
**Pinky Brauer, sister-in-law of Carolyn Brauer**  
**James Clanin, family of Lori Clanin**  
**Jim & Ethel Clanin, parents of Lori Clanin**  
**Richard Dryg, brother of Connie Benolkin**  
**Denise, friend of Linda Setterburg**  
**Chloe & Carley Engler, great nieces of Sally Baehni**  
**Kurt Hanneman, friend of Bill & Mary Jo Moore**  
**Lee Hass, grandmother of Catie Tomlin**  
**Jerri Hatteberg, friend of Deborah Crawford**  
**Roger Hershey, friend of Bill & Mary Jo Moore**  
**Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann**  
**Jack & Mary Kantola, friends of Peg Himebaugh**  
**Margaret Kohler, aunt of Lori Clanin**  
**Betty Kueker, mother of Terry Kueker**  
**Kat M. & Janice M., friends of Peggy Dollard**  
**Major, friend of Linda Taylor & Peggy Dollard**  
**Julia Mills, niece of Cece & Tracy Atherton**  
**Audrey Mueller, aunt of Mike Ortmann**  
**April Nave & family**  
**Patty and her son J.J., friends of Linda Setterburg**  
**Kim R. & family, friends of Peggy Dollard**  
**Patience Robb & Frank Robb & family**  
**Judy Robinson, friend of Mary Jo Moore**  
**Harry Roth, friend of Henrik Anderson**  
**Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe**  
**Paula Weir, friend of Betty Pera**  
**Jayde Wisner and family, particularly Daisy**  
**Rock Westfahl, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell**  
**Irma Wuertz, mother of Linda Taylor**  
**Karen Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor**  
**Family of Liz Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor**  
**Deidra, Kevin, Victor, Yvonne, Cody, Shelly, Rachel, Nick, Mark, Jan, Dana, Dominic,  
Guy, Gracie, Gabby, Kristie, Misty, Terri, William, Lisa, Al, Carrie, Connie, Roger,  
Melissa, Obi, Heather, Lorenzo, Bekah, Ashlei, L.F., Erika, Tom, Jody, Katie, Kristy,  
Lindsay, Mary, Duane and Michelle**

# BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

8/3 Michael Hauber  
8/8 Peggy Dollard  
8/8 Mason Kumm  
8/11 Jimmi Kimuyu  
8/12 Lila Aamodt  
8/12 Marc Winkler  
8/14 Benjamin Hastings  
8/15 Brendan Kennedy  
8/16 EB Walker  
8/17 Tori Friedrich  
8/17 Jack Umbach

8/18 Doug Ahrens  
8/18 Deborah Crawford  
8/18 Christian Mazza  
8/18 August Yungeberg  
8/20 Linda Setterburg  
8/24 Joshua Friedrich  
8/27 Paul Simonich  
8/27 Stella Velasco  
8/30 Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe  
8/31 Darren Radke

## IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

### STAFF

**Rev. Micah Siebenppiper, pastor**  
msiebenpiper@gmail.com

**Rev. Ann Rundquist, ministry coordinator**  
pastorannrundquist@gmail.com

**Linda Fewell, administrative assistant**  
office@immanuelkc.org

**Suzanne Anderson, music director**  
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

**Robert Barthel, organist**  
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

### COUNCIL

**Connie Benolkin, president**  
**Bonnie Thomas, vice president**  
**Terry Kueker, secretary**  
**Kathy Linder, treasurer**  
**Rick Sundell, financial secretary**  
**Henrik Andersen**  
**Melodee Blobaum**  
**Randy Callstrom**  
**Mason Carey**  
**Deborah Crawford**  
**Kate Hauber**  
**Lynden Peters**  
**Sara Prem**

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