

INSIDE IMMANUEL



Faithful to God's Word – we receive, celebrate and share Jesus Christ.

To Seek God

For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which is sent it. Isaiah 55.10-11

It seems like an easy thing to find. After all it's everywhere. Outside and inside, at your own home or office or school, above you in the sky, and below you in the dirt. There is no place that you can go that you may escape it and no place that you can hide from it. It is right in front of your eyes, so obvious that you cannot help but stare at it all day long. As you walk you walk on it. As you breathe you breathe it. As you eat you eat it. It is all around you and in you and through you. Do you know what it is? It is God.

It is true that God is everywhere and in everything. There is no place we can go to escape Him and no place we can go to hide from Him. God knows everything, sees everything, and is everywhere. Yet, Isaiah writes, "Seek the Lord while He may be found (Is 55.6)." If God is everywhere, why would we have to seek Him? Should we not be able to find Him wherever we look and in whatever we do? Why even bother to look for Him? Yet, Isaiah clearly says, "Seek the Lord while He may be found." While He may be found? It sounds as if sometimes God cannot be found. That sometimes God hides Himself.

God is hidden in nature. While it is true that God is all around us and in everything God remains hidden. So many civilizations knew so much about nature: the Egyptians, Babylonians, Incas, and even Native Americans. Yet, they did not know God. They invented gods who made the sun to shine and the moon to rise. They invented all sorts of gods to explain why the trees grow and the streams flow and even why there are so many different animals. They even had stories about the creation of the world and why man exists. Yet, for all their gods the true God remained hidden. For natural man looking out at the splendor of creation he can say that something greater must be out there, but what it is he cannot know since God has hidden himself in nature.

This is clearly a problem. If God has hidden himself how do we know where to find Him? Moreover, if God is so hidden and civilizations make their own gods they do not even realize they are not worshiping the true God. They have replaced the true God with a lie and are content to live with the lie. We are no different than those civilizations. We have replaced the true God for a lie. From the moment of our birth we put ourselves in the place of God. Through our sin we place ourselves before God. Not even realizing who God is or that we should be worshiping Him. Through our sin we emphatically state that we are our own masters and we do not need anyone, including God, to tell us how to live. So blinded are we in our sin that we do not even know there is a God who created us. We are as blinded as Adam and Eve trying to hide in the garden after they sinned; trying to hide from the all-knowing and all-seeing God. Although God knows us, we are prevented from knowing Him. So horribly has sin blinded us that we do not, that we cannot, know God.

"Seek the Lord while he may be found." How can we seek the Lord? We can never find him because our sin so blinds us. He could be right in front of us and yet we might think him only a gardener. He could be walking beside us on the road and yet we might think him only a pilgrim. He could be all around us and yet we might never see him for who he is. Sure we go looking. Self-help books and TV tell us to seek god inside ourselves and we will be happy. Just do whatever you want, seek any god you want, and that is good enough. Yet, never in a million years could we find the true God.

"Seek the Lord while he may be found." There is only one place that God is truly revealed- hanging upon the cross. There is God, not in might and majesty, but in humility and in suffering about to die. There is God hanging for you. Jesus went to that cross to die because you could never find God otherwise. Jesus had to die upon that cross for your sin so blinds you that you could seek all your life and still you would never find God. Yes, upon the

cross is God completely, totally revealed. His love and compassion for you are completely seen. Who else would love you so much that He would die for you? Who else would love you while you sin against them? Who else could die for those sins? Upon the cross is God revealed. Therefore, you who are seeking God, look the cross and find Him. Find him hanging there, suffering there, dying there, for you. He is there that you would be forgiven. Find the only God there. The God who loves you more than His own life. Look to the cross, look to Jesus, and you have found God.

Yet, you have not found him. He has found you. Even before you were looking for God, God found you. Before the foundations of this world were laid God made plans to redeem you from your sins. Even before you were born, God accomplished that plan upon the cross. And even in your life it is God who has first found you. As Isaiah reminds us God sent out His word and His word accomplished amazing things. Isaiah writes, "For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which is sent it." In your sin God's word found you. In your sin God's word directed you to where God is found; the cross of Jesus. This is, after all, why God sent His word; that you might hear it and hearing it you might be shown that God is found upon the cross and knowing what Jesus did that you might be saved.

There is no other place that you need to look for God than in his word. For there God is clearly found and there God promises to be. His word is powerful because God is there. His word is true and right for God is the author. His word saves because it shows you the death of Jesus. This word does not return to God empty or void of accomplishing anything. Rather, this word works on your heart. This word directs your heart and mind to Jesus. In this word is where God seeks you. Here God seeks you by showing himself to you and giving you so many wonderful promises. Promises like forgiveness, life and salvation are yours from God through the word.

It is so true that God is everywhere. There is no place where we can flee from God or hide from him. Yet, there is only one place where God is *for you*. God is working for you upon the cross. Suffering, dying and on the third day rising. Here is God fully, completely revealed. You who know the sins of your heart; do not seek God in nature, in the forests and streams; do not seek God in vain philosophy or intellectual dreams; do not seek God anywhere apart from His word. Daily seek God where He is certainly found. Seek God in His word and you will find him. You will find Jesus dying for your sins. You will find the incredible love which God has for you. You will find salvation.

In Jesus Christ crucified,
Pastor Boyer

Treasurer's Report

MONTH OF JUNE 2023

Receipts	\$ 50,520.15
Less Expenses	- 85,602.41
Operating Income	-35,082.26
Deficit Reduction	<u>1,150.00</u>
Net Income	-33,932.26

**September
Newsletter
Deadline:**

**FRIDAY,
AUGUST 18**

G.L.U.E "God Loves Us Eternally"

1 Chronicles 28:20

Then David said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished."

David's words to Solomon are good for us, too! As Christians we should be strong and just "do it." I know it's also a "Nike" term, "Just do it." Not sure what the "Nike" term was generated from, but it fits also. We should know that God will never forsake us. The work for the service of the Lord will never finish. God is eternal and we will be also, in Him. Believing in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

ensures that our life with God is eternal, even after death upon this earth. We look forward to the day that we can be with God in heaven.

While on this earth we should not be afraid or dismayed at what is happening in our everyday lives. As the saying goes, life on earth "is what it is." And while here, regardless of life's situations, we can always know that "God is with us!" It is with pleasure that we go to church to hear and study God's Word, as well as, share it with others. Remember, it is not up to us to bring people to God; He will take care of that. It is up to us though, to share the Word with others, even those with whom we do not know. That is our job as Christians. Our work on earth is not finished, either, until we do. Do not be afraid to share the Word of God with anyone.

"Share the Word," it is God's gift to us that shows "God Loves Us Eternally!"

God's blessings to all!
Jim Bratton

Official Acts

WEDDINGS

06/24 Sawyer Cuthrell & Madison Herman

BAPTISM

07/15 Sullivyn Gray Kuhl, daughter of Matthew & Traci Kuhl, born July 5, 2023.

Council Meeting JULY 10

Elders: Jeff Williamson has been added to the Endowment Committee. There was a discussion on the new trees in the sanctuary. Letters of encouragement have been sent out to our members who have been inactive.

Trustees: All the work on the CTK buildings is on task to be completed before school begins!

Evangelism: nothing to report this month.

Stewardship: Sharon Werschky is getting off the committee, we are looking for someone to fill her spot. Thank you notes were sent to our outgoing board members. Pastor Appreciation reception is planned for October. A discussion was had on changes coming to Thrivent and what that may mean for Immanuel.

Youth: We had 4 kids and 4 adults attend the MI Sr High Youth gathering in Mackinaw. The ice cream social during the Sugar Fest served 180 and netted \$520. VBS is happening August 8-10 at Immanuel.

School Board: New school board members are Tammy Lutz and Grant Sting. Laura Nimtz will be the new preschool director at CTK for the 2023-2024 school year. Travis, from the Michigan District will be coming to do school board training.

New Business: Sarah Kemp has been added to the scholarship Endowment Committee.

Vice President: We are still looking to appoint a replacement for this position.

CTK School News

What a wonderful summer this has been. Good weather, time to relax, and lots of changes happening in our school buildings. Unionville campus has enjoyed summer camp for the second year this summer. Miss Jade Androl and her excellent staff, have utilized many aspects of the Unionville community to have a successful camp. July 24 was the first day of work for our new Preschool Director, Mrs. Laura Nimtz. The school year ended with the sad announcement by Mrs. Nicole Dyer that she was leaving us. We wish Mrs. Dyer the best and look forward to getting to know Mrs. Nimtz as she leads our program. New doors and windows were also recently installed at this campus. The upgrades are wonderful and well received.

The Sebewaing campus has also undergone some renovations. New doors, inside and out, have been installed. Windows and air conditioning are now in process of being installed. We are excited about these upgrades to our building.

The interactive whiteboards from the reverse auction in March arrived this past week. We were able to purchase five boards and are excited to use them in the classrooms. We continue to pursue options for the rest of the auction funds. Updating signage at both buildings and security upgrades are being pursued.

We are blessed by the addition of Mrs. Nimtz as well as Miss Hannah Volz. Hannah will be a student teacher in grade five this fall and will transition to being the classroom teacher in the spring, under the guidance of Mrs. Jen Yoder. CTK is still looking for an

art and physical education teacher, so please keep that in your prayers. Our school year theme is *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.* Ephesians 4:32 We look forward to incorporating this theme into our daily lives.

In Christ,
Mary Eifert, Principal

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN HONOR ROLL Fourth Quarter 2022-2023

*A STUDENT MUST MAINTAIN A GRADE POINT OF 3.67 OR HIGHER IN ALL CORE SUBJECTS TO QUALIFY FOR THE PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL. *INDICATES ALL A'S*

GRADE FIVE: Benjamin Bowman, Trevor Brink, Addison Kelly, Ryker Kuhl, *Madison Reithel, *Emily Sattelberg, Mya Sweetman.

GRADE SIX: *Zane Alderson, Levi Anderson, *Rachel Becker, Jacob Boyer, Lydia Irion, Isaac Martens, Colton Nitz, Tripp Payne, *Peyton Roemer, Heidi Scharf, *Charlotte Schulz, *Ella Vermeersch.

GRADE SEVEN: Morgan Armbruster, *Grady Bolzman, Paige Fiebig, Isaac Foley, *Madison Kemp, Dustin Kuhl, Easton Neumann, Ally Sweetman.

GRADE EIGHT: LeEtta Bohn, *Sarah Boyer, *Evan Foley, Josie Kovach, Peityn Nitzh, Amelia Reinbold, *Hannah VanTol.

HONOR ROLL WITH GRADE POINT OF 3.17 – 3.66

GRADE FIVE: Charlotte Linzner, Bentley Saenz, Ella Sattelberg, Oscar Schulz.

GRADE SIX: Jersey Bumhoffer
GRADE SEVEN: Bentley Bumhoffer, Molly Gremel,

Taylor Kuhl, Abigail Reithel,
 Luke Sattelberg, Lily Toft.
GRADE EIGHT: Treston Kuhl,
 Winston Reinbold, Cooper Smith,
 Avery Stecker, Tucker Truemner,
 Owen Stafford.

**“Our mission as a spiritual
 family at Christ the King
 Lutheran School is to Bring In,
 Build Up, and Send Out
 disciples of Jesus Christ.”**

Memorial & Gifts

IMMANUEL GENERAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF MARGIT DYER

Tim & Sandy Irion
 Joel & Becky Fiebig
 Stephanie & Ron Long
 Countryside
 Bob & Linda Wiltse
 Mike & Janet Horst
 John & Dianne Schulz
 Carol Poppy

Terry & Pam Winter
 Shawn & Marsha Winter
 Wayne & Sheree Goebel
 Erwin & Cynthia Loeffler
 Jeff Loeffler
 Warren & Connie Reithel – bell tower
 Crystal Prahl
 Joanne Harder
 Sandy Marxhausen
 Gordon Pommerenke
 Don & Patricia Holland
 Aldine Fiebig
 Tim & Debbie Kubacki
 Nancy Layher

IN MEORY OF EVELYN WEINLANDER

Nancy Layher

IN MEMORY OF ILA FIEBIG

Nancy Layher

IMMANUEL RADIO MISSION

IN MEMORY OF MARGIT DYER

Troy Strieter
 Theresa Nitz

IMMANUEL CEMETERY

IN MEORY OF MARGIT DYER

Larry Kuhl

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL

IN MEMORY OF MARGIT DYER

Kristine Koch – capital improv
 Joel, Gia & Shay Gremel
 Kunding Farms
 Ed & Lori Kemp
 Joyce Jahr & Family
 Lola Stein & Families
 Dave & Jennifer Yoder
 Steve & Ursula Gangler
 Dyer Plumbing Crew
 Richard & Connie Gremel
 Larry & Shelly Lenz
 Mike & Erica Armbruster
 Robin & Stephen Linzner
 Thomas & Renee Eurich
 Jim & Deanne Sattleberg
 Steve & Patti Gremel – 4th grade
 Mike & Lorene Zagata – scholarship
 Jack Buehler
 Don & Kathy Fiebig
 Judy Halstead

IN MEMORY OF ILLA JEAN SEVERN

Carol Mammel – library
 Kristine Koch

IN MEMORY - FAY O'LITTA BALLAGH

Carol Mammel – library

Scrip Order Form, Christ the King Lutheran School

Has Cards Order Cards

Name: _____ Account to Apply to: _____ Phone: _____

Chain Stores	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Ace Hardware	4%	\$25		
Amazon	1.7%	\$100		
Amazon	1.7%	\$25		
American Eagle	10%	\$25		
Auto Zone	7%	\$25		
Barnes & Noble	8%	\$10		
Barnes & Noble	8%	\$25		
Bath & Body Works	12%	\$25		
Bath & Body Works	12%	\$10		
Bed, Bath, Beyond	7%	\$25		
Best Buy	4%	\$25		
Cabelas	8%	\$25		
Cabelas	8%	\$100		
Claire's	9%	\$25		
Dicks Sporting	8%	\$25		
Disney	3%	\$25		
Disney	3%	\$100		
Dunhams	8%	\$25		
Five Below	2.5%	\$25		
Gap/Old Navy	14%	\$25		
Gordon's Food	4%	\$25		
Hallmark Gold	4%	\$25		
Home Depot	4%	\$100		
Home Depot	4%	\$25		
Jc Penny	5%	\$25		
Joann Fabrics	6%	\$25		
Kohls	4%	\$25		
Kohls	4%	\$100		
Lowe's	4%	\$25		
Macy's	10%	\$25		
Marshall/TJ Maxx	7%	\$25		
Maurices	7%	\$20		
Meijer	3%	\$100		
Meijer	3%	\$50		
Meijer	3%	\$25		
Menards	3%	\$100		
Menards	3%	\$25		
Micheals	4%	\$25		
Shutterfly	9%	\$25		
Staples	5%	\$25		
Target	2.5%	\$25		
Ulta	4%	\$25		
Under Armour	11%	\$25		
Wal-mart	2.5%	\$100		

Gas	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Marathon	3%	\$100		
Marathon	3%	\$25		
Shell	1.5%	\$25		
Speedway	4%	\$100		
Speedway	4%	\$25		
Sunoco	1.5%	\$50		
Miscellaneous	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Build a Bear	8%	\$25		
Dave & Busters	13%	\$25		
Delta Airlines	4%	\$250		
I Tunes	5%	\$15		
Pet Smart	5%	\$25		
Thirty-One A. Bell	5%	\$25		
Visa	1.25%	\$50		
Restaurants	Profit	Amt	Quantity	Total
Applebees	8%	\$25		
Arby's	8%	\$10		
Bob Evans	10%	\$25		
Bob Evans	10%	\$10		
Buffalo Wild Wings	8%	\$25		
Burger King	4%	\$10		
Happy Moments	8%	\$25		
Chili's	11%	\$25		
Chipotle	10%	\$10		
Cold Stone Creamery	11%	\$10		
Cracker Barrel	8%	\$10		
Dairy Queen	3%	\$10		
Dardens/Olive Garden	8%	\$25		
IHop	8%	\$25		
McDonalds	2%	\$25		
Little Ceaser's	8%	\$20		
Outback Steakhouse	8%	\$25		
Panda Express	8%	\$25		
Panera Bread	9%	\$25		
Panera Bread	9%	\$10		
Pizza Hut	8%	\$10		
Qdoba	7%	\$25		
Red Lobster	8%	\$25		
Starbucks	7%	\$25		
Starbucks	7%	\$10		
Subway	6%	\$10		
Taco Bell	5%	\$10		
Texas Roadhouse	8%	\$25		
Tim Horton's	5%	\$10		

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
800 E BAY ST
SEBEWAING, MI 48759

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
SEBEWAING, MI 48759
PERMIT #32

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Dates to Remember

August 8-10	VBS @ church, 6-8 pm
August 14	CTK Registration and pictures 10:00am-7:00pm
August 21	CTK School Begins (no bussing)
August 25	CTK No School
September 1	CTK No School
September 4	Labor Day – CTK No School, Church Office Closed
September 5	CTK preschool begins

August Birthdays

AUGUST 1

Janet Ewald
Feather Reige

AUGUST 2

Gary Loeffler
Joanna Matthews

AUGUST 3

Gregory Lupp
Alexdria Walz

AUGUST 4

Frances Davis
Darwin Nitz

AUGUST 5

Eleanor Matthews
Nancy Pommerenke
Jerri Rummel

AUGUST 6

Wyatt Heckroth
Alissa Younglove

AUGUST 7

Mark Krauss
Gloria McKellar

AUGUST 8

Lincoln Bloomer
Charlotte Lewis
Theresa Nitz
Patrick Stecker

AUGUST 9

Gregory Eremia
Victor Roemer

AUGUST 10

Lincoln Haag
Aaron Krauss
Hunter Zuzga

AUGUST 11

Joanne Eremia

AUGUST 12

No birthdays

AUGUST 13

Fran Balzer
Harlon Neumann Sr
Ally Sweetman
Adam Vogel

AUGUST 14

Chloe Beringer
Leighton Fritz
Luke Gremel
Michael Gremel
Paul Kemp
Emmeline Kotenko
Ethan Pommerenke
Zachary Weeks

AUGUST 15

Jessica Dressler
David Mammel
Toby Stock
Jennifer Millerwise

AUGUST 16

June Richards
Katherine Ricker
David Wildner
Pamela Winter

AUGUST 17

Colten Claerhout
Lawson Weber

AUGUST 18

Jake Fiebig
Elizabeth Riess
Bethany Weber

AUGUST 19

Lacie Eurich
Ralph Maurer
Isabella Sanback
Bradley Sting

AUGUST 20

James Bohn
Natasha Dubs

AUGUST 21

Sarah Kemp
Preston Pitt

AUGUST 22

Erica Hartman
Ella Vermeersch

AUGUST 23

Jacob McDaid
Cane Weinlander

AUGUST 24

Jodi Smith
Lynette Walz

AUGUST 25

Natalie Gallow
Joshua Hornbacher
Erin Jubar

AUGUST 26

Nicole Bauer
Cindy Wildner

AUGUST 27

Mya Sweetman
Michael Walz

AUGUST 28

Noel Cain
Marilyn Calopisis
Arlene Gremel
Vickie McDaid

AUGUST 29

Fred Bauer
Suzanne McGathy
Austin Nieschulz

AUGUST 30

Laura Abke
Addison Pommerenke

AUGUST 31

Beth Gainforth
Dee Haag

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00 Men's Study	3 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon	4	5
6 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 5 10:15 BC	7 10:00 OWLs 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C 7:30 Elders	8	9	10 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon	11	12
13 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 6 10:15 BC 7:30 Youth Board	14 CTK Registration 5:00 Finance & Evang 6:30 WORSHIP/C 6:30 Trustees 7:00 Stewardship 7:45 Church Council	15	16	17 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon Newsletter Deadline 4:00	18	19
20 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 7 10:15 BC	21 CTK First Day 8:00 Opening Chapel 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C	22	23	24 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon	25 CTK No School	26
27 9:00 WORSHIP/C – 8 10:15 BC	28 5:00 Finance 6:30 WORSHIP/C	29	30 8:00 Chapel	31 Bulletin Deadline 12 Noon		