



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.*

Immanuel Informer

June 2023

Volume 18, Issue 12

## **Sharing the Fruit of God's Love**

Grace and peace to you in Jesus' name,

The Apostle Paul wrote, *"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully"* (2 Corinthians 9:6). We will reap what we sow. If we sow kindness, we will reap kindness. If we sow discord and selfishness, that is what we will reap.

There is a parable told in India about the selfish man who inherited a rice field. The first year the man irrigated the field and it was fruitful. The water, in fact, flowed onto his neighbor's field and this too produced a bountiful harvest.

But the next year the selfish man reasoned: Why should I let this water flow through my field into his? Water is precious and I must keep it. So, he built a dam. This prevented the water from flowing into his neighbor's field but it proved disastrous to his own crop as well. Irrigation water nourished the field only if it flowed. When it did not move because of the dam, the water became stagnant and the field a swamp.

We own no rice fields. Still the parable is clear. Think of what we have inherited from God; think of all He has given us. If we are selfish, refusing to share, and keep it all for ourselves, our lives become stagnant, dismal swamps of mere existence. But if we give back to God by giving to others, both the giver and the receiver share in the fruits of God's love.

This is what Jesus did in his earthly ministry. Our Savior always put others first and by doing so, he revealed the love of the Father to fallen humanity. Think about your everyday interactions and the places you frequent, not just in church. Assess your surroundings and look for someone that you can share the love of God with.

As we close out the 2022-23 school year, I would like to thank the faculty and staff of ICA for giving back to God for sharing the fruits of his love with students and parents and extended family. They have done so much throughout this past school year for the Lord. Be sure to thank our school staff and ministry for their commitment, patience, endurance, and selflessness for this past year of education at ICA.

Please enjoy your upcoming summer months and be safe.

In the fellowship and love of Christ,

Pastor Deombeleg



# Put Your Hands Together

*A ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hillside*

**Private & Online Donations: \$ 100**

**Expansion Project Fund: \$3,020 Thanks to LCC, B. Lelingis, W. Armandi, C. Hein**

**Pending Grant Applications: (6)**

**New Grants Written this Month: 2**

**Grant Awards: 0**

## **PYHT Food Distributions & Activity:**

**In-Kind Food Donations/Food Rescue Received: 30,254 Lbs.**

**PYHT Pop Up-Pantry Families Served: 102/374 Individuals**

**PYHT-Friday Food Pantry: 159/556 Individuals**

**PYHT Food Relief Agencies & Ministries Served:** Westchester Food Pantry, St. Paul-Oak Lawn, Elmhurst Food Pantry, Leyden Township FP, Village of Hillside, Lombard FP, Tabor Lutheran Church-Chgo, Downers Grove Soup Kitchen, Elmwood Park Community Church FP, Lyons Church.

**Volunteer Stipends Paid Out: \$200,**

**NEWS: Volunteers of the Month:** Welcome and many thanks to Corinne Hein as our newest volunteer! Her help with weekday distribution and set-up is very much appreciated. Special thanks again to Joanna Czubernat, the work she does behind the scenes like flyer inserts, advertising, fundraising announcements, signage, and manning phone calls and so much more is valuable to our impact. **Thanks to you all!**

**Grants:** Several new grants have been written to support our expansion project, fund general operations, pay for food purchases and transportation, purchase a delivery van, and for refugee food support.

**Grant Writing Help:** Thanks to Ron Siou, we were able to complete an extensive grant application to Chick-Fil-A Foundation, 42 uploaded documents, which included a 5-minute video of PYHT operations. Grant awards will be notified in December. The video can be viewed on YouTube by clicking the link here: <https://youtu.be/EIVx854826g>

**Expansion Project Update:** Still waiting for permits from the Village of Hillside to start the concrete work. There is a delay due to zoning requirements. I have a meeting with the zoning official on Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. It's highly likely that we will not be able to open the pantry up to the public and must limit its use to storage and operations only.

I am disappointed that Mayor Tamburino has not responded to any of our letters requesting support for our expansion project. Fundraising will continue until we meet our goal.

**Hillside Public Library Support:** Food & Fund Drive collections will continue throughout the Summer, beginning on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**\$14,848.84 has been spent on the deposits for the concrete and building, so far.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR CONTINUED GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR OUR MINISTRY EXPANSION PROJECT.**



## Community Garden Update

Spring has been busy! Those joyful growers, the weeds found our garden to be a favorable environment and made themselves at home. However, we needed our garden back! After much effort from all gardeners, the wild guests were tamed and the entire garden has been seeded with a civilized plants. Early this year, we start growing veggies indoors with great success. We started with lettuce and are now having the same success with peppers!

Some of you may know that we began the garden with bee hives on the large hill. There was a time when we had two bee keepers and three hives. One bee keeper

left due to life circumstances and the other keeper kept only one hive. This May, our garden manager Theresa Thompson has set up a brand new hive. She has been working with Bee Keeper Bill for some time now and



*Groovy Garden Guy, Al.*

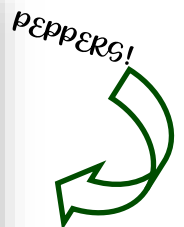
decided to try out her acquired talents. We welcome all pollinators and look forward to HONEY!!

Our orchard has come to life and all of our fruit trees have started to grow fruit. This year (if we can keep the squirrels at bay), we will have peaches, apples and plums!!



*Theresa and the Bees*

Thanks in large part to donations received through the Seed Money Campaign and the Home Depot Foundation, our garden looks professional (as one gardener put it.) As we increase our food production, we will need continued financial support. Utility bills, fertilizers and amendments all make the garden possible, but they don't come free. We currently have garden t-shirts available in any color, as long as it's green . . . (ha!) . . . (We will get more colors . . . promise.) And we will offer some of our produce for sale as the harvest come in. While our primary focus will always be Immanuel's Food Pantry, some of our produce will need to be sold to help with the costs of operations. Watch for updates online and in the Sunday insert. As always, thank you for your continued prayers and support!



# Blessings on your Stewardship Journey

## WE ARE STEWARDS!

Many individuals, groups, and organizations have defined stewardship in different meaningful ways over decades and generations. The following definition, out of possibly thousands, is focused on for this article because it captures the primary purpose of stewardship which is to use all that God entrusts to us for His purposes to care for both man and creation:

“A steward is more than a servant, slave, or trustee. A steward is one who, having received a trust from God, is in partnership with God through Christ for the working out of God’s purposes for man and the world” (Joseph F. Jones).

To deepen our understanding of stewardship, we will expand on the meaning of a few key words in the above definition. God’s Word tells us that one of the first responsibilities He gave Adam and Eve was to be His **stewards** (Genesis 1:26; 2:15). As stewards, they were to protect and take care of God’s creation. Adam and Eve heard directly from God as to how they were to care for all that He had created out of nothing. As stewards today, we receive our direction from God’s Word found in Scripture.

In this definition, the word **trust** is used to reference all the gifts and blessings that come from God’s loving hands. The first stanza from the hymn “We Give Thee But Thine Own” helps us understand what is meant by trust. “We give thee but thine own, Whate’er the gift may be; For all we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.”

In Philippians 1:3-5, we find one of the three times that Scripture uses the word **partnership**. “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” God not only wants us to receive and believe His gospel, but He expects us to share the life-saving gospel with others.

In our stewardship definition, we are called to be about **God’s purposes**. God’s Word is very clear about His purpose. In Luke 19:10 we read, “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” The Apostle Paul wrote, “This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:3-4). God invites us to use our God-given time, talents, and money in ways that help others come to know and believe in Jesus.

God honors us with the privilege and responsibility to be His stewards. Through our faithful stewardship, God receives the honor and glory that He deserves.

## WE ARE GOD’S MASTERPIECES EQUIPED TO DO GOOD WORKS.

“For we are His workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand,  
that we should walk in them”

Ephesians 2:10



## Stewardship Corner

In his letter to the church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote, “*But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also*” (2 Corinthians 8:7). Paul is seeking the generosity of the people in Corinth for the distressed Christians in Jerusalem. He wants them, as he wants us, to excel in the grace of giving. With God’s help through the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit, we know that “*God is able to make all grace abound to [us], so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, [we] may abound in every good work*” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

# IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



## Congratulations to the Class of 2023



### Pre-K

Khari Allen  
Eva Caldwell  
Carys Davis  
Aerin Everhart  
Reggie Smith

### Kindergarten

Kaidence Coe  
Jahniya Brantley  
Landen Henderson  
Garren Johnson  
Noah Johnson  
Cameron Kelley  
Skyla Smith  
Tia Swims

### 8th Grade

Trinity Cade  
Jaden Fructuoso  
Savion Harris  
Jaden Nash  
Krystal Shannon

### College

Grace Hadler

# Summer Office Hours

## 9:00am - Noon

### Shop with Scrip

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 Center* at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate for Immanuel. It's that simple! Order Forms are in the church narthex or you can **enroll online:** [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) 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.

**June**

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 1 Corinthians 12:1-11    | 16 2 Corinthians 8:1-15   |
| 2 1 Corinthians 12:12-31   | 17 2 Corinthians 8:16-24  |
| 3 1 Corinthians 13:1-13    | 18 2 Corinthians 9:1-15   |
| 4 1 Corinthians 14:1-25    | 19 2 Corinthians 10:1-18  |
| 5 1 Corinthians 14:26-40   | 20 2 Corinthians 11:1-15  |
| 6 2 Corinthians 1:1-11     | 21 2 Corinthians 11:16-33 |
| 7 2 Corinthians 1:12-24    | 22 2 Corinthians 12:1-10  |
| 8 2 Corinthians 2:1-17     | 23 2 Corinthians 12:11-21 |
| 9 2 Corinthians 3:1-18     | 24 2 Corinthians 13:1-13  |
| 10 2 Corinthians 4:1-15    | 25 Romans 8:1-17          |
| 11 2 Corinthians 4:16—5:10 | 26 Romans 8:18-39         |
| 12 2 Corinthians 5:11-21   | 27 Romans 12:1-21         |
| 13 2 Corinthians 6:1-13    | 28 Romans 13:1-14         |
| 14 2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1  | 29 Romans 14:1-12         |
| 15 2 Corinthians 7:2-16    | 30 Romans 14:13-23        |

**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.

1. Joe & Lisa Chioda
2. Detrall Dearbone
3. The Deombeleg Family
4. Laprika Duff & Jayla Pernell
5. Arlene Gasperich
6. Lisa Gasperich
7. Stella Gonzalez
8. The Hadler Family
9. Steve Hadler
10. Steve & Lucretia Hardy
11. Evelyn Haynes
12. Corinne Hein
13. The Hempel Family
14. The Honey Family
15. Violet Horn
16. Sandra Houle
17. The Iacovetti Family
18. Dorothy Ivers
19. The Karpierz Family
20. Clyde & Omie Lane
21. Becky Lelingis
22. The Lepe Family
23. The Mannella Family
24. Len & Susan Mazanek
25. Scott Mazanek
26. Ed & Karen Mulvihill
27. Heidi Murphy
28. Kathy Nelson
29. Lynda Nickl
30. Mike & Carol Northcutt

**For the Record - Baptisms**  
Jayceon & Jahniya Brantley



**June Birthdays**

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 - Trina Bozzi       | 13 - Manny Lepe          |
| 1 - Jelisa Washington | 18 - Patricia Washington |
| 9 - Taylor Balslew    | 29 - Philbert Wilcox Sr  |
| 10 - Scott Mazanek    | 30 - Arianna Pena        |
| 12- Chloe Karpierz    | 30 - Leonard Bartels     |

# June 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 1/2 Day of School 7pm 8th Graduation	2 Last Day of School 1/2 Day	3
4 Scrip Order Due 9:30am - Worship HC 10:30am - Fellowship 11:15am - Bible Study	5 9am End of the Year Faculty Meeting	6 5:30pm Day School Commission Meeting	7	8 7am Thursday Morning Prayer Meeting 6pm Elders Meeting	9	10 9am Garden Work Day 11:00 PYHT Food Pantry
11 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 11:15am - Bible Study	12	13	14 6pm Stewardship Meeting	15	16	17 Informer Submissions Due
18 - Father's Day 9:30am - Worship HC 10:30am - Fellowship 11:15am - Bible Study	19	20	21	22	23	24 9am Garden Work Day
25 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 11:00am Voters Meeting	26	27	28	29 7am Thursday Morning Prayer Meeting	30	

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**

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Rev. Steve Deombeleg, Pastor

[ilcpastor@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:ilcpastor@immanuel-hillside.org)

708-562-5590 ext. 101 Cell: 847-714-6080

Deatrice Honey, Administration Assistant

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

708-562-5580 ext. 200

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

Valerie Winston, Principal

[vwinston@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:vwinston@immanuel-hillside.org)

708-562-5580 ext. 201

[www.icahillside.org](http://www.icahillside.org)



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*Celebrating 170 Years of Christian Education*