

Immanuel's Insights

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

2820 Woodruff Road

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"Growing in Faith to Share God's Grace"

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September 2020





Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

Having canceled Voters' Assemblies in March and June due to the pandemic, on September 27 we will hold our first Assembly of 2020. Thanks to the work of the Voters'

Assembly Team (Rick Danielson, Dana Emberton, Alvine Palotta, Bill Shull, Gordon Smith, Jennifer VanOsdol) a process has been created to allow both on-

site and remote participation in this meeting. In addition to the usual conducting of the congregation's business, there are 2 new opportunities to discuss. One is the Immanuel Lutheran Church & School *Ministry Plan*.

Ministry Plan

In early 2018, in response to the congregation's growth and strong financial position, the Church Council began to talk about the future of God's Kingdom in our place. We first reached out to the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) whose advice was to begin by engaging in a strategic planning process for the congregation. In June 2018, the congregation voted to enlist the assistance of LCEF in undertaking this strategic planning.

In 2018 and 2019—as part of the *Ministry Clarity* planning process—teams were assembled, and the entire congregation was invited to be engaged in the conversation about our future through surveys, interviews, meetings, and events.

The product of that process is the *Ministry Plan*: a collection of the ideas and input shared after prayerful consideration of how Immanuel Lutheran Church & School can best serve her members and the Five Forks community today and into the future. After completion of the work in January 2020, Immanuel's Board of Elders reviewed the *Plan* and the Church Council recommends its adoption at the September Voters' Assembly.

While we were waiting to adopt the *Ministry Plan*, another opportunity was presented to us.

Offer to purchase a portion of our property

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School is located in the growing Five Forks area of Greenville County, on more than 12 acres. Because of this, many of you know that in recent years we have received inquiries from real estate developers about whether we would consider selling some of our front acreage or all of our acreage. To date, we have declined all offers.

But, even in the midst of the pandemic, another inquiry was made, this one for acreage at the back of our property.

STM Acquisition & Development, developer of the Larkspur Pointe Apartment Homes next door to us, has made us an offer of \$1.75 million for 6 acres at the rear of our property. While it is a sizable portion of property, most of it has never been given a name or purpose in our planning. In the 3 site plans that have been put together by Immanuel in her 33-year history, a minimum of 5 to 6 acres has always been labeled an outparcel: there was no plan for it.

For 33 years, our acreage has represented potential future growth. Accepting this offer could realize some of that potential now and be a significant resource for us as we make our plans for the future. And the land that would be retained by us would be more than sufficient to accommodate our growth, now and in the future.

Architect

Having completed the *Ministry Plan*, we returned to LCEF and a consultation with their Architectural Advisory Committee. The architect assigned to us, Greg Beste, is a member of Island Lutheran Church in Hilton Head. Greg spent several weeks this summer looking at our

demographics, statistics and the *Ministry Plan* and concluded that we could retain 6 acres and build facilities on it that would serve 300 people in Education, 350 in Fellowship and 500 in Worship.

On Sunday, September 20 at 11:30 AM, and again on Monday, September 21 at 7:00 PM, we will hold informational meetings to discuss the offer to purchase. Greg will be with us in the Divine Service that Sunday morning and will share his findings in the two informational meetings.

Opportunity

Immanuel's Campus Team (representing congregation Officers and the Boards of Trustees, School and Education) voted to explore the offer to purchase and forwarded their recommendation to the Church Council. The Church Council agreed and now brings this matter before the congregation at the September Voters' Assembly.

Those who selected the name "Immanuel" for this congregation did so in the confidence that God would be with them to bless this outpost of His Kingdom. Thirty-three years later His blessing is evident as we survey His handiwork. Our greatest blessing is that "God is with us" and we pray that our plans might continue to bring glory to Him as it shines the light of His Son on more and more in our community and on generations to come.

In my 17 years at Immanuel, the opportunity, resources and blessings have never been so abundant to do so.

Please avail yourselves of every opportunity offered this month to be informed about this significant moment in the life of Immanuel Lutheran Church & School, letting your voice be heard about our future together.

Pastor VanOsdol

Christian Education Corner

ADULT BIBLE CLASS SUNDAYS AT 1 PM (VIA ZOOM)

You are invited to an online Adult Bible Class which is being run weekly on Sundays at 1pm through a Zoom interface. All Immanuel members and guests are welcome to attend. Currently, Elder Paul Wagenknecht is leading the weekly discussion based on that weeks Scripture readings. If you would like to attend, please send an email to Paul at pwagen6408@gmail.com and he will reply with the link to the Zoom study.



Elder Dennis Clark
Leads a Weekday
Bible Study.

Our group is studying the
book of **Exodus** on Monday
evenings at 7:00 PM.
(via ZOOM)

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 9:00 AM

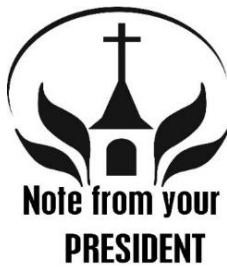


Sunday School will be virtual for the month of September. Join our facebook group Immanuel Lutheran Sunday School to learn, grow, and connect. Materials will be shared with students so they can easily follow along at home. Find out more at www.immanuelutheranchurch.com/sundayschool/ or by contacting awyssrn@gmail.com

Anna Wyss,
Sunday School Superintendent

Readings - September 2020

6	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 33:7-9 Romans 13:1-10 Matthew 18:1-20
13	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 50:15-21 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35
20	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:6-9 Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30 Matthew 20:1-16
27	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32 Philippians 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18 Matthews 21:23-27 (28-32)



As we begin to “get back to work” as a council, I wanted to provide a simple recap of the items on our agenda.

Hot Topics:

- Council approved our Ministry Plan which will be presented for approval at the upcoming voter’s meeting.
- ILC&S has been approached to purchase a portion of our rear property. Council has approved offer to purchase to be presented to the congregation for approval.
- Informational Meeting regarding the request to purchase a portion of our rear property are scheduled for September 20th after our late service and September 21st at 7 pm. You may attend in person or register for a videoconference. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.
- Council has determined the necessary steps to allow us to conduct an in person and virtual voter’s meeting. More information to be provided regarding this meeting.
- Parish Administrator interviews we be conducted on August 22, 2020. Our Staffing Team is planning to provide an offer to the selected candidate.
- Our Communications Committee continues to publish our weekly newsletter to help keep everyone informed.
- Please be on the lookout for opportunities to volunteer. We are in the need for additional greeters for both 8 am and 10 am services.

General Items:

- Church Council conducted a productive meeting in August. Voters meeting will be held on September 27, 2020.
- Each Chairperson presented their committee reports listing their activities and what is on the horizon for input and discussion from the other Council members.
- Thank you for all of those that agreed to volunteer and support our growing congregation.
- The Lord continues to bless with our regular giving. If you have not, please sign up for online giving.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

In God’s Service,
Dana Emberton

News from the Quilters

Immanuel's quilters have been busy for the past two months. We have finished and delivered 15 quilts for Pendleton Place and are now working on lap quilts for Lutheran Hospice. They will be delivered soon.

We do not know at this time whether or not there will be a gathering for Lutheran World Relief. The coronavirus has disrupted many of the groups who make kits and quilts for this collection. We will let you know when we know whether or not we will be taking the annual road trip to Asheville. In the meantime, we would like to thank all who donate fabric and sheets so that we can continue our ministry. We were blessed with fabric from our own congregation and one of the poll workers who saw us at work on an election day. Keep the donations coming, please. We could not do it without them.

We would like to share part of a letter from Pendleton Place. It indicates how you are helping in our community as well as around the world. "Your generous in-kind gift of quilts for residential program clients ... will provide much needed items for the children and families we serve. We are so grateful!"



We will post the letter so you can see how you are helping others improve their lives. Thank you.

- Sigrid Clark

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10).

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.



How to Sleep Better

The National Sleep Foundation notes that adults between the ages of 26 and 64 need an average of seven to nine hours of sleep per night. This sleep schedule may be ideal, but many adults juggling work and family find it difficult to get seven hours of sleep per night much less eight.

There are many ways for men and women to get a better night's rest so they can approach each day with as much energy as possible.



- Stick to a schedule. Try to go to bed every night at the same time and get up at the same time including weekends.
- Men and women who have the time to sneak a nap may find that napping is a better way to make up for inadequate sleep than sleeping in late. Napping should be no longer 20 to 30 minutes.
- Exercise Studies show that men and women who exercise regularly benefit from a more restful night's sleep.
- Ensure your bedroom is sleep friendly. Eliminate any light or distractions. A good night's sleep is essential to good health and quality of life.



BLOOD PRESSURE

screening will take place
when we return to our regular schedule.
Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of this
opportunity.

—Marilyn Hall, Health Ministry



God's Blessings to You!

01 - Nancy Althoff
03 - Abella Corbett
04 - Norm Gotsch
04 - Jim Harpool
04 - Matthew Cohen
04 - Thomas Mathis
07 - Tiffany Gentile
08 - Doris Creasi
11 - Scott Nicholson
13 - Bob McElcar
13 - Judy Buckley
13 - Julie VanUffelen
15 - Kirk Tower
15 - Ella Mathis
16 - Olivia Gotsch
16 - Alexandra Gotsch
16 - Jonathan Pack
17 - Gary Eder
19 - Robert LoGrippo
20 - Rita Kollmeyer
20 - Leslie Henson
22 - Carole Eder
24 - Karl Tervo
29 - Libby Houghton
30 - Jeanine Palmiteer

07 - Joshua & Whitney Grimes
08 - Doug & Catherine Benecke
21 - Dieter & Maggie Lauterwasser
23 - Doug & Carol Stowell
25 - Marty & Debra Hettenkofer



HUMAN CARE AND SOCIAL MINISTRY

September: Collecting items to support Foster and Adopt Resource Center

Visit www.gracechurchsc.org/FAresourcecenter for more information



Supplies Needed
for children

Toothpaste for children (No whiteners)
Diapers and pull-ups (toddler sizes 4-7T)

New Tennis Shoes for teenagers
(Adult sizes 6 to 12)



Always collecting non-perishable food
items for **God's Pantry**.

The *Annual Yard Sale* will be rescheduled. If you
have items to drop off at the church house, please
call John Palotta at 704-579-2632.

-John Palotta



Attendance for July 2020



Date	8:00 AM Worship	10:00 AM Worship	9:15 AM Adult Bible Class	9:30 AM Sunday School	Christian Education Staff
7-05-20	30	56			
7-12-20	35	47			
7-19-20	37	54			
7-26-20	34	48			

the Deadline is... ***September 20***



for

October 2020 Immanuel's Insights

Return Requested

Dated Newsletter

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
2820 Woodruff Road
Simpsonville, South Carolina 29681-4806

Divine Service – 8:00 A.M.
Sunday School – 9:00 A.M. (*via Facebook*)
Divine Service – 10:00 A.M.
Adult Bible Class – 1:00 P.M. (*via Zoom*)



Grey Heirs

The Grey Heirs scheduled lunch on September 17 at Haus Heidelberg in Hendersonville with apple picking to follow, is cancelled due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Stay safe.

- *Dennis Clark*

