



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.*

Immanuel Informer

November 2023

Volume 19, Issue 5

## **Thank You God for Immanuel Lutheran Church**

November is a month for giving thanks, therefore, let's thank God for the gift of His Church. On November 14<sup>th</sup> Immanuel Lutheran Church will celebrate its 165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Immanuel's history reaches back to the nineteenth century. Its founders came from Hanover, Germany around 1850, settled in Proviso Township, started a school in 1852, and formed a congregation in 1858. The rest is—as they say—history. More importantly, it is part of God's history, and within that history is God's mission of reaching out to others. God gave Immanuel a precious gift to fulfill that mission—the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That gift was shared primarily with German immigrants who joined the church and ultimately contributed to the life of the congregation. Over the decades demographic changes took place, changes that led Immanuel to refocus its outreach efforts.

Which brings us to November 14, 2023. Could the original founders have foreseen what God would be doing today at Immanuel? Probably not. The Church adapts to the changing landscape of the culture yet maintains the essential truths of Scripture. The message remains because *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever"* (Hebrews 13:8). Today Immanuel is more ethnically diverse than ever. We give thanks to God for the founders of Immanuel. By the power of the Holy Spirit God used them to share Jesus with their neighbors. The focus now turns to Immanuel Lutheran Church in 2023. As we continue to minister within the walls our Church and Immanuel Christian Academy let us not forget those in our community who have not yet tasted the goodness of the Lord. They need Jesus just as much as we do. They are lost just as we once were. They need to be found just as we are found.

As we celebrate and thank God for preserving Immanuel let us also look forward and envision what our future will look like. The 21<sup>st</sup> century has brought many challenges. The culture does not respond to Christianity as it once did but let us not become discouraged. As stewards trusting in God's promises let us not only be hearers of God's Word but let us also be doers (James 1:22). Immanuel has deep roots in Hillside, roots originating from the Gospel. A true display of being rooted in the Gospel is when we bear fruit in our community. That's the key, refocusing our outreach efforts so that we can bear fruit in the community. Jesus said, *"the Son of Man came not be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"* (Matt. 20:28). People who believe in the Gospel share the Gospel. People who've been forgiven share forgiveness, and those who've been restored work to see restoration in others. The people of Immanuel today are much like the people of Immanuel in 1858—we are called to fulfill the Great Commission by inviting all people to God's Banquet. The work is never easy. The challenges are always great. But by the power of the Holy Spirit and trusting His promises, God will use the love of Jesus overflowing in us to love those in our community.

Thank You, Lord, for 165 years of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Hillside. Thank You for using Your people to reach out to the community to bring others into Your Kingdom. And thank You in advance for what You have planned for us in the future. We trust You for all things. Amen.

In the Fellowship and Love of Christ,

Pastor Steve Deombeleg

# FOOD MINISTRY UPDATES



**Private & Online Donations: \$ 3,271**

**Pending Grant Applications: 4**

**New Grants Written this Month: 1 Grant Awards: 0**

**PYHT Food Distributions & Activity:**

**In-Kind Food Donations/Food Rescue Received:  
18,250 lbs. through 10/18**

**PYHT Pop Up-Pantry Families Served: Saturday 97  
Families/305 Individuals Oct 14**

**PYHT-Weekday Food Pantry: 199 Families through  
10/18 NEW RECORD**

**PYHT Food Relief Agencies & Ministries Served:**

Westchester Food Pantry, St. Paul-Oak Lawn, Downers  
Grove Soup Kitchen, Elmwood Pk. Community Church  
FP, Lyons Church, St. Matthews Soup Kitchen, Quinn  
Center, BEDS+, Village of Hillside, Lombard FP, Youth  
Crossroads, Inner City Impact, Abundant Children

**Volunteer Stipends Paid Out: \$25**

**URGENT Request for Official Board Members:**  
**See Jayne Siou** No new or large grants can be written  
without official Food Pantry Board Members assigned.

**Volunteers:** We are always grateful for the wonderful  
volunteer turnout on Saturday Pantry Days and the  
response to the pantry needs during the week. Special  
Thank YOU to ICA Students for helping to unload  
delivery trucks, move boxes, pack pantry bags and  
bagging up snacks. Thanks to the teachers and staff for  
allowing the service time for students.

**Church Worker Appreciation:** Thank you to Pastor  
Steve for participating in our Saturday Distributions!  
Thank you to Joanna, Deatrice, Gay, Donn, Valerie,  
Corie, Patty, Carnita and Tom for all the support and  
work in the pantry and all you do every day to show the  
Love of Christ to each other. We appreciate you and the  
precious time you give up for us and the school children.

**Food Drives: This Holiday Season:** St. John's Lutheran  
Church - Mayfair / Chicago, Holy Apostles Greek  
Orthodox Church -Westchester, Hillside Public Library.  
The extra food is a great help during Thanksgiving &  
Christmas. Please see the pantry food items list that are  
needed this season if you would like to help.

**Fundraising:** We will continue fundraising, especially for  
our Holiday Meal Giveaways. Right now, there are no  
added Holiday Giveaway dates scheduled because of lack  
of funding. Thanksgiving food items will be given away  
during our regular Saturday pantry dates in November &  
December with additional weekday distributions added, as  
usual. Food Pantry Expansion Project fundraiser appeal  
will go out to our congregation later this month.

*Please pray for continued guidance  
and support of our expansion project!*



As the 2023 outdoor growing season comes to an end,  
we face our least favorite part of the year; fall clean-up.  
Every one of our gardeners is a volunteer and as such,  
is limited by time. We all put in as much as we can, but  
ultimately the crops take precedent over weeds and  
between pruning, pest checks and controls, feeding and  
harvesting, the weeds often go wild. However, thanks to  
a weather-related postponement of a garden workday,  
Immanuel Lutheran volunteers came through and we  
made a lot of progress towards a neat garden. We will  
coordinate our volunteer dates with PYHT pantry next  
season to give all of you an opportunity to come and  
hang out with us, as well as the pantry. I know you're all  
excited about the opportunity!

Our indoor growing projects are starting up, as well.  
They were a bit neglected over the outdoor growing  
season, but now that we're wrapping up outside, the  
inside is on its way. We will be providing fresh lettuce  
and hopefully bell pepper and tomatoes to the pantry for  
at least a part of the winter.

Our Seed Money fundraiser will be coming up soon. We  
will need funds to purchase nutrients, seeds, and any  
additional equipment. If you can support our efforts  
financially, please look for the link soon, or visit us online  
for giving through Realm. [onrealm.org/ilchillside/-/form/  
give/OSHCG](https://onrealm.org/ilchillside/-/form/give/OSHCG)

## Controlling Time

In his letter to the people in Ephesus, the Apostle Paul exhorts them: *"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil"* (Ephesians 5:15-16). Today is a very important day to make our lives meaningful. Yesterday is history, and tomorrow may never come. At some point in life, we start asking, "Where did the months and the years go?" Time is an irreplaceable commodity that God grants us, a precious period of opportunity for fulfilling the purposes for which we exist. Living as stewards, we realize the importance of time and use it properly. Wise use of time starts by living a life for Christ. If our time, energy, and focus are only on material wealth or other worldly successes, our time has been wasted.

While we must spend time providing for our needs, our life's purpose must be to do the Lord's work. Jesus, Who *"did not come to be served but to serve"* (Matthew 20:28), is our model. We are called to bring people to Christ and serve others using the gifts given to us by God, including our time. Ignoring God's plan for our lives will result in anguish and despair.

As God's stewards, we are called to be good managers of God's gifts, especially time, since it is irreplaceable. When we place our trust in God, we can say along with the Psalmist *"My times are in Your hand"* (Psalm 31:15). Knowing that our time is a trust from God, we will be prompted to use our time for the things that He would have us do. God, Who has given us time, will also guide us in using it wisely.

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL  
BLESSINGS FLOW AND LIVE  
YOUR LIVES IN GRATITUDE FOR  
HIS GENEROSITY AND GOODNESS.

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for  
He is good; His love endures  
forever!" (Psalm 107:1).



LOVE IS SACRIFICIAL, GIVES  
UNCONDITIONALLY, AND ACTS  
WITHOUT EXPECTATION.

"In this is love, not that we have  
loved God but that He loved us and  
sent His Son to be the propitiation  
for our sins" (1 John 4:10).

## Stewardship Corner

As God's people, we live every day by the grace of God. He has created and redeemed us. In spite of our sinful ways, God has chosen us by His grace to be His children. We see God's grace in who we are and what we have. Knowing that God has graciously given us our physical and spiritual lives, we are empowered by His grace to show our gratitude. One of the more important ways that we show our thanksgiving is through our giving. We give because God first gave to us (John 3:16).



# MOVIE NIGHT

THE CHOSEN  
Season 3  
Episodes  
5 & 6



FRIDAY  
NOV. 3  
AT 7PM  
Doors open  
at 6:30pm

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
2317 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside

708-562-5590  
@immanuelhillside

# ADULT VOLLEYBALL



FUN, FAITH AND FITNESS  
SELECT FRIDAYS 7:00 P.M.

@immanuelhillside

Put Your Hands  Together  
A Ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church  
**Hillside Food Pantry**

## Thanksgiving FOOD & FUND DRIVE

Helping Families in Need in Our Community

Through November 22nd

Help us to feed families this Holiday season, your  
generous donations of food and funds are needed!

Immanuel Lutheran Church-Hillside Food Pantry  
2317 S. Wolf Rd.-Hillside, IL 60162  
(708) 562-5590

**DONATE ONLINE:** [immanuel-hillside.org/pyht](http://immanuel-hillside.org/pyht)

**OPEN to all**

For Families in Need

## WINTER FOOD GIVEAWAYS

Saturday, November 11th  
Saturday, December 9th  
Saturday, January 13th

**at 11am**

Until we run out of food

**Immanuel Lutheran Church-Hillside Food Pantry**

**2317 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside IL 60162**

Call: (708) 562-5590

Help Us Feed Needy Families This Winter

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



# Market Day®

### Order Market Day Today!

Market Day is back and with home direct delivery!

Register at [www.marketdaylocal.com](http://www.marketdaylocal.com)

Choose Immanuel Christian Academy - Hillside  
as your organization.

# IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

## With Hearts and Hands and Voices - By Valerie Winston

One of my father's favorite hymns was "Now Thank We All Our God". I was thinking about that hymn as thoughts of Thanksgiving ran through my head. For some reason I was focusing on part of the first line of the hymn which says, "with hearts and hands and voices". I wondered how we could thank God with each of those things. I decided to pose the question to my 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Below are their responses.

**With Heart** – by worshipping Him; by going to church; by loving Him; love Him just as He loves us; by sending love to Him every day; think about what He has done for us this year and thank Him for keeping our family safe during situations; by praising God and by going to church and reading the Bible; we can pray and have His love in our hearts; by reading the Bible.

**With Hands** – by folding our hands and praying to Him; pray with your hands; folding them together ready for prayer; we can rejoice and raise our hands in praise; by helping people just as He helps us; we can help people in need and show our kindness and mercy to them; by sitting down every day to pray for everything done in our lives; we can read the Bible and pray with people; we can help this world He made.

**With Voices** – Thank Him for all the things He does for us; sing with our voices to God; praying to Him, praising Him, thanking Him, talking to Him; we can sing songs of praise; by praying and singing His praises; we can sing praises to God in church and pray; we can glorify God and thank Him; by sharing the Word with others who don't believe in His name and Word; we can sing in a choir about His love and grace for us; we can praise Him; we can say kind things.

As I read through the things that my students had written, I was overcome with several emotions. Firstly, I felt encouraged by what we are able to do as a school and how our students are learning and growing in their faith. Secondly, I was just so moved by their thoughts. It was as if they had given me a Thanksgiving To-Do list or a checklist of things that I can do to thank God. I pray that as you read through their thoughts that you would be so encouraged to thank God with your hearts and hands and voices some of the ways they suggest. Blessings on your Thanksgiving.

**Turn everyday shopping  
into fundraising dollars**



**RaiseRight**  
Formerly ShopWithScrip

Shop with Raise Right Scrip fundraising is a no - selling program that enables families to raise money for their church or school. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks, and credit cards. You purchase gift cards from your organization at face value, and your coordinator orders those cards from Raise Right Scrip at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate for Immanuel. *Order Forms are in the church hallway or enroll and order online: [www.raiseright.com/enroll/](http://www.raiseright.com/enroll/) Enrollment Code: 9D337C6F55761*



*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.

## **November**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Genesis 1:1—2:4a        | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Psalm 116 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Genesis 2:4b-25         | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Psalm 118 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Psalm 104               | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 Psalm 128 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Psalm 8                 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Psalm 134 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Psalm 29                | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Psalm 135 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Psalm 30                | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 Psalm 136 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 1 Chronicles 13:1-14    | Thanksgiving Day                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 1 Chronicles 15:1-24    | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 Psalm 138 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 1 Chronicles 15:25-16:7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 Psalm 144 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 1 Chronicles 16:8-43   | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 Psalm 145 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Psalm 105:1-22         | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 Psalm 146 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Psalm 105:23-45        | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 Psalm 147 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Psalm 111              | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 Psalm 148 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Psalm 112              | <input type="checkbox"/> 29 Psalm 149 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Psalm 113              | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 Psalm 150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Psalm 115              |                                       |

**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.

## **For the Record**

### Baptisms

#### **August 12, 2023**

Michael Garcia Jr. age 8

Joel Angel Garcia age 3

Xavier Amir Garcia age 6 months

Jakeem Lee Brantley-Cruz age 1

Jerriann Gonzalez: Adult baptism

#### **October 14, 2023:**

Zendaya Seymone Corbin age 16 months

### Deaths

Violet Horn, October 13, 2023

Clete Koester, October 16, 2023



## **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.

1. Susan Arnold
2. Taylor Balslew
3. Bell Family
4. Jennifer Bettin
5. Jeffrey Bettin
6. Karen Bimler
7. Blair Family
8. Christine Bost
9. Bozzi Family
10. Ruth Anne Brendemuhl
11. Bob Brown
12. Brown Family
13. Doretha Brown & Rashaad Smith
14. *Caldwell Family*
15. *Chapmon Family*
16. Joe & Lisa Chioda
17. *Davis Family*
18. Detrall Dearbone
19. The Deombeleg Family
20. Laprika Duff & Jayla Pernell
21. Arlene Gasperich
22. Lisa Gasperich
23. Stella Gonzalez
24. The Hadler Family
25. Steve Hadler
26. Steve & Lucretia Hardy
27. Evelyn Haynes
28. Corinne Hein
29. The Hempel Family
30. *The Honey Family*

## **November Birthdays**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 01 - Alicia Blair                        | 06 - Daniel Stallings                    |
| 02 - <i>Stiles Johnson - PreK</i>        | 10 - <i>Issac Holston - Kindergarten</i> |
| 03 - Leslie Iacovetti                    | 11 - Jacob Czubernat                     |
| 03 - <i>Brooklyn Ruff - Kindergarten</i> | 14 - Susan Arnold                        |
| 04 - Christine Bost (Bell)               | 19 - Dorothy Ivers                       |
| 05 - Mike Mannella                       | 22 - Olivia Deombeleg                    |



# NOVEMBER 2023



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR

 <p>FALL BACK</p> <p>REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR</p>			<p>1</p> <p>1:50pm Chapel</p> <p>3pm Faculty Mtg</p> <p>7:30pm Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7pm Church Movie Night</p> <p>The Chosen</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Turn your clock back one hour before bed tonight.</p>
<p>5 Daylight Saving Time Ends</p> <p>9:30am Worship With Holy Comm.</p> <p>10:30am Coffee</p> <p>11:15am Bible Study</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4pm JV Basketball HOME Game</p> <p>5:30pm Day School Commission Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:50pm Chapel</p> <p>7:30pm Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>9</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>8:30am Veteran's Day Celebration</p> <p>7pm Adult Volleyball</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11am PYHT Food Pantry Distribution</p>
<p>12 - Scrip Orders</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>Day School Choir Sings (3rd - 8th)</p> <p>10:30am Coffee</p> <p>11:15am Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Parent Teacher Conferences</p> <p><b>Informer Submissions Due</b></p>	<p>14</p> <p>Parent Teacher Conferences</p> <p>6pm Church Council</p>	<p>15 - P.T. Conf.</p> <p>1:50pm Chapel</p> <p>4pm JV Basketball AWAY Game @ LaGrange</p> <p>7:30pm Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Parent Teacher Conferences</p> <p>4pm JV Basketball HOME Game</p>	<p>17 4pm JV Basketball AWAY @ Bensenville</p> <p>1:45pm Pep Rally</p> <p>7pm Adult Volleyball</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2pm Zumba</p> <p>6pm Church Movie Night</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30am Worship With Holy Comm.</p> <p>10:30am Coffee</p> <p>11am Voters Meeting</p>	<p>20 - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>21 - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>22 - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break</p> <p>7pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Fest</p>	<p>23 - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break</p> <p><b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b></p>	<p>24 - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:30am Coffee</p> <p>11:15am Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>4pm JV Basketball AWAY Game @ Burr Ridge</p>	<p>29</p> <p>LCC Comfort Dog Visit</p> <p>1:50 p.m. Chapel</p> <p>7:30pm Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart;</b></p> <p><b>I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.</b></p> <p><b>I will be glad and rejoice in you;</b></p> <p><b>I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.</b></p> <p><b>Psalm 9:1-2</b></p>		

2317 - 2329 South Wolf Road  
Hillside, IL 60162

Church phone - 708-562-5590

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**

Rev. Steve Deombeleg, Pastor  
[ilcpastor@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:ilcpastor@immanuel-hillside.org)  
708-562-5590 ext. 101 Cell: 847-714-6080

Donn Hempel, B.A., Director of Music  
[dhempel@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:dhempel@immanuel-hillside.org)  
Office: 708-562-5580 ext. 205  
Home: 708-442-1505

Deatrice Honey, Administration Assistant  
[general@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:general@immanuel-hillside.org)  
708-562-5580 ext. 200

Valerie Winston, Principal  
[vwinston@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:vwinston@immanuel-hillside.org)  
708-562-5580 ext. 201  
[www.icahillside.org](http://www.icahillside.org)



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.*

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,  
as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10*