

Rev. Kevin A. Karner
Pastor

Dr. Anne Stuhlman
School Principal

Messenger

September 2017

Vol. 17 No. 8

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT



OUR MISSION

The people of Immanuel Lutheran Church are living proof of the grace of God through salvation in Jesus Christ. Empowered by Christ, our mission is to reach out in love to those who have not yet responded to the Gospel that all may be united in Christ.

School Mission

The Mission of Immanuel Lutheran School is to provide a loving atmosphere of academic excellence for children while developing in them and their families a lasting relationship with Jesus Christ.

Immanuel Lutheran
Church and School
154 Meadow Street
Bristol, CT 06010
860-583-5649
cl.church@ilcs.org
www.ilcs.org

Freedom Sunday — July 2, 2017



Freedom Sunday was a beautiful day for worship and fellowship! Thank you to all who posed for the congregation portrait in front of the church, and to Bill Wentland for taking the photo.

125th Anniversary Service and Luncheon

~ Sunday, August 27, 2017 ~



Immanuel: "God With Us"
The Journey Continues
1892 – 2017

On sale now for \$10.

To purchase a copy of our 125th Anniversary book, contact the church office at 860-583-5649.

A special thanks to all who contributed articles and photos.



Top left, Pastor Karner during the announcements before the service.

Above, Pastor Karner with our guest speaker, The Rev. Timothy Yeadon, President, New England District (LCMS).

Bottom left, Pastor Karner addressing the luncheon.

Photos by Bill Wentland.

Watch for more photos in the October *Messenger*.



Messenger is published monthly by Immanuel Lutheran Church and School for its members and friends.

Immanuel is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Ed & Dee Krampitz
Newsletter Editors

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month.

**SUNDAY
DIVINE SERVICES**

8:00 a.m.

Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday of the month.

10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion on the 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday of the month.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

9:30 a.m.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m. (begins Sept. 10)



**WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSIBLE**

Worship Services are broadcast each Sunday at 1:00 p.m. on

WNTY Radio

990 AM

96.1 FM

and online at

KoolOldiesRadio.net

From the Pastor's Desk

“The Gospel Offense”

And blessed is the one who is not offended by me. – Luke 7:23

What does it take for someone or something to offend you? Can you remember the last time you were genuinely offended? What caused it? How did it make you feel? Angry? Shocked? Vengeful? What was your response? Was it something like, “How dare you!”? “How dare you question my integrity!” “How dare you insult my intelligence!” “How dare you accuse me of wrongdoing!”

Our Lord Jesus was no stranger to “How dare you!” His earthly ministry lasted only three years, but it was enough time to offend all sorts of people in all sorts of ways. Some, like the Pharisees, were offended by Jesus because he threatened their authority and positions of power. Others, even some of his disciples, were offended because he disappointed them with the way he demonstrated his messianic calling. The Gospels record how, time and again, people were scandalized or offended by something Jesus said or did, or even by something he didn't do.

In Luke, chapter seven, Jesus responds by saying, “Blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

Those words ring loud and clear even in our day, don't they? We live in a time and place where many are scandalized by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The offense of the Gospel is understandable, if not regrettable, among unbelievers. But the truth is, even those who profess themselves to be Christians can, at times, seem uncomfortable – even embarrassed – by the exclusive claims of Christianity.

We're all guilty. We've all acted as though Jesus was offensive to us. You can remember times when you failed to speak a corrective word to an erring brother. Or those

times we were too squeamish to defend our Christian beliefs when confronted by a neighbor, a co-worker, or a family member.

Why do we so often fail to let our Christian light shine before men? Are we afraid? Are we worried about what other people will think of us? Or is it that deep down inside we wonder whether or not we have any faith, let alone a faith that we can speak about and share with others?

In spite of our failures God speaks a word of benediction to us. “Blessed are you. Blessed are you – not because of anything you have (or haven't) done, but because of what I've done for you.

“I created you to be my own, and I've given you everything you need to support you in life. I redeemed you when you were a lost and condemned creature. I purchased and won you from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil with my precious blood and my innocent suffering and death. I called you by the Gospel. I enlightened you with my gifts. And I have sanctified and kept you in the one true faith. All this I have done for you out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any required merit or worthiness on your part, so that on the Last Day I can raise you from the dead and give you eternal life.”

Blessed are those who are reminded of all their blessings. Rejoice! Blessed are you who have been washed clean in the waters of Holy Baptism. Rejoice! Blessed are you who hear the words of Absolution spoken to your troubled hearts. Rejoice! Blessed are you who receive the body and blood of our Lord for complete forgiveness.

Rejoice! Blessed are you who trust in God to be faithful – because he has been, is, and always will be! Rejoice! Amen.

Pastor Karner
1 Thess. 5:23-24

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. — 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Women of Immanuel ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The next meeting of the Women of Immanuel will be **Thursday, September 7, at 7:00 pm in the Old School Basement.** Note change of date to the first Thursday of the month. Join us to hear about the plans for celebrating the Ladies Aid 90th anniversary. We will also discuss our participation in the German Fest on September 16. All women are welcome.



We have a new LWML logo! The New England District version is above. Watch for the new logo on all LWML materials.

The *heart* represents the love and giving nature of God through His children. The *drop* symbolizes the blood of Christ or a tear of compassion. The *cross above all else* clearly shows the purpose behind all that we do in the LWML. The prayer is that this design will get people to take a new look — or even a first look — at LWML, Lutheran Women in Mission and will give our faithful members a sense that their organization is looking towards the future and ready for 75 more years of mission outreach.

Here's a link to a video that beautifully explains the logo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJVuMkax94s>

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

The LWML-NED Retreat will be held November 3-4, 2017 in Enfield, CT.

The theme chosen is **The Rock Speaks.**

All drink the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock is Christ. 1Cor 10:4.

Come join your LWML–NED Sisters in Christ for a weekend of Bible study, fellowship, singing

and relaxation!

Registration forms can be found in the Women of Immanuel mail slot in the church office or online at LWML-NED under HOME- RETREAT

MISSION GRANT STORY

Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children

Mercy Meals of Siouxland

\$40,000

Jesus gives the same command today, to feed the hungry that He gave His disciples. Mercy Meals of Siouxland, a ministry of Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux City, Iowa, began packaging fortified rice/soy meals in 2012. Mercy Meals donates all packaged meals to Orphan Grain Train for transportation and delivery to Christian organizations in many countries, including India, Haiti, Romania, and Ecuador, as well as to Navajo reservations in the Southwest and Ysleta Mission in El Paso, Texas. Children and families receive food and hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. An LWML grant will feed from 50,000 to 75,000 hungry children.

WHEREAS, The Lord commanded the disciples to feed the hungry and make disciples of all nations; and

WHEREAS, As many as 14,000 children die each day of starvation in our world, most not knowing Our Lord; and

WHEREAS, Mercy Meals feed the body and the Gospel feeds the soul; and

WHEREAS, Donations are not fully funding the ministry of Mercy Meals of Siouxland at this time; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$40,000 to help fund Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children.





Young at Heart

It's time to start up our fall Lunch program for our members over the age of 50, but younger than 100! Remember, if you need a ride let the office know and someone will come and bring you to our events. We don't want you to miss the fun, plus one surprise lunch is Free during the year.

Our September Planned Potluck Lunch is on Thursday, September 7 at 11:30 am in the basement of the old school which is handicap accessible. We are asking everyone to try to bring POTLUCK foods to share according to the first letter of your last name. If your last name begins with an **A thru G** – bring a Dessert, those with **H thru N** – bring a COLD dish, and those with **O thru Z** – please bring a HOT dish. Check out the purple flyer in our glass cases by the rear door, for menu ideas. After lunch, we will be playing your childhood version of BINGO and Vernon Koch is our bingo caller. Yes, it's FREE to play and there will be lots of nice prizes, so invite someone to join you on September 7.

Since we don't have monthly summer lunches, we planned three daytrips for you this summer – hope you were able to join us for the adventures. In July eighteen of us headed to the Litchfield hills for lunch at Hopkins Inn, ice cream at Arethusa Farms and gorgeous Begonias at White Flower Farm. In August fourteen of us headed down to Essex for lunch at the historic Griswold Inn, lovely water viewing and the Lavender Pond Farm in Killingworth. On August 24, twenty of us had a special lunch at the Gelston House in East Haddam, then saw the musical, “Oklahoma!” at the Goodspeed Theatre. Great adventures were enjoyed!

Now that it is September and we have already celebrated our church's 125th Anniversary, there are still lots of activities for you. Also on September 7 in the Old School Basement is our Women of Immanuel meeting at 7 pm; join us as we plan our 90th Anniversary and German Festival booth. Our third German Festival is right out in our lot on Saturday, September 16 from noon until 9 pm. Find your German clothes and enjoy the day. We need your help even for just a couple hours so that others can get a break from working during that day; some jobs are seated ones so sign up at church and help out. The Bristol Mum Parade goes right by our church on Sunday, Sept. 24 at 1:30 pm; plan to cheer on our ILS float! Bring your items for our Tag Sale in the gym on Saturday the 30th (drop them off on the stage) and then come and buy treasures that others donated on the last day of September. Join the Adult Fellowship group that plays cards every Monday in the Parish Center at 1 pm., and visit a sick or homebound member who would warmly welcome a visit.

Be sure to save, October 5, Thursday for our Young-At-Heart OKTOBERFEST lunch of German foods at 11:30 in the Old School Basement. The Old Tyme Fiddlers will again be entertaining us, so for only \$5 join us for this special day of good food with all your German friends.

Come and enjoy all of our Young-At-Heart activities that we plan for you. These are shown in the weekly Sunday bulletin and in the glass-enclosed bulletin boards by the rear parking lot entrance. Try to bring someone new with you on September 7.

From your Parish Nurse

SEPT. 12 WALK AND TALK begins — Every Tuesday at 9:30 am. Open to adult males and females of all ages. Please join us. It's a Christian fellowship you will enjoy.

SEPT. 12 & 26 (2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month)
Women's Bible Study at 4:00 pm (NEW TIME). Sandwiches and coffee provided. Come and join us as we continue our dis-

cussion of the Miracles of Jesus.

SEPT. 19 Tuesday Ladies Luncheon at BARC, 12:30 pm.

VISITATIONS to our shut-ins. If you need a name to visit let me know. There are many out there that would appreciate a visit — or perhaps simply a phone call to chat with you!

God's Blessings to all of you,

Roberta Kuhr,
Parish Nurse

~ **Church News** ~

New Adult Instruction Class

Do you desire to become a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, or do you know someone who does? Are you a life-long Lutheran ready to dust off your Catechism and renew your understanding of the chief articles of the Christian faith? In any case, we've got the opportunity for you!

On Sunday, September 10th, Pastor Karner will begin teaching a 12-week class at 6:45 pm in the school library.



The content will take you to the heart of the Bible's message. In His undeserved love, God is "for us" in Jesus Christ, offering us forgiveness, joy, hope, assurance, direction, and new life through Him.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in attending, please call the church office at 860-583-5649.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO THE
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN PHOTO CLUB!**

They donated an Audio Visual Center to our church and school. The center consists of a 65" DIGITAL TV mounted on a rolling stand and a Blu-ray Disc player.



CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN



Wilhelmina W. Reaves

August 11, 1918 — July 25, 2017



Gerhardt Wall

February 11, 1929 — August 6, 2017



Elsie Krampitz

October 5, 1916 — August 23, 2017



Irma Schaffrick

February 15, 1932 — August 29, 2017



GIVE BLOOD



SAVE LIFE

Thank you, Immanuel Lutheran Church and School. On June 3, 2017 we had a blood drive for Troop 21 Eagle Scout candidate John Duncan. John's goal of 30 pints. This was surpassed by 9 pints. Mr. Lauretti was the last donor. 39 pints is turned into 117 units. I want to thank all the donors who came out to support us and achieve the goal.

Thank you for your continued support of Troop 21.

YOUTH TAG SALE

**Saturday,
September 30**



Contact Linda Beaudoin with questions or for pickups at 860-589-6431.

~ Church News ~



Immanuel Lutheran Church announces its 2017 Scholarship Awards

This year's scholarships are awarded to: Alexandra Rindfleisch, Lindsey Schaffrick, and Stephen Helming



The Immanuel Lutheran Foundation announces its 2017 Scholarship Awards

Westfall I Scholarship is awarded annually to a member of Immanuel pursuing a career in serving the LCMS in a ministerial roll.

The 2017 Scholarship is awarded to Alexandra Rindfleisch

Westfall II Scholarships are awarded to members of Immanuel or graduates of the school enrolled in an accredited college or university. Preference is given to applicants pursuing a career in LCMS ministry, medicine, law, or engineering.

This year's Scholarships are awarded to: Sarah Bugryn, Stephen Helming, William Jabs and Amelia Schuler

These scholarships, as is the Westfall 1 Scholarship, are given in memory of Amelia Westfall, her sisters Elenora, Helena, Martha and Wanda, and her brother Emil Westfall.

Dear congregation of Immanuel Lutheran, I would like to thank the Westfall Foundation for awarding me a scholarship to help pursue a degree in Biology at the University of Maine in Orono and eventually pursue a career in medicine.

Sincerely, William Jabs

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the 2017 Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarship Award! It will be very helpful as I continue my education at Central Connecticut State University and pursue a Masters Degree in Actuarial Sciences.

Thank you again! Lindsey Schaffrick

To the wonderful people of Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for awarding me a scholarship which will greatly aid me this academic year. This year is incredibly exciting for me as I am student teaching at Rockford Lutheran School in Rockford, Illinois. I've spent the past week in teacher meetings, but I look forward to meeting my new students next week. I am continuously blessed with opportunities, and none of this would be possible without the generosity and support my family and I have received throughout our time with you.

I look forward to seeing you all over Thanksgiving break.

God's Blessings, Alex Rindfleisch

WOMEN OF IMMANUEL SAVE THE DATE

Immanuel's Ladies Aid Society will commemorate its 90th anniversary with a luncheon at Oasis Restaurant on October 8, 2017. Join your Sisters in Christ to celebrate 90 years of service to the congregation and community. Invitations with more details will be distributed as we get closer to the date. All women are welcome.

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

Immanuel Lutheran School began the 2017-18 school year with 70 students enrolled. This is up from 52 last year at this time and is a 25% increase in back-to-school enrollment. We have several new families at the school and all have strong Christian backgrounds and strong moral character. Our focus on Christian values is appealing to these families.

New staff members for the 2017-18 school year include Mrs. Sandy Butler in the first-second grade classroom. Sandy was a called teacher at St. Matthew's Lutheran School in New Britain for 26 years. She is a wonderful addition to our staff. Her experience in a Lutheran education shines through. Miss Susan Szalkiewicz is teaching our fourth grade class. This is her first teaching position and her enthusiasm is contagious. Miss Carrie Blais is our new Physical Education teacher. She teaches on Mondays and Wednesdays and incorporates unique age-appropriate fitness activities into the lessons. Carrie, a Marine Corp Veteran, loves working with children. Immanuel Lutheran School is blessed to have these new additions.

Changes this year include Mr. Richard Carlson, our Middle School math teacher, taking on grades 5 and 6 as well. Students in grades 5-8 will be offered world language of their choice. Sports are back at Immanuel! Mr. Carlson is coaching the Immanuel Lutheran Golf Team, and other sports are in the works.

Volunteers are needed at the school and at school events. The Run for Reformation 5K is planned for October 29 at 1:00. Proceeds will go toward technology advancements for the school. These include devices, internet connectivity, and teacher training.

We are blessed at Immanuel. We have wonderful children, dedicated teachers, and active parents. It is truly a wonderful place to grow and learn.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Anne Stuhlman, Principal

Orphan Grain Train Makes A Shipment to Lithuania

The Orphan Grain Train's (OGT) New England Branch, located in Terryville, Connecticut recently shipped a full container of needed clothing, tools, farm tools, bikes, toys, hygiene and school kits, and an altar and church pews to Lithuania on June 16, 2017.

This was the 13th shipment since the Branch was dedicated as the 23rd in the country for OGT on June of 2014. Shipments have gone to a number of other countries such as Ghana, Liberia, Nicaragua, Ukraine, Moldova, Nepal, the Philippines and Latvia. The Branch also helps those locally, giving medical items that have been donated to individuals in need and thru the visiting nurse and hospice care organizations of the area. It has also helped with a shipment to the Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

After loading, the full containers are trailered to a port for sea transport to their destination. All items have been donated by individuals or organizations and all funds used to support these efforts are donated as well, as is the time of the volunteers. Mr. Bill Allread has made space available in his warehouse at 33 S. Main St. in Terryville to support these ministry outreach efforts.

For more information, please call Holy Trinity at 860-582-0723 and/or check out the national website at OGT.org.

Brenda L. Bacon
Business Manager / LCEF Assistant Vice President
New England District LCMS
400 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, MA 01109
413-783-0131 ext. 10 or bbacon@ned-lcms.org





German Festival



Volunteers are needed!

... at the German Festival. There are many jobs that need to be filled from serving food, selling food tickets, food prep and distribution, Bier Garten security and monitoring, bounce house monitoring, and more. If you are interested in helping you can sign up after the Church service, or call the office at 860-583-5649. We need as many people as we can get in order for this festival to be a success.

THIRD ANNUAL

GERMAN FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

12:00 NOON – 9:00 PM

The German Festival is back for its 3rd year after last year's success in getting the community to join us for a day of rejoicing in our German culture.

Come Enjoy

Live Music throughout the day Authentic German cuisine to include Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, Spätzle, Potato Pancakes, Roast Pork, and more.

Biergarten with German Beers, Homemade German desserts, Community Vendors & Kid's Activities

FREE ADMISSION

All Food & Drinks sold separately

We hope to see everyone there!



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped



make last year's potato pancake booth at the German Festival such a great success last year;

bringing in over \$2,000 for the church!

We will need lots of help again this year; both in the kitchen and outside flipping on the griddle. If you have the time and the inclination, take a moment to PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THIS YEAR'S POTATO PANCAKE BOOTH AT OUR GERMAN FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017.

We start our prep work in the kitchen at 6am until 12pm and then we'll be frying on the griddle from 12pm until 9pm. If you can spare even half an hour to relieve someone on the griddle, it would be a blessing to those who work so hard at this event. It takes a great team of people to make this fundraiser successful.

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful consideration!

Sincerely, Trina Theriault, Board of Evangelism

~ Pastor Bridges/William Aszklar Basketball Tournament ~

Thank You!

A special note of thanks: Judy, Robbie & I would like to thank everyone who helped, prayed, or donated items for the Pastor Bridges/William Aszklar Basketball Tournament. Although it was only one day we raised \$1,300, all of which goes directly to ILS students.

It was wonderful to see alumni & their families. We are happy to announce that Team Foley (Evan & Seth) won the tournament.

Again, a heartfelt thanks to all who continue to support the tournament & ILS students.

Mary Aszklar



Pastor Bridges & William Aszklar Tuition Assistance Basketball Tournament held on Sunday, August 6, 2017. Evan and Seth Foley's team, sponsored by Select Physical Therapy - Bristol won the Championship game.

Pictured, left to right, Mrs. Mary Aszklar, Evan Foley, Seth Foley, and Mrs. Judy Bridges.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Jonathan Harrington	2 Shari Kohl Elias Lopisi
3 Barbara Greenlaw Gabriella Hamelin Keegan Thormahlen Brian Winter	4 Judy Bridges Reinhart Hermann, Jr.	5 Marcia Massaro Trina Theriault Roxanne Tonn	6 Lindsey Klemyk Leo Madore	7	8 Heidi Dennis Dawn Ewen	9 Ethan Beaudoin Brittany Dunn Michelle Helming
10	11 Cody McIntyre	12 Pamela Prindle Josie Rindfleisch	13 Sarah Gurgigno	14 Shannon Gurgigno Jaime Mitchell George Tavernier	15 Christian Lindstrom	16
17 Joan Kirschner	18 Rebecca Fitzinger Ronald Helming Janet Romanko Kimberly Wolfe	19 Savana Tonn	20 Michael Winters	21 Elizabeth Mazzaccaro Karen Smith	22 Thomas Hislop Cole Raymond	23 Cordelia Behrendt Paul Tessman
24 Joshua Bodley	25 Robin Bodley George Gamache	26 Barry Simard	27 Anthony Buonafede Karen Machado Thea Sonnenberg Jordan Tonn	28 James Jacy Wilfred Kisser Christine Morel William Wentland, Jr.	29 Jared Krueger Fred Mitchell	30 Kristine Beaudet Ruth Burgess



NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 BRISTOL, CT 06010
 PERMIT NO. 382

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 154 MEADOW STREET
 BRISTOL, CT 06010
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

