

# Immanuel Informer

## “Committing Is Training”

May God bless and sustain all of you who have committed to 10-10-10.

There is still time for you to start and make a commitment – You can start today in prayer and next Sunday in worship. Remember there are many ways to keep the tithe. Weekly offerings are important but other ways to do this would include the dinner/auction, manna and market day where a percentage of the price is returned to Immanuel. Gifts to Care-Net, our LCMS Seminaries and other ministries are ways to give back to God the gifts he has given you.

The key to understand the importance of committing to 10-10-10 is that it is not an end in itself. It is the training period for what is to come. Remember that the Macedonian Christians gave themselves first to the Lord – and only after that did they start to take up an offering for the Jerusalem church. This offering was over and above what they gave to Paul and the local church.

For Immanuel this 10-10-10 effort is to prepare for many things to come after the first of the year. I am currently studying and working through a small group program and church wide emphasis on talking about our faith which will begin early next year. And there will be more and additional things after this.

All of this is necessary because Christianity is under attack here and around the world! Dr. Erwin Lutzer, Senior Pastor of Moody Bible church, in his remarks at the annual CareNet banquet spoke to this issue. He reminded the attendees that secular humanists have made great strides in banning many public expressions of Christianity. The philosophy being told to people by the media and in the public education system which many people believe is, that there are many gods and many ways to salvation.

These beliefs are not true and will result in people going to hell – unless we – we who know the truth – we who know Jesus is the way, the truth and the life – unless we act and share the good news.

To do this is, why we are training and committing ourselves, first to the Lord and then to our neighbors. I pray for your continued faithfulness and training.

*Pastor Ted*

## “Climbing Higher”

In a unique way, the author Max Lucado offers an interesting perspective regarding the life of Christians and the branches of a tree. According to his tree analogy, most Christians sit comfortably on low-lying thick branches. Life for Christians next to the trunk of the tree is steady and predictable. There are higher branches, but they appear risky and a lot less comfortable. In our humanity, we desire to stay where it is safe and easy. We become branch-sitters.

Again considering the analogy of the tree, we can say that Jesus calls each of us to climb higher in our prayer life, in our worship, in reading His Word, and in our generosity. As we climb, the branches will be thinner and less steady, but Christ will support us. The world tells us to stay put on our secure big branches, but the One Who loves us is quietly nudging us to go higher. Jesus wants us to depend on and trust in Him. He promises that He will never leave us.

One climb that we may resist the most is in the area of giving. The average Christian household gives approximately 2.7 percent of their income to their church, so most of us are sitting securely on some rather low branches. Our heavenly Father wants us to climb higher in the area of our giving. *“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made”* (1 Corinthians 16:2). We are to climb so that we regularly give a portion of our income. As we climb in our giving, we show our gratitude and thanksgiving for all of God’s blessings. When we climb toward the branch that says “tithe” and go beyond that branch to the one marked “sacrificial giving,” we hear God’s Words, *“Well done, good and faithful servants”* (Matthew 25:21).

Our prayer is that Christians will take God at His Word, His promise to take care of us and provide for our needs and follow the Holy Spirit as He leads us to higher and higher branches. After all, God knows better than anyone the cost of hanging on a tree.

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**VETERANS DAY PARADE- Saturday, November 6th at 1:00 PM. Immanuel School students will be participating and are inviting all veterans of the school and church to join them! If interested, please meet at the Hillside Village Hall, 425 Hillside Ave. at 12:15 PM.**

## Financial News and Notes

Thank you for being faithful stewards of all that God has given you. We have seen an increase in weekly giving in October which is helping a great deal, along with most of our school families staying current with their tuition payments. We encourage your participation in the Dinner Auction, Manna and Market Day as every little bit helps.

Update on the Commonwealth Edison situation. We have avoided a shut-off of power, however we have been informed that we must pay \$2370 in deposit to Com Ed. The Commerce Commission said that it is a policy of Commonwealth Edison. Our problem is that no where were we as a customer ever informed of this policy, nor were we ever notified that we were in danger of being assessed this deposit. Even today, we have no idea what happens to the money if we pay it.

We are contemplating seeking help from our local legislators and appealing to the head of the Commerce Commission pointing out that at no time have we ever received notification that a deposit could be required. Our banks and credit card companies are required to notify us of fees and penalties, why not Com Ed? Maybe we should post a notice on our sign – Com Ed is unfair! – Just a thought. If you are friends with a legislator let us know.

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Advent begins on Sunday November 28, 2010

The first mid-week Advent service will be Wednesday December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our theme for these mid-week services will be:

“When Angels Speak – People Listen”



**MONTHLY EVENTS** (unless otherwise noted)

Sunday School classes on Sundays at 8:30 AM  
 Adult Bible Study on Sundays at 8:30 AM  
 Adult Bible Study on Wednesdays 10:30 AM  
 Self-Defense classes Mondays at 6:00 PM  
 Confirmation classes Wednesdays at 6:30 PM  
 Darts Tuesdays at 8:00 PM  
 Adult Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays at 7:30 PM  
 Men’s Club every second Saturday of the month  
 8:00 AM  
 Prayer Shawl Group every first Thursday of the  
 month 7:00 PM

*Prayer Shawl Group*

The Prayer Shawl Group will be meeting on **Thursday, November 4th** at 7:00 PM at the Old School House (4733 Cermak Rd. - behind the Verizon store). See Patricia Contraveos if you have any questions. Their project from now until Thanksgiving will again be scarves, hats, mittens, etc. for BEDS in La Grange. These items need to be brought to church no later than November 24th when they will be blessed at our Thanksgiving Eve service. Yarn is available in the Narthex or at the Old School House.

**FOR THE RECORD . . . .**

**New Member -  
 Marquetta Hayes & son Marcus**



**Deaths -  
 Robin Niko - October 16**

**Baptism -  
 Kathryn Thomas - October 16**

*Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us.* Romans 15:4

***Getting the Most Out of Your Daily Bible Reading***

As you read the Bible each day, allow the Scriptures to speak to you. This daily “dialogue “ between you and the biblical text will reveal new understandings about God, and about yourself.

- **Set aside time** to read the Bible on a daily basis.
- **Find a quiet place** to read and reflect on each day’s reading
- **Begin with prayer**, asking God for guidance and blessing.

**Believe the Good News  
 And Share God’s Love**

**NOVEMBER**

**All Saints Day**

- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Revelation 4:1-11     | 18 - Psalm 148                |
| 2 - Revelation 5:1-14     | 19 - Psalm 149                |
| 3 - Psalm 100             | 20 - Psalm 150                |
| 4 - Psalm 104             |                               |
| 5 - Psalm 105             | 21 - Psalm 8                  |
| 6 - Psalm 111             | 22 - Exodus 15:1-21           |
|                           | 23 - 1 Samuel 2:1-10          |
| 7 - Psalm 113             | 24 - Nehemiah 12:27-43        |
| 8 - Psalm 116             | 25 - Psalm 65                 |
| 9 - Psalm 118             | 26 - Psalm 66                 |
| 10 - Psalm 122            | 27 - Psalm 67                 |
| 11 - Psalm 135            |                               |
| 12 - Psalm 138            |                               |
| 13 - 1 Chronicles 16:7-36 | <b>First Sunday in Advent</b> |
|                           | 28 - Isaiah 63:7-14           |
| 14 - Psalm 144            | 29 - Isaiah 12:1-6            |
| 15 - Psalm 145            | 30 - Psalm 24                 |
| 16 - Psalm 146            |                               |
| 17 - Psalm 147            |                               |



**THANKSGIVING EVE CHURCH SERVICE****(with Holy Communion)****WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 24, 2010  
AT  
7:00 P.M.****(Followed by pie & coffee)****Internet Safety Program**

ILS P.T.L will sponsor a Internet Safety Program for parents on November 22 at 6:30 p.m. Kathleen McGowan from Cook County State's Attorney's Sex Crimes Unit, Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, will speak regarding safety tips, cyber tip line, acronyms, think before you post and more. Do you really know what dangers your child may encounter through the internet? Come and be informed.

The program is open to school and church families. Please feel free to invite a friend or relative. For information, please contact Lana Hahn.

On November 23rd each school class will have an age appropriate program on internet safety.



We hope to see you at our Dinner Auction on Friday, November 5th at 6:00 PM at Alpine Banquets in Westchester. It will be an fun evening with good food, great fellowship, making bids for auction items as well as having a chance to win prizes.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS YEAR, THERE WILL BE NO PANCAKE BREAKFAST!**

## *Immanuel Lutheran School News*

**NO SCHOOL -  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH -  
Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**NO SCHOOL - Wednesday thru  
Friday, November 24-26 -  
Thanksgiving holiday**

**PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES  
WILL BE HELD ON:**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

These conferences are mandatory.

**MARKET DAY  
SALE  
TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 23RD  
3:00-4:00 PM  
Pick up**



### *“Annual Food Drive”*

We will start collecting after Thanksgiving until Christmas. There will be a drop off box in the Narthex as well as at the school entrance. Items to donate include: all canned goods, noodles, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, rice, etc. Thank you in advance for your support.



### *November Birthdays*

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Alicia Blair     | 17 - Dorothy Francis |
| 3 - Leslie Northcutt | 18 - Lorie Tetzler   |
| 4 - Ron Hahn         | 19 - Dorothy Ivers   |
| 4 - Erecka Serrano   | 24 - Erica Lundt     |
| 4 - Christine Bell   | 30 - Don Mitchell    |
| 5 - Mike Mannella    |                      |
| 6 - Daniel Stallings |                      |
| 11 - Jacob Czubernat |                      |
| 13 - Marcial Serrano |                      |



### IMPORTANT DATES

- 2 - 6:30 PM PTL Meeting
- 5 - 6:00 PM Dinner/Auction
- 6 - Science Olympics
- 6 - 1:00 PM Veterans Day Parade
- 8 - Manna orders due
- 10 - 3:00 PM Cooking Club
- 24 - 9:30 AM Students sing at Immanuel
- 16 - Report cards go home
- 16 - School picture retakes Group/sports pictures
- 16-19 - Book Fair
- 18-19 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 22 - 6:30 PM Parent Meeting with Cook County Task Force
- 23 - 3:00 PM Market Day sale
- 24 - 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service
- 24-26 - No School

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## ***From the Principal's Desk***

### **Immanuel Responds!**

Over the past several months, you have heard a lot of talk about volunteering and our great need for help. Immanuel has responded!

Mr. Hans Hansen (church member) volunteered to help supervise the lunch periods every day! He greets the children, opens packets, and reminds the students of the lunchroom rules. Hans leaves each day with a smile on his face. I really think he enjoys the work. The students are enjoying having him around. Just a few weeks ago during coffee hour, I heard a first grader exclaim, "Hey, there's the lunch guy!"

Mr. and Mrs. Pickett (school great grandparents) volunteered to cook lunches every day! They are a great team and enjoy being at school. Mr. and Mrs. Pickett cook the lunches and wash the trays after lunch. You can find them in the kitchen between 11:00 and 1:00 each day cooking greeting the students and faculty.

Mrs. Kim Campbell (school parent) volunteered to help out in Extended Care while we were short handed. She played games with the children and helped out in the general supervision of the students. She enjoyed it so much; she applied for the open position!

Mr. Ed Mulvihill, (church member) Mr. Randy Weeks (church member), Mr. Mike Mannella (church member), Mr. John Kramer (church member/school teacher), Mr. John Kyanka (church member/school classroom aide, Mr. Dave Swasko (church member/school janitor), Mrs. Dominga Heimsath (school classroom aide), and Mrs. Lana Hahn (church member/school principal) all volunteered to do painting in the school hallway and the basement hallway that connects the gym to the fellowship hall. Check it out! The walls look so nice and clean.

There are many others that have volunteered to do many tasks at Immanuel. The jobs are many. Some are as simple as cutting out soup labels to serving on the auction committee. Every job is important!

Thank you to all our volunteers. You are so important to us!

If you haven't had the opportunity to volunteer yet, please consider volunteering. Many hands make light work.

In Christ,

*Lana J. Hahn*

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Hillside, IL 60162

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School phone - 708-562-5580

E-Mail: [general@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:general@immanuel-hillside.org)

[www.immanuel-hillside.org](http://www.immanuel-hillside.org)

### RETURN REQUESTED

### POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

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Rev. Teddy Vratny, Pastor  
Office: 708-562-5590 ext.101  
[Pastor@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:Pastor@immanuel-hillside.org)

Lana Hahn, M.A., Principal  
Office: 708-562-5580 ext. 201  
[lhahn@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:lhahn@immanuel-hillside.org)

Donn Hempel, B.A., Director of Music  
Office: 708-562-5580 ext.205

Carol Northcutt, Admin. Asst.  
[Carol@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:Carol@immanuel-hillside.org)

### ACOLYTE SCHEDULE



November 7 -  
9:30 AM - Selena Perez

November 14 -  
9:30 AM - Mia Railing

November 21 -  
9:30 AM - Zachary Redis

November 24 - Thanksgiving Eve  
7:00 PM - Sebastian Manilla

November 28 -  
9:30 AM - Joshua DuBois

**REMEMBER TO PRAY. . . .** If you have a prayer request, please call the pastor in the church office (708-562-5590) . We are praying for you! Please notify the office when circumstances of your request change or when the Lord answers our prayers. We want to rejoice with you and thank the Lord.

