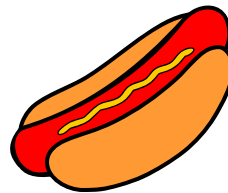




August 2023 Volume 1, Issue 8



Let's have a picnic!!



**Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
631 Grand Street, Allegan, MI**

Happy August Birthday to:

Leland Schafer - August 2
Danny Doornhaag III - August 8
Linda Havens - August 8
Jessica Doornhaag - August 20
Neal Winger - August 27



Happy August Anniversary to:

Jim and Sandie Horwath - August 3
Steve and Mary VanderVeen - August 14
Bob and Jan Teske - August 20





The 3rd Quarter All-Committee meeting will be held on Monday evening, August 7th at 6pm in the fellowship hall. The sign-up sheet is on the round table.

Hearts and Hands will meet on Monday, August 14th at 1pm at the church.

Bible and Brew will meet on Monday evening, August 14th at 6pm in Hamilton.

Coffee for Vets will be held on Tuesday, August 15th from 9:00-11:00am. All veterans and active duty personnel are welcome to attend.

Bible Study meets every Wednesday morning at 10:00am.

The Church Council meets on Monday evening, August 21st at 6:30pm

Book Group meets on Monday, August 28th at 1:00pm here at church. The book selection for the month is entitled "In 5 Years" by Rebecca Serles.

The restaurant selection for August 19th is Fricano's and the time is 5:30pm. There will be a sign-up sheet on the round table to make your reservation(s).

The annual church picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 13th immediately after the worship service. The event flyer and sign-up sheet are on the round table.

Pastor Chris' Travel Schedule in August

Ft. Jackson, SC from 30 July-12 August - Pastor Jim Foster will be our supply pastor on 30 July and Pastor David Sprang on Sunday, 6 August. Pastor Nicole Smith has agreed to be on call for pastoral emergencies.

Worship Volunteers for August

August 6th

Assistant - Jim Horwath
Reader - Linda Havens
Flowers - Jim & Sandie Horwath
Counters - Joyce Davis and Linda Scott

August 13

Assistant - Donna Preisler
Reader - Linda Scott
Greeters - Jim and Marie Combs
Flowers - Ken & Lyn Kingsbury
Counters- Laura Compton and Pam Hopkins

August 20

Assistant -
Reader - Michele Radke
Flowers - Open
Counters - Joyce Davis and Linda Scott

August 27

Assistant - Mike Fusillo
Reader - Pam Hopkins
Greeters - Jim and Marie Combs
Flowers - Ken & Lyn Kingsbury
Counters - Pam Hopkins and Jim Combs

If there is anyone who would like to serve as a communion assistant, please see Pam or Pastor.

Pastor's Page, August 2023: What Does It Mean that Pastor Has Been Selected for Promotion? (Part 2, Update)

For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

- Psalm 75:6-7, KJV

So, some things have happened since last I wrote on this topic...

The Army Reserve is changing the way its chaplains find their positions. Until now, we have all had to find our own slots / billets / jobs based on what was open, where we lived, our rank, etc. There was often an interview, and senior chaplains would shepherd the process.

For a variety of reasons, that is changing. Starting with the colonels and working their way down the ranks, the Army Reserve chaplain corp is now assigning chaplains to their positions. I thought I would avoid the lieutenant colonel board because I'm not yet a lieutenant colonel (there's also a new personnel system...another long story...).

I was wrong. I received an e-mail that because I had been selected for promotion, I would be assigned with the lieutenant colonels. I filled out the paperwork with my requests. The board gave me my first choice and assigned me to First Army Headquarters, Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Illinois, where I will be the deputy First Army Chaplain.

First Army is a hybrid active duty / Army Reserve three-star command that trains US Army Reserve and Army National Guard units from all over the country; they have two subordinate divisions (also active-reserve hybrid) and ten training sites around the country. My boss will be an active duty chaplain (colonel), and much of what I do (and where I do it) will depend on how he envisions an Army Reserve deputy functioning.

While I don't know exactly when I will start in this position, I have requested to start on the first day of the fiscal year (01 October). This means I will still be gone to teach at Fort Jackson 30 July - 12 August.

Pastor's Page 2 -

I think this will have two impacts on Immanuel:

- 1. I will be gone more and more often**
- 2. I will still be non-deployable.**

I am leaving out details to keep this article as non-technical as possible; I have written separate, more in-depth explanation if you're really interested in the details (posted to Facebook and printed on the round table.)

I know that this is different for Immanuel, but I am grateful that the Army makes my ministry here possible, and I trust that the God who grants promotions will also shepherd us through this new phase of the ministry I do on your behalf.

SDG,

Pastor Chris

Our annual pulpit swap will be Sunday, 20 August! Pastor Rachel will preach at Immanuel and Pastor Chris will preach at Prince of Peace.

Since something like it happened here at Immanuel, I will reprint what our bishop recently sent - with some slight modifications (let's see if you can spot them):

As a reminder, Bishop Satterlee and the Synod Staff will not email (or text) you asking for help "discreetly" or "privately" and will never request you to send wire transfers or gift cards (neither will Pastor Chris). If you receive an e-mail (or text) like this, it is not from Bishop Satterlee or the Synod Staff (or Pastor Chris). Please do not respond to these e-mails or send any money or gift cards.

A note about what we do in worship:

One Sunday a month (depending on our schedules), I invite Maryann to the front of the sanctuary during worship (after we distribute communion but before you stand) to bless her communion kit. For Lutherans, lay people from a congregation take Holy Communion to their home-based members as an extension of the congregation's celebration of Holy Communion. So, it's important to remind all of us what Maryann is doing on our behalf and to send her with our love, support, and blessing.

Backpack Ministry Update

As we ramp up for our backpack ministry this year, the principals have made requests for their students' backpacks. As always, you are welcome to give directly to Immanuel and designate your offering for backpacks. If you would like to buy the items directly, we ask that you keep to the specifications (color, brand, ruled, etc.) so that each student receives essentially the same items:

Paper Folders

Black dry erase markers

Loose leaf paper filler, 150 pack, wide-ruled, 3-hole punched

24 pack Crayola pre-sharpened color pencils

Blue Bic stick pens, medium point

Black marbled Composition books

Meade spiral notebooks (wide-ruled)

24 pack of Crayola crayons

Ticonderoga Yellow Wooden Unsharpened #2 pencils

Purple glue sticks

You can also buy from the Amazon list that Alison has posted to our Facebook page.

We're working toward greater organization this year than we had last year, and part of being more organized means giving ourselves more time; so we request that all money and donations be in by 15 July.

