



May 2024 Newsletter



TABLE OF CONTENTS

From A Pastor's Desk: <i>"Managing Expectations in the Call Process"</i>	1
Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes	2
Mary/Martha Guild	2
Immanuel Tea Party (sponsored by Mary/Martha)	3
May Birthdays	3
Prayer List	4
Immanuel Diaper Drive	4
Project "Laundry Soap" Update	5
Lutheran Hour Ministries – Sermon Schedule	5
Mission of Mo. in May – Kal. Gospel Ministries	6
Worship Assistants/Serving Schedule	7

Immanuel Lutheran Church Contact Information:

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 Email: ilckalamazoo@gmail.com
 Church Secretary: Ailene Buchtrup
 Music Director: Will Canfield

Pastor: *Currently Vacant*



This newsletter has many contributors. If you'd like to submit an article of interest or an announcement of an upcoming event, please contact Ailene Buchtrup, Secretary, in the church office via phone or email. For those with email, an electronic copy of the newsletter will be sent to you. For those with no email or who would prefer to receive a paper copy, we will continue to mail the newsletters via U.S. Postal Services.

To note in pastoral absence: Several pastors and other knowledgeable contributors offer great articles of interest all throughout the year, and in particular holy seasons. Until a new pastor is found for Immanuel, we will draw upon the knowledge and interesting perspectives of those pastors to provide readers with a section called, From the Pastor's Desk. We hope you will find these articles of interest and helpful in your spiritual journey.



Managing Expectations in the Call Process

(Excerpt taken from LCMS-Missouri District Blog, July 24, 2019)



A young pastor was new at his congregation and preparing for the service when an elder approached him. "I've been taking a poll," the elder informed him. "It's about the new guy. Word is he's not as good as the old guy, but he's not bad." The elder then left the pastor, who had to lead the service with this unsettling conversation weighing on him.

In their work with congregations calling pastors, President Hagan, Rev. Bill Geis and Rev. Gene Wyssmann have seen many situations lead to people feeling dissatisfied with their pastor. Many times, it has nothing to do with the quality or dedication of the new pastor, but unrealistic expectations that have crept into the hearts and minds of the call committee members, sometimes without their even realizing it.

Missouri District Supports Congregations in the Call Process

The call process is initiated by President Hagan, with Rev. Geis and Rev. Wyssmann also supporting congregations as they take an objective look at their congregation and where they hope to take their ministries in the future. The district uses tools, including a robust survey to learn about the needs of the congregation and compare their answers to those

of other committee members. This experience allows people to get on the same page about critical topics such as goals, leadership styles, priorities of different ministries, as well as the congregation's strengths and weaknesses.

The survey also asks respondents to specify a limited number of responses, which gets people in the mindset of making choices and deciding that some aspects of pastoral care are going to be prioritized over others. Meanwhile, district staff walks alongside the call committee members, using the survey results as a springboard into dialogue, strategy, and of course, prayer and God's Word.

The Dangers of Expecting Too Much from One Person

It often happens that unwritten expectations can be just as important as the ones that go into the written ministry description. Rev. Wyssmann says, "They want a pastor, and they want one fast, but they also have this idea in their head of what it means to be a pastor and it doesn't always match up with reality."

For example, congregations that focus heavily on education sometimes expect their new pastor to be good with kids of all ages. This isn't true of educators, so why would it be true of a new pastor? However, people sometimes don't realize they're making these assumptions. This can take effect in all types of congregations, but it's especially common in smaller ones, because they feel more pressure to get more out of the one position they can afford (which is understandable).

Expressing disappointment in a new pastor can manifest itself in small comments, like, "Pastor, I don't know, I just thought you'd be more inspirational than you are," to more extreme situations. Whether it's expecting a new pastor to be just like the old one or thinking people can do more in a work week than is really possible, managing expectations is critical to a successful call process.

Let's manage our expectations while praying fervently!!



KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

ONGOING FOOD DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

Food donations are accepted
9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday at 901 Portage
Street (KLF)

Other donation locations are listed below:

Family Dollar

(Select Locations)

Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church

321 W South St

Rollerworld

7491 Stadium Dr., Kalamazoo

"Make us worthy, Lord, to serve those throughout the world who live and die in poverty or hunger. Give them, through our hands, this day their daily bread; and by our understanding love, give peace and joy. Amen."

Mother Theresa



Mary & Martha Guild meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month @ **5:30pm** in the ILC kitchen. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 5/7/2024.

All ladies of the congregation are invited to all of our meetings and we welcome new members at any time! We enjoy planning activities and fund-raising projects for our special projects. Please come and see what's happening!

We'd love to have you join us!

* Immanuel Tea Party
... You're Invited!

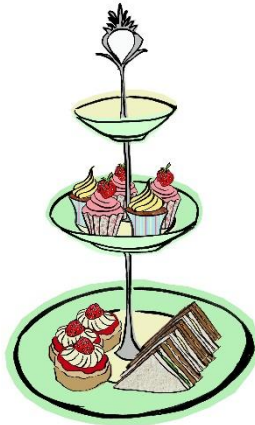


Mothers, daughters,
granddaughters, and
friends (including those outside
Immanuel):



Join us for a fun-filled afternoon tea on
Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 2:00 in the
afternoon on the
Garden Level!

We will be featuring
a selection of
teas, sweets and
savories to
tantalize the taste
buds.

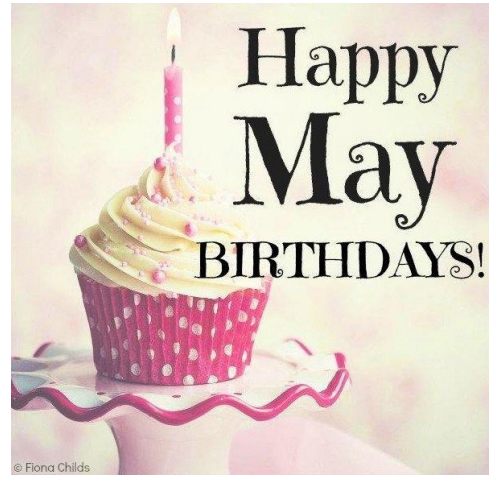


Sign up in the
narthex!

Hope you can join us!

Sponsored by the
Mary Martha Guild

Our mission is to be of assistance to our
members with any spiritual, social or
and/or charitable needs. We'd love your
input.



Denny Patzer	May 6
Cailyn Hecht	May 7
Christie Sidwell	May 7
Alberta Krzyston	May 8
John Mandrick	May 10
Cheryl Brindley	May 11
Bonnie Arthur	May 12
Amanda Sidwell	May 13
Laura Mandrick	May 14
Sarah Lawrence	May 15
Mary Reynolds	May 16
Raya DeVary	May 18
Phillip Perri	May 18
Walt Eckert	May 24
Dave Mandrick	May 24
Chuck Townsend	May 25
Shirley Breu	May 26
Annie Hecht	May 26
Brian Long	May 26
Norah Lawrence	May 27
Leslie Salinas	May 28
Madison Hernandez-Haw	May 29





In Our Prayers:

Homebound Ministry:

Marian Brugh	Jan Wilson
Marlys Olson	Ellen Plano
Ruth Miller	Beverly Fisher
John Curtiss	Vince Marshall
Jerome Dirst	

LONG TERM CONCERNS:

Rose Maxum , requested by Chuck and Amber Townsend	Susan & Gregory Fritz , Stephanie Beck's parents
Amy Stillwell , sister of Dave Reynolds	Charles and Carol Quandt , Christa Perri's parents
Beverly Fisher , Susan Wagner's mother	Lucille and Lawrence Fritz , requested by Jonathan Fritz
Bob Perri , brother of Phil Perri	Craig Rennhack , requested by Bob & Maryalice Reck
John Blasko , requested by Elizabeth Blasko	Mindy Mitchell , sister of Shelly Reynolds
Kyle Reinbold Family , requested by Kyle's sister, Sonya DeVary	James Leo Brown , requested by Shelly and Dave Reynolds
Karen McDougall , requested by Sue Steuer	Jim Sabo , friend of Susan Steuer
Katie VerKow , former member of Immanuel, requested by Phil Roekle	Karen Petersen , daughter of Cathy & Tom Mollet
Vicki Dilley , requested by Christa & Phil Perri	Suzie Brink , Christie Sidwell's mother and Bill Brink , her brother
Joanne Cleason , Esther Cleason's daughter	Melissa , friend of Dotty Smith and daughter Laura
Marie Winberg , godmother of Bill Bennett	Hannah Bayer , 4 y.o., requested by her father
Lisa and David Wentzel , Sue Steuer's cousins	Jerry and Sandi McKenzie , friends of Dotty Smith
Ware Washam , requested by Brian Long	Sandy Hale , requested by Stephen Presdorf
Caroline Barkow	Jeri Noneman
Mark Westphal	Jason , son-in-law of Craig & Sue Anderson
Alice Schley , Jane Schley's granddaughter	John Hecht's mother, Kay Hecht
Ruth Krueger	Jason Nichols , requested by Justin Beck

Loren Gerber , Sue Anderson's father	Cherri Mitchell , friend of Ted & Rita Clarke
Toni —Jane Schley's cousin	Fran Rodammer , former ILC member
Sharon S. , requested by Dotty Smith	Marilyn Borgeson , Annie Hecht's grandmother
Charlie Miller , Marian Brugh's brother	Sloane Evelyn Ison , requested by Kim Sharp
Deb , friend of Sue Steuer	Gene Jennings
All Crossroads Prison Ministry students	
Immanuel members: Gail Stewart, Dolly Bryan, Cathy Mollet, Shelly Reynolds, Tina Lauer, Vince Marshall, Jerome Dirst and John Miller	

Immanuel Diaper Drive



In Honor of **Mother's Day**,
May 12, 2024 and
 In Support of Alternatives of
 Kalamazoo and
 The Douglass Community Association

Help for Needy Mothers

Diaper Sizes Needed:

**Infant, 2,3,4,5, and
 Boys'/Girls' Pull-Ups**

Bring your donations to the
 narthex by 9:00am **May 13th**



UPDATE: IMMANUEL LAUNDRY SOAP PROJECT

Immanuel Lutheran has continued to mix and bottle "homemade" laundry soap (yes, soap not detergent) for distribution to five or six charitable organizations that service low-income households in the greater Kalamazoo area. You may have seen the collection boxes for the milk jugs near the kitchen door in the Fellowship Hall. In 2022, we mixed and bottled a total of 367 units. For 2023, the total expanded to 875 units. With the help of more members from Immanuel saving jugs, we have now bottled 580 units so far this year, and we still have eight more months to go in 2024! Our primary limiting factor is the number of useable empty jugs and bottles we can collect. Milk jugs are best, but juice jugs with handles work good as well. However, the jugs MUST be clean and well rinsed to be usable. Stale milk will taint the soap, and make it undesirable. If you have any questions, contact Craig or Sue Anderson, the hard-working champions for the project. In addition, Ailene and her husband help on the distribution.



Mixing and filling all these jugs is getting to be quite a lot of work, so if you would like to help with the project, contact Craig at (269) 668-8024 or Sue at (269) 330-5345, or email craig.sue.anderson@gmail.com.

Thank-you!!



The Lutheran Hour (LHM) is broadcast every Sunday morning at 6:30 a.m. on 105.7 FM or accessible anytime on the Web at www.lutheranhour.org.

MAY SERMON SCHEDULE

May 5: "Rejoicing On the Way"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes

God empowers His people to share the Gospel with those they meet along the way. (Acts 8:28-39)

May 12: "Unforecastable"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's been said that God's call often comes as a surprise. In Acts 9, we meet three men who found themselves called in ways they could neither forecast nor control. (Acts 9:31)

May 19: "Waiting, But Not Alone"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge

Jesus leaves His followers waiting for Him to return but He promises they will not be left alone. (Acts 2:1-21)

May 26:

"Penultimate Sacrifice"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Memorial Day honors those who made "the ultimate sacrifice" in service to country, but there was one Sacrifice infinitely greater. (Acts 10:1-2)

If you prefer more modern music with the Lutheran Hour message, a special broadcast has been developed for the AFN at

www.lutheranhour.org/AFN. You can also hear a message of hope *when you need it* by listening to your favorite LHM programs by downloading our Podcasts (audio files), free of charge, to your computer or portable devices.



The mission of the month in May

is...

Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries



Services offered at KGM

EMERGENCY SERVICES

KGM offers a safe place to sleep and a warm meal to anyone in need. We know that each person has a unique story. KGM accepts people right where they are at, and through relationships, we get to know their story and work with them to achieve their goals.

ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT

Through individualized support with a staff member, we begin to unpack what has led to homelessness. We support individuals through relationships, educational opportunities, life skills development, job readiness, health services, and children's ministry for parents.

LONG TERM PROGRAMMING

God desires for us to live an abundant life (John 10:10) and, scripture tells us that God desires that we be in good health (3 John 2). Through our one-year Regeneration and Recovery Program, we strive to give our guests the knowledge they need to live healthy lives absent from sickness, disease, and addiction.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

A Godly productive life must be built on the foundation of Christ. The purpose of the Spiritual Growth Track is to equip participants with a solid foundation in Christ and the tools needed to grow in the Christian Faith. Through daily chapel, Bible studies, and peer groups, participants will learn Biblical principles that will ground them in their faith and teach them how to apply Biblical principles to their lives in a practical manner.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Reaching the community through a local neighborhood center, KDC offers clothing, housewares, food pantry, and support for those who live in the community but are having a hard time making ends meet.

Kalamazoo Deacons Conference

(also a part of the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries)

Don't forget about the upcoming Kalamazoo Deacon's Conference Annual Spring Treasure Sale taking place on Friday, May 3 (7:30am-5pm) and Saturday, May 4th (7:30am - 2:00pm) at the Second Christian Reformed Church, 3015 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo.



Antiques, housewares, sporting goods, children's toys and play equipment, and other unique finds are waiting for you!

All proceeds benefit KDC to provide a helping hand to those who are in need.

Worship Assistants/Serving Schedule

Date	Acolyte	Altar	Usher	Lector	Worship Assistant	Coffee Hour
Sunday 5/5/2024	Maddie Hernandez & Elijah Lawrence	Patti Wills	Phil Roekle	Mark Miller	Mark Miller & Andrew Lustila	AnnMarie & Philip Miller
Sunday 5/12/2024	Cailyn Hecht & Norah Lawrence	Patti Wills	John Wagner	Ninah Miller	Denny Patzer & John Quardokus	Maryalice Reck
Sunday 5/19/2024	Linus Mandrick & Rory Beck	Kim Sharp	Ron Swinehart	John Quardokus	Phil Roekle & John Wagner	Beth Mitchell
Sunday 5/26/2024	Eliora Beck & Caviion Beck	Jane Schley	John Hecht	Dave Mandrick	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	Rita Clarke
Sunday 6/2/2024	Genevieve Miller & Adelaide Jefferies	Vivian Westphal	Phil Roekle	John Hecht	Bill Stewart & Ron Swinehart	Amber & Chuck Townsend
Sunday 6/9/2024	Maddie Hernandez & Elijah Lawrence	Patti Wills	John Wagner	Andrew Lustila	Mark Miller & Andrew Lustila	Shelly Reynolds
Sunday 6/16/2024	Cailyn Hecht & Norah Lawrence	Rita Clarke	Ron Swinehart	John Krueger	Denny Patzer & John Quardokus	Maryalice Reck
Sunday 6/23/2024	Linus Mandrick & Rory Beck	Patti Wills	John Hecht	Mark Miller	Phil Roekle & John Wagner	Helen & Phil Roekle— Coffee Dotty Smith— Snacks
Sunday 6/30/2024	Eliora Beck & Caviion Beck	Jane Schley	Phil Roekle	Ninah Miller	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	Jane S— Coffee Melanie B— Snacks

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 3000 West Main Street
 Kalamazoo, MI 49006
 (269) 345-8090

May 2024 Newsletter
 Volume 53, No.5



**Immanuel
 Lutheran
 Church**

**Schoolyear
 Schedule:**

**9:15-9:45am
 Children's Sunday
 School**

**10: 00 am Sunday
 Communion Service**

**11:30am Adult Class
 11:30am Children's
 Choir Practice**

**NOTE:
 All services will be
 live-streamed on:
 Facebook and
 YouTube**

May 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May's Mission: Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries						
5 9:15am Sunday School 10am Communion Service (Iqbal) 11:30am Children's Choir	6	7 5:30pm Mary/Martha Meeting 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ ILC	8 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9	10	11
12 9:15am Sunday School 10am Communion Service (Couch) 11:30am Children's Choir Children's Choir	13	14 6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ ILC	15 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	16	17	18
19 9:15am Sunday School 10am Communion Service (Iqbal) 11:30am Children's Choir	20	21 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ ILC	22 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24 	25
26 9:15am Sunday School 10am Communion Service (Quardokus) 11:30am Children's Choir	27	28 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ ILC	29 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	30	31	