

Rev. Kevin A. Karner  
Pastor

Deborah Krueger  
School Principal

# Messenger

May 2025

Vol. 25 No. 5

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



**SONrise Service  
2025**



**with Holy Communion  
Thursday, May 29 at  
10:45 am and 7 pm**

## The Ascension of Our Lord

On *Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>*, Immanuel Lutheran Church and School will celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord as we gather for the Divine Service at 10:45am and 7:00pm. The services, with Holy Communion, commemorate one of the most important events in the Christian Church year (surpassed only by Good Friday/Easter and Christmas).

The Ascension is the closing chapter of Easter. After 40 days of appearing to His disciples and comforting them that He was truly risen from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven not only as God, but as man.

Jesus died for our sins. He rose from the dead for our salvation, He ascended into heaven, and rules the whole universe as both God and man as we confess in the Apostles' Creed: Jesus "sits at the right hand of God."

Pastor Karner



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 25th of the month.

### **SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICES**

**8:00 a.m.**

— (Live Streaming) —  
Holy Communion on the  
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday  
of the month.

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**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**

# **“De-Extinctioned”**

*And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds — livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so.* Genesis 1:24

If you are a Scrabble player, I’ve got a new word for you. The word is “de-extinctioning.”

Allow me to explain the concept. All of us know that over the last few thousand years or so a great many animals’ species have become extinct. Some scientists now feel confident they have a number of ways to bring those animals back. That process is called de-extinctioning.

That’s right; these leaders of the scientific community think they can bring back the passenger pigeon, the woolly mammoth, the Tasmanian tiger, the infamous Dodo, and a host of other no-longer-seen-on-the-face-of-the-earth beasts.

De-extinctioning can be done one of three ways.

1. Back-breeding. Back-breeding takes place when you find some living animals with the characteristics of the extinct species. You keep on selectively breeding these animals until, voila; you have a modern version of an old animal.

2. The second way to de-extinction a species is through cloning. This method takes cells of a recently extinct animal, creates an embryo, and lets an adoptive mother give birth to a no-longer-extinct species.

3. The third method of de-extinctioning which may be tried is to take preserved pieces of ancient DNA and try to recreate the genetic blueprint of an extinct species. Any part of the code which is missing would be “guessed at” and a splice applied from an existing species.

So, there you have it. Humankind is thinking about de-extinctioning various animals, many of whom, it must be confessed, we helped to extinction.

Reading through all this fascinating information I was impressed.

No, I wasn’t impressed with the breathtaking breakthroughs of science; I was impressed by how much greater God is than we are.

When we try to de-extinction a species, we have to start with a genetic code. Without that code we can go nowhere. When the Lord created a species, He did so with a Word and out of nothingness. God’s Word invented a multitude of unique genetic codes. But there’s more. When we try the de-extinction experiment, we have to be aware that there may be many failures before we achieve even a modicum of success. When the Lord created all the animals, all the plants, He did the job and it was – right out of the gate – very good.

Truly, we have an all-powerful Lord.

But His greatest greatness was when He sent His Son into this world to redeem us. Jesus was born, lived, died and rose from the dead, so we sinners wouldn’t be extincted. When Jesus is your Savior, you can rejoice because through Him we who were dead have been made alive.

In scientific jargon, in Jesus we have become de-extincted.

*Dear Lord, may we always be grateful that Jesus has taken sinners who were dead in their trespasses and given them a new lease on life. For this gift we give thanks in His Name. 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*

## ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Church News ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Please join us weekly at the Parish Center.



**CARDS** Every Monday at 1:00 pm. Open to all adults. Please join us for an afternoon of laughs.

**Walking** every Tuesday at 9:00 weather permitting, and **Walk and Talk** at 9:30 am.

All are welcomed. We are a fun group – we even laugh! Snacks and coffee provided. Please join us, we'd love to see you.

### LADIES LUNCH

We will be having a **Ladies Lunch** on Tuesday, **May 13**, at BARC - 12:30 pm. Join us and bring a friend.

### Bottle and Can Collection

Youth Group will be collection your returnable cans and bottles during the month of **May**!

Please leave them in the kitchen near the gym, thank you for your support!



We welcome to our Immanuel Family

**Meadow Amelia Bodick** through the Rite of Holy Baptism.

Daughter of Zachary Bodick and Chelsea Dlubac.



### CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN



Gail Roberts

January 24, 1943 — April 1, 2025



Elizabeth "Eschner" Wilde

December 6, 1931 — March 30, 2025



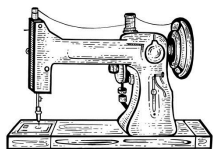
### Mark your calendar, Thursday, May 8



Come and join a group to sew together. No talent necessary. If you can pick up a pin...you're in!! Our goal is simple...learn the basics of sewing, share our time & talents to make donation quilts.

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be on Thursday, May 8 in the Parish Center 2 to 5pm. This will be our planning meeting.

Any questions please email; Alice Helming [ajhelming@gmail.com](mailto:ajhelming@gmail.com)  
Mary Sylvia [jhmmaj63@gmail.com](mailto:jhmmaj63@gmail.com),  
Dee Krampitz [dkrampitz@ilcs.org](mailto:dkrampitz@ilcs.org)



### Be Part of the Fun—Come To The Next German Fest Planning Meeting!

Our next German Fest Committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 13th at 7:00 PM**, and will take place **via Zoom only** for everyone's convenience.

**If you aren't a member already, this is a great time to get involved!** We're always looking for fresh energy and ideas as we plan this year's festival.

**To receive the Zoom invite**, please send your email address to [il.german.festival@gmail.com](mailto:il.german.festival@gmail.com) or leave a note with your email and phone number in the German Festival mailbox in the church office **by May 6th**.



## Young at Heart

### Butterflies & Dragons



revealing a world of  
pollinators and  
terminators

Photo presentation by  
Michael Krampitz

Next month, on **June 5** we will be having a picnic lunch menu with Deutchmacher hot dogs and foods you contribute for only \$2 donation; call Lynda H. (585-7004) for suggestions. Our program will be done for us by Michael Krampitz, who produced

**"Butterflies and Dragons" for us.**

**Mark your calendar now.**

**Thursday, June 5**

A large graphic for the 2025 Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Immanuel Lutheran Church. The background is a scenic landscape with snow-capped mountains, a lake, and a forest. In the center is a large, stylized wooden sign that says "TRUE NORTH" in bold, block letters. Below the sign is a blue banner that reads "Trusting Jesus in a Wild World". To the left of the sign, it says "It's time to register for 2025 VBS!" and there is a QR code. To the right of the sign, it says "When: Jul 28-Aug 1" and "9:00 am - 12:30 pm". Below that, it says "Where: 154 Meadow Street Bristol, CT". At the bottom of the graphic, there is a small line of text: "IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL | WWW.ILCS.ORG | 154 Meadow Street, Bristol, CT".

It's time to  
register for  
2025 VBS!

Immanuel Lutheran  
Vacation Bible  
School

**TRUE  
NORTH**

Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

When:  
**Jul 28-Aug 1**  
9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Where:  
**154 Meadow Street  
Bristol, CT**

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL | WWW.ILCS.ORG | 154 Meadow Street, Bristol, CT

**Ages  
Prek 4 - 6th grade**

**Register on line @**

<https://www.myvbs.org/ImmanuelLutheranBristolCT>

and

Facebook event page here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1AEBn2aAkw/>





## Orphan Grain Train Announces Shipment

Volunteers for the Orphan Grain Train's (OGT) New England Branch, located at 33 South Main St. in Terryville, Ct. loaded a 53 foot container of needed items on April 14 to help hurricane, flooding and tornado victims in North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. OGT has the use of a warehouse in Terryville that is owned by Mr. Bill Allread, who has made space available for this charitable work.

The shipment was sent to the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP), one of our mission partners, which aids those less fortunate over a 12 state area and is headquartered in Kentucky. They will forward the items sent to the storm affected states and have already sent 54 truckloads of relief supplies into the area, some from two shipments we sent last year. This shipment included an estimated 20,000 pounds of supplies including Blankets, Clothing, Shoes, Coats, over 8200 pounds of Food in the form of Harvest Pack meals, Crutches, Walkers, 3 Oxygen Machines, 5 Sewing machines and 200 face masks used in cleanup operations. The Harvest Pack meals were provided by the Ministry run by Pastor Dick Dill of Plymouth, which works with local organizations to supply them. The shipment is scheduled to arrive on April 15 and be offloaded for transport to the affected areas.

Other shipments have gone to missions in a number of countries e.g. Liberia, Nicaragua, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Lithuania, Latvia, Nepal, the Philippines, Trinidad, Panama, Ghana and the Republic of Georgia, as well as Appalachia and previous hurricane relief for Puerto Rico, Florida and North Carolina. The Branch also helps those locally in New England, giving medical items that have been donated to individuals in need and thru the visiting nurse and hospice care organizations of the area. The effort is an Outreach Ministry of the Lutheran Church, and OGT is a 501(3)(C) charity affiliated with the church and supported locally by Holy Trinity Lutheran in Terryville and Immanuel Lutheran in Bristol and is open to all who want to help others.

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



Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Bristol,

This Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, we are filled with gratitude—for the empty tomb, for new life, and for you. Because of your faithful support, women walking through fear and uncertainty are now encountering hope, compassion, and the powerful truth that **life is a gift**. You've helped us be the hands and feet of Jesus, offering not just services—but love, prayer, and the promise of new beginnings.

As Jesus conquered the grave, we see His resurrection power at work in every story of a mom choosing life, every baby born, and every heart touched by His grace through this ministry.

**Thank you** for standing with us, for believing in life, and for sowing into the Kingdom in such a tangible way.

May your Easter be filled with peace, joy, and the reminder that with Christ, **hope is never lost**.

With grateful hearts,

**The Board of Directors and Staff  
at Hope Pregnancy Center**



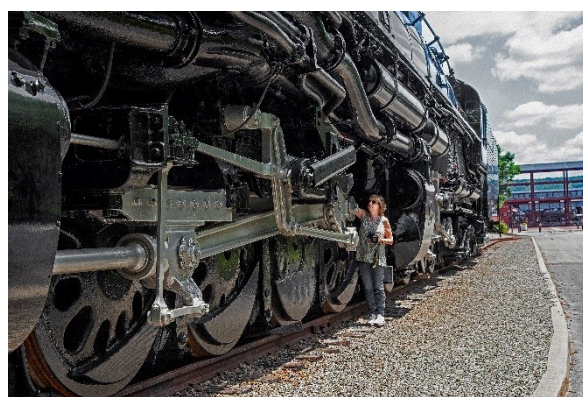
# The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club

## Assignments

### *Getting on the Right Track!*

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Photo assignments play an important role developing a photographer's skills. They encourage creativity and foster experimentation. They provide structure and direction and push us to think outside the box in adding interest to perhaps an otherwise common subject. By engaging in assignments that stretch our imagination, we expose ourselves to new techniques, subjects, and perspectives. This is an example of photos from the Photo Club's assignment "*Tracks and Trains*".



**Join us!** We meet on the First Tuesday of every month except July and August at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

*With you in His service,*



## 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. The “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”.

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.*

While the Foundation’s General Fund earnings are directed to the support of *non-budgeted items*, the earnings of the **Westfall I and II Endowment Funds** established some years later contain provisions to award five scholarships each year. One scholarship is offered to an Immanuel member entering “Preaching and Teaching” ministries of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Four scholarships are offered 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!*

**2025 Grant Applications** for the General Fund are being accepted now. Application Forms are available in 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 Sunday, June 15, 2025.

The Directors begin the Grant Review Process in March 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, Warren Kirschner.

### 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 **Sunday, June 15, 2025** in the church office.

These scholarships  
will be awarded in August.

**“Given  
for you.”**





## ~ School News ~

### From the Principal's Desk

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

During the month of April, our students spent time reflecting on the sacrifice made by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and celebrated in the knowledge of his glorious resurrection! We are truly blessed to be able to share this wonderful Gospel message with our students!

We had a nice visit from President Beinke and Brenda Bacon from our district office on Wednesday, April 23rd. President Beinke led the Chapel service and Brenda organized a wonderful lunch for our staff. We were also grateful to receive a generous donation to the school from the district's fundraising efforts.

Enrollment is still underway for the 2025-2026 school year and we are thankful for our wonderful families who remain committed to our school and see the value in the Christian education we offer. We also pray that God will lead new families to us and continue to bless our mission here at Immanuel.

Yours In Christ,  
Deborah Krueger



### “All About Seeds”

Seeing seeds miraculously grow into a seedling never gets old. Here are some things our ILS students discovered this spring.

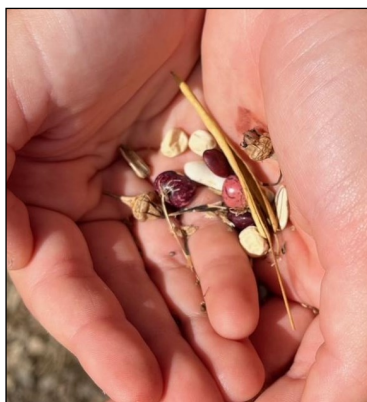
- \* Snapdragon seeds are so tiny making them hard to pick up and need barely a covering of soil and are slower growing requiring them to be started 12 weeks early.
- \* The bigger the seed, the deeper it gets planted. (2 ½ times the thickness of the seed.)
- \* Seeds can be smooth, hard, lumpy, rough, spikey, blowy like dandelions or like straight sticks.
- \* Seeds wear coats for protection. Some are viable for only 1 year (parsnips), but most can be saved longer like the 2015 Martha Washington's beans that happily sprouted last year!

\* Our last frost-free date in Bristol is May 15<sup>th</sup> (growing zone 6a). We germinate seeds indoors to give them a head start.

\* Some seeds like radishes, beets, lettuce, cabbages, and peas prefer cool temperatures and can be planted in early spring. Bean seeds like to be direct sown into warm soil, so we'll have to wait till later in May when their other warm-loving seedlings get transplanted (tomatoes, peppers, eggplant.)

\* Some seedlings don't like their roots disturbed and must be handled gently or seeded directly into the soil.

\* The first set of leaves to emerge are the seed leaves containing all the beginning nutrients for a seedling. When that food is used up, the seed leaves turn yellow and fall off. The second true leaves have a totally different shape and texture.



### **Gardening News** by Alice Helming

(Continued on next page)



(Continued from previous page)

\* Plants don't go to the store to get food for energy. They manufacture it by photosynthesis taking in carbon dioxide, water and nutrients to make their own food in the leaves and give us oxygen.

\* Some seedlings get too leggy stretching to get more light when grown indoors.

\* Seedlings can get sunburned too. Hardening them off helps them to slowly get used to the outside sun, temperature and wind. A breeze can make the stems stronger.

\* Plants have Latin names and common names (Asclepias Tuberosa is butterfly weed.)

As you come back for worship all summer or drive by Meadow St., see what the kids are excited about. The annual bed will fill with sunflowers of every size from 4 to 12ft. Mammoth! Will the Lemonade Cosmos and Fruit Smoothie Zinnias send you home to make a refreshing cold drink? You'll notice the blue salvias that last with rich spark of color until the last frost of October. And hopefully you will enjoy the Happy Days (10 inch marigolds) of summer!



### SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JUNE – JULY – AUGUST

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

**10:15 Coffee**

**10:30 Adult Bible Study**

## MAY 2025 BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Victoria Holcomb Kaitlyn Thormahlen	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Gregory Blaschke, Jr. Henry Darm Hedwig Maretzki
<b>4</b> Sue Lutz	<b>5</b> Aaron Boutin David Thormahlen	<b>6</b> Kenadee Boney	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Morgan Boucher Thomas Huntley	<b>10</b> Rudy Finger John Mora Matthew Raspanti Cassandra Scarpanti
<b>11</b> Robert Boutin Marian Goodwin Morgan Moliengo	<b>12</b> James Christopher, III Kimberly Martin Ellen Rizzo	<b>13</b> Elaine Blank Meadow Wells	<b>14</b> Amelie Hutton	<b>15</b> Kelly Lejeune Victoria Violet	<b>16</b> Jackson Esteves Casey McIntyre Nate Poole	<b>17</b> Carol Young
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Adam Beaudet Madison Bloom Roberta Kuhr	<b>20</b> Kevin Badenhop Nancy Mitchell	<b>21</b> John Bohn Seth Foley	<b>22</b> Nate Kisser Matthew Tonn	<b>23</b> Michael DeAngelo Annabelle Kirschner Lorraine Sonstrom	<b>24</b> Tyler Bodley Eva Zebrowski
<b>25</b> Mark Brasche Sophia Reid	<b>26</b> Savannah Duval 	<b>27</b> Bryan Pavlik	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Christy Hislop	<b>30</b> Isla Kirschner	<b>31</b> Oscar Jobs



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