



September 2026 Newsletter



TABLE OF CONTENTS

From the Pastor: "Priorities"	1
Immanuel Prayer List	2
September Birthdays	3
Prayer Walk: Thanks for walking with us!"	4
More Pictures from the 75 ⁺ Birthday Celebration	3
Lutheran Hour Ministries	4
Welcome New Members	5
Upcoming Mary/Martha Craft Day—Sept. 12th	6
Stamps for A Mission: Lutheran Bible Translators	6
Dr. Paul Maier Book Collection	7
Annual Pig Roast at Townsends	7
Upcoming Events at Immanuel that You Won't Want to Miss!!	8

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Music Director: Sara McGarvey
Sound Technician: AnnMarie Miller



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.

FROM THE PASTOR

Priorities

*"Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven".
Matthew 6:10b*

What a summer it has been! If yours has been anything like mine, I am sure you have been quite busy! Yet as we look ahead to the fall it looks quite busy as well! Although unlike the chaotic busyness of the summer, fall seems to bring a more routine busyness as schools begin and vacations come to an end.

This summer was truly a chaotically busy one for me! With the wedding to plan, family to see, and the race to prepare for there certainly was a lot going on! The wedding was more amazing than I could have hoped for, thank you for all who participated! But at the same time the training for the race went less well than I would have liked and eventually settled on doing a half ironman in Michigan later this month rather than the full in Tennessee as I originally intended.

Life is always like this isn't it, with a little give and take. We have to prioritize, deciding what truly matters to us and what we want to accomplish in our lives. If you are like me, you want to do everything and sometimes it is hard to realize that you truly cannot do it all!

This is one of the many reasons that we pray "Thy Will be Done" in the Lord's prayer. We do not pray "My will be done" because we often want things that are not good for us, and often we don't even know what we want! But God knows what he wants, and he has the power and ability to accomplish his will.

So what is his will? His will is that sinners should repent and become Christian, and that Christians live according to his will. It seems so simple, doesn't it? But anyone who has tried to live according to the will of God knows how challenging it is. There are so many things that we want, so many wills we have to balance. The kids will to be in band, 4h and sports. The spouse wills to do different things than you do and you are called to try and balance all of these things!

Then we have to think about what God wants too?
This seems impossible!

This is why we pray that God accomplishes his will, because if it was up to us his will would not be accomplished and would remain at the bottom of the totem pole. But he makes his will known and he accomplishes it through his word and sacraments. Through his Word you learn how he desires you to treat your families, friends and coworkers. Through his Word he prepares you to do these sorts of things. Through his Word he brings you to repentance when you fail. This is the will of God, and he is accomplishing it daily!

So as we move to the busyness of the fall, and as all those around you are busy accomplishing their wills (and you are trying to accomplish your own) remember your heavenly Father and always keep this simple prayer in mind, "Let your will be done". Then go out on your journey and see how the Lord is accomplishing his will in your life!

Pastor Grotelueschen

Congratulatioons Pastor Josh and Juliette!!



August 7th, 2026



IMMANUEL PRAYER LIST

LONG TERM CONCERNS:

Rose Maxum , requested by Chuck and Amber Townsend	Susan & Gregory Fritz , Stephanie Beck's parents
Jeff Baker , requested by Esther Cleason	Mary Ann Massey , friend of Dotty Smith
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
Lynne Partridge , friend of Christa Perri	Lucille Fritz, requested by Jonathan Fritz
Bill Brink , Christie Sidwell's brother	Gus Reck , grandson of Bob & Maryalice Reck
Joanne Cleason , Esther Cleason's daughter	Melissa , friend of Dotty Smith and daughter Laura
Judy & Fred Lorenz , brother & sister-in-law of Esther Cleason and Nancy Barksdale , Esther's niece.	Amy Stillwell , sister of Dave Reynolds and daughter of Mary Reynolds, and Mary's great-grandson, Dallas .
Jason , son-in-law of Sue & Craig Anderson	Jerry and Sandi McKenzie , friends of Dotty Smith
Ware Washam , requested by Brian Long	Sandy Hale , requested by Stephen Presdorf
Rita Presdorf , Stephen Presdorf's mother	Lisa and David Wentzel , Sue Steuer's cousins
Loren Gerber , Sue Anderson's father	Kay Hecht , John Hecht's mother
Sharon S. , requested by Dotty Smith	Marian Brugh and son Brian
Laura Mattson Hugill , former ILC member	Charlie Miller , Marian Brugh's brother
Deb , friend of Sue Steuer	Jeri Noneman
Sophie Rose Verile , Brindley's grandniece	Karen Petersen , daughter of Cathy & Tom Mollet
Linda & Scott Spurlock , req. by Esther C.	Justin Nickels , requested by Justin Beck
Merry Linn , Sally Crawford's sister	Marilyn Borgeson , Annie Hecht's grandmother
Otto , Pastor Quardokus' grandson	Vicki Dilley , requested by Christa & Phil Perri
Thomas Nault , Sue Wagner's cousin	Mae Westphal , Vivian's & Wayne's grandchild
Kim N., Emilie H., & Sydney B. , all friends of Kim Sharp; and River Lint	
All Crossroads Prison Ministry students from all congregations around the country	
Immanuel members: Gail Stewart, Dolly Bryan, Shelly Reynolds, Tina Lauer, Jerome Dirst, John Miller, Dotty Smith, Helen Roekle, Gene Jennings, Beth Mitchell, Linda Swinehart, & Brian Long	

Happy Birthday September Peeps!

Sylvia Marshall	Sept. 13
Becky Patzer	Sept. 13
Lori Bayer	Sept. 16
Kim Sharp	Sept. 16
Dolly Bryan	Sept. 17
Jerry Daniels	Sept. 17
Rebecca New	Sept. 19
Shelly Reynolds	Sept. 27



Outreach committee thanks all who will participate in “walking in the footsteps of Jesus” on Sunday, August 30th!!

“Lord: We come together to thank you for the gift of our community. Thank you for the homes, the streets, and the people who live around us. Lord, we ask for your peace and protection over our neighborhood. Guard us from harm, violence, and division. Help us to see every person we pass as your child. Give us open hearts and ears. Teach us to listen to others before we speak. Give us the courage to help our neighbors when they are in need. Bless our local leaders, our schools, our workers, and our families and unite us together. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.”

**Celebrating
Those 75
Years Old
and
Better....**



**Hey....you're
not 75...yet!**



**So good
to see
everyone!**



**May we all live to see
another decade....or more!**



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.

August 30, 2026: "Tell Me a Story!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer](#)

Archives August—God lavishly sows the seed of His Word. Responses vary. Mark 4:1-20, 26-34

September 6, 2026: "Come and See"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

The Book of Nature can open your mind to the possibility that God is real. The Book of Scripture, the Bible, goes further, like a friend who's been there. John 1:46

September 13, 2026: "Forgiveness Is a Non-Negotiable" Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

In God's family, forgiveness is non-negotiable. It's not up for debate because forgiveness is what makes us who we are. Matthew 6:12

September 20, 2026: "High Bar to Clay Jar"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

In Jesus, we don't need to compare ourselves to anyone else. Instead, we are free to better appreciate them. Matthew 20:16

September 27, 2026: "Teachable"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

To be a disciple is to be a learner. Jesus loves you enough to make you teachable. Matthew 21:31



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

Welcome
New Members!

*“Loving God, we thank you
for bringing these new
members to our church
family. Bless them with your
peace, deepen their faith,
and knit our hearts together
in unity and love as we serve
you and our community as
one body in Jesus' name.
Amen.”*



**It's always a joy to welcome
new members to be a part of
our Immanuel family!!**



Please join us for our
upcoming...

CRAFT DAY.....



COMING UP....

Saturday, September 12th
10am-3pm

Come create with us!!

Bring your crafting supplies with you
and we'll have lunch together.

Let us know you're coming and how
many people will be coming with you
by signing up! If you can help provide
salad fixings or other foods/goodies for
the group, please sign up for that too.

*(Feel free to invite your family, friends, and
neighbors!)*



"Stamps for Mission" Project—A Fundraiser for Becky Grossman's Work with Lutheran Bible Translators

WHAT IS IT?

This is a fundraising initiative where you can donate used postage stamps in an effort to raise funds to support Becky's work with Lutheran Bible Translators. With Christmas cards and letters coming in the next few months, it's a good time to start saving the used stamps.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

When you turn in your used stamps, volunteers will collect, clean, and sell the stamps, with the proceeds going to Lutheran Bible Translators. The most profitable stamps include foreign, rare, old, and commemorative stamps.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Jane has a box in the Narthex marked "Stamps for Becky Grossman—LBT". Please place your used, trimmed stamps in it.
- If you have any questions, feel free to call Jane at (269) 599-4789 or email her at AJSchley@sbcglobal.net or just see her in church.

If you want to contribute to this ministry here is what we look for:

1. All intact picture postcards. **Do not** cut off the stamps, send the entire postcard.
2. All old (pre-1930) envelopes intact. **Do not** cut off the stamps.
3. All foreign stamps, large and small.
4. Large commemorative U.S. stamps.
5. Small definitive (common) U.S. stamps (including USA nonprofit bulk stamps), except **DO NOT** save Love, Flag, Bell, OR Christmas stamps. Save unused charity return mail stamps.
6. Any collections of stamps, save on sheets if possible, and do not remove stamps from pages or albums.
7. New stamps, as well as used ones, have value, also Post Office metered postage is not valuable.

Note: If at all possible, stamps should be trimmed leaving about 1/4" margin around the stamp. Do not trim stamps to touch perforations or the stamps will be discarded."

Also: Do not send stamps marked nonprofit and bulk.

DR. PAUL MAIER BOOK COLLECTION

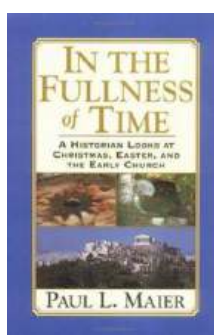
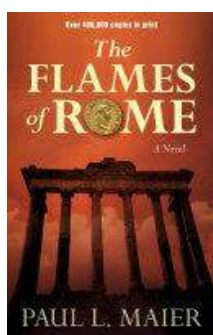
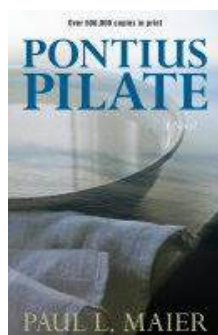


Through the generosity of the girls in his estate, Paul Maier's family has collected and donated to our Immanuel library copies all of the Paul Maier books we were missing. You will find these books on a separate shelf in two sections in our library, one with the [Children's Picture Books](#) and the other with the [Novels and History Books](#).

As many know, Rev. Paul Maier, the Lutheran student pastor at WMU's Kanley Chapel for over 40 years, was a frequent guest pastor here at Immanuel and a longtime friend of many in our congregation. Dr. Maier was also a distinguished professor of ancient history at WMU, and the author of over 25 books, some of which specialize in comparing secular history with Biblical history.

When you borrow a book, please do not keep it longer than [two months](#), and please be sure to return it to the appropriate Paul Maier section from which you found it.

Thank-you!!
Brian Long



Come join us for our Annual Pig (Pork) Roast



@ the home of
Chuck & Amber Townsend
Saturday, September 19th, 2026

(Sign-up sheet in the Narthex)

The fun will start about 11:00AM with dinner planned for about 12 NOON. We will have games including corn-in-the-hole and yard jarts. (Feel free to bring other games of your own!)

All ages are welcome! We have quite a bit of seating, so if you have a lawn chair in your car "just in case", don't worry about bringing it to the yard with you. Also, we will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so we will have an idea of how much pork to smoke, and it lets you sign up for a dish to pass. We will be providing tea, water and lemonade. You are welcome to bring any other beverages of your choice.

There is plenty of on-street parking, as well as a roped off area in our yard that holds about 20 cars. To park in yard, turn right after the big rock.

Amber & Chuck Townsend - (269) 599-6268
8215 Teakwood, Portage, MI. 49024

Directions:

Take 131 South to Centre Avenue (exit 31). Turn left on Centre 2.2 miles and turn right on Brookwood for .3 miles to Woodview. Turn left and go 335 feet Teakwood and turn left. Our drive is 311 feet long.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
3000 West Main Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

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**Immanuel
Lutheran
Church**

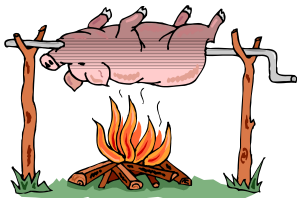
**(269) 345-
8090**

**10:00 am
Sunday
Communion
Service**

**11:30am Adult
Bible Study**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS.....



Coming... Saturday, September 14th
11:00am Fun Starts
12:00pm Dinner begins
@ Home of Chuck and Amber Townsend



Coming....Saturday, October 17th
5:00pm Social Hour
6:00pm Dinner
@ Immanuel Fellowship Hall



Coming...Sunday, October 25th
Directly after the 10 am worship service
@Immanuel Fellowship Hall



Coming...Saturday, October 31st
5:00-7:00pm
@ Immanuel Fellowship Hall

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE EVENTS COMING IN
NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER TOO!!**