



AUGUST 2024



Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
631 Grand Street, Allegan Michigan



Leland Shafer - August 2
Daniel Doornhaag III - August 8
Linda Havens - August 8
Laura Beckwith - August 16
Jessica Doornhaag - August 20
Neal Winger - August 27



Jim & Sandy Horwath - August 3
Bob & Jan Teske - August 20
Immanuel Lutheran Church (146th) - August 28

Worship VOLUNTEERS FOR AUGUST

August 4

- Assistant - Jim Horwath
- Reader - Linda Havens
- Counters - Laura Compton & Linda Scott
- Flowers - Jim & Sandy Horwath
- Greeters - Jim & Marie Combs

August 11

- Assistant - Donna Preisler
- Reader - Linda Scott
- Counters - Joyce Davis & Mike Aksamit
- Flowers - OPEN
- Greeters - Jim & Marie Combs

August 18

- Assistant - Joyce Davis
- Reader - Michele Radke
- Counters - Laura Compton & Linda Scott
- Flowers - OPEN
- Greeters - Jim & Marie Combs

August 25

- Assistant - Mike Fusillo
- Reader - Sharon Aksamit
- Counters - Joyce Davis & Jim Combs
- Flowers - Ken Kingsbury
- Greeters - Jim & Marie Combs





Pastor's Page, August 2024: Give Thanks!

*O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever. – Psalm 136:1*

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. – 1Thessalonians 5:16-18*

As a part of the processing of calling me, Trevor put forward a bold plan: trust in God, and take a chance. In part, I suspect, he was asking: what did you have to lose? Trevor's plan included becoming self-sufficient (bringing in as much in income and you pay in expenses) within five years.

Trevor related to us that in March of 2022, we were asked how long Immanuel had before we would have to close if nothing changed; at that time, he estimated 10 years before Immanuel ran out of money. When he reviewed our progress at the beginning of April, he said it would be his children's problem. He also said that income had met or exceeded expenses for two quarters, which constituted a "pattern" (as opposed to a one-quarter "blip").

The news only improved at the beginning of July. While I disagree that any congregation (or individual) can be self-sufficient ("apart from me you can do nothing," says Jesus in John 15:5b 😊), income has exceeded expenses for three consecutive quarters!

God has done in less than three years what we could only hope and pray He would do in five. 😊 We dreamed, and God dreamed bigger.

I invite you to join me for a “victory lap” – a potluck after worship on Sunday, 25 August. I will give a short speech, but I mostly just want to say thank you. I ask that we all give thanks to God for his goodness to us and celebrate that this part of Christ’s Body – whose future was bleak less than decade ago – will continue on into the foreseeable future.

To God alone be the Glory (Soli Deo Gloria/SDG),

Pr. Chris

Christians, individually and collectively, are commanded to pray. Also, God wants to hear from us! At the same time, we received some recent feedback on our get-well cards, so we will do things a little differently going forward:

1. If you would like us to pray for you, your friend, or your loved one individually, please let Joyce Davis know and she will send an e-mail through the prayer chain.
2. If you would like us to pray for you, your friend, or your loved one as a congregation during Sunday morning worship, please let Pastor Chris know (though you may want to put it in writing / an e-mail / a text, as Pastor can be a bit scatter-brained) and he will add the name(s) to the Prayers of Intercession / Prayers of the People.
3. If you would like Ken Kingsbury to send a get-well card on behalf of Immanuel Lutheran Church, please give him the name and address to which you would like the card sent.

You can pick and choose – one of the above, two of the above, or all three! We are a praying and prayerful people! We believe that God hears and answers prayers! And we know and respect that some folks don’t want to hear from (what seems to them to be) a random congregation of strangers – and that’s OK, too.

In the June and July newsletters, we published a list of supplies that Dawson and North Ward requested. In mid-July, a very nice donation came to us, and as the writing of this note, we have: 66 notebooks, 69 boxes of markers, 66 boxes of crayons, 290 glue sticks, 64 boxes of colored pencils, 42 pairs of

scissors, 20 packs of 10 pens, 10 packs of one dozen pencils, 0 highlighters, 0 dry erase markers, 0 tissues, and 0 disinfecting wipes. While this looks like a LOT of stuff, it covers North Ward and a few children at Dawson, as each completed list (i.e., 1 pair scissors, 10 glue sticks, 2 boxes of markers, 2 boxes of crayons, 2 highlighters, 1 dry erase marker, 2 boxes of tissues, and 1 spiral notebook) is for 1 child in 1 backpack. Last year, we had at least 50 backpacks, and this year, our goal could be at least 120.

Backpack packing! We will pack backpacks after worship on Sunday, 18 August. For those of you who remember, this year be more like 2023 than 2022 – we will pack quickly and efficiently (with military efficiency, as Jim mentioned 😊).





The University of Michigan Transplant Center is pleased to invite you to a kidney transplant educational program on living donation. The program includes information on ways to help you or your loved one find a potential living kidney donor. We hope you will be able to join us for this session. The program is open to patients, families, friends, or anyone interested in learning more about living donation.

*Facts and Myths of Living Donation and How
to Find a Living Donor*

Program will include “Explore Living Donation” video, patient and donor stories, and a panel of transplant experts.

Thursday, August 8, 2024
6:15-8:00 p.m.
Virtual

Registration is required.
Please go to <https://michmed.org/PnrBy> to register.

For questions, please contact:
transplantoutreach@med.umich.edu or (734) 936-7093

UPCOMING EVENTS

Quilting Group meets every Tuesday in the Quilting Room at 9am.

Bible Study Group meets every Wednesday at 10am

Praise Team Practice meets every Wednesday at 4pm.

Zumba meets in the Fellowship Hall every Wednesday at 6pm and every Saturday at 10am.

GOD'S GARDEN GROUP: Everyone willing and able to join us for ONE hour on alternating Tuesdays of each month to tend to some landscaping around the church is invited to come. For the summer months we will try to beat the heat and meet at 9am and end at 10am with coffee and fellowship. This month we will meet August 13th and August 27th. Bring rakes, gloves, and other necessary tools.

BIBLE AND BREW meets on the second (2nd) Monday of every month at the Trestle Stop in Hamilton. We invite you to bring a friend as we enjoy some good food, lively fellowship, and some interesting questions and answers.

Coffee for Vets meets on the second Tuesday of every month in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship. If you know of a Vet who might like to participate, please invite them.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC will be on August 11th. There is a brochure with a map on the back on the signup table. Always a fun day and we hope to see everyone there.



STICKY DOORS: With the change of weather, the doors may not close. Please see that the doors are latched when you leave. Also the freezer door. Thank you.

BOOK CLUB will meet Monday August 26th at 1pm. We will be discussing *South of Superior* by Ellen Airgood

EVENTS CONTINUED:

Dinner Nite Out will be Saturday August 17th at 5:30pm. The host and place are to be determined (TBD) for this month. We need hosts for the upcoming months of August, September, November, and December. To be the host means that you will choose the restaurant and let them know the number coming. The signup sheet is on the round table.

ALL COMMITTEE MEETING will be held on Monday August 5th in the Fellowship. We usually begin with a lite dinner at 6pm and then break into each group for discussion. *Everyone* is welcome to come and participate in whatever area of ministry you may be interested in.

MANDALA CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 1pm on Monday August 12th. Mandalas have been around for some time. They represent the spiritual journey, starting from the outside and progressing to the inner core. Everyone is welcome and bring a friend.



THE CHURCH COUNCIL meets on Monday, August 19th at 6:30pm.

WHITE CAPS GAME: We have a large group (Bill tells me we have 49 signed up) to attend the White Caps Game on Saturday August 24th at 7pm. Please let us know if you need or want transportation. Oh, and Bill is asking that we all pray for good weather.

WEB PAGE: We are trying to see that the church web page is current (with a LOT of help from Pat Jones - *Thank you Pat*) and encourage you to check it out. On the Welcome Page the events list is expanded; on the ministries page you can view the sermons and links to see the newsletters; on the Cemetery page there is now a link to the *Find-a-Grave* web site for Sheep of the Good Shepherd (this is free); and the calendar page should always be current. Copies of the Church History are on the round table.



JOYFUL SUMMER EVERYONE

If you would, please manually write these Updates and Additions into your current Directories. All updates will be printed in the yearly update coming out in December. If anyone has updates, additions, or corrections, please contact me by phone, text, or email. I will make sure they get in the new Update.

Pam Kraai (616)566-8300 or pawbk22@gmail.com

CORRECTIONS:

Michele Radke
127 Robinson St.
Allegan, Michigan 49010 michele.radke@ascension.org

Laura Beckwith
16 Chippewa Ct., Apt#1
South Haven, Michigan 49090

Dawn Doornhaag
ddoornhaag@icloud.com
New Phone: (269)716-2916

Mike Aksamit: email maksamit@umich.edu

Mike Fusillo email: mfusillo333@gmail.com

ADDITION:

Emily Ottinger
129 Depot Hill Ct.
Allegan, Michigan 49010
emilylottinger@gmail.com (269)666-0460

SPECIAL NEW ADDITION

Aaron and Laura Rogers (and Oliver) are happy to announce the new addition to their family. Bodhi James Rogers was born May 31st. "Oliver is so in love with his baby brother and regularly tries to share his monster trucks and hot wheels with the baby". Sounds like a happy family.



GOD'S GARDEN

