



September 2024 Newsletter



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 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 Pastor’s Ponderings: Back to School – 7 Spiritual Truths to Instill in Your Children



By Pastor Doug Stauffer, Faith Independent Baptist Church
 Published by Bay Life, October 7, 2023

With the 2023-2024 school year in full swing, parents and teachers have bought their supplies, arranged schedules and attended orientation sessions. Amidst all the bustle, focusing on some deeper life lessons is crucial as they serve as a moral compass for children. In a recent sermon, I explored seven pivotal spiritual principles rooted in the rich soil of Judeo-Christianity. These principles not only bolster character, but also provide a compass that can guide children in school and throughout their lives.

1. The Importance of Divine Creation: School curriculums may teach theories of evolution and the Big Bang, but it’s important to counterbalance this by instilling in your children that they are God’s special creation, created with purpose and talents (Daniel 1:17; Genesis 1:27). This foundation not only strengthens self-worth, but also infuses life with a sense of divine purpose that scientific theories such as abiogenesis and survival of the fittest fail to deliver.

2. Understanding God and America’s Heritage: Teach your children about the Judeo-Christian heritage that shaped America. In a world that often sees the concept of a Creator as old-fashioned, children must know that they are purposefully made (Daniel 6:10; Psalm 139:14). By grounding their identity in faith, they will be better prepared to defend their beliefs and answer questions about their hope (1 Peter 3:15).

3. Learning to Trust in God: As your children navigate life's challenges, remind them that God is involved in human endeavors (Daniel 2:21; Proverbs 3:5). Several scriptures assure that trusting in God will guide them through all of life's circumstances (Isaiah 41:10, Jeremiah 29:11). Encouraging a balanced spiritual life can impart to them an unshakeable peace, even in the face of adversity.

4. Choosing Friends Wisely: The company your children keep can either uplift or undermine their moral fabric (Proverbs 13:20; 1 Corinthians 15:33). The Psalmist pointed out that he surrounded himself with those who share his faith. "I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts" (Psalm 119:63). The right relationships offer mutual spiritual support and enrichment.

5. The Virtue of Diligence: Encourage your children to give their best in all they do, not for worldly acclaim but to glorify God (Colossians 3:23; Ecclesiastes 9:10). The principle of doing one's best "as unto the Lord" can serve as a guiding framework throughout their lives, in academics, relationships, or career choices.

6. The Courage to Stand Alone: Life will present situations where your children must stand alone in their convictions, like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3:14-18). This courage to uphold their beliefs, even under peer pressure or threats, is an invaluable life skill. Scriptures reiterate that God will fight their battles when they stand alone in their faith (Exodus 14:14). Teach them that standing alone with God is not solitude—it's spiritual fortitude.

7. The Path Back from the Pit: Lastly, remind your children that making mistakes is a universal human experience, but the gifts of repentance and forgiveness are ever-present (Luke 15:18-19). The moving narrative of the Prodigal Son illustrates the transformative power of family reunification. This story shows that even when we lose our way, a loving reunion with God and family remains our best option.

Imparting these spiritual principles is more than just instilling a religious edification; they are tools for forging resilient, thoughtful individuals who can gracefully handle the world's complexities. So, as we continue the back-to-school season, let's not overlook

these foundational teachings that will fortify your children for a lifetime. Invest now to insure a profitable reaping in the future.

Dr. Doug Stauffer is pastor of Faith Independent Baptist Church. He was saved July 6, 1980, in Niceville, while stationed at the 33rd Tactical Fighter Wing at Eglin Air Force Base and has now been in the ministry for over 35 years. He has written 20 books including the best selling "One Book" trilogy ("One Book Rightly Divided, One Book Stands Alone, One Book One Authority"); along with several devotionals ("Daily Strength" series); and prophecy books ("Reviving the Blessed Hope, When the End Begins").

Loving God, watch over our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning.

Guide and protect all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Give wisdom, patience, and joy to teachers as they serve their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER



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

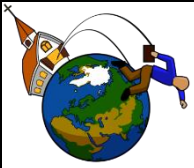
(Select Locations)

Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church

321 W South St

Rollerworld

7491 Stadium Dr., Kalamazoo



Our Mission of the Month in September is...

CROSSROADS PRISON MINISTRIES



Fostering Christ-centered relationships between people in prison and people on the outside.

We are not meant to study God's Word alone. That's why Crossroads connects people in prison with mentors who study the Bible with them and encourage them through heartfelt letters. The mentors are the heart of the ministry, offering a personal touch not found in other correspondence Bible study programs.

Through the mentorship program, students can study more than one hundred lessons that are centered on the Bible and relevant to people in prison. Mentors review their lessons, answer their questions, encourage their spiritual growth and share their own testimonies. As friendships between mentors and students blossom, so do genuine love and respect and the desire to encourage one another to discover their God-given potential.

How It Works: Crossroads students complete Bible study lessons, and volunteer mentors review the lessons, answer the students' questions and encourage them through personal letters. Because the mentorship program is carried out through the mail, students remain connected to their Bible studies and their mentors no matter where they may be transferred. In addition, volunteer mentors make a meaningful impact in prison ministry without ever leaving home. Volunteers say they believe they grow in faith as much as the students grow.. That is the power of Christ-centered relationship.

To become a mentor visit: CPMinistries.org



Carol Clement	Sept. 10
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
Jeri Noneman	Sept. 29
Marlys Olson	Sept. 29

**You're not getting older;
you're just upgrading to
a newer version of
awesome! Have a
fantastic birthday!**





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	Charles and Carol Quandt , Christa Perri's parents
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	Fran Rodammer , former ILC member
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
Kim N., Kim M., Emilie H., & Sydney B. , all friends of Kim Sharp; and River Lint , Kim's cousin's baby	
Deb , friend of Sue Steuer	Gene Jennings
Bob and Beth Mitchell	
All Crossroads Prison Ministry students	
Immanuel members: Gail Stewart, Dolly Bryan, Cathy Mollet, Shelly Reynolds, Tina Lauer, Vince Marshall, Jerome Dirst and John Miller	



You are cordially invited to attend our:

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, September 8, 2024

(Directly after the worship service)

The Social Committee will provide the ice cream, toppings, cookies, and beverages, including lemonade and iced tea.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex so that we can have some idea how large our gathering will be and how much food and beverages to purchase.

No need to bring anything, just sign up!



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.

SEPTEMBER SERMON SCHEDULE

September 1: "The One" Lutheran Hour

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

The Universe does not have a plan for your life--but God does! (Genesis 24:14)

September 8: "Conditioned by the Unconditional"

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

God's forgiving love for you in Christ is love that your accomplishments can't enhance and your failures can't diminish. (Genesis 25:23)

September 15: "Bent Necks and a Better Brother"

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

The Book of Genesis is no fairy tale. It depicts real people--people like us, with half-truths, crooked ways, and sore necks--but also the God Who created us and bears with us because He loves us. (Genesis 27:35-36)

September 22: "All He Has to Say"

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

The story of Jacob's Ladder is not a prompt for us to climb higher; it's a promise that God comes down to our level. (Genesis 28:15)

September 29: "Love at First Sight, Love That Lasts"

Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola](#)

God loved us at first sight, from eternity. And He has given us Jesus so that we can know His love. (Genesis 29:20)

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. The Lutheran Hour is also available via podcast.



Come join us for our Annual Pig (Pork) Roast



@ the home of
Chuck & Amber Townsend
Saturday, September 14th

(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.

Also: We could really use the help of others to set up before and tear down after the pig roast. Please connect with Amber or Chuck if you can do this. Thank-you!!!

School Kits



It's that time again!!!

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Education is a critical tool to overcoming poverty. Education is also hope and empowerment. You can help more children access it by contributing to Lutheran World Relief **School Kits**! These **School Kits** contain essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults – continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families, and their communities. All the data shows that education is a critical piece of the puzzle for creating healthier, more prosperous futures for children— and especially for girls. Each **School Kit** you help make will be cherished by the person who receives it.

Some of the places where LWR **School Kits** were sent in last year include the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Honduras, Bahamas, Peru, Tanzania, Iraq, Serbia, Guatemala, Bolivia, Lebanon, and Jordan.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR EACH LWR **School Kit**:

- **Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2"; no loose-leaf paper**
- **One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other**
- **One pencil sharpener**
- **One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)**
- **Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band**
- **Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band**
- **One box of 16 or 24 crayons**
- **One 2 1/2" eraser**

Here are the guidelines to keep in mind when purchasing items:

- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not purchase other school-related items not on the list, such as protractors, compasses, or templates.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. (Remove all excess packaging.)

Many of the items listed are not very expensive if bought during the annual "back to school" sales, some of which are now in full swing.

All items should be new and in good condition. You may purchase all of the items for a single kit, or groups of the individual components, such as case-packs of crayons or boxes of pencils.

Please place your donations of the table in the narthex **no later than Sunday, September 29, 2024**



**Saturday,
October 12, 2024**

5:00pm Social Hour

6:00pm Dinner

Immanuel Fellowship Hall



Join us for German food & beer
and great fellowship!

Worship Assistants/Serving Schedule

Date	Acolyte	Altar	Usher	Lector	Worship Assistant	Coffee Hour
Sunday 9/1/2024	Linus Mandrick & Rory Beck	Rita Clarke	Phil Roekle	Dave Mandrick	Phil Roekle & John Wagner	Jane Schley
9/8/2024	Eliora Beck & Caviion Beck	Kim Sharp	John Wagner	John Hecht	John Wagner & Craig Anderson	Maryalice Reck
9/15/2024	Genevieve Miller & Adelaide Jefferies	Sally Crawford	Ron Swinehart	Andrew Lustila	Bill Stewart & Ron Swinehart	Rita Clarke
9/22/2024	Maddie Hernandez & Elijah Lawrence	Vivian Westphal	John Hecht	John Krueger	Mark Miller & Andrew Lustila	Amber & Chuck Townsend
9/29/2024	Cailyn Hecht & Norah Lawrence	Amber Townsend	Ron Swinehart	Mark Miller	Denny Patzer & John Quardokus	Maryalice Reck
10/6/2024	Linus Mandrick & Rory Beck	TBA	Phil Roekle	Ninah Miller	Phil Roekle & John Wagner	Shelly Reynolds
10/13/2024	Eliora Beck & Caviion Beck	TBA	John Wagner	John Q.	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	Sue and John Wagner
10/20/2024	Genevieve Miller & Adelaide Jefferies	TBA	Ron Swinehart	Dave Mandrick	Bill Stewart & Ron Swinehart	Jane Schley
10/27/2024	Maddie Hernandez & Elijah Lawrence	TBA	John Hecht	John Hecht	Mark Miller & Andrew Lustila	Helen & Phil—Coffee Dotty S.—Snacks

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



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

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SEPTEMBER: Crossroads Bible Institute						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00am Communion Service (Iqbal)	2 LABOR DAY	3 5:30pm Mary/Martha Guild Meeting	4	5	6	7
8 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Communion Service (Iqbal) 11:30am Children's Choir	9	10 6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast	11	12	13	14
15 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Communion Service (Couch) 11:30am Children's Choir	16	17 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study @ILC	18	19	20 NEWSLETTE R DEADLINE 	21
22 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Communion Service (Iqbal) 11:30am Children's Choir	23	24 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study@ILC	25	26	27	28
29 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Communion Service (Couch) 11:30am Children's Choir	30	October 1 5:30pm Mary/Martha Guild Meeting 7:00pm Baumgart Bible Study@ILC	2	3	4	5



**Immanuel
 Lutheran
 Church**

**9:15am Sunday
 School**

**10: 00 am Sunday
 Communion Service**

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

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