

INSIDE IMMANUEL



Faithful to God's Word – we receive, celebrate and share Jesus Christ.

Not Fair

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." -Genesis 22.1-2

It sure doesn't seem fair. God had come to Abram and told him to follow to a place which God would direct him. Abram did. God had promised that Abram would have a son and many, many descendants. Abram trusted that he would. A son was given after years of waiting and it seemed clear to Abram that this son was the one of promise.

But now, in Genesis 22, everything changes and it doesn't seem fair. God tells Abraham to sacrifice that son of promise! Abraham is to travel for three days to Morah, take wood, fire, and a knife and kill his son; that son of promise. How could God be so cruel? Abraham knows that God is not cruel. Somehow God will make this work. Somehow Abraham would have a son of promise and many, many descendants even if God has him kill Isaac. Abraham doesn't know how, but somehow God would work it all out in the end.

So Abraham takes that three day journey. He does not deviate or dawdle. He takes Isaac, the knife, the wood, and the fire. He is ready to do what God told him. He binds Isaac on the wood and is about to kill his son. Abraham's hand is stayed by the angel of the Lord. A ram is sacrificed instead of Isaac and all is well. Abraham calls the name of that place, "God will provide."

Odd, isn't it? "God will provide." Why not, "God did provide"? After all, God did (not will) provide for Abraham and Isaac. But Abraham knows that this event is not really about him. He is but the shadow pointing to something bigger and better.

It sure doesn't seem fair. A beloved son being led to the slaughter by His Father. He had done nothing wrong. This journey was promised from the very beginning and now comes close to fulfillment. He travels the road to the end, to the place of sacrifice. Fire and knife are ready. He will carry His own tree for the offering. It is the way the Father wants it and it isn't fair.

The Son of promise would die for the sins of sinners. Jesus, the Son of the Father would lay down His life as our sacrifice. How fair is that? He dies the sinners death, your death. He takes on Himself your sins. This isn't fair. The Father pours out all His hatred and anger over your sins on Jesus. And what of you? You go free. Jesus is that ram caught in the thicket and you, like Isaac go free.

God's mercy is not fair. Sinners should pay for their own sins. But God is love and would not have you die in your sins. He sends His Son, that Son of promise, to die in your place. Jesus exchanges your sins for His righteousness. He forgives you freely. Not fair, but merciful and loving. The near sacrifice of Isaac points to what Jesus would do for you on the cross. All nations would be blessed through the offspring of Abraham, through one offspring: Jesus.

This Lent, be blessed by Jesus. Be joined to the death of Jesus as He would have you. Drown your sins in your baptismal grace. Hear His words of absolution. Receive Him in the Supper. It is not fair how good God is to you. So give thanks at how unfair and loving God is to you.

In Jesus Christ crucified, Pastor Boyer

G.L.U.E “God Loves Us Eternally”

I have taken a page out of our Men’s Bible Study each week at the Lamplighter Restaurant during this Lenten season. Each week the pastor brings a hymn for us to discuss centering on Lent. The hymn that comes to my mind is one that I’ve known since I was a child, “Jesus Loves Me.” (LSB 588)

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes Jesus loves me! Yes Jesus
loves me!
Yes Jesus loves me! The Bible
tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died,
Heaven’s gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lets His little child come in.
Yes Jesus loves me! Yes Jesus
loves me!
Yes Jesus loves me! The Bible
tells me so.

To me, this Hymn tells me all I need to know, ‘that Jesus loves me.’ That He is strong and I can depend on Him. That He died for my sins so that I can live with Him eternally forever. What more can one ask? If you do not have faith and believe in Jesus you are barking up the wrong tree (not the cross). Without Jesus giving up His life on that cross for our sins, we would be lost forever. Without Jesus’ love for us, we could not reach our home in heaven. Thank the Lord for the Bible to teach us God’s Word and to bring Jesus to us. Brings to mind another song also, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.” (LSB 770). Lent is fasting and prayer for forgiveness. And, it all leads to that Glorious Easter

morning. He is Risen, He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Luke 5:31-32 *“And Jesus answered them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.’”*
It is God’s word to us, that
“God Loves Us Eternally!”

In Christ!
Jim Bratton

April Newsletter Deadline: WEDNESDAY, March 17

Treasurer’s Report

MONTH OF DECEMBER 2023

Receipts	\$ 44,703.72
Less Expenses	<u>- 67,477.33</u>
Operating Income	- 22,773.61
Deficit Reduction	5,500.00
CTK giveback 22-23	<u>18,710.08</u>
Net Income	1,486.47

CASH IN BANK & ON HAND

Petty Cash	100.00
Independent Checking	126,106.12
Independent Savings	131,5654.58
Independent Bank CD	150,000.00
Restricted Savings	<u>-143,213.34</u>
Total	\$407,860.70

Official Acts

BAPTISM

Feb 2 **Kash Tanner** son of Kyle & Kayla (Wright) Tanner

WEDDINGS

Feb 10 **Dan Monville Jr**
& **Sue Wiese**

DEATHS

Jan 26 **Alice C. Pommerenke**

Voters Meeting January 22

Elders: The inactive list was complete with a number of individuals being removed from self-exclusion. Any questions on Immanuel’s terms, see Article 6 on Spiritual life in the Constitution. Brad and Stephanie Osantowski were released from their membership. Members that requested a transfer were: Cody Kurzer to St Matthews in Walled Lake, Patsy Aguilara to Grace Auburn and Jason, Melissa, Landry (Madjecki) and Kinsley Smith to St Peter Bach.

Trustees: A \$150,000 CD is in place. \$75,000 from the sale of the Susan Gremel house will be coming soon.

Evangelism: Evangelism has been busy sending cards to our shut in members. The “doodle board” by the elevator has been cleared and awaits new doodles from our younger members. Dave Schnitker is planning a Spring Concert here at Immanuel, more details to come. March 10, Amy form Crossroads will come to speak on anxiety and depression.

Stewardship: “Exercise your Faith” by following the daily Bible reading plan that is printed each week in the bulletin. The next Red Letter Challenge – “Forgiving” starts February 14.

Youth: The Roast Beef Dinner was a HUGE success with lots of help and lots of sales. The Youth Christmas party/sock exchange was a lot of fun! Over 100 6-8th graders attended the semi-formal dance at the VFW. Sunday School is still going on! We would like to see your children there.

School Board: In April we need to vote to change the constitution regarding the number of board of education members from 5 to 4. Jessica Schwartz has been hired by the pre-school to begin after Spring Break. CTK

came in under budget - \$42,543.90 was not used. A total of \$18,710.08 was a give back to Immanuel.

Committee Report: Many boards and church positions will be needing to be filled, nominations are now open. Please reach out if you would like to be added to the ballot! (board of chairs or Jim Bratton)

Principals Report: Lutheran Schools Week will be happening in March. A Crochet Group led by Hannah Volz begins in February. Our NHS is busy helping out at the Unionville Campus and at Bay View Gardens. The Slate Lunch audit is in process. Our teachers attended a professional development day at Valley Lutheran High School on Martin Luther King Day. CTK long sleeve shirts were donated to every child and teacher at CTK – Thank you donors!!

New Business: Reminder – the April voters meeting will strictly be presenting the budget and ballot.

*Next Council Meeting is
March 11 at 7:45pm.
Next Voters Meeting is
April 22 at 7:30pm.

Council Meeting February 12

Elders: Discussion on looking into new tables for the great room.

Trustees: Budget discussion has begun. Two names are ready for the ballot to fill board vacancies – Joel Fiebig and Mark Reithel.

Evangelism: A Sugarfest Float is in the works! The theme will be “COME AND SEE”. Discussion was held on updating roadside signs in town for Immanuel. Two board candidates to fill vacancies – Michele Harbuck and Joyce Jahr.

Stewardship: A “Forgiving” bible study has begun, follow the

discussion on Facebook. Books are still available for anyone still wanting to join in. We are looking for new committee members to fill the ballot.

Youth: 275 subs were made for the Super Bowl sub sales! An ice skating event is in the works. A sloppy joe meager meal is planned for March 6.

School Board: We have received a second list to look over to fill our Principal vacancy. Budget work has begun. Mark Reithel is leaving the school board, Becky Fiebig will run again.

Pastor’s Report: Discussion was held on hosting the circuit convocation event here September 28 or October 5. About 15 churches would be represented.

Evangelism Guest Speaker

The Evangelism Board of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Sebawaing will be having Amy Paten, Social Worker from Crossroads Ministry come to speak on anxiety and mostly on depression. This will take place on March 10 at 2:00pm in the Great Room of the church. Snacks and drinks will be provided. All that are interested are welcome to attend.

Thank You For Your Support!

We would like to thank everyone who gave so GENEROUSLY to the Jimmy Jam Fund this year!! We are overwhelmed by all of the support. It sure made our hearts happy and the children down at Mott’s will be very happy to have a new coloring book, crayons and Legos to enjoy while they are a patient.

Thank you to Chuck who had this wonderful dream, and to all who helped to put a smile on a child’s face!

God’s Blessings to all,
Carol, Ursula, Rebecca & David

CTK School News

It is hard to believe that the school year is more than half complete. Each month brings exciting activities. February included a lot of basketball, an all school read of *The Lemonade War*, and Spelling Bees. March will open with both our boys and girls A Basketball teams competing in the Michigan Lutheran School Tournament. Special thanks to our coaches, John Kemp and Troy Vermeersch and our Athletic Directors, Ashley and Matt Bumhoffer and Katie Gremel. CTK will then move into celebrating Lutheran Schools Week the week of March 3. K-8 will open the week by singing at St. Paul and end it, on March 10, by singing at Immanuel. In between there will be fun dress up days and special activities and servant projects. We are very thankful for Lutheran Schools.

While there are fun activities taking place, we are also preparing for the next school year. On February 22 our Preschool and Kindergarten had an Open House to share all of the great happenings at our Unionville campus and to jump start enrollment. If you know of anyone interested in CTK please let us know so we can contact them. All school enrollment will take place soon and scholarship applications will go out. If you would like to help provide students with a Christ centered education at CTK, make a donation towards our scholarship fund. Staffing for next year is also being considered. At the time of this writing, Mr. Joe Heins, our 7th grade teacher, has a Divine Call (job offer) to a Lutheran school in Texas. We ask that you keep Mr. Heins and his family in your prayers as he considers his current call here to CTK and this new one. Mrs. Mary Eifert has also shared that she will not return to CTK next year. She is currently considering some options for

where the Lord would lead her. The Board of Education is gathering names and information on finding a new principal for the next school year. Please keep them in your prayers.

The 25th anniversary auction in the spring of 2023 was wonderful and raised a large amount of funds. We are so grateful to so many supporters and donors of our school. Below is an updated list of how the funds were used.

Purchases:

- New swipe entry system for both campuses
- Audio recording system for Unionville campus
- Remainder of cost of new doors not covered by safety grant for both campuses
- New volleyball net for Sebewaing
- New English and Reading curriculum for K-8
- New blinds in Sebewaing to complement new windows
- New library shelving in Sebewaing gym

Future ideas for purchasing

- Currently researching playground structures to replace the wooden structure at the Unionville campus.
- New scoreboard and/or sound system in Sebewaing gym

We continue to be blessed by the CTK community and ask that you keep us in your prayers.

In His Service,
Mary Eifert, Principal

Mary Martha Guild

Thank you to all who came to the soup supper. Also, thanks to everyone who bought quarts of soup as take-out. Special thanks to

Carol Truemmer for organizing everything and for making all of the soups!

Cemetery Decorations

Spring cleanup of the cemetery has begun. Please remove all decorations you want to save by Monday, April 1. After that date anything left on the cemetery will be disposed of. Thank you!

Memorial & Gifts

IMMANUEL

IN MEMORY OF BRENT SJULSTAD

Kitty Ricker
Randy & Kim Ewald

IN MEMORY OF ALICE POMMERENKE

Jack Buehler
Joan Walz
Judy Halstead
Aldine Fiebig
Kristine Koch
Ron Winter
Edna Kotenko
Fran Davis
Ed & Alice Engelhardt
Bill & Sue Kain
Mike & Lorene Zagata
Doug & Chris Deming
Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce
Paul & Tracy Kemp
Lloyd & Dee Haag
Scott & Mary Dubs
Brad & Gail Singer
John & Dianne Schulz
Wayne & Sheree Goebel
Scott & Jill Millerwise
Ramon & Debra Garcia
Janet Warack
Mark & Deb Krauss
Dave & Jill Haag
Charles & Deann Bumhoffer
MM Robert Becker
Jim Bratton
Tim Beringer
Janet Ewald
Ron & Adelia Bolzman
Catherine Lick
Ervin Haley
Janet Schnell
Roger & Linda Engelhardt
Don & Nancy Stecker
Tim & Cindy Smith

Jerry & Michelle Harbuck
Cynthia Volz
Deborah Fortier
Paul & Pam Geiger
Alice Wissner
Lynn Jahr
Louis & Debra Meisel
Ken & Janet Rink
Tom & Renee Eurich
Bryan & Joan Marko
Vern Winter
Vic & Shirley Roemer
Janine Jankowski
Larry & Karen Prime
Nancy Layher

IN MEMORY OF EDITH EWALD

Helen Hoppe

RADIO MISSION

IN MEMORY OF ALICE POMMERENKE

Glenn Vogel
Betty Engelhardt
Sally Comer
Kathy & Sharon Mason
Don & Brenda Hofmeister
Barb Weisenbach
Tom & Nancy Betson
Bruce & Joanne Bach
Dave & Janet Sharpsteen
Mark & Nicole Driver
Marlene Martin
Michelle Schaaf
Jack & Kay Kohtz
Barbara Neuman
Jim & Kathy Hofmeister
Walt Rummel Cousins

ORGAN

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH RIESS

Lawrence & Lori Fisher

IN MEMORY OF ALICE POMMERENKE

Duane & Deb Eden

ENDOWMENT

IN MEMORY OF ALICE POMMERENKE

Paul & Diane Strieter

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL

IN MEMORY OF ALICE POMMERENKE

Charlene Gremel – 4th grade
Richard Kern
Dave & Pam Wiltse – scholarship
Steve & Patti Gremel – 4th grade
Carol Mammel – scholarship
Rod & Carl Truemmer – 8th grade
Dan & Gloria Beringer - scholarship
Evelyn Adam – scholarship
Rich & Vera Wroblewski -scholarship
Chuck Dutcher

Scrip Order Form, Christ the King Lutheran School

Has Cards Order Cards

Name: _____ Account to Apply to: _____ Phone: _____

Chain Stores	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total	Gas	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Ace Hardware	4%	\$25			Marathon	3%	\$100		
Amazon	1.7%	\$100			Marathon	3%	\$25		
Amazon	1.7%	\$25			Shell	1.5%	\$25		
American Eagle	10%	\$25			Speedway	4%	\$100		
Auto Zone	7%	\$25			Speedway	4%	\$25		
Barnes & Noble	8%	\$10			Sunoco	1.5%	\$50		
Barnes & Noble	8%	\$25			Miscellaneous	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Bath & Body Works	12%	\$25			Build a Bear	8%	\$25		
Bath & Body Works	12%	\$10			Dave & Busters	13%	\$25		
Bed, Bath, Beyond	7%	\$25			Delta Airlines	4%	\$250		
Best Buy	4%	\$25			I Tunes	5%	\$15		
Cabelas	8%	\$25			Pet Smart	5%	\$25		
Cabelas	8%	\$100			Thirty-One A. Bell	5%	\$25		
Claire's	9%	\$25			Visa	1.25%	\$50		
Dicks Sporting	8%	\$25			Restaurants	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Disney	3%	\$25			Applebees	8%	\$25		
Disney	3%	\$100			Arby's	8%	\$10		
Dunhams	8%	\$25			Bob Evans	10%	\$25		
Five Below	2.5%	\$25			Bob Evans	10%	\$10		
Gap/Old Navy	14%	\$25			Buffalo Wild Wings	8%	\$25		
Gordon's Food	4%	\$25			Burger King	4%	\$10		
Hallmark Gold	4%	\$25			Happy Moments	8%	\$25		
Home Depot	4%	\$100			Chili's	11%	\$25		
Home Depot	4%	\$25			Chipotle	10%	\$10		
Jc Penny	5%	\$25			Cold Stone Creamery	11%	\$10		
Joann Fabrics	6%	\$25			Cracker Barrel	8%	\$10		
Kohls	4%	\$25			Dairy Queen	3%	\$10		
Kohls	4%	\$100			Dardens/Olive Garden	8%	\$25		
Lowe's	4%	\$25			IHop	8%	\$25		
Macy's	10%	\$25			McDonalds	2%	\$25		
Marshall/TJ Maxx	7%	\$25			Little Ceaser's	8%	\$20		
Maurices	7%	\$20			Outback Steakhouse	8%	\$25		
Meijer	3%	\$100			Panda Express	8%	\$25		
Meijer	3%	\$50			Panera Bread	9%	\$25		
Meijer	3%	\$25			Panera Bread	9%	\$10		
Menards	3%	\$100			Pizza Hut	8%	\$10		
Menards	3%	\$25			Qdoba	7%	\$25		
Micheals	4%	\$25			Red Lobster	8%	\$25		
Shutterfly	9%	\$25			Starbucks	7%	\$25		
Staples	5%	\$25			Starbucks	7%	\$10		
Target	2.5%	\$25			Subway	6%	\$10		
Ulta	4%	\$25			Taco Bell	5%	\$10		
Under Armour	11%	\$25			Texas Roadhouse	8%	\$25		
Wal-mart	2.5%	\$100			Tim Horton's	5%	\$10		
Wal-mart	2.5%	\$50			Uno Chicago Grill	12%	\$25		
Wal-mart	2.5%	\$25			Wendy's	4%	\$10		

Other: _____ Amt: _____ Total: _____ \$

For a complete list, download the RaiseRight App Cash: _____ or Check # _____

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
800 E BAY ST
SEBEWAING, MI 48759

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
SEBEWAING, MI 48759
PERMIT #32

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Special Worship Times

Wed, March 6	6:30pm	Worship – Collide Sloppy Joe Meager Meal
Wed, March 13	6:30pm	Worship – CTK 5 th & 6 th grade Chili/Chicken Chili Meager Meal
Wed, March 20	6:30pm	Worship – Kuhl Family Pulled Pork Meager Meal
Sun, March 24	9:00am	Palm Sunday Worship/C
Thurs, March 28	6:30pm	Maundy Thursday Worship/C
Fri, March 29	1:30 & 6:30pm	Good Friday Worship
Sun, March 31	6:00, 8:00 & 10:30am	Easter Sunday Worship/C
Mon, April 1	No Monday Evening Worship	

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Flower Chairman: Virginia Nitz						
3 7:15 Elders 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 1 9:00 K-8 sing @ St Paul 10:15 SS & BC	4 10:00 OWLs 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C	5 9:00 Quilters 6:00 Pub Sch Confirm	6 7:00 Men's Study 8:00 Chapel 6:30 WORSHIP/C – 2 7:15 Glory Ringers	7 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon	8 CTK 11:30 Release	9
10 8:00 ELF Breakfast 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 3 9:00 K-8 sing @ Imm. 10:15 SS & BC 2:00 Evangelism speaker 7:30 Youth Board	11 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C 6:30 Trustees 6:30 Stewardship 7:15 Evangelism 7:45 Church Council	12 9:00 Quilters 6:00 Pub Sch Confirm 6:00 Messengers 7:00 Adoration 7:00 YABS	13 7:00 Men's Study 8:00 Chapel 6:30 WORSHIP/C – 4 7:15 Glory Ringers	14 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon 4:00 MMG	15 Newsletter Deadline 4:00 pm	16
17 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 5 9:00 2 nd & 6 th handbells @ Immanuel 10:15 SS & BC	18 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C	19 9:00 Quilters 6:00 Pub Sch Confirm 6:00 Messengers 7:00 Adoration 7:00 BOE	20 7:00 Men's Study 8:00 Chapel 6:30 WORSHIP/C – 6 7:15 Glory Ringers	21 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 7 10:15 SS & BC	25 CTK No School 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C	26 CTK No School 9:00 Quilters 6:00 Pub Sch Confirm 6:00 Messengers 7:00 Adoration 7:00 YABS	27 CTK No School Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon 7:15 Glory Ringers	28 Maundy Thursday 6:30 WORSHIP/C – 8 CTK No School	29 Good Friday 1:30 WORSHIP – 9 6:30 WORSHIP – 1 CTK No School Church Office Closed	30
31 Easter Sunday 6:00 WORSHIP/C – 2 8:00 WORSHIP/C – 3 10:30 WORSHIP/C – 4	April 1 No Monday evening worship today.					

March Birthdays

MARCH 1

Walter Gremel
Thomas Haag
Brandon Kundinger

MARCH 2

Allison Dickson
Ken Engelhardt
Jayda Geiger
Amanda Roggenbuck
Valerie Zuzga

MARCH 3

Lance Beringer
Christine Engelhardt
Nancy Stecker

MARCH 4

Jim Bratton
Louis LaPrairie
Emily Meek
Emma Shantz

MARCH 5

Debra Krauss
Isabella Mammel
John Volz

MARCH 6

Caleb Brink
Gweneth Hahn
Kennedy Kemp
Amber Kranz

MARCH 7

Melinda Driscoll
Bentley Fritz
Grayson Heckroth
Carol Heidt

MARCH 8

No Birthdays

MARCH 9

Chloe Smith
Kinslee Smith

MARCH 10

Jason Haag
Wendy Schwartz
Jacob Sting

MARCH 11

Evan Kata
Jason Smith

MARCH 12

Warren Beers
Annette Carson
Jo Jubar
Christine Walz

MARCH 13

Kayden Driscoll
Tara Hofmeister

MARCH 14

No Birthdays

MARCH 15

Steven Millerwise
Luke Ruppert
Carol Truemner
Raelynn Vermeersch
Terry Werschky
Lorene Zagata

MARCH 16

Mary Bauer
Janice Holland

MARCH 17

Patsy Aguilera
Seth Hofmeister
Shirley Sherman
Kristy Williamson

MARCH 18

Marci Rievert

MARCH 19

Bailey Fritz
Donnel Holland
Todd Lutz

MARCH 20

Craig Engelhardt
Macklin Gangler
Norma Kemp
Cyriel Reige
Madison Reithel
Bennett Weber

MARCH 21

Barbara Gunsell
Leann Holland
Eugene Kata
Owen Kauffold
Kirk Payne
Breanna Polega
Matthew Rievert
Paul Strieter
Olivia Williamson

MARCH 22

Paul Crumm

MARCH 23

Howard Fiebig
Cooper Smith

MARCH 24

Hailey Eremia
Maxine Kauffold
Gail Wilson
Peg Wissner

MARCH 25

Katie Krauss
Patricia Seabrook
Ronald Winter

MARCH 26

Sharon Bauer

MARCH 27

LeEtta Bohn

MARCH 28

Marc'L Neumann
Cameron Teeples

MARCH 29

Shaun Gremel
Madeleine Royster

MARCH 30

Patrick Gregory
Karissa McKellar
Nashia Roberts

MARCH 31

Kenneth Walz