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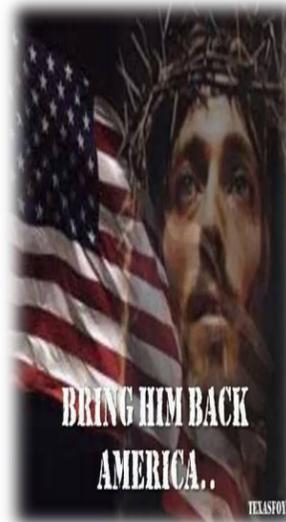
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**July 2022**

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# Immanuel's Story

## ... in Prayer Ministry



**Immanuel's Story told in....**

We know that God hears our prayers – short, quick prayers and also longer, meditative prayers. The ACTS format is something I learned years ago, and still like to use for my prayers.

**Adoration:** Praise God for who He is. Reflect on his character. Almighty, Holy, Redeemer, Wisdom, Sovereign, King of Kings, Creator, Love, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life..... If we can't think of any, the Bible is full of the attributes and names of God.

**Confession:** Use our own words to tell God where we have fallen short or maybe use what we say in church. "I have not loved you with my whole heart or loved my neighbor as myself. I have sinned against you God by what I have done or left undone." Then think about what comes to mind.

**Thanksgiving:** We can thank God for sending Jesus who saves us from our sins. Thank God for our life, family, church, food, shelter, clothing, beauty of nature, freedom, even our problems that keeps us coming to God.....

**Supplication:** After recognizing the power and greatness of God, after confessing our unworthiness, and after thanking Him for our countless blessings, now we pray for our needs and the needs of others. I find it comforting to remember how big our God is when I bring Him my troubles and concerns.

This format for prayer can be used fairly quickly, or one can spend more time in thought and meditation. "Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." 1Thessalonians 5:16-18

By Deb Kreller



*I've  
So much to be  
THANKFUL  
for*

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**Meal with a Mission Sunday, July 17, 2022**  
**Benefitting: Family Vacation Bible School**  
**10:00am-12:00pm**

## ... in Scripture & Study for Worship

Sunday July 3, 2022  
 Psalm 66:1-9  
 Luke 10:1-11,16-20

Sunday July 24, 2022  
 Psalm 138  
 Luke 11:1-13

Sunday July 10, 2022  
 Psalm 25:1-10  
 Luke 10:25-37

Sunday July 31, 2022  
 Psalm 49:1-12  
 Luke 12:13-21

Sunday July 17, 2022  
 Psalm 15  
 Luke 10:38-42

### I am "fearfully and wonderfully made" and "the enemy is me"

Over 50 years ago American Animator Walt Kelly, in his comic strip "Pogo", stated that  
 "We have met the enemy and he is us."

I had just turned 12 and pretty much knew everything.

(Okay, which one of you in the back muttered "Nothing much has changed?")

Ours was a country that was going to "you know where" in a handbasket. We believed that it was the responsibility of the government to "clean up" after us. But, it would have to come without taking any of our civil liberties away and not increase our taxes. Sound familiar?

But aren't "We The People" the government? So, I'm blaming myself for the mess and want myself to clean up the mess? Sounds pretty responsible.

I don't think I would have gone for that. Especially not at 12.

After all, I was only getting started.

In Psalm 139 David, as head of the government of Israel, faced similar issues concerning his role as King and man, who was chosen by God for just this role. But he admits to himself that he cannot get around the fact that as much as he wants to avoid the responsibility, God sees all and knows all and most notably, understands the intentions of his heart. And as much as he wanted to run and hide from God, he could not because the Lord, had "searched him and known him" from the moment that he was "fearfully and wonderfully made".

In John 8, Jesus absolves the adulterous woman of her sins that the "Government/Pharisees" have accused her of. In verse 10 he asks if there is anyone left that condemns her of her sins to which she replies "No one, Lord". And Jesus said "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more".

I have to admit to myself that "I am the church", but I want God to "fix" it all so that I don't have to. And although I have committed great sins against Him, He does not condemn me and tells me to "Go, and sin no more". (which probably lasts a nanosecond in the grand scheme of things.) I am a sinner and I "know" that I will continue to be. But He knows my heart, and even when I "know" that I am responsible for my actions and live a "sinful" life, it is because I have placed myself above God and hope that he will not notice.

So, I have met the enemy and he is me.

"Heavenly Father, thank you for forgiving your "enemies". Especially me."

Blessings,  
 Karlin

## ... in Donations

When considering Memorial/Honorarium Donations, please prioritize these ministries and needs:

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN & YOUTH MILESTONE MINISTRIES GENERAL ACCOUNT

Milestone Ministries, Scholarship Fund is a sub account of the Memorial Savings Account. Milestone Ministries is used to support all Baptisms, First Bibles, First Communion, Confirmation & Graduation expenses.

For a complete list of ministries, please contact the church office.

*A huge thank you to all who support these important ministries!*

### BUILDING FUNDS FINANCIAL REPORT

#### Major Capital Improvement Fund

Balance: 5/1/22	\$119,035.64
<u>Current Deposits</u>	<u>Current Withdrawals</u>
\$2,095.39	\$3,420.49
Balance: 5/31/22	\$117,710.54



#### General Operating Budget Report

	MAY 2022	MAY 2021	YTD 2022	YTD 2021
Budget*	35,074	32,848	175,370	164,240
General Fund Giving	35,965	34,875	191,317	161,251
General Fund Expense	31,595	34,776	149,194	154,500
Net Income	4,370	99	42,123	6,751

\*2021 Numbers are based on Accrual Accounting

Thank you for your faithful giving!

... in Pastor's Perspective



Pastor Paul J. Mattson  
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pauljm@immanuelcrosby.org

“About Grace”

Sorry, not sure of the author.....

I met my friend Tom, whom I hadn't seen in fifteen years. Tom was a hard-drinking, lovable partygoer who stopped going to church soon after college. Last year his live-in girlfriend decided she wanted to attend church because of some crisis she was going through. Tom reluctantly agreed. That morning he sat down and started playing his guitar. Thinking of church, he resurrected three hymns from his distant memory. “Those are beautiful—what’s the music?” his girlfriend asked. Tom explained the words to the hymns.

They chose a church out of the phone book, and to Tom's utter astonishment, that Sunday the congregation sang *all three of those hymns*. It so rattled Tom that he completely turned his life around. Listening to him tell the story, I couldn't help laughing in surprised joy. I have a memory of Tom so drunk that he fell over while trying to roll a ball down a bowling alley; we had to pull him away from the ball return channel. And now here he was, weeping, telling me how God had changed his life. Think of the “coincidence” of those three hymns being played the one Sunday that Tom dropped in to church. Was that a miracle? It was certainly grace.

God is certainly a God of “Holy surprises” and “coincidences” (or should I say “God-incidents?”)

Summer blessings! Pastor Paul



... in New Office Staff, Family Ministry Coordinator

Hello! My name is Jill DeCent, and am proud to be your new “Family Ministry Coordinator” here at Immanuel Lutheran Church. So what does a Family Ministry Coordinator do you ask? Well, after much prayer, research, and discussions with our church council, the congregation, and staff, there was a decision made to combine the previous positions of “Children’s Ministry Coordinator” and “Youth Ministry Coordinator” into one position. I previously served as the “Children’s Ministry Coordinator” for a little less than 2 year in 2020 and 2021, and was able to uncover a passion for serving children, families, the church, and God! I will now coordinate and team with families, child and youth leaders, mentors, and staff to continue all the things in our Children and Youth ministry that help us learn about Jesus, grow, and be disciples of Christ in our daily lives.



My professional background is in banking, with over 15 years at a local credit union. As my family grew over the years, I discovered my priorities began to shift, and my heart yearned for more time with my family, as well as a closer relationship to God. After returning to banking in the Fall of 2021, I began praying more than ever, for God to lead me back to Immanuel, if it was in his will for me. I just knew where my passion was, and felt deep in my heart that I was made to serve and support. Life sure is funny that way, how right when you think you have it all figured out, God shows up and says “My will, and not yours”.

I sure do love my family, which is comprised of my husband Jerry, whom I have been married to for 11 years, and 4 children. Carter (17), Maycee (10), Kynsley (9), and Conner (7). Although I have completely fallen in love with this community, I did not grow up here. I grew up in several suburbs of Minneapolis/St. Paul, but located here to Crosby in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade. I am a C-I graduate, and couldn't be more proud! Marrying my husband allowed me to become related to, well... a LOT of people locally, which I think is pretty fun. We reside in Crosby, and truly enjoy everything the Cuyuna range has to offer. What a blessing to have so much of God's amazing creation right out our back door.

I am anxious and excited to see what God has in store for the future here at Immanuel!



Jill DeCent is Immanuel's new Family Ministry Coordinator. She was installed on Sunday, June 5th.

From Jill: We want to hear from YOU about all things child, youth, and FAMILY ministry. Let's start the dream about the future of Family ministry at Immanuel, and make some of those dreams a REALITY! A Family Ministry Summit will be held on SUNDAY, JUNE 26TH, 12PM AT THE YOUTH CENTER. Bring the family, as adults meet, kids can play. This is also a Meal with a Mission day at church, so grab some lunch, then head over!

There is a Family Ministry Feedback survey on the **Family Ministry Facebook** page that will help prepare for this meeting.

## In Family Ministry

### In Children's Ministry:



Plannings for this summer's Vacation Bible School are underway! The theme this year is "Jerusalem Marketplace". VBS will be held August 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm-7:00pm, here at Immanuel. This is a "Family" style VBS program, where all are welcome, and parents/caregivers are encouraged to attend with their children. This creates a special bonding time for families, as well as learning about Jesus together! A meal will be served each evening, so bring your appetite. Registration forms are available at Immanuel on the bulletin board in the hallway, as well as online at [www.immanuelcrosby.org](http://www.immanuelcrosby.org). The online form is fillable, and makes for a super easy way to register paperless! Many volunteers are always needed to make this event a success! Please contact Jill DeCent via email- [jilld@immanuelcrosby.org](mailto:jilld@immanuelcrosby.org), or via text if you would like to learn more about volunteering for VBS. A list of supplies needed is also available on the website.

#### VBS Supply List

- Large blankets
- Colorful cloth
- Colorful sheets
- Fabric markers
- Washable markers and pens
- Gallon Zip-lock bags
- Large plates and trays
- 5 small bowls
- Sculpting clay
- Duct tape
- Permanent markers
- Rubber playground balls and Volleyballs
- Frisbees
- Pool noodles
- Jump Ropes
- Sandpaper
- Ink pads
- Large Pottery Pieces (Decoration)
- Paper Towels
- Burlap squares
- Wooden and Clay Beads
- Cream colored thread
- Clothespins
- Baskets of all sizes (Decoation)
- 10X10 or 12X12 Pop up canopy

### ... in Special Milestones!



#### July Birthdays

07/01 Hillary Holmvg, Michael Midthun  
 07/02 Tony Maucieri, Jim Traylor  
 07/03 Ceara Abear, Brody Pakarinen, Wyatt Perpich, Riley Reinhart  
 07/05 Ryan Duerr, James Freese  
 07/06 Jan Doonan, Paul Fairchild  
 07/07 Sam Bushard, Judy Kirchoff, Anthony Koop, Karen Ryappy, Deb Eatros  
 07/08 Melissa Chamberlin, LuAnn Henrichs, Miley Schwarz  
 07/10 Bob Beard  
 07/12 Mark Bliss, Isaiah Erickson  
 07/13 James Souhrada  
 07/14 Randy Stanfield, June Steinke, Elizabeth Mattson  
 07/15 Hal Kirchoff  
 07/16 Karen Harrington, Hayden Zillmer, Joshua Treischel, Jacob Nelson  
 07/17 Linda Merta, Donna Radinovich, Joe Ostrowski, Terry Ruschmeyer  
 07/19 Miles Bourgeois, Michelle Houck, Casey Kannel  
 07/20 David Midthun, Brian Norwood  
 07/21 Hunter Faulkner, Bonnie Holmvg, Karen Midthun  
 07/22 Joe Dwyer, Johnathan Hodges  
 07/23 Jacob Kayfes  
 07/24 Alex Booth  
 07/25 Shelly Harker  
 07/26 Rick Aulie Jr., Angie English  
 07/27 Casey Pederson, Korinna Nixon  
 07/28 Diane Buchite, Justin Taylor, Becham Ernst  
 07/29 Braylee Platt-English  
 07/30 Steven Anderson  
 07/31 Finnley Wodarz, Adam English, Abby Gibson

#### July

#### Wedding Anniversaries

Dan & Bonnie LaPierre	07/06/1981
Mark & Nikki Bjornstad	07/07/1981
Kerry & Marie Futhey	07/07/1976
Jim & Meredith Bloedel	07/09/2016
Joe & Lori Ostrowski	07/10/1976
Lee & Barbara Bohlin	07/11/1959
Ted & Ceara Abear	07/13/2012
Seth & Becky Pakarinen	07/15/2000
David & Linda Merta	07/17/1971
Rick & Rachel Aulie	07/18/2009
Jack & Sue Schubert	07/18/1970
Michael & Karen Midthun	07/19/1975
Shayne & Tanya Jacobs	07/23/1993
Joe & Jessica Dwyer	07/27/2000
Tim & Diane Hummel	07/29/1989
Anthony & Erin Koop	07/30/2011
Brian & Therese Norwood	07/30/1994



.... in BeFrienders

BeFrienders Ministry at Immanuel



“The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is the friend who cares.” Henri Nouwen, Out of Solitude

Most of us at one time or another have experiences that “rock our world.” Some of these can be wonderful, although unsettling, others can be just devastating and heart breaking. These events can leave us feeling alone and lost. Family and friends and their support may help, but is not always available, or is maybe even part of the problem.

BeFriender Ministry is a Listening Presence. It is about caring not curing. It is about listening and is nonjudgmental. BeFrienders is a confidential ministry. A befriender cannot cure the problem, but often a caring, loving “ear” can help take away that sense of being alone. At times, talking to that nonjudgmental person, is just what is needed to see the way through.

Pastor Paul or Member Ministry Coordinator, Elaine Karel at Immanuel 218-546-6010.

.... in Attendance

		<u>Sunday, June 5, 2022</u>	
		9:00am	135
		10:30am	<u>57</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>
<u>Sunday, May 22, 2022</u>			
9:00am	104		
10:30am	<u>68</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>		
<u>Sunday, May 29, 2022</u>			
9:00am	126		
10:30am	<u>40</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>		
<u>Sunday, June 12, 2022</u>			
		9:00am	131
		10:30am	<u>42</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>
<u>Sunday, June 19, 2022</u>			
		9:00am	114
		10:30am	<u>54</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>May 2022 Total-to-Date</b>	<b>960</b>		
		<b>June 2022 Total-to-Date</b>	<b>533</b>

In Youth Ministry:

The first youth gathering of the Summer was held at Peter and Jan Nordell’s residence in June, and was a blast! Youth and mentors were able to play a few games of Whiffle Ball, as well as feast on a tasty meal, then gather around the campfire for S’mores. A huge thank you to Peter and Jan for hosting, and preparing a delicious meal, as well as making everyone feel so welcome. The next youth gathering of the Summer is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm-Party at the Parsonage! This event will be held at the home of Pastor Paul and Jill, and they are blessed to be right on Serpent Lake. All youth group attendees and mentors are encouraged to attend! Bring your swim suit and towel! The last Summer youth gathering will be held here at ILC on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, @ 5pm.

For Families:

We are dreaming and praying for new ways to join together as a family! What are your thoughts and ideas? What would help you as a parent/grandparent/caregiver to teach your child faith at home, and all throughout the week? Your ILC Family Ministry Coordinator wants to hear from you! There are many ways to communicate your thoughts and ideas-via an email message, text, phone, blue connection card-whatever works best for you!

July Meal With a Mission will be held Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> benefiting Vacation Bible School



.... in Graduates

Immanuel Lutheran Church honored graduates on Sunday, May 22nd. Each graduate was presented a maroon and white tie blanket by their parents. Pictured are Hayden McGowan, Miranda Sicora, and Easton Maucieri. Not pictured: Johnathan Hodges.



## .... Pentecost Photo



## .... in Memorials & Honorariums Given In May and June 2022:

### For the Malawi Fund:

From Mitch & Sue Reagan

From Joe & Darlene McNally

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Bruce & Mary Oliphant

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Denny & LuAnn Henrichs

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Don & Mary Carlson

From James & Lindsay Freese

### For Malawi MWAM:

From Sheldon & Shirley Sanborn

### For Sunday School:

In memory of Rhonda Reynolds from Marian Segersten

In memory of Rhonda Reynolds from Blaine & Deb Kreller

### For Milestone Ministry:

In memory of Rhonda Reynolds from Denny & LuAnn Henrichs

### Undesignated Fund:

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Gordy & Audrey Jacobson

In memory of Bob Kallestad by the Wilsons

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Mary Lee Kinney

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Judy Running

In memory of Bob Kallestad by Dale & Vi Klungness

In memory of Bob Kallestad—No name

**TOTAL: \$625.00**



## .... in Manna for Malawi 2022



Our Manna for Malawi event is ramping up. August 14<sup>th</sup> is getting close. Watch for raffle tickets being sold at church, Cykel, CI Courier, Uplifted Wellness Studio, The Bridge and MMFCU. Also watch for the sign-up sheet that will be on the table by the bookstore. We are collecting silent auction items at the church office.

Thank you to all who have already donated silent auction items. Thank you to those who volunteered to solicit businesses. If you have questions, contact me ([terriwisniak@gmail.com](mailto:terriwisniak@gmail.com) or cell 612-210-1024) or Pastor Paul.