



November 2024 Newsletter



HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BEING A CHURCH WORKER?

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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.

A Church Worker's Perspective: Shannon Johnson

By LCMS MI District Blog—October 23, 2024

I grew up ELCA. I attended the same church, baptism through marriage. Five generations of family at the same small church all at the same time! Growing up I was active in Sunday school all the way through youth group. My church was my foundation as a youth. My mom played a huge part in this. My siblings and I never missed a Sunday: even if we stayed the night at a friend's house, my mom would come pick us up and bring us to church Sunday morning! I grew up watching my grandparents and great grandparents actively serving in numerous roles in our church from choir to serving coffee to leading Bible studies to sitting on the church council. I would also have to say my pastor during my high school years was one of the most influential men in my Christian life. He was loving and supportive and was an active leader during my high school years. Unfortunately, some devastating life struggles caused some staff changes in our small church while I was away at college. This meant our pastor and youth leader both left and I knew I needed to do something. I knew what an important part youth group played in my life, and I wanted to make sure that the current youth did not miss out! At 19 years old, I offered to be the volunteer youth leader until the church could figure out the next steps and they took me up on my offer. Then, a couple months into serving, they asked if I would like to be on staff part time and made me officially part of the church team. I was honored and could not have been happier. I knew the important roles my pastor and youth leader played in my life, and I knew this is what I needed and wanted to do. Watching the adults who surrounded me growing up had a significant impact on my decision to work in ministry as well.

My husband and I decided in 2012 that the ELCA no longer fit our beliefs and we needed something deeper and stronger. We visited Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship [Spring Lake] and, just after a few weeks

of worship, Pastor Chris had a conversation with me, and at that time I was ready to jump back into ministry. I volunteered here for my first two years and officially joined as a staff member in 2017 and haven't looked back since!

Serving

My past and current roles look pretty similar. My title here at Lakeshore is Director of Family and Student Ministries. You can fit a lot under that umbrella, anything from staffing nursery to meeting with families in their homes during challenging times. I think the way I do ministry has changed, and my focus, as I grow in this role, is more about the relationship with my families than sitting in a classroom. Pastor Chris has played a key role for me since being here. I am not synodically trained, and I did not grow up LCMS; however, my love for God, my love for serving His children, my years as an active youth in my church and willingness to learn has led me down a path that I feel has blessed me beyond words. Pastor Chris met with me, gave me books to read, answered questions, prayed with me, and has been a crucial part of my "success" in my role. He teaches with love and openness and has taken over that role in my life as one of the most influential people in my personal walk with the Lord and my role here at Lakeshore. I have learned so much working with him and owe him so much in return!

District Support

When I think about how the Michigan District has poured into my life and ministry, I think of the people. I am talking about anyone who works in the District office down to my sister churches. I feel constant love and support here in Michigan! If I had to narrow it down to one experience, I would have to say it would be at the Maumee Bay Youth Workers Conference. This was years ago, before Covid. It was my first conference since taking the ministry role here at Lakeshore and I had no clue what to expect. I just remember walking into the conference center and being flooded with support. I learned tons in those 3 days and met other DCE's that I still connect with today. The Michigan District cares about their church workers, and it shows! They have also given me helpful resources in my life and role here at Lakeshore. I was invited by Luke Esselman to my very first Cluster meeting back in 2017. I was hooked. Everyone was so welcoming and open with communication, and

the book studies, Bible studies, and sharing life with each other has been extremely helpful. I remember walking into my first Cluster meeting and just feeling extreme peace and comfort. I have learned so much from this group and look forward every month to our meetings. The book and Bible studies we do are wonderful, and the support is incredible. I leave every meeting feeling like I have been poured into!

Greatest Need

My greatest need as I continue to serve the Lord in my ministry would be time. Time with my children, youth, and families. Sports and extra curriculars take up so much time for my families that I struggle getting to see them more than a couple times a month. I know all churches are dealing with the same thing. The only answer I have is to love them and meet them where they are at, literally. My youth know where to find me—in the bleachers, stadiums, school auditoriums, and sports fields. I love attending their games, choir concerts, plays, swim meets, etc. every week to make sure I see them, and sometimes that is just the answer!

Favorite Bible Verse

It would be Philippians 4:13: "*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*" I chose this verse because I can go to it when I feel like I am struggling or feeling defeated. With today's culture changing so quickly, sometimes it is not easy to keep up! Every morning, I start out my day reciting this verse in my head before I start my devotions. It helps to remind myself who really is in charge ... Jesus!

Advice to Those Considering Church Work

My advice to anyone considering a call into ministry is to slow down and listen. It is extremely easy to get caught up in excitement or get weighed down by stress, but remember to be still, which with my personality is sometimes easier said than done. When you are leading and serving God's people, it is important to remember why you are doing this and Who you are serving! Jesus does not ask us to give Him anything other than what we have. He takes us as we are and, as we abide in Him, He multiplies it so we are enough and have enough. Also, read your Bible, anchor your identity in Christ, and be an image bearer of the One True King!

Shannon Johnson



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



ILC Mission of the Month in November is... LCMS Michigan District

Our Immanuel congregation will provide \$3,150 to our LCMS Michigan District this November. The Michigan District, LCMS is one of 35 districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We exist to serve 345 churches, 3 missions, 5 high schools, 66 elementary schools, and 126 preschools in the State of Michigan. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Stewardship Ministry helps congregations grow in their understanding and implementation of a life of stewardship.

Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of God's family — the church — in managing life's resources for His purposes.

Thanks for your stewardship Immanuel!



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.

November 3: "Working the System"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)
God's Law--a "system" that keeps the world from flying apart while it also shows us we need the Savior Who came to live, suffer, and rise for us.
(Genesis 33:8)

November 10: "My Name Is Now Yours"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola
God comes to renew us with His forgiving love, rename us in Baptism, and remain with us through His Word. (Genesis 35:10-11)

November 17: "Album-Worthy"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)
If everything you've ever thought or done was captured in a photo, how many of them would you save for all to see? Hear how God redeems all our snapshots--even those that don't seem "album-worthy." (Genesis 35:3)

November 24: "Jesus Sees What's in the Heart"

Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe](#)
Jesus sees what's in our hearts. What's in His heart? God saw that we needed a Savior. (Mark 12:41-44)

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.





In Our Prayers:

Homebound Ministry:

Marian Brugh **Jan Wilson**
Marlys Olson **Ellen Plano**
John Curtiss **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	Carol Quandt , Christa Perri's mother
Mary Ann Massey , friend of Dotty Smith	Lucille and Lawrence Fritz , requested by Jonathan Fritz
Bob Perri , brother of Phil Perri	Charlie Miller , Marian Brugh's brother
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
Mardell Miller , Marian Brugh's sister-in-law	Jason , son-in-law of Craig & Sue Anderson
Alice Schley , Jane Schley's granddaughter	John Hecht's mother, Kay Hecht
Deborah Henning , requested by Vivian W.	Ruth Krueger
Sophie Rose Verile , Brindley's grandniece	Jason Nichols , requested by Justin Beck

Loren Gerber , Sue Anderson's father	Cherri Mitchell , friend of Ted & Rita Clarke
Toni —Jane Schley's cousin	Bob and Beth Mitchell
Sharon S. , requested by Dotty Smith	Marilyn Borgeson , Annie Hecht's grandma
Craig Rennhack , requested by Bob & Maryalice Reck	Sue Steuer's sister-in-law Christine's mother Elaine , and her daughter-in-law Molly
Deb , friend of Sue Steuer	Gene Jennings
Kim N., Kim M., Emilie H., & Sydney B. , all friends of Kim Sharp; and River Lint , Kim's cousin's baby	
Sandy (Clarke) Schairer , Ted Clarke's sister	
All Crossroads Prison Ministry students	
Immanuel members: Gail Stewart, Dolly Bryan, Cathy Mollet, Shelly Reynolds, Tina Lauer, Vince Marshall, Jerome Dirst and John Miller	



Kurt Noneman	Nov. 1
Nevina Beck	Nov. 4
Genevieve Miller	Nov. 4
Robert Brindley	Nov. 7
Julie Jackson	Nov. 7
Loden Krueger	Nov. 11
Melanie Baumgart	Nov. 12
Avery Jackson	Nov. 12
Kelly Quardokus	Nov. 16
Gary Eckert	Nov. 18
Bill Bennett	Nov. 23
Jerome Dirst	Nov. 23
Phil Roekle	Nov. 27
James Dirst	Nov. 28





Men's Chili Cook-Off Sunday, November 24th (Starts at 3:00pm)



ALSO Join Us to Make an Advent Wreath!

(after the Chili Cook-Off @4:30pm)

1:00pm: Come join us in the Fellowship Hall and make a **Family Advent Wreath** or **Wreath Banner** (A banner is appropriate for small children).

Everyone is welcome to come to both events...get the kids involved! Never had an Advent Wreath or Wreath Banner? This is the place to make your first one!! Invite your friends and family...and **please** sign up!

There is a **sign-up poster in the Narthex** for both wreath/banner-making and chili-making. You can also sign up for bringing other foods, such as corn bread, crackers, corn chips and desserts. (Beverages will be provided.)

We have candles and wreaths for **10 wreaths**; there will be a nominal fee required for each.

One wreath per family please.

We will provide the four Advent candles (3 purple, 1 rose), a wreath form and some decorations...keeping to the theme of white, gold, and silver. You can bring any decorations you prefer as well.

There are ample supplies for **wreath banners**; there will be a nominal fee for those supplies.



A Letter of
"Thanks" from St.
Michael Lutheran
School

"Dear Immanuel Saints:

"I want to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the students and staff of St. Michael Lutheran School & CFK Childcare for your generous gift of \$900 for the Tuition Assistance Fund. We value your generous and unwavering support of this school ministry and pledge to use this gift in ways that will honor the Lord and benefit as many students in our care as possible. Please continue to support this ministry in prayer as we seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to both students and parents alike!"

Again, we appreciate this gift which helps St. Michael Lutheran School be a light for Jesus in the greater Kalamazoo area. May God richly bless you."

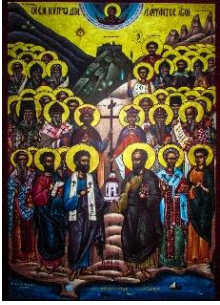


Gregory Johnson, Principal

CALLED TO VOTE
Register • Engage • Vote



Regardless of the hard
choices, **PRAY FIRST**, then
cast your vote!!



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: Sunday, November 3, 2024

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (*SAINTS NOW WITH CHRIST*)

Pastor: I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies;

Cong: **And whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.** (*John 11:25-26*)

Pastor: We honor the witness of those who died in the faith this past All Saints year, including:

- **Margaret Gerber**, mother of Susan Anderson, died 2/17/2024.
- **Mardelle Miller**, sister of Marian Brugh, died 4/12/2024.
- **Florence Baumgart**, Larry Baumgart's mother, died 4/21/2024.
- **Doris Frobels**, Melanie Baumgart's mother, died 5/24/2024.
- **Beverly Fisher**, mother of Susan Wagner, died 5/26/2024.
- **Mark Westphal**, former member of Immanuel, died 6/14/2024.
- **Edward Linn**, brother of Sally Crawford, died 7/19/2024.
- **Bonnie Kovach**, April Kovach's mother-in-law, passed away 8/2/2024.
- **Lois Roggenbeck**, sister of Shirley Breu, died 10/4/2024.
- **Mary Heiler**, Vivian and Wayne Westphal's sister-in-law's daughter-in-law, died 10/11/2024.
- **Charles Quandt**, Christa Perri's father, died 10/22/2024.

Pastor: Let us pray... Almighty God, in whose glorious presence live all who depart in the Lord and before whom all the souls of the faithful who are delivered of the burden of the flesh are in joy and felicity, we give You hearty thanks for Your loving-kindness to all Your servants who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors, and we humbly implore Your mercy that we, together with all who have departed in the saving faith, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, in both body and soul, in Your eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong: **Amen.**

Worship Assistants/Serving Schedule



	Acolyte	Altar	Usher	Lector	Worship Assistant	Coffee Hour
Sunday 11/3/2024	Cailyn Hecht & Norah Lawrence	Vivian Westphal	Kim Sharp	Andrew Lustila	Denny Patzer & John Quardokus	AnnMarie & Philip Miller
Sunday 11/10/2024	Linus Mandrick & Rory Beck	Sally Crawford	John Wagner	John Krueger	John Quardokus & John Wagner	Rita Clarke
Sunday 11/17/2024	Eliora Beck & Caviion Beck	Patti Wills	Ron Swinehart	Mark Miller	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	Jane—Coffee Melanie--Snacks
Sunday 11/24/2024	Genevieve Miller & Adelaide Jefferies	Kim Sharp	John Hecht	Ninah Miller	Bill Stewart & Ron Swinehart	Jane Schley
Wednesday Thanksgiving Eve 11/27/24	NA	Amber Townsend	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sunday 12/1/2024	Maddie Hernandez & Elijah Lawrence	Patti Wills	Kim Sharp	John Quardokus	Mark Miller & Andrew Lustila	Amber & Chuck Townsend
Sunday 12/8/2024	Cailyn Hecht & Norah Lawrence	Amber Townsend	John Wagner	Dave Mandrick	Denny Patzer & John Quardokus	Sue & John Wagner
Sunday 12/15/2024	Linus Mandrick & Rory Beck	Jane Schley	Ron Swinehart	John Hecht	John Quardokus & John Wagner	Maryalice—Coffee Alicia— Snacks
Sunday 12/22/2024	Eliora Beck & Caviion Beck	Sally Crawford	John Hecht	Andrew Lustila	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	AnnMarie & Philip Miller
Christmas Eve Tuesday 12/24/2024	NA	Vivian Westphal	NA	John Krueger	Bill Stewart & Ron Swinehart	NA
Sunday 12/29/2024	Genevieve Miller & Adelaide Jefferies	Rita Clarke	John Hecht	Mark Miller	Mark Miller & Andrew Lustila	Rita Clarke

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 3000 West Main Street
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November 2024 Newsletter
 Volume 53, No.10

November 2024						
Mission of the Month: LCMS MI District						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					Nov. 1	2
 <p style="text-align: center;">Immanuel Lutheran Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:15am Sunday School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10: 00 am Sunday Communion Service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:30 am-Adult Class 11:30 am-Children's Choir Practice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTE: All services will be live-streamed on: Facebook and YouTube</p>	4	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study @ ILC re: Book of Genesis</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:30pm Mary & Martha Mtg</p> <p>7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ Immanuel</p>	6	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>11am-12:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*7:00pm Church Council Mtg.</p>	8	9
<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>10am Communion Service (Couch)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:30am Voters Assembly mtg.</p> <p>11:30am Children's Choir</p>	11	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study @ ILC re: Book of Genesis</p> <p>7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ Immanuel</p>	13	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p>11am-12:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	15	16
<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>10am Communion Service (Quardokus)</p> <p>11:30am Adult Class & Children's Choir</p>	18	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study @ ILC re: Book of Genesis</p> <p>7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ Immanuel</p>	20	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p>11am-12:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	22	23
<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>10am Communion Service (Couch)</p> <p>11:30am Adult Class & Children's Choir</p>	25	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study @ ILC re: Book of Genesis</p> <p>7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ Immanuel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thanksgiving Eve</p> <p>7pm Communion Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thanksgiving Day</p> 	29	30