

Rev. Kevin A. Karner
Pastor

Dr. Anne Stuhlman
School Principal

Messenger

May 2021

Vol. 21 No. 4

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**
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Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

HE IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED ALLELUIA!

As we continue to celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior we joy in the message of Easter and its promise to us all.

We have experienced events in the life of our Church and the world that has altered our life styles that no one would our could have imagined as we continue to experience this terrible pandemic!

But Christ is with us and guiding us through the dark valley and we can be sure of His never abandoning us. We are moving forward with increased attendance at Sunday Worship and it certainly is wonderful to see more folks coming back into God's house to hear His Word and receive the Sacraments.

I pray that each of you will prayerfully consider your stewardship by continuing to support the financial needs of our congregation both monetarily and by volunteering your time and talents to the work of spreading the Gospel. We now have so many new venues for our ministry: live streaming, radio and television have become an integral part of our commitment to spreading the Gospel.

Your continued financial support is vital to the continuation of the ministry here at Immanuel.

In HIS Service,
Howard T. Schmelder
Congregational President



Save the Date – German Fest 2021!

Official festival dates/times... Friday, September 17th - 6 PM - 9 PM
Saturday, September 18th - 12 NOON - 9 PM

We need your support! Absolutely plan to attend the festival. However, if you would like to also volunteer, join in the fun as we all work together to bring this year's festival to reality for our community. Volunteer for a couple hours or work all day in varying areas... it's your choice. You can signup anytime over the next couple of months on the clipboard that will be placed in the church office near the mailboxes. Or, you can email us at il.german.festival@gmail.com to let us know if you would like to help out and we can discuss the area you'd like to volunteer in.

- Grillers for bratwurst and potato pancakes
- Cooks in the main kitchen and in the potato pancake kitchen
- Order takers and servers
- Biergarten monitors
- Kinderland support
- Setup/Breakdown/Cleanup crews in the biergarten
- Signage support
- Ticket sales
- Vendor support & More!



Stay tuned for more updates from the German Festival Committee in the coming months. *Prost!*



Messenger is published monthly except in August 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.

— *(Live Streaming)* —
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.

— *(Live Streaming)* —



**WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSIBLE**

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

WNTY Radio

AM 990

&

FM 96.1

and online at

KoolOldiesRadio.net

From the Pastor's Desk

“Superheroes”

Yet You are He who took me from the womb; You made me trust You at my mother's breasts. On You was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb You have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

Psalms 22:9-11

Superheroes are supposed to wear a cape. But the superheroes I'm talking about are pretty well disguised. True, they may seem to be like everyone else. They're not.

The superhero we call “mom,” using only two eyes, manages to see all the things that escape the rest of us. Sitting at the kitchen table, helping her second-grader with his homework, she can see in the living room her three-year-old, trying to stuff a peanut butter and jelly sandwich into the mouth of the family pet.

Like the rest of us, these mothers have two lips, but those lips, when pressed to the forehead of an ill child, can accurately record a temperature to within a tenth of a degree. They can heal any wound that doesn't call for stitches. They can, with a smile, brighten up the darkest day, and bring down heaven's wrath upon any child who is bent on misbehaving. The mother we're talking about has only two ears, but she can hear the silence that says something isn't right in her baby's bedroom. They can pick up the first whimper of a child who's coming down with a cold. Like a patriot missile, they can zoom in on a bad word that was spoken a half mile away.

Mom's brain is different, too. She can hear your thoughts and knows when you're giving her lip, even when your lips aren't moving. They know when you haven't scrubbed your face, even when you wet the washrag. They know who started the argument, and who pushed who, first. Moms know. I don't know how they know, but they know.

The only shortcoming moms seem to have is they lie a lot. They can be up all night changing the bed sheets and pajamas of two

children who have the flu, but still say they “slept just fine.” When there are six members in the family and only five ice cream bars, they say that, in recent months, they've developed an allergy to dairy products. Moms, liars that they are, say they don't mind their birthday being forgotten or getting a new waffle iron for a 25th anniversary.

Moms have a whole list of excuses why their children are too busy to call them on Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. “After all, my children are very busy, and they do have lives of their own.” That's a hard lie for them to pull off, but moms say it with that tone that says you'd better not challenge them.

Mothers are special. No one can argue it; no one can deny it – or debate it. But as special as mothers are, I'd like to give a “shout out” to an exceptional subspecies of the maternal: the *Christian* mother.

Christian mothers are unique. They are exceptional – not because of any personal quality they naturally possess, or because of any extraordinary gene they've inherited. Christian mothers are unique because they know Jesus. Knowing Jesus means that Christian mothers see the world differently; they react differently; they behave differently; they hope differently. Every aspect of their lives is changed because they know Jesus and they believe His holy Word.

Christian moms are special because they want their children to know the Savior, just as they do. And that is most certainly a cause for thanksgiving.

THE PRAYER: *Dear Lord, for superhero Christian moms, we give thanks. For children who have no such mom, we pray You will intervene. In the Name of the Savior who loves us with a greater love than mom, we pray it. AMEN.*

Pastor Karner

1 Thessalonians 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

Young at Heart

Here it is May already! We wish all our mothers a most blessed Mother's Day on May 9.

Have you taken a ride around town to see all the gorgeous flowering trees, bushes and spring plants and the lovely daffodils and tulips? Hope you have been able to get your two vaccines shots so we could get together sometime soon, but not yet. When we hear that the Senior Centers are having in-person lunches

inside their building, then we can think about planning our lunches. Even if we have had our two vaccine shots, we still need to wear our masks when we are out and about town, so please stay safe.

Remember to phone a friend or two, perhaps even visit a relative or a friend if you feel safe. Enjoy the beautiful spring flowers and God bless you!



CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN



Francis Hogan, Jr.

July 21, 1948 — April 6, 2021

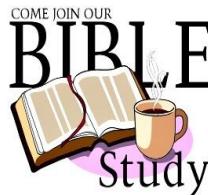


Roxanne Bernice (Harmon) Tonn

September 5, 1959 — April 25, 2021



Walk and Talk on Tuesday, mornings at 9:30 am at the Parish Center. We will meet weekly. Everyone — men and women — are welcome to join us!!!



Women's Bible Study is also meeting again. Please watch the Sunday bulletin for upcoming date and time.

Please note, when entering the Parish Center we are asked to enter through the front door.

Hope to see all of you there!!!!



Thursday, May 13



FELLOWSHIP REMEMBERED – Chapter 2

by Vern Koch

Well, how did you do with the picture from Chapter 1? Here are the names:



First Row:

Alice (Becker) Hein [*3rd grade teacher at Immanuel*]

Lydia (Hermann) Jabs [*wife of Herb Jabs, future president of the Adult Fellowship*]

Lydia (Bobroske) Kissler [*wife of Wilfred Kissler, long time president of the Adult Fellowship*] It is assumed Wilfred took the picture.

Second Row:

Mary (Arp) Thoms

Emma (Unterspan) Schaffrick

Joan (Ginter) Roth [*wife of Ken Roth*]

Third Row:

Rose Smith

John Thoms [*husband of Mary*]

Melvin Hollar [*teacher/youth leader at Immanuel*]

Irene Whitton

Fourth Row:

Bruce Sommerfield [*Vicar under Pastor Meyer*]

Karl Schaffrick

Ken Roth [*husband of Joan, teacher/coach at Immanuel*]

Gene Zahnke [*husband of Bev*]

John Hein [*husband of Alice Hein*]

(Please note the name and rows appear as they are written on the back of the photo)

(See more **Chapter 2** on Page 8)

THE IMMANUEL LUTHERAN FOUNDATION Call for Grant and Scholarship Applications

Thanks to a generous gift, the Immanuel Lutheran Foundation has been serving diverse needs of the Immanuel Lutheran Church since 1997. This “General Fund” has provided financial support through a Grant Application Process to do those important “non-budgeted” things “for which we never seemed to have the money.”



While the Foundation’s General Fund earnings are directed to the support of *non-budgeted items*, the earnings of the Westfall Endowment Funds established some years later are directed to specific needs. These include; local expenses, school expenses, and the maintenance and upkeep of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Provisions have also been made to award five scholarships each year. One is offered to an Immanuel member entering “Preaching and Teaching” ministries of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Four are available to members of Immanuel and/or graduates of the Immanuel Lutheran School enrolled in an accredited College or University with a preference given to applicants aspiring to enter the ministry, or a career in medicine, law, or engineering.

It’s Time!

2021 Grant Applications are being accepted now for review beginning in April. Forms are available thru the Church Office and returned there when complete. Westfall Scholarship Applications are also available in the office and must be completed and returned to the office no later than June 13, 2021.

The Directors begin the Grant Review Process in April and continue throughout the year as funding remains available.

Questions? Pick up a Foundation Brochure in the Church/School Lobby or contact one of the Directors; Bill Wentland, Andy Helming, Bob Wollenberg, Diane Read, Mike Killian.

All this for one reason.
To provide continuing support for the Ministry of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the Immanuel Lutheran Church here in Bristol.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Applications are available in the church office:

We are accepting applications for Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded to members of Immanuel Lutheran Church or graduates of Immanuel Lutheran School.

Applications are due on Monday, June 14th, in the church office.

These scholarships will be awarded in August.

“Given for you.”



~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Church News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JUNE – JULY – AUGUST

**9 am – Divine Service with Holy Communion
with Live Streaming**

**Watch for news in our Sunday bulletin about
our Coffee Hour resuming soon.**

10:30 Adult Bible Study with Live Streaming

Immanuel’s Food Drive

The Board of Evangelism reports that the total cash donation to the recent food drive was \$535. The monies collected will be used during the next few months to support the daily lunch program of the non-profit organization, Brian’s Angels Homeless Outreach. This program is serving up to 50 lunches per day and the daily cost is approximately \$80. Presently, meals are not able to be prepared on site. As a solution, Immanuel will purchase sandwiches, pizza, pasta, etc. from a local restaurant to be delivered to the drop off location at 99 Summer St., Bristol. The meals will be distributed to those in need by volunteers at Brian’s Angels.

Thank You for your support of this event.
Board of Evangelism.

THANK YOU



**Sunday,
May 9th**



**Immanuel welcomes
through the rite of Holy Baptism**

**Aubrey and Mikaela
Bennett**

Baptized on April 11, 2021

Daughters of Jeffery and Stephanie Bennett

~ **VBS News** ~

**VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL**

July 26 thru 30



**9 am to 12:30 daily, including grades
PK-4 to 6th grade.**

**Looking for volunteers to help, more
information to come!**

Please contact Brenda at 860-584-0364



~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **School News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

We are on the downhill side of the school year. I am proud of our staff and parents for making it through safely without a full school closure. The students and staff continue to wear their masks, except on mask breaks, and everyone is still washing hands frequently and keeping distanced when possible.

Jr. National Honor Society Induction will take place Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 6:30 PM. We have six new inductees this year. There will be celebratory cake and punch in the cafeteria following the ceremony.

Our 8th Grade Graduation is Friday, June 11, at 6:30 PM. The PK4 and Kindergarten Graduation will take place at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, June 15. This is also our last day of school, and will be a 12:30 dismissal.

Marty Boettner and Julie Peckrul, our friends from St. Matthew’s School in New Britain, have prepared and served lunch to the students every Tuesday and Thursday for the past five years. Their lunches are very popular. We appreciate all that these wonderful volunteers do for our school. The Hot Lunch fund often has a larger balance than my school account, thanks to these volunteers. This is the fund we have used to buy some of our Chromebooks and pay for fieldtrips. Marty and Julie shop for what is needed and rarely put in a receipt for reimbursement. Please keep them in your prayers that they stay strong in their faith and know that they are appreciated here at Immanuel.

Our enrollment continues to climb! We are currently at 109 students, and 79 families. This is a lot of opportunity to spread the Good News! Most of our new students say they like chapel or religion class the best. There are currently 93 students pre-registered for the 2021-2022 school year and there are more tours scheduled every week.

Please continue to pray for our school, the staff and families served. Immanuel Lutheran School is an important piece of God’s plan for so many children, families, and staff members.

Blessings, and stay safe!
Anne Stuhlman, Principal



Our Old School Building has a new sign on it, facing the Boys and Girls Club. Another new sign is on our gymnasium, facing the Bristol police station.

Chapter 2 (Continued from Page 4)

March 12, 1977, marked the beginning of the Adult Fellowship.

“The organizational meeting of the Adult Fellowship was held at the Immanuel Lutheran School Gym on March 12, 1966. The group was renewed after several years of inactivity.

The following were elected officers:

President – Herbert Jabs

Vice President – Gene Zahnke

Treasurer – Paul Zurell

Program – Ruth Meusel and Herman Stockman

Refreshments – Ellen Kirschner

No Secretary was elected at this time.”

Present at the organizational meeting were:

Vicar Dave Mulder, Marion and Bob Schroeder, Walter and Ruth Meusel, Herman and Martha Stockman, Emil and Edna Schwab, Paul and Janet Zurell, Gene and Bev Zahnke, Herb and Lydia Jabs, John and Meryl Behrendt, Dick and Elaine Prindle, Bob and Ellen Kirschner,

As a program, Vicar Mulder showed slides from his time in Vietnam where he served as Chaplin’s Assistant.”

In April of 1977, Karen Muesel thanked the Adult Fellowship for helping the Singles and Young Couples Club with a donation for the very successful Easter Pancake Breakfast.

On April 16, Lois Koch volunteered to be Secretary.





ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

Thursday, May 13, at 7 pm

DO YOU KNOW?

Are you aware of what the Christian Church considers to be the highest church festival after Easter (#1) and Christmas (#2)? Is it Pentecost? No. Is it Epiphany? No. What about any of the services of Holy Week – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, or Good Friday? Nope.

The answer is – **Ascension Day!** After His resurrection, Jesus appeared several times to His disciples and others. During this time, He spoke to them about the kingdom of God and the coming of the Holy Spirit, for whom they were to wait. After 40 days of these appearances, He was taken up to heaven for the last time. As the disciples watched Him go, two angels appeared and declared to them that, just as He ascended, Jesus would return in glory.

According to one of the early church fathers, Augustine of Hippo, the Feast of Ascension originated with the Apostles. It may be one of the oldest feasts practiced by the Church, possibly going as far back as AD 68. There is no written evidence, however, of the church honoring Ascension Day until Augustine’s time in the fourth century. Churches around the world have observed Ascension Day Feasts for centuries.

2021 MAY BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			 Armed Forces Day 3 rd Saturday in May			1 Victoria Holcomb Kaitlyn Thormahlen
2	3 Gregory Blaschke, Jr. Henry Darm Hedwig Maretzki Billee Wallace	4 Pauline Blaschke Sue Lutz	5 Aaron Boutin David Thormahlen	6 Kenadee Boney	7	8
9 Morgan Boucher	10 Cassandra Ewen Rudy Finger John Mora Matthew Raspanti	11 Robert Boutin Marian Goodwin Morgan Moliengo Michael Rodgers	12 James Christopher, III Kimberly Martin	13 Elaine Blank Samuel Gahr Meadow Wells	14 Amelie Hutton Parker Synder	15 Kelly Lejeune
16 Casey McIntyre Paul Strawderman	17 Carol Young	18	19 Adam Beaudet Madison Bloom Roberta Kuhr	20 Kevin Badenhop Nancy Mitchell	21 John Bohn Seth Foley	22 Nate Kisser Matthew Tonn
23 Michael DeAngelo Annabelle Kirschner Lorraine Sonstrom	24 Tyler Bodley Eva Zebrowski	25 Mark Brasche Sophia Reid	26 Savannah Duval	27 Bryan Pavlik	28	29 Christy Hislop
30 Isla Kirschner	31 Oscar Jobs Anne Stuhlman					



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