



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Image

August 2019



August

Immanuel Lutheran Church
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Katy LoRusso
Director
Create-A-World Preschool

Like us on Facebook!

Youth and Family Ministry



Camp Create will be starting its fourth year this fall. What is Camp Create? It's a day camp ministry program for 2 year olds. Our first three years have been a huge success! We have grown into a program that has 2 class sections, each meeting 2 days per week, with room for 10 kids in each class. We do still have some openings for this school year! If you or anyone you know has a 2-year-old who'd like to join the fun, talk to Alyssa to find out more. Information & registration forms are also available on our website.

Summer Stretch is Almost Here!

Summer Stretch is a middle school ministry where we spend our mornings doing service projects around the community and spend our afternoons doing a top-secret fun activity. We top off the week with a day at Valley Fair! Summer Stretch will run from August 12 – August 16, and we currently have 17 kids signed up to participate.

Coon Fork Family Day, Sunday, August 11

All are invited to join us for our 4th Annual Coon Fork Family Day. If you've never been there, Coon Fork Lake has a beautiful sandy beach & a great swimming spot. Feel free to bring "water toys" (beach toys, balls, kayaks, paddle boards, etc.) to share if you'd like! There is also a large playground at the beach – something for everyone. We will meet at the public beach in the early afternoon (12:30 or so) – come when you can & stay as long as you'd like. All are welcome!

Journey Of Faith/Worship On Wednesday (WoW)

It's hard to believe it's already August... but that means it's time for Fall planning! If you are interested in volunteering to help lead a Journey of Faith class or help to get our Wednesday night meals on the table, please contact Alyssa; call the church at 715-832-7832 or email familyministry@immanuelec.org.

SEPTEMBER

Save the Date!!

September 8: Rally Sunday!

September 11: Orientation night for incoming 6th through 9th grade families

September 18: Worship on Wednesday (WoW) begins

September 22: Animal Blessing & Family Fun at Immanuel, 3 pm

September 29: God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

****Scholarships are available for all youth activities. Contact Alyssa for information.****

Deceived by ‘the lie of more’

And Jesus said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’ -Luke 12:15

“The Andersons” looked uncomfortable as they explained why they couldn’t give more. “We’d like to,” Mrs. Anderson said, “but we’re getting killed with bills.” Mr. Anderson added, “We barely make ends meet.”

Swimming with stagnant wages against a tide of rising costs, millions of working families struggle to find even enough, but the Andersons’ plight is different. They are blessed with excellent jobs and generous incomes. Sadly, they fell prey to “the lie of more” that drives our consumer culture.

“The lie of more” deceives us into thinking that true happiness, true peace, true contentment is within our grasp – if we only have a little “more.” So we grasp for more stuff, more wealth, more experiences. We often end up not only drowning in debt, but also less happy, less peaceful and less content. People of all incomes can become ensnared in “the lie of more.” In its trap we squander our abundance for scarcity. Instead of living in the freedom and joy that Jesus spoke about in John 10:10, we live in the bondage of debt and stress.

Here are some ways to free yourself from “the lie of more”:

- * Pray regularly over your finances, thanking God for your income (whatever it is) and asking for wisdom and strength to live within your means.
- * Use a household budgeting tool or work with a friend who is good with numbers to come up with a plan to immediately match your income with your bills.
- * Develop a longer-term strategy to pay off credit cards.
- * Pray over every expenditure: Is this a *necessity* or a *want*? Will this *really* bring me happiness? Does this fit into my budget strategy?
- * Work towards a faith plan for your income, such as 10-10-80: Give away 10 percent, save 10 percent and live on 80 percent.
- * Explore “financial literacy.” Perhaps you could encourage your congregation to sponsor classes!
- * As you started with prayer, continue to pray regularly over your finances.

No matter what our income, our lives are fuller and richer when we confront “the lie of more” and focus on the sources of true happiness: Our loving relationship with God and neighbor.

--Rob Blezard

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Reflections from the Colorado Youth Adventure Team

Karina Barquist: During the Colorado trip my faith was changed a lot. Getting the experience of rafting the Arkansas River, rappelling even when you're afraid of heights, and getting a chance to hike up 12,000 ft really changes you a lot. During that time you see a lot of beauty that you wouldn't see anywhere else. It shows the world God has made is truly incredible. Looking at his beautiful creations in person really makes you think differently. Getting to see so much wildlife in a new environment really makes you think beyond. Not saying Eau Claire isn't beautiful or anything, but this trip has really shown me God's creation in a new perspective.

CJ Haas: My faith was grown on this trip. I had to trust God all the time. When we were rock climbing, rappelling, and rafting. We had to trust that God, the rope or boat, and our guide had us safe. I became closer to a lot of new people on the trip and created new bonds.

Molly LoRusso: this trip really helped to strengthen my relationships with a lot of people there. I pushed myself and got to see what God can create and do. I went out of my comfort zone in a lot of the activities and this caused me to test my perseverance. This has trip has meant so much to me and I want to thank everyone that helped make it happen.

Maddy LoRusso: This trip to Colorado was my last as a youth with Immanuel Lutheran and it was truly amazing. As with any trip, you become closer to those you travel with and meet along the way, but on this particular trip, with the largest group I've ever been with, I felt as if I created a strong connection with everyone - Immanuel people, our guides, and those we met along the way - and truly felt as if Christ was flowing through all of us. Overall, what I learned on this trip is that God is love; by loving ourselves, by loving each other, and ultimately by loving God.

Allisa Hansen: I really enjoyed this trip, I felt as though it pushed me to do things that are out of my comfort zone and put my faith in God. The activities we participated in made me trust him more than I've ever really had to, which I believe made my connection to God stronger. I also had to learn to put trust in my peers, and really trust myself through everything we did together.

Maddy Rosenberger: My first adventure trip with Immanuel was great. It was amazing to see God's beauty in the mountains. We got to do a lot of amazing things, that I rarely have the chance to do here. Over the course of the trip I became a part of a new community. It feels great to trust and be part of such a nice group. I am thankful for the opportunity to go on this trip and for everyone who helped make the trip happen.

Maija Balts: Going to Colorado was such an amazing experience, it not only helped me grow in my faith, but I grew closer to my peers in my youth group. Prior to the trip, I didn't know very many people in the group, but after spending roughly 38 hours in a car with them I grew closer with every single person that went. While the sickness some of us experienced on the trip was low, it brought out our caring sides and we grew together in ways no one expected. The most trying day was the hiking day. My group struggled the entire way to the top, but it pushed us to do our best, and while I can't speak for everyone on the trip, I grew internally with myself and with my faith enormously that day. This is one of the best trips I've ever taken through church.

Tressa Forrest: This was my first trip being a leader, I went on trips all through high school as a student, but this was much different. Being a leader, I realized the goal wasn't being focused on what I was learning, or how I was growing, but watching the kids grow throughout the week. I really loved seeing, how that first night at the church, they were all still a little cautious, did not really know everyone, to seeing them all become a connected group by the end of the week. Also, I have never seen as many kids push themselves past their comfort zones as these kids did that week, they were scared of a lot of things, unsure of their own limits, but were willing try so many things and push themselves to amazing things. Personally, I think this week was an excellent week to re-connect with God. To be surrounded in the creation and the beauty of the mountains and take a break from everything going on back at home. But I also pushed myself that week, did a lot of things much outside of my comfort zone, but was very proud of myself that I did them. Overall, I am exceptionally glad that I had this opportunity to go across the country with these kids and watch them, and myself, grow personally and in their faith.

Marissa Schroeder: What can I say, other than that this trip taught me so many life lessons like perseverance, loyalty and that I can trust God wherever I go to protect me and everyone around me. This week strengthened my faith in God by twice the amount it already was. This trip also strengthened many of the relationships between me and the other trip members. Our team went through so many complications and stuck together throughout it all and found the best in the situations. This trip was one of the best experiences of my life, from learning so many card games and laughing for hours on end with so many of these amazing people. If I could go on this trip again I would. Even though the hike was miserable in many ways for all of us, it was my favorite day of the trip. The surreal creations of God stunned me, the beautiful waterfalls, flowers and mountains made me feel like I was in heaven. I mean, who can say they touched snow in 80 degree weather on top of a mountain? Reaching the top of the mountain gave me so much self confidence and showed me that I can achieve anything that I put my mind to. I am extremely thankful for everyone who helped make this trip possible and the amazing people that are in our church community. I really couldn't have asked for anything better.

Jaiden Ivey: I had an amazing experience during our trip to Colorado. I got to meet new people and spend time in God's beautiful creation white water rafting, hiking, and just looking out through the mountains. My favorite day was when we went white water rafting, the view was incredible and it was a very exciting experience. There were some unexpected adventures but our guides got us through and it added to the stories we can tell. This week I was able to grow in my faith and trust with the experiences and through all the amazing people that went with me.

Ava Weber: I grew in faith by meeting new people, getting to know new people, but also from getting to know members of the group better. Getting to see the world through different eyes, and seeing what the earth has to offer from a different perspective. Seeing the world differently than what other people see it as. That's how I really truly grew in my faith.



Calvin Dean: I had an amazing time on the adventure trip to Colorado. I was able to try rock climbing and repelling for the first time. I went white rafting and pushed myself to the limits on the peak hike. We grew as a team after everyone got back from the rafting trip. Thanks for helping us to go on such a life changing trip!!

Samantha Zimmerman: On this trip I feel I reconnected with my faith. The last year I had some really big things happen in my life to make me rethink my faith. I've been on 3 church trips and I wasn't too sure about going on this trip, but I am so thankful that I did because I had my eyes reopened to the beautiful creations God created. I also made new friendships that will last a lifetime and I strengthened old friendships.

Aidan Tarpennig: My experience in Colorado was amazing, there was so much to do and I gained lots of new experiences. First we had our travel days where we socialized and things got a little out of hand at times but it's expected when you are driving for four days. Then the first activity was rock climbing and it was awesome climbing up a real mountain side, I did 2 climbs for fun and 1 to challenge myself for the accomplishment. Then it was the rafting days, it was tons of fun going up and down waves quickly and paddling past tons of water coming your direction. Last hike was my favorite activity getting up a huge mountain, challenging yourself and seeing all the scenery on the way was amazing. It was a great trip which I enjoyed because I got to challenge myself and I learned a lot more about God and his creation.

Frank LoRusso: I learned a lot and grew as a leader. There were a lot of God moments like bonding at circle time at night and working together as a team during our adventures. I tried rock climbing and getting to the top helped me grow in faith because God helped me through it.

Alyssa Engedal: On behalf of our Adventure Trip Team, thank you for your support! This trip to Colorado was our highest attended trip ever... or at least in a very long time. We had 21 people (17 youth & 4 adults) participate in this trip, which is so exciting! It is also a bit scary, as it means everything is just a little more complicated – how do we get there? How do we fundraise so much money? How do we eat? But, as we saw again and again on this trip, we put our faith in God, our team, and our community and it happened!

Adventure Trips seem to always have this moment where someone (a trip member, usually) says, “Wait a minute – we aren’t DOING anything? No service project? What’s the point?” I respond by telling them that “the point” is to grow in our faith as individuals and in fellowship together as a community – also important parts of Christian living. Once we get on the trip, however, I never hear “the point” questioned again – it is clear to all of us that this is a valid experience for growth as individuals, as a team, and in our faith. Listening to the youth consistently encourage and uplift one another (“You got this! You’re so close! Keep going! You can do it!”) is amazing – and something that doesn’t happen nearly as often on Service Trips or at the National Youth Gathering. There’s growth and bonding during all 3 types of trips, of course, but adventure trips have a unique way of pushing kids into situations that are outside of their comfort zone and make them vulnerable alongside their peers. There were many instances during this trip that could have had a negative lasting impression – complications during rafting, miscommunication among peers, altitude illness, theological differences with our trip guides, blisters, sunburns, etc. – but the team persevered and didn’t let that happen. They simply chose to bond together, to learn from these experiences, to choose grace and forgiveness, to keep their attitudes positive, to be strong and articulate in their faith, and to have lots of fun! So, we thank you, again, Immanuel community, for being so supportive of our young people – it means more than you know to each of them, and to me, to have the opportunity to take these trips year after year. They learn and grow and explore their faith in new ways each time, and we couldn’t do it without you!



A Message from Hannah Olson, Intern Pastor

Happy August, friends! I cannot believe that it is already almost the end of my time here at Immanuel for the summer season. I have enjoyed being in the midst of the Immanuel community once again -- learning, growing, smiling, and laughing!

It has been so joyful to celebrate Immanuel's new RIC status and explore what that means alongside all of you; and what a great learning opportunity for me to watch a congregation thoughtfully and articulately live into their calling as Lutherans, to welcome and serve their neighbors!

One of my favorite moments this summer was hearing the Immanuel youth speak about what the RIC process meant to them as members of the Immanuel community. Being a part of the Adventure Trip to Colorado was an awesome opportunity to learn (and hike and raft and tent!) alongside phenomenal youth that I got to know during our trip. I learned so much during our evening Bible studies, and was introduced to God in all sorts of new ways -- thanks to everyone's willingness to share their own theologies and God Moments. And I am so thankful they continued to trust me as a leader, even after I almost veered off the road in the van. :)

I am thrilled to take all the wisdom that has been shared with me by the Immanuel community, back to the Cities with me this fall. I will be moving to Minneapolis at the end of this month, and beginning a twelve-month Clinical Pastoral Education Residency at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis. Abbott is the largest private hospital in the Twin Cities, and I am looking forward to all the opportunities I will have to learn from patients and the wonderful spiritual care staff who will be guiding me.

I will also be working very part-time at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, which is located in the Mac-Groveland neighborhood of St. Paul. It is an ELCA congregation which offers Celtic contemplative evening worship services, has a commitment to social justice and welcome that is similar to our community here at Immanuel, and is also a member of the RIC faith community. Through my time at Immanuel this summer, and my work at Abbott and Pilgrim, I will be fulfilling my internship requirements needed for my ordination process. That means that once these internships are completed, I can move into the final steps of the Approval process for ordination!

I am, as always, so thankful that the Holy Spirit led me to the Immanuel community. I feel grateful for all of the support I have received, and I am truly excited to share my journey and ordination process with such an intentional and thoughtful faith community. I will be staying connected to Immanuel as I continue through the ordination process, and I look forward to continuing to share in worship here at Immanuel!



Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteers are a vital part of the church - in fact, the church pretty much runs on volunteers! Volunteers maintain the church grounds, put together the slides for worship services, greet guests who come to our Food Pantry, run the sound system during worship, serve on the Council, sing in the choir, prepare the altar for worship, greet members and visitors as they enter the church for worship, serve as ushers, acolytes, crucifers and assisting ministers, provide fellowship snacks following worship - you get the idea! There are many ways to share your time, talents and gifts, and training is provided where needed or requested.

This month we will spotlight what's involved in serving as an **Assisting Minister**. (The new robes are here! Thank you to all who donated!!) The assisting minister helps the presiding minister in various ways throughout the worship service. On a typical Sunday the assisting minister will read the Prayers of the People, prepare the altar for communion, accept the gifts of offering from the ushers, help in the distribution of communion, lead the congregation in the post-communion prayer, and "send" the congregation at the end of the service. Note the assisting minister and the congregation have the last words in worship, emphasizing that the mission of the church is the responsibility of all the baptized! Contact Dee or Pr. Jamie if you have questions or are interested in this opportunity.

Worship Leader Coordinators

Interested in serving during worship?

Contact the coordinator below or sign up through the Immanuel web page, <https://www.immanuelec.org/community/volunteer/>

Assistant Ministers

Andrea Schaffer

715-514-7284

Lectors

Becky Wilcox

715-835-9784

Ushers and Greeters

Barb Hokanson

715-835-1524

Bread & Wine and Altar Care

Melissa Tarpenning



Worship Leaders

	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
Assisting Minister	Dave Langhus	Please volunteer	Dave Langhus	Please volunteer
Lector	Diane Kaufmann	Lang Jacobson	Becky Wilcox	Bob Wilcox
Ushers	Jill & Carter Chapman	Curt & Janet Carlson	Barb Lundeen & Kitty Rahl	Steve Mikelson & Bob Wilcox
Greeters	Donna Armstrong & Audrey Brunzlick	Betty Gertner & Marcia Bowman	Jackie Johnson & Jo Stolp	Engedal Family
Counters	Sue Luthy & Curt Carlson	Sue Luthy & Curt Carlson	Sue Luthy & Curt Carlson	Sue Luthy & Curt Carlson

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August Birthday's

01 Ben Lashley
02 Keiran Tarpenning
02 Isaac Jacobson
03 Claudia Barquist
05 Molly LoRusso
06 Marvin Kaufmann
06 Joan Pospishil
06 Elizabeth Johnson
08 Steven Buchholz
10 Maddy Rosenberger
11 Katie Pospishil
12 Vanessa Rassbach
14 Sarah Aiken-Felling
14 Dan Strehlau
15 Peggy Schwengel
15 Marissa Neidermire
15 Cheryl Ulberg
17 Lorraine Stenzel
18 Trista Wickware
18 Katrina Hagen
18 Rose Albano
21 Dave Lehmkuhl
22 Dan Borreson
22 Becky Ihle
22 Debbie Kavanagh
23 Todd LaValley
23 Troy Gilbertson
23 Alessa Eilts
23 Bella Reuter
24 Howard Fehr
24 Debby Petersen
24 Curt Carlson
24 Lauri Malnory
25 Tyler August
25 Sharon Lehman
26 Benjamin Reuter
28 Jan Lothe
31 Benjamin Fox
31 Sheridan Fox

August Anniversaries

03 Tim & Gay Fehr
03 Bob & Becky Wilcox
04 Jim & Cheryl Ulberg
07 Justin & Roberta Liebergen
09 Frank & Katy LoRusso
10 Dave & Diane Christopher
11 Casper & Melissa Haas
14 Andy & Julie Benware
15 Mark & Lois Helland
16 Chris & Shauna Eilts
15 Chris & Michelle Johnson
21 David & Andrea Schaffer
23 Bill & Peggy Schwengel
23 Jim & Stephanie Fey
26 Larry & Barb Lundeen
31 Vic & Jan Lothe

JONAH Events for August

Tuesday, August 6

National Night Out
5:30 - 8:00 PM
Owen Park

Wednesday, August 7

Unlock the Vote Rally
5:30 - 7:00 PM
Phoenix Park

Sunday, August 25

2nd Annual Summer Fiesta
4:00 - 7:00 PM
Altoona's River Prairie

For more information on these events, JONAH or the Immigration, Affordable Housing, Environmental Sustainability, EXPO and End Child Poverty task forces, contact Ray Koch, rk9561@charter.net



Eau Claire-Chippewa Falls Area Low Vision Fair

Friday, August 9, 2019

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Do you or someone you know have low vision or vision loss? Maybe it was caused by macular degeneration, glaucoma or another eye or neurological condition. Do you wonder what might help you meet some of the everyday challenges low vision can cause? If so, you will want to come to the Eau Claire-Chippewa Falls Area Low Vision Fair on August 9!

The Low Vision Fair is sponsored by the Wisconsin Council of the Blind & Visually Impaired. Come and learn about resources, products and services for those with low vision. You can view low and high tech adaptive devices, learn about services, and listen to four educational programs about adapting to low vision. As vendors and speakers confirm, program information will be posted at WCBlind.org under the Events tab.

The Eau Claire-Chippewa Falls Area Low Vision Fair will be Friday, August 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will be held at Chippewa Valley Technical College, Business Education Center, 620 W. Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI. The vendors will be there from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The educational sessions will be from 11:30 a.m. through 2:15 p.m. Listen to as many educational sessions as you want. Talk to the vendors as your time allows. Come and go as

Alzheimer's Community Forum

Wednesday, August 28

10:30 a.m to Noon

Deb's Café

1120 122nd St.

Chippewa Falls WI 54729

Learn about Alzheimer's, dementia and memory loss. Bring a friend who has been affected by the disease. Share your thoughts about how the Alzheimer's Association can help people in our community.

Light refreshments provided.

Registration is requested. Call 800-272-3900 or visit <http://bit.ly/alzcommunityforum> to register.



Heart for Luther Park Fundraising Event

Sunday, August 4, 2019

Schedule of Events

- 9:15 AM *Outdoor Camp-style Worship
- 10:00 AM *Come and Browse!
- *Silent Auction Bidding Starts
- *Day Camp Starts
- 11:00 AM *Grilled Chicken Lunch
- *Pie and Ice Cream
- *Kid's Activities
- *Camp Store
- 12:30 PM Live Auction of Quilts and Crafts
- *Silent Auction Continues

3:00 PM Raffle Drawing

Auctioneer: Former Bishop Bob Berg

August 2019

If you shop on Amazon, log into Amazon Smile. We receive \$ from your purchases. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0990139>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
28	29 Vacation Bible School	30 Vacation Bible School	31 Vacation Bible School	1 Vacation Bible School	2 Vacation Bible School	3
4 Pentecost 8 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship	5	6 6:30 PM Knitting 5:30-8:00 PM - National Night Out	7 5:30-7:00 - Unlock the Vote Rally	8	9 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Low Vision Fair	10
11 Pentecost 9 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Noon - Coon Fork Family Fun Event	12 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Summer Stretch	13 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Summer Stretch	14 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Summer Stretch Noon—Material Witness Quilting	15 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM PM Summer Stretch	16 Summer Stretch to Valley Fair	17
18 Pentecost 10 9:30 AM Worship Sending rite for Hannah Olson 10:30 AM Fellowship 3:00 PM Inclusive Ministry (IM) Church @ Lake Street Methodist	19	20 7:00 PM Council Mtg	21 10 AM Sr Bible Study Noon—Material Witness Quilting	22	23	24
25 Pentecost 11 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 4:00-7:00 PM - 2nd Annual Summer Fiesta,	26	27	28 Serving at Community Table Noon—Material Witness Quilting 10:30 - Noon - Alzheimer's Forum	29 Create-a-World & Camp Create ice cream social	30	

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Home of Create-A-World Preschool and Camp Create

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a congregation of all ages and backgrounds gathered to worship God, walk with one another in our faith journeys, and reach out to the community with compassion. We welcome people new to our faith community and invite them to share our ministry.

Our roots run deep in the community, yet we seek to respond to our constantly changing culture. From our worship services to our preschool, we are dedicated to spreading God's word and living lives to reflect God's love for the world.

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3214 Golf Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701
Address service required

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*A congregation of the
Northwest Synod of the ELCA of Wisconsin*