

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.

Immanuel Informer

July 2023

Volume 19, Issue 1

"Crown Him Lord of All"

One of the greatest hymns of the Church is "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," and each stanza of that hymn ends with the refrain: "Crown Him Lord of All." What a joy it is to sing, "All hail the power of Jesus' name..." Jesus, Who has secured our forgiveness and salvation, deserves to be crowned Lord of all. Someone has correctly pointed out that, unless we crown Christ "Lord of all," we cannot crown Him Lord at all.

However, because of our sinful nature, we refuse to crown Jesus Lord of all. Instead, we believe that we are the ones who deserve to wear the crown. Most of us have heard the phrase "We have met the enemy, and he is us." We live in opposition against God, and we have this inborn desire to do things our way and for ourselves. We are the king and master of our lives. G.K. Chesterton wrote, "Of all horrible religions the most horrible is the worship of God within." The Holy Spirit's on-going work is to rescue us from ourselves. Through the help of the Holy Spirit, we see how foolish and wrong it is to make ourselves the god of our lives, and we are led to repentance.

In speaking to His disciples and now to us, Jesus said, "If anyone would come after Me let him deny himself and take up his cross" (Matthew 16:24). Denying ourselves is an essential part of crowning Jesus Lord of all. The Pocket Bible Dictionary defines self-denial as, "Voluntary limitation of one's desires, a requirement of Jesus of His followers. Paul also urged Christians to make an offering of themselves to God (Romans 12:1)." As followers of Jesus, we are called to reject our natural inclination to follow our will rather than God's. With God's help, we can overcome the persistent demands from our carnal selves and bring them into submission to God's Word. In the words of Paul, "And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:24). Only by God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit can we learn to deny self.

When the Holy Spirit helps us to crown Jesus Lord of our lives, we will use our time, talents, and money in ways that honor Him. We are enabled to understand that our lives, gifts, and blessings are from God, and we express our gratitude to Him for making us part of His kingdom by using what we've been given in service to others.

We close with the final stanza of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."
Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

In the Fellowship and Love of Christ,

Pastor Deombeleg

Page 2 Immanuel Informer Volume 19, Issue 1



June Pantry Update

Private & Online Donations: \$76 Expansion Project Fund: \$0 Pending Grant Applications: 8 New Grants Written this Month: 2

Grant Awards: \$500 In Kind Donation 4Impact

Promotional Products

PYHT Food Distributions & Activity In-Kind Food Donations/Food Rescue Received: 15,000 lbs.

PYHT Pop Up-Pantry Families Served:

92/322 Families/ Individuals

PYHT-Friday Food Pantry:

95/335 Families/Individuals

PYHT Food Relief Agencies & Ministries Served:

Westchester Food Pantry, St. Paul - Oak Lawn, Elmhurst Food Pantry, Lombard FP, Downers Grove Soup Kitchen, Elmwood Park Comm. Church FP, Lyons Church, St. Matthews Soup Kitchen, Quinn Center.

Volunteer Stipends Paid Out:

\$300, \$50 grocery gift card

NEWS

Hillside Public Library Support: Food & Fund Drive collections will continue throughout the Summer, Food Drive Began on June 12th.

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, the work she does behind the scenes with flyer inserts, advertising, fundraising announcements, signage, and manning phone calls and so much more is valuable to our impact. Thanks to you all!

Expansion Project Update: \$14,848.84 has been spent on the deposits for the concrete and building, so far.

We are still waiting on the Village of Hillside to proceed with permits, there are zoning issues that are delaying the project and increased expenses. More time to fundraise is needed.



Garden Update

When our community garden received the recent grant from the Home Depot Foundation, Tom thought it would be the

perfect opportunity to build up some raised beds market farm style. Kellogg has always been one of his favorite bagged brands so we got their Raised Bed mix. The front of the bag said all of the right things. However, in his excitement, Tom broke one of his own rules; ALWAYS READ THE FINE PRINT. When he did, it said that there's no plant food in the mix. Oy.



The corn was sprouting very sporadically and it just didn't look right. We switched from overhead irrigation to drip and started a liquid fertilizer and mineral amendment program, but it just wasn't doing the trick. In retrospect, had we read the fine print, we could have added some granulated chicken manure in a furrow, prior to planting, but now the corn had sprouted and we couldn't figure out how to effectively do that without damaging the little plants. Then, a little idea popped into Tom's enormous head. Use the bird feeder filler thingy. A little modification and voila! Chicken poop in furrow.

At the very end of June, we harvested cucumbers and green peppers from our indoor hydroponic garden and they were pretty tasty.

All things considered, everything is growing really well. We've been able to harvest some early produce, such as radishes and collards and even the corn may grow knee high by the 4th of July . . . at least some of it.

Blessings on your Stewardship Journey

The Cost of Freedom

On July 4, 1776, the thirteen colonies in America declared their freedom from Great Britain in the Declaration of Independence. July is a month when Americans are especially grateful for the privilege of living in this country. Much blood was shed and many lives lost, and, at this time of year, we take time to honor those who fought to liberate us. We recognize that our freedom has been won at great cost, and we take time to honor those who fought to liberate us.

Our spiritual freedom, too, was won at great cost. We were slaves to the Law which we could never fulfill, but Christ satisfied its requirements for us. He shed His blood and gave His life to pay the penalty for the sin we incurred, for the freedom we now have as we live in Him.

Yes, we are truly blessed to live in this country, and we should thank God daily for this blessing and ask Him to guide, direct, and protect our leaders as well as give wisdom to citizens to choose their leaders wisely.

On the other hand, even those who do not experience political freedom can experience the freedom we have in Christ, for the freedom He brings is not dependent on or bound by our circumstances. And the battle for this freedom never has to be refought, unlike our earthly battles. Jesus promised, "Heaven and Earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

Let us honor Him as we express our gratitude by sharing with others the message of our freedom in Christ.

Matthew 20:28 reads, "Even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."" The very nature of Jesus, as revealed in Scripture, is the example that should be our encouragement to serve others. Acknowledging Christ for Who He is and what He has done to redeem us as sinners, we begin to understand His nature and purpose for us. As forgiven people, we have the redemptive purpose of living a life of faithful service to others in Jesus' name. Christ's love for us and our love for Him make our lives of servanthood possible. Through a loving relationship with Him, we are willing to live lives in faithful service.



AS WE OPEN OUR HEARTS AND HANDS TO OTHERS, GOD SUPPLIES US WITH MORE TO GIVE.

"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11).

Giving is an outward expression of an inward grace.

Page 4 Immanuel Informer Volume 19 Issue 1

Freedom Together

Christian freedom is freedom together. It is not the kind of liberty that moves us away from each other, to protect our rights, and guard our little packages of liberty. But it is a freedom together, a freedom with, a freedom that is greater and more enjoyable with others. In Christ, we are free to serve others, bless others, love each other; we are freed from self-justification, self-focus, selfishness. We are free to make the happy choice to not exercise some personal right, at times, for the sake of love, as Paul talks about in 1 Corinthians 9–10: "though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all."

And the freedom of joy together through love is a greater freedom than self-focus. The sweetest, most enjoyable freedom is not alone but together — and often is enjoyed by denying ourselves some personal "rights," or lesser freedoms, for the sake of others and enjoying the greater joys and greater freedom of love. Freedom with is far greater joy than freedom solo.

We have been set free from our sin and death and hell, and free from the burden of earning God's acceptance. And we have been set free for life in the Spirit and the joy of holiness and love. And we have been set free together. There is unity in our liberty in Christ.

Taken from: Mathis, D. (2022, May 15). What is Freedom in Christ. Desiring God. www.desiringgod.org/messages/what-is-freedom-in-christ



Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

July Office Hours
9:00am - Noon
Closed July 4th & 5th

Volunteers needed to set up Immanuel display at Hillside Summer Nights.

Help us represent the church, school, pantry and community garden in the community. We would like to have a presence at all six events Volunteers will distribute handouts, collect food donations, answer questions, and collect free - will offerings during the Village Music Concert series. Tables of other vendors and crafters will be participating. Two volunteers per night will be needed to set up and take down the display which will include an 8 foot table and pop up tent. If you can help, please reach out to Jayne jsiou@immanuel-hillside.org or Joanna jczubernat@immanuel-hillside.org

> Hillside Commons 4950 Washington Street

Tuesday Nights - Starting July 18th, 2023 through August 22, 2023.





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. Purchase gift cards from your organization at face value, 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 Enrollment Code: 9D337C6F55761



Immanuel Informer Volume 19, Issue 1 Page 6

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.

July

□ 1 Psalm 32 ☐ 16 Hosea 2:2-23 ☐ 2 Matthew 18:15-35 □ 17 Hosea 3:1—4:3 ☐ 3 Luke 18:1-14 □ 18 Hosea 4:4-19 ☐ 4 Exodus 1:1-22 □ 19 Hosea 6:1—7:2 ☐ 5 Exodus 2:1-25 □ 20 Hosea 8:1-14 ☐ 6 Exodus 3:1-22 ☐ 21 Hosea 9:1-14 ☐ 7 Exodus 4:1-17 □ 22 Hosea 9:15—10:15 □ 8 Exodus 4:18-31 □ 23 Hosea 11:1-11 ☐ 9 Exodus 5:1-21 □ 24 Hosea 11:12—12:14 □ 10 Exodus 5:22—6:13 □ 25 Hosea 13:1-16 □ 11 Exodus 6:28—7:13 ☐ 26 Hosea 14:1-9 □ 12 Leviticus 16:1-19 ☐ 27 Jonah 1:1-17 ☐ 13 Leviticus 16:20-34 □ 28 Jonah 2:1-10 □ 14 2 Samuel 9:1-13 □ 29 Jonah 3:1-10 □ 15 Hosea 1:1—2:1 □ 30 Jonah 4:1-11

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 - Deaths June 20, 2023 Leonard Bartels



July Birthdays

02 - Philbert Wilcox Jr18 - Mike Hadler05 - Ric Perez18 - Robert Brown07 - Detrall Dearbone24 - Rob Blair08 - Gay Svec26 - Lisa Tipples10 - Steven Hadler29 - Tenley Bozzi13 - Kathy Nelson30 - Len Mazanek

16 - Hillary Hempel



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. Mindy Ondrovic
- 2. Phyllis Ondrovic
- 3. Pena Family
- 4. Perez Family
- 5. Lynn Rand
- 6. Susan Redis
- 7. Gloria Rubietta
- 8. Joan Rundgren
- 9. Karen Sierawski
- 10. Ron & Jayne Siou
- 11. Daniel Stallings
- 12. Rita Stallings
- 13. Svec Family
- 14. Thomas Family
- 15. Lisa Tipples
- 16. Lance Turner
- 17. Wayne & Debbie Valentino
- 18. Thy & Sarah Vu
- 19. Patricia Washington
- 20. Marilyn Weeks
- 21. Randy & Michelle Weeks
- 22. Welch Family
- 23. Dorothy Westphal
- 24. Philbert Wilcox Sr.
- 25. Philbert Wilcox Jr.
- 26. Brett Willis
- 27. Valerie Winston
- 28. Vern Witt
- 29. Tina Alicea
- 30. Ron & Barb Arndt
- 31. Susan Arnold

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness.
For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Romans 8:26

JULY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 · Scrip Orders Due 9:30 Worship with Holy Comm. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	3	4 - Independence Day - Offices Closed	5 - Offices Closed	9	2	8 9am - Noon Garden Work Day 11am Food Pantry
9 9:30 am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 - 9:30 Worship with Holy Comm. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	17	18 Immanuel at Hillside Summer Nights	19	20	2.1	22 9am - Noon Garden Work Day
23 9:30 am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	24	25 Immanuel at Hillside Summer Nights	26 - Pastor on Vacation	27 Pastor on Vacation	28 Pastor on Vacation	29 Pastor on Vacation
30 -Pastor on Vacation 9:30 Worship with Holy Comm. 10:30am Fellowship 11:15am Bible Study	31 Pastor on Vacation	Pastor on Vacation Returning August 10th				

2317 - 2329 South Wolf Road Hillside, IL 60162

Church phone - 708-562-5590 School phone - 708-562-5580 E-Mail: general@immanuel-hillside.org www.immanuel-hillside.org

RETURN REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

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