



Immanuel Lutheran Church

221 Brierton Lane
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www.ilcfestus.org

September 2022

Shifting sand or Solid Rock?

Recently, my family and I traveled to Gulf Shores, Alabama for our family vacation. Naturally, one activity that my sons enjoyed was building sandcastles. As we made our way down to the seashore, we found good packing sand and started our building project. It was fun to see how high we could get each castle.

There was, of course, one problem. The water! The waves relentlessly pounded the beach and eventually made their way up toward the bottom of our castle. Oh, we tried to stop it (or at least I tried to stop it...) I built up a levee and dug out a moat of sorts, but it was no use. Within the day, the castle was destroyed by the rising waters.



Jesus used this imagery in Matthew 7: “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

The familiar children’s song puts it this way: The wise man built his house upon the rock. The wise man built his house upon the rock. The wise man built his house upon the rock, And the rains came tumbling down. The rains came down

and the floods came up. The rains came down and the floods came up. The rains came down and the floods came up, And the house on the rock stood firm.” The foolish man who built his house upon the sand? That house went splat! Every day, the devil, the world and our sinful flesh try to get us to build on sandy things, things that ultimately won’t sustain us in this life or the next and that distract us from Jesus and his love for us. They may look good initially, but ultimately, their mission is to keep us from Jesus, to keep us from doing what he commands, and ultimately, to destroy us. As you think about your life, what are those things? Are there areas where you are trying to build on the sand instead of on the rock, Christ himself? As you see them in your thoughts, words, and actions, repent of them and turn to Christ!

Also, notice the connection between hearing and doing. Our Lord does not just invite us to be passive sponges, who only hear and don’t act. That’s not the life of discipleship that Jesus calls us too, and we pray that he would forgive us for those times where we have been passive or lazy and that he would empower us by the Holy Spirit once more! As I have said many times before, we are not transformed in Christ to sit, but to share the hope of eternal life.

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness. No merit of my own I claim but wholly lean on Jesus name.” His oath, His covenant and blood support me in the raging flood; When every earthly prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.” On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand” (LSB 576). As we build on Christ, the solid rock, we share his hope with others too!

Pastor Craig



September Celebrations

- 3rd: Douglas & Eydie Thurman
Eric & Joyce Hardman
- 6th: David & Tina Poley
Nick & Brittney Gabris
Terry & Cynthia Schriver
- 13th: Brentt & Lisa Krodinger
- 17th: Tom & Jeannine Pilliard
- 19th: Nelson & Barbara Ruble
- 21st: Allen & Janene Shelledy
- 22nd: Jared & Amanda Wehner
- 28th: Chuck & June Connor



- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1: Lisa Luechtefeld | 16: Savannah Berkbuegler |
| 2: Alana Nelms | 17: Claudia Waller |
| Ella Waltman | Ivan Palos |
| Jamie Buschmann Womack | 18: Barb Poncet |
| Lucy Ellis | June Kutscher |
| Olivia Boofer | Zachary King |
| 3: Tammy Finch | 19: Alyssa Khoury |
| 8: Betty Ferguson | Lena Torrence |
| Chris Kilgore | Linda Middleton |
| Riley Boyer | 20: Kathryn Boofer |
| 9: Cole Skaggs | 21: Heather Weinhaus |
| Eric Hardman | Mason Wehlermann |
| Frank Lewis | 23: Athena Schmiedeskamp |
| 10: Anna Belle Buttner | Catherine Ibaviosa |
| Gidget Mudd | Doug Pierce |
| 11: Dan Reineck | 24: Joe Bradley |
| Michael Gordon | 26: Claire Thurman |
| 15: Beverly House | 27: Katie Shemwell |
| Kathleen Meyer | 28: Michael Burgess |
| Luke Becker | 29: Todd Kilgore |

Mark Your Calendar

September

- 1st: YAH! At LaPlancha
Joyful Noise Rehearsals Begin
- 7th: Confirmation Orientation
- 11th: Rally Sunday
- 14th: Midweek Classes Begins
Confirmation Instruction Begins
Evening Adult Bible Study Begins
- 21st: Youth Choir Rehearsals Begin
- 22nd: Priscilla Circle
- 25th: NYG Thank You Lunch

UPCOMING:

Nov 13th: New Member Potluck

YAH! Lunch Bunch

September 1st Gathering 1st at 12 noon. We will Lunch at the Mexican Restaurant, LaPlancha on Hwy 61 & 67. See you there!

Stewardship

Reminder to save the date for New Member Potluck Lunch. November 13th after late service in FLC. Bring your best warming Fall dish or dessert to share and your welcoming spirit!

Board of Evangelism

GRACE DAY was very much appreciated by the 286 cars that came through.

Immanuel's addition of hoodies was a big surprise for the kids. Thank you to everyone who Volunteered or donated. Immanuel had a good representation that day and God-sized groups of helpers to package and sort before. It was my error that caused us to run out very quickly by saying we needed 300+ sets of underwear when we really needed 700+ sets of 7 pairs.

To make sure we have enough for next year at Zion, Pevely, there will be a tub in the Narthex Annex to receive donations of hoodies and underwear all year. It will be policed and kept neat as donations come in.

American Red Cross Blood Drive – August 22nd. Thank you to David Poley for organizing this!

Twin City Days is September 10th. Immanuel has a booth on Main Street for Saturday from 9 to 4, or whenever we want to leave. There have been several people willing to come to man the booth for a couple of hours during the day. There is a schedule for people to mark and volunteer their desired time. There are new ballpoint pens ordered to pass out, and we will raid all the left-over books and pamphlets around the church to hand out to passersby.

The Little Free Pantry may be developed as an Eagle Scout project with the help of Paul Waltman and David Poley. They need Scouts approval, so we will keep you posted. It will take time, probably months for that.

Pray in the Park – It has been suggested we start a group to “Pray in The Park”, perhaps Sunset Park or Larry Crites Park at a pavilion. We could share a devotional and have note cards with prayer requests. This would take a team who would be willing to organize and lead the devotions. A small group ministry that needs leaders.

Operation Christmas Child – We have shoe boxes in storage, ready to put out for this year. We will put them out in October, because they need to be delivered by the second week of November

Inasmuch - has been the subject of discussion as to how to distribute the monies collected in a worthy manner. This is a “Local Missions” fund that was a combination of designated funds and the weekly collections for assistance. Some is being used for an education grant to Robert Finch for his pre-Seminary tuition. Other donations will go to Jefferson-Franklin Counties Partnership and Crisis Nursery.

GriefShare - We have finished our second 13-week session of GriefShare. The people who have

attended have been very impressed with how much it has helped them; by giving them something on their calendar to make them go out, the very insightful videos watched with others and sharing their personal thoughts, feelings and experiences. A date has not been set for the next session at this time.

Blessings,
Karen DeClue

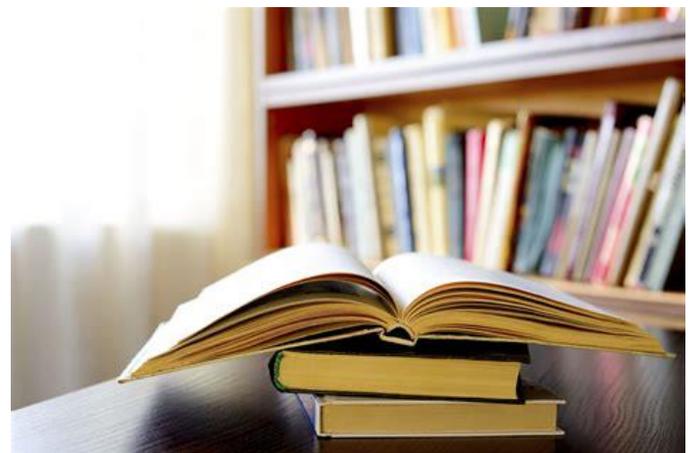
Library News

A reminder that our Library is available for all Members to use. There are numerous books ranging from Fiction to Bible commentaries, devotionals and much more. We also have a Children’s section and a Teen Section.

For newer members, in case you didn’t know, the Library is in the Family Life Center and is open during the week during regular Office Hours. Check out is on the honor system, by signing the clip board.

Also, if anyone knows of an organization or group in need of Bibles or Bible Story books, Children/Youth Choir Music, please let me know. We have quite a few extras, that we could share.

Thank you,
Beverly House





From the Finance Board.....

To date in August, \$11,138.84 has been received for the Budget. Our current budget position is shown in the table below. This information is also provided bi-weekly in the bulletin.

	2022
Budget Requirement	\$ 198,959.46
Budget Received	181,512.17
Difference over or (under)	(\$ 17,447.29)

Immanuel members continue to faithfully support the Daycare, Local Missions, Daycare Playground, NYG and Sanctuary Renovations. The VBS offering received for their mission project, Brendan's Backpack, was \$1,600.

Thank you for putting your name (or envelope number) on the outside of the envelope with your offering. This helps the Finance Board properly record the gifts. If you prefer e-giving, there is a link on the ILC website. You may also use the QRC code on the cards in the pew pockets to make your gift.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Immanuel. We are truly blessed!
Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Budt, Chair

TREASURER'S REPORT

For July thru August 15, 2022

INCOME	\$32,829.00
EXPENSES	\$33,501.02
Difference:	\$ - 672.02
INCOME YTD	\$179,062.74
EXPENSES YTD	\$173,338.87
Difference:	\$ -5,723.87

Commerce Bank Balance \$28,325.14
(general account)

Total all Bank Accounts: \$158,955.15

Total Dedicated Accounts: \$170,602.83
(restricted spending)

Difference: \$-11,647.68

Immanuel incurred a very large water bill from Crystal City due to one of our toilets running for several days in early July. Normally, our monthly water bill at the church is less than \$30.00. Our last bill was over \$600.00. We ask everyone to please take notice when using the facilities and if you hear the toilet tank or urinal continuing to run, please let an Usher or Elder know. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly House

Board of Education

The board of Education would like to invite EVERYONE to our Rally Sunday on September 11th at Larry G. Crites Memorial Park (formerly West City Park).

Join us in the park after late service for hot dogs, burgers, fellowship, games and FUN! Food, water and games will be provided. Bring your chairs, other drinks and a dessert to share.

In case of rain, we will hold the event in the FLC.



Sunday School

EVERYONE is welcomed 9:15 to 10:15 each Sunday at the FLC for Sunday School.

We begin with a light breakfast and fellowship in the FLC gym. Then children are dismissed to their classes and adults stay in the gym for their study. We encourage all to join in for this opportunity to dig in a bit deeper in our study of the Bible.

Midweek Class

Our midweek classes will begin September 14th. We start the evening at 5:45 pm with a light dinner. Classes run from 6 pm – 7 pm. Please register your children through our website: www.ilcfestus.org Click on Education and then Midweek for information and to register.

We are looking for more teachers!! We use a co-teacher system to help with flexibility.

We are also looking for someone to coordinate the meals for Midweek.

If you can help with either teaching or meal coordination, please contact Debbie Sevier.

VBS Wrap-Up

Our God's Lab VBS was a HUGE success!



We averaged 106 children in attendance between the day and evening sessions. 40 children shared what they learned at the closing service.

We served 50 for dinner nightly.

We raised \$1604.47 to Brendan's Backpack.

A resounding THANK YOU to all who donated time and talent to this year's VBS.

A special thank you to the MILC for serving during Fun Fest. Over 175 happy bellies were served!

If you would like to check out some of the action from the week, there are photo albums available to peruse in the Library.



Music Ministry

Our **Youth Choir** will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 21st in the church. Kadie Tauser is our new director and will be teaching fundamentals of singing along with the music for the first few rehearsals. The children will sing every 2nd Sunday at the early service and every 4th Sunday at the late service. Contact Kadie Tauser if you have any questions.

Joyful Noise invites all high school aged and adult singers to join us this year!! The group has made the decision to rehearse on Thursdays this year. Rehearsal times are offered at 3:30 pm or 6:00 pm. Come to whichever works best for you. Our first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 1st in the church. Joyful Noise will be singing for the first Sunday each month at both services.

If you have questions or would like more information about Joyful Noise, please contact Rachel Bierly at 773-443-2916 or the church office.

We don't want to leave out the third Sundays!! Anyone wishing to share their musical talents for our worship services can contact Rhonda Johnson to be put onto the music calendar.

SERVING IN WORSHIP FOR September 2022



Date	Preach	Lead Worship	Adult Bible Study	Children's Message	Lectors	Ushers	Acolytes	Greeters	Altar Guild
09/04	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens		8am Karen DeClue 10:30am Joe Bradley	8am Kent Steffens John Sansoucie 10:30am Joe Bradley Luke Bradley	8am David Finch 10:30am Jackson Malusky	8am Christine & Don Walter 10:30am Kristy Stuber	Nancy Cattoor Babe Pratt
09/11	Ethan Hart	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens	Andrea Patterson	8am Sandra Lindsey 10:30am Kathy Wilhelm	8am Randy Wagner Dave Kutscher 10:30am Paul Waltman Ella Waltman	8am Rose Roylance 10:30am Taylor Habsieger	8am Jan Baumgartner 10:30am Alli Waltman Grace Waltman	Nancy Cattoor Babe Pratt
09/18	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens		8am Nicole Sansoucie 10:30am Janene Shelledy	8am Anne Torrence Keri Dawson 10:30am Roy Stueve Dale Woodbridge	8am Lexi Turner 10:30am Kryslyn Poley	8am Carol James 10:30am Ann Stueve	Nancy Cattoor Babe Pratt
09/25	Pastor Reiter	Pastor Castens	Drew Oswald	Melissa Boyer	8am Terry Mangam 10:30am Lisa Schnurr	8am David Birks Andy Loessl 10:30am Jeremy Malusky Jackson Malusky	8am Riley Boyer 10:30am Cole Malusky	8am Fern Bowdler 10:30 Tanya Banderman	Nancy Cattoor Babe Pratt



Immanuel Lutheran Childcare Newsletter

Welcome

My how summer flew by!! "Back to School" has officially begun for all the children. The new lesson plans have started, children moved up and new smiling faces were enrolled. Over the past few years, we have introduced many new things into our curriculum to enhance the kiddos learning experience. Mrs. Colleen (our curriculum coach) has incorporated 'One in Christ' for our bible school classes we do each day; you may hear the kids call this "Jesus Time". Mrs. Colleen also does devotions with our school age children on late start Wednesdays. We are implementing Conscious Discipline. This integrates social-emotional learning, discipline, and self-regulation so you spend less time polishing behaviors and more time teaching vital life skills. Learning through play also helps with their social emotions and so much more. We are super excited for this new school year and what it will bring!

Curriculum Coach/Family Ministry



Mrs. Colleen

Her desk is located downstairs directly to the left if you ever need to talk.

Picture Day



Infant - Pre-K

October 20th & 21st

This year we are going with a company called Lifetouch. No money due upfront. If you would like siblings to be pictured together, please notify the office before picture day.

Dress to impress!!!

Parents-As-Teachers

August 29th - September 2nd

They will be doing a FREE health and developmental screening offered to children 3 months to 5 years old. This will be during school hours and virtually no work from you except filling out the permission slip for them to do so. This program is through Festus, R-7, Herky, and Crystal City School Districts only. Parents as Teachers is an effective, efficient way to check your child developmental progress.

We encourage you to sign up! Permission slips have been sent out. If you need another copy, they are located at the front office counter.

Mid-Week

September 14th
5:45pm-7:00pm

Come eat dinner and see what the class is all about!

Mid-Week is a Bible School program that the Church offers weekly classes Wednesday nights afterschool. This program is offered for grades K-6th. The class starts at 5:45pm and ends at 7pm. The School Age teachers will bring them down to the Gym where they will eat dinner and then enjoy crafts, games, memory verses and more!

*Please Register Online
<https://vbsmate.com/events/immanuelfestusmo/26683>
You can also find this link on Facebook or Class Dojo

Summer Fun

We had so much fun over the summer. Mrs. Gracie set up fun days with all the kiddos. From Garden Class with Mrs. Ashley to Water Days, Bouncy Houses, Bubble Bus, Petting Zoo, Water Park, Vacation Bible School, Funfest, and so much more! We are so thankful for Mrs. Gracie for setting all these fun activities up this summer!



Stay Connected

Like us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/ILCCFESTUS

Daycare Website
www.immanuelutheranchildcare.com

Daycare Email
ilchildcare@hotmail.com

Church Website
www.ilcfestus.org

Ask about Class Dojo if you are not already connected. This is a way to make direct contact with your child's teacher.

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Week of August 29th
Parents As Teachers

September 5th
Closed for Labor Day

September 14th
Mid-Week @ FLC
Building 5:45pm-7:00pm

October 20th & 21st
Picture Day with Lifetouch