



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.

Immanuel Informer

May 2024

Volume 19, Issue 11

Changing from Me to We

By nature, we are self-serving, proud people. The world and our flesh promote the thought of “looking out for number one” at any cost. We want what is best for ourselves, often at the expense of others. We want to be in control, and we live as if we are invincible. To illustrate this idea, there is a story about Muhammad Ali who was the boxing champion of the world. He was on an airplane and was told by the stewardess to buckle his seat belt. Ali said, “I don’t need to buckle my seat belt, because I am superman and superman doesn’t need a seat belt.” In response the stewardess said, “You may call yourself superman, but superman doesn’t need an airplane.”

We are probably not as obnoxious as Ali was reported to be on that airplane; however, don’t we struggle with the same problem of our own self-importance? In our humanity, we place ourselves on a pedestal. Without God’s presence in our lives, this attitude of self-importance will not change. By our own reason or strength, we can’t change. Only through God’s love and grace can we truly live with love toward others and with servant hearts. In Matthew 20:26 Jesus said, *“Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.”* Jesus lived for His heavenly Father and others. Through God’s Word and Sacraments, He changes us from being interested only in ourselves to seeing others as brothers and sisters in Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, God opens our eyes so we see the opportunities to reach out and serve others with His love. In Jesus’ life, we see the life that He wants us to emulate. Jesus told His disciples, *“The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many”* (Matt 20:28). The entire life of Jesus was one of love and service. As Jesus came to serve, so must all of us joyfully accept a life of service to others. As we change from “me” people to “we” people, we begin to share God’s love with others.



Put Your Hands Together

A ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church

May Report Submitted by Jayne Siou, Pantry Director

Private & Online Donations: \$ 2,237.00

Pending Grant Applications: (2)

Grant Awards: CM Cares-Church Mutual \$750.00

New Grants Written: (1)

PYHT Food Distributions & Activity:

In-Kind Food Donations/Food Rescue Received: 46,583 lbs. (pass through 32,060 lbs.)

Food Ministry Service Events: Sat April 13th 91/343 Total=161/month (including weekday)

PYHT Food Relief Agencies & Ministries Served: Pilsen FP, Westchester FP, Youth Crossroads, Berwyn FP, Immanuel Des Plaines, St. Paul Oak Lawn, Our Lady of Angels-Chgo., St. Lukes, Downers Grove Comm Kitchen, Midwest Food Bank, Chicago Heights Food Pantry, Interim Housing Center-DuPage.

Please pray for continued guidance and support of our expansion project and for all volunteers! THANK YOU!

NEWS:

APRIL 13th SHINE EVENT: The Northern Illinois District-LCMS Annual Shine Event

Families Served: 91

Weather: Perfect, Mostly Sunny, 72° Spring God-Given Day!

Individuals Served: 343+

Traffic Control: Hillside Police Department

Volunteer Participation: 22+

THANK YOU! Pastor Steve Deombeleg, Karen & Ed M., Carol, Tina, Trina, Evan, Eddie, Randy, Mike, Scott, Becky, Donn, Heather, Corinne, Barb, Julie, Lynn, Paul, Mike M, Jayne & Ron S., thanks to Joanna, Tom, and Gay too!

Cooler Repairs & Maintenance Fundraiser:

Unexpected expenses, such as the repair of our broken cooler fan this month (\$650) creates a huge burden on our pantry operating funds. We would appreciate any contributions to our fund or if congregation members would consider a small, recurring donation scheduled through REALM. **Thank You!**

Expansion Project Update:

Waiting on council to allow us to file for a new tax ID number for the pantry. The separate filing will open up many new grant funding opportunities which are needed for the expansion and operating costs.

Volunteers Needed:

- Fundraising Event Planner
- 2) Putting together pantry training manual
- 3) Board Members
- 4) Pantry Freezer Organization
- 5) Volunteer Coordinator
- 6) Photographer (Pantry Days)

Blessings on your Stewardship Journey

God's Ownership

If we are to be followers of Jesus, we must transfer ownership of our possessions to Him. *"So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be My disciple"* (Luke 14:33). Sometimes He tests us to give up what we value the most.

God put Abraham to the test instructing him, *"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 22:2). Abraham obeyed by demonstrating his willingness to give up his most valuable possession. God saw his obedience and faithfulness and told Abraham not to lay a hand on his son.

Acknowledging God's ownership, we no longer think in the terms of "my" money or even my spouse or my child. Instead, the question becomes "What does God want me to do with gifts He's given me?" We want to please God with all that He entrusts to us.

Is Gold Where You Find It?

Years ago, a prospector came upon an abandoned gold mine. With a lantern and a pickaxe, he began to search the mine for one last vein which others might have overlooked.

Years later a part of engineers explored that abandoned mine. In the deepest shaft they came upon a little pile of rock and beside it a rusted pick. Farther along the shaft lay a battered lantern, and still farther, a human skeleton, its bony hand clutching one nugget of gold. The prospector had found his treasure, but lost his way.

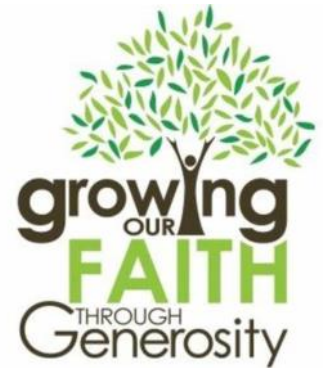
Beware of seeking too long and too hard for that which has no value at all if a man loses his way.

Henry B. Luffberry

Glorify God with impact

We read in 1 Peter 4:10, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good steward of God's varied grace." God wants us to use the talents and abilities that He has given us the best way we can. Paul said, "Whatever you

do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men..." (Colossians 3:23). With God's help, we can begin and live each day with the joy and vigor that come from hearts filled with thanksgiving to God for His love, His guidance, His presence, and His strength in whatever we do. The world does notice how we work, does hear how we speak, and does watch how we behave. Let us help people see the love of the Lord through us.



GOD IS AMAZINGLY GENEROUS TO US IN EVERY WAY, AND WE ARE TO IMITATE HIS GENEROSITY IN OUR LIVES.

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1).

Stewardship Corner

Stewardship is a word we may hear occasionally from the pulpit, but we rarely hear outside of our churches. In Scripture, a steward is traditionally one who takes care of another's household. A steward watches over and manages the affairs of the master so the master may focus on what is most important. Much trust is placed in the steward by the master. He is expected to act in the best interest of his master. In our role as God's stewards, we submit ourselves to God's authority and greater good. God calls us to take care of His things faithfully while we are on this brief journey in life.

Thank You So Much, Immanuel

By Valerie Winston

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for being the place that I needed,
When it was time to depart, from the place where I was then ceded.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for being a place filled with charms,
For taking me in and welcoming me with open arms.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for when my soul did need,
With God's love and grace, my spirit you did feed.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for this oh so special place,
I know when I think of you, a smile will fill my face.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for supporting me in my role,
You helped to fill a gap and made me feel quite whole.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for the blessings large and small,
For supporting all the students as they grow so big and tall.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel for your prayers when I was ill,
Your cards, expressions of love, my heart did truly fill.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for the time that I spend here,
Will always be in my heart and always be held dear.*

*Thank you so much, Immanuel, for all the wondrous love,
God will continue to shower you with blessings from above.*

IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S

production of



MAY 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Music & Lyrics by
**Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman,
Al Rinker and Floyd Huddleston, Terry Gilkyson**

Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional Music and Lyrics by
Bryan Louiselle

Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by
Michael Bernard

Based on the 1970 Disney film *The Aristocats*, and featuring a jazzy, upbeat score, *Disney's The Aristocats KIDS* is a non-stop thrill ride of feline fun, complete with unbelievable twists and turns.

In the heart of Paris, a kind and eccentric millionairess wills her entire estate to Duchess, her high-society cat, and her three little kittens. Laughs and adventure ensue as the greedy, bumbling butler pulls off the ultimate catnap caper. Now it's up to the rough-and-tumble alley cat, Thomas O'Malley, and his band of swingin' jazz cats to save the day.

Director
Terence Swims

Music Director
Donn Hempel

Choreographer
Terence Swims

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 gives. 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.

May - Spiritual Renewal

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Psalm 50 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 John 16:4b-15 |
| National Day of Prayer | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 John 16:16–24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Psalm 80 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 John 16:25–33 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Psalm 81 | Pentecost |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Psalm 84 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 Acts 2:1–13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Psalm 86 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Acts 2:14–28 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Psalm 87 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Acts 2:29–47 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Psalm 90 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 Acts 3:1–10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Psalm 91 | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 Acts 3:11–26 |
| Ascension Day | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 Acts 4:1–22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Acts 1:1–11 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 Acts 4:23–37 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Acts 1:12–26 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 Acts 5:1–16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Psalm 47 | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 Acts 5:17–42 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 John 14:1–14 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 Acts 13:1–12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 John 14:15–31 | <input type="checkbox"/> 29 Acts 13:13–41 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14 John 15:1–17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 Acts 13:42–52 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 John 15:18–16:4a | <input type="checkbox"/> 31 Acts 14:1–20 |

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.

A Month of Prayer

The fellowship of prayer consists of caring people who pray daily for members in the church. Members and their families will be listed in alphabetical order each month. Please pray for both their known and unknown needs. *School Families in italics.*

1. Mike & Carol Northcutt
2. Mindy Ondrovic
3. Phyllis Ondrovic
4. Pena Family
5. Perez Family
6. *The Perry Family*
7. Lynn Rand
8. Susan Redis
9. Gloria Rubietta
10. Joan Rundgren
11. *The Ruff Family*
12. *The Ruffin Family*
13. *The Santos Brantley - Cruz Family*
14. Dot Schneider
15. *Sims / Lang Family*
16. *Sims Family*
17. *Skinner Family*
18. *Smith Family*
19. Rita Stallings
20. *Steele Family*
21. *Stewart Family*
22. *Swims Family*
23. Svec Family
24. *Thomas Family*
25. *Thurman Family*
26. Lisa Tipples
27. *Torres - Ortega Family*
28. Lance Turner
29. Wayne & Debbie Valentino
30. Thy & Sarah Vu
31. Patricia Washington




May Birthdays

- 1 - Jaida Brim, *8th Grade*
 3 - Sarah Vu
 3 - Landen Henderson, *1st Grade*
 5 - Benjamin Friend, *Kindergarten*
 6 - Naomi Perez

- 8 - Michael Garcia
 9 - Kristen Karpierz
 10 - Samantha Hadler
 11 - Joshua Svec
 11 - Bill Redis

- 14 - J.T. Redis
 15 - DeAngelo Anderson, *Kindergarten*
 19 - Karen Mulvihill
 25 - Dallas Sims, *2nd Grade*
 29 - Marilyn Weeks

MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 - 9:30am Worship H.C. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	6 Teacher Appreciation Week Begins	7 Track Meet @Concordia 5:30pm Day School Commission Meeting	8 1:45pm Chapel 7:30pm Adult Choir	9 - Ascension Day 	10 11am Food Pantry	11 Track Meet @Willowbrook High School
12 - Mother's Day 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study Scrip Orders Due	13	14 6pm Church Council Budget	15 1:45pm Chapel 7:30pm Adult Choir	16	17 7pm Immanuel Presents Aristocats!	18 9am Garden Work Day
19 - Pentecost 9:30am Worship H.C. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	20 - 7th & 8th Grade Field Trip to the Zoo 	21 - 7th & 8th Grade Class Trip 6pm Church Council Regular Meeting	22 - 7th & 8th Grade Class Trip 1:45pm Chapel 7:30pm Adult Choir	23 - 7th & 8th Grade Class Trip PreK / Kindergarten/ 3rd & 4th Grade Field Trips to the Zoo	24 - NO SCHOOL	25
26 - Trinity Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	27 - NO SCHOOL 	28 - 3rd - 8th Grade "Perfect Attendance" Choir Trip to Dave & Busters	29 - 9am - PreK & Kindergarten Promotion Ceremony 6:00pm Awards Night 7:30pm Adult Choir	30 - 11:30 a.m. School Dismissal 7pm 8th Grade Graduation	31 - Last Chapel 11:30 a.m. School Dismissal	

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RETURN REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL



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