



The VISITOR

Monthly Newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Volume 9 Issue 5

May 2018

From The Pastor's Desk....

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing this on Monday, April 16, the day after our latest Youth Sunday (and the day after the newsletter deadline: my apologies to Rachel). What a joy it was to watch and listen to our children and youth help to lead us in worship! The Word of God reaches me in a new way when I hear it read in a child's voice. And there is no comparing the welcome I feel during the sharing of the peace when a little one runs up to me and wraps his arms around my knees, or the joy I feel when listening to the Sunday School Choir singing "This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Every congregation has core values that help define who we are and how we live together as the Body of Christ. During the LEAD process in which we are now engaged, we will identify and clarify those values. In the two years I have been here, one core value I have experienced regularly is: "Children belong in worship." I believe this value comes straight from the Bible, where Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Matt. 19:14, Mark 10:14 & Luke 18:16)

We are blessed to have many children coming to Jesus week after week in our worship services. In obedience to Jesus' clear teaching, we do all we can to support them and those who bring them to Jesus.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission, as disciples of Jesus, is to commit ourselves to making Christ known through worship, service, outreach, learning and loving one another.

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3184 Church Street, PO Box 739, Manchester, MD 21102
P410-374-4463 F410-775-5796 Einfo@ielcmd.org WImmanuelLutheranccmd.org

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- *We have a growing children's choir, "All God's Children."
- *Four children have joined our now intergenerational Chimes Choir.
- *We have activity bags to help our little ones keep themselves occupied during worship.
- *We offer Baby Sunday School in the Pre-School Room for little ones accompanied by a parent or caregiver most Sundays during worship (after children's sermon to before Communion is served).
- *We have brought the sound system into the Oak Tree Room as well as the Pre-School Room so that nursing mothers and others with small children can listen to the service while caring for their children.
- *And of course, children are always welcome in the pews with their families throughout the worship service.

Welcoming children into worship comes with a cost. Worshiping with children present can be noisy and distracting for other worshipers. Here two more core values come into play: the mutual respect we owe each other as members of the Body of Christ, and the ultimate respect we owe to God. When we come to worship, we gather not as individuals, each doing our own thing, but as a single Body worshipping God together, respecting the needs of our fellow worshipers above our own so that we can all give God our fullest attention, our deepest love and gratitude, and our highest praise. Thus, our older members make allowances for our little ones for the sake of having the whole Body of Christ worship God together, while our younger members and their families show deep concern and respect for the needs of our older members to be able to hear and participate fully in worship with them.

This is much longer than my usual monthly letter, so I will end here and continue next month. If you have any suggestions how we can worship God together more faithfully and effectively, please let me know. I'd like to keep the conversation going!

"May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 15:5-6)

Yours in the steadfast Love of Christ,

~Pastor Charlie

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND GROW AT IMMANUEL

No previous knowledge of the Bible is required for any Bible study

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Lectionary Bible Study

Meets weekly throughout the year in the Martin Luther Room following the worship service, approximately 10:15 – 11:15am.

On coffee hour Sundays, we meet 10:45 – 11:30am. Each week we will explore the Gospel reading for the following Sunday.

May 6: John 17:6-19

May 13: John 15:26-27; John 16:4b-15

May 20: John 3:1-17

May 27: Mark 2:23 – 3:6

MIDWEEK PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: Ecclesiastes

Because of the Pastor's vacation schedule and Synod Assembly, our midweek groups will only meet twice in May. They will continue their study of the Old Testament book of wisdom, Ecclesiastes.

Morning Group will meet in the Oak Tree Room Tuesday May 8 & 22 at 11am.

Evening Group will meet at the Pastor's home, 840 Hughes Shop Rd,
Westminster MD 21158 on Wednesday May 9 & 29 at 7pm.

CONFIRMATION CLASS:

The final class session will be held in the Oak Tree Room Sunday, May 6 at 7pm. There will be no class on Mothers Day, May 13. Our second year students will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 20 at the 9am service. A reception in honor of our confirmands, Ashton Eckhardt and Sarah Day, will be held in the Social Hall following the service.

COMING IN JUNE:

VBS “*Shipwrecked Sneak Peek*” Bible Study

Sunday, June 10, 10:30am – 1:30pm including lunch

Pastor Charlie will provide an interactive, in-depth introduction to the Bible passages our children will be learning in VBS this summer: “Shipwrecked – Rescued by Jesus.” We will also learn about the VBS daily themes, meet the Bible Buddies, and hear some of the VBS songs. Sign up at church or call the church office to register.

PASTOR CHARLIE'S MAY BIBLE CHALLENGE: IN THE UPPER ROOM

Our May Bible Challenge takes us through John 13-17, John's version of what happened in the upper room when Jesus met with his disciples the night before his death. It begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet and foretelling his betrayal. Jesus then teaches his disciples about their new relationship with him after his death and resurrection and the coming of the Spirit. Chapter 17 is an extended prayer from Jesus to his heavenly father, where he prays for his disciples – and for us! The online Bible Study will continue with daily comments from Pastor Charlie on Facebook. Email him at pastorc@ielcmd.org if you would like to join this private group, or if you would like to receive copies via email of the comments he posts there for each day.

5/1	John 13:1-11	5/17	John 15:18-25
5/2	John 13:12-20	5/18	John 15:26-28
5/3	John 13:21-30	5/19	John 16:1-4
5/4	John 13:31-35	5/20	John 16:5-11
5/5	John 13:36-38	5/21	John 16:12-15
5/6	John 14:1-6	5/22	John 16:16-22
5/7	John 14:7-14	5/23	John 16:23-24
5/8	John 14:15-17	5/24	John 16:25-28
5/9	John 14:18-21	5/25	John 16:29-33
5/10	John 14:22-24	5/26	John 17:1-5
5/11	John 14:25-27	5/27	John 17:6-10
5/12	John 14:28-31	5/28	John 17:11-13
5/13	John 15:1-5	5/29	John 17:14-19
5/14	John 15:6-8	5/30	John 17:20-23
5/15	John 15:9-11	5/31	John 17:24-26
5/16	John 15:12-17		

ARE YOU RECEIVING PASTOR CHARLIE'S WEEKLY EMAIL?



If you would like to receive a weekly message from Pastor Charlie with reminders about what's happening at Immanuel, please submit your email address to pastorc@ielcmd.org.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The annual Synod Assembly is in Hunt Valley this year, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. We are looking for members willing to represent Immanuel as voting members. Please let Pastor Charlie or Brenda Wulforst know if interested. Expenses will be paid by Immanuel.

NOISY CHANGE OFFERING

Last year, the congregations of our DE/MD Synod donated more than \$22,000 to ELCA World Hunger by collecting loose change in a “Noisy Change Offering.” We will be doing it again this year, hoping to surpass last year’s total. This year, the offering will be split 50/50 between ELCA World Hunger and five local hunger ministries/food pantries in our synod territory, to be identified by the Hunger Task Force and announced at the Synod Assembly.

Our noisy change offering will be May 19-20, as part of our celebration of Pentecost. Please start saving up your loose change and bring it to church that weekend. If you can’t be there that weekend, you can bring it to church anytime up to the following Sunday morning, May 27. If you prefer to make an offering by check, please make it out to Immanuel Lutheran Church with “Noisy Change” in the memo line.

COMMUNICATION DEADLINES

Information to print in the weekly service bulletin must be received by noon on the Wednesday prior to worship. Information to print in the monthly newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month prior.

SOFTBALL

Are you interested in playing softball just for fun and fellowship? We want to know if we have enough people to commit to schedule field times in the local Manchester/Hampstead area.

What days/times could you play? Could you be the contact person? *Help ‘rally’ people to play!*

If we get enough interest, then we will contact other local churches asking if they want to join us!

Help us get the (*soft*)ball rolling ...

contact the church office today!



CHECK OUT CHURCH WEBSITE: IELCMD.ORG

Some things you will find are ...

*Pastor’s sermons: Listen to the pastor’s sermon

*Most recent bulletins and newsletters

*Donations: Immanuel secure online giving service

****Jamie Rooney is currently updating our site. But we are still searching for a website administrator. *This task can be completed from your sofa!***
If you have a desire to be of service to your church, contact any council member for more information.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER AND HEALING

Pastor offers individual prayer at the communion rail, with anointing and laying of hands for healing for those who desire it before each service.

SERMONS ONLINE

You don't have to miss a sermon. If you are unable to attend worship, you can hear the pastor's sermons on the church's website!

MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

Rev. Wal Reat is our ELCA Global Missionary sponsor. He serves in South Sudan among the refugees in several camps along the border between South Sudan and Ethiopia. Keep Rev. Wal in your prayers.



BIRTHS

****Congratulations to Rick and Jessica Puller !**
Fynn Oliver Puller was born on Monday, April 2nd
weighing 9lbs 8oz and 21" long

BAPTISM

5pm Saturday Service – March 31, 2018

John Rian Hoffman

Son of Rick and Heather Hoffman (Becker)

Sponsored by Daniel Hoffman and Christina Becker
We wish God's blessings on John Rian and his his family

DEATHS

Families and friends of:

Stacie Ann Shea, niece of Susan Yingling

Barry Rill

Audrey Rhoten

Geraldine Geist

Pete Olson

Doris Reed Gibson

Ira Bulson, father of Steve Burris

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The congregational survey conducted last summer at Immanuel by our Mutual Ministry Committee identified two key areas needing attention: improving communication and increasing member involvement. We have been working on both and have found them to be connected. It's hard to get involved in something you don't know about, and equally hard to commit yourself to something about which you have had no say. That's why communication at Immanuel should flow freely in both directions: from our church leaders to our members and worshipers, and from our members and worshipers to our church leaders. I believe the Holy Spirit speaks to us as we speak and listen to each other in mutually respectful conversation.

On behalf of our congregation's leadership team, myself very much included, I say: We want to hear from you, because God is speaking to us through you. If you have a concern or a suggestion, call any of us on the phone. Send a letter, email or text message. Drop a note in the Mutual Ministry box in the back of the sanctuary. Send a message by carrier pigeon. Attend a council or committee meeting. Request a personal visit. (OK, I was kidding about the carrier pigeon!)

There will be opportunities to make your ideas and feelings known as the LEAD process continues this spring and summer.

As you communicate with us in any form, please identify yourself as the sender of the message. Anonymous communications make mutually respectful conversation impossible, because there is no one to respond to, and can sometimes do great damage to a congregation if mishandled. This includes communicating anonymously through another person, who passes along the message without disclosing the source. Harmful gossip typically works this way and can be especially destructive because it is so hidden.

Stewardship is what we do with what God has entrusted to us, including how we care for our church. One of the most important things we can do as stewards of God's Church is to keep the lines of mutually respectful communication open in both directions. Healthy communication is the lifeblood of the church.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

~Pastor Charlie

LEAD

Chris Crouch, Facilitator; John Gregg, Council Liaison
Pastor Charlie, Debbie Miller, Debbie Mace, Terri Rill

As I ponder how to put pen to paper, or in this case fingers to keys, in order to express my feelings about the LEAD journey that we are embarking on at Immanuel, I am struck by a broad range of emotions. I am mostly excited, but also curious, anxious, maybe even nervous all at the same time.

- ✦ I am excited to have been selected to participate on the LEAD team, thank you Pastor Charlie for the invitation.
- ✦ I am excited to share this journey with the other members of our team, and to form enduring relationships.
- ✦ I am excited to learn and grow spiritually, and have already through our first seminar and handful of meetings.
- ✦ I am curious to know where this process will lead, but I know it will take time.
- ✦ I am anxious for the tasks ahead, but I recognize that this process will also require patience.
- ✦ I am nervous about my own abilities to complete this important work, but I recognize that we are a team and none of us is working alone.

And I am confident that the Lord is in command, and that he is always our guide.

I look forward to learning and sharing more about the LEAD process and God's will in the coming months and years.

Please support our efforts and keep our LEAD team in your prayers. The Lord has many plans for us, the congregation at Immanuel, listen to Him, and follow His lead.

God Bless,
John Gregg
LEAD team member



PROPERTY

Chair: Tim Rill

Members: Frank Burnette, John Gregg, Brian Kremen, Steve Burris

The following items were discussed at the council meeting in April.

The on-going problem we experienced in the Social Hall during the Lenten season-lights going on and off at will- has been taken care of for the present time. A breaker was replaced and a 3 way switch was replaced.

There have been no more reported problems with toilets leaking in the downstairs bathrooms.

The conversation about replacing the main doors to the Narthex and education building has been tabled until more information can be obtained.

The burners were replaced on the gas stove to make it safe to use. This is a simple fix to prevent any problems until the kitchen renovations are in full gear.

The ongoing problem with the floor drains in the kitchen is being addressed before kitchen renovations are slated to begin. A break in the drain line must be repaired before we move forward. There are also additional concerns with the sinks in the kitchen. All of these issues will be resolved before any kitchen renovations start.

All of the plans for the kitchen renovation are like dominoes with one thing depending on another. Rest assured the property committee are resolving items [one at a time] so effort and \$\$\$\$'s are not wasted.

Judd's Fire sprinkler company inspected the sprinkler system. Waiting for information to get certified. Also, the fire extinguishers will be certified as well.

As always, please notify the Property committee if you notice anything on the church property that needs attention.

MISSIONS

Joe Fleck, jpflecksr@gmail.com, 410-848-5919

Special Offering for the May monthly mission
will be collected for Boy Scout Troop 320.

Immanuel Lutheran Church is the charter organization of Boy Scout Troop 320. Our congregation has been helping support Boy Scout Troop 320, which was established in 1932, for over 86 years. The scouts in turn have been a committed support organization that has also helped the church in many service projects over the years. One of the recent Eagle Scout projects was the installation of the large cross outside the front-side of our building. The scouts also recently participating in the "Scouting for Food" program in Manchester that collected two large vehicles full of food for NESAP.

This past year has been particularly challenging raising funds which helps support our scout camping trips, activities, supplies, and service projects while keeping costs low for our young members. One of our big fundraisers has been selling refreshments at Thomas Tree Farm which was cut short this year due to less mature trees being available. Since then we have also executed a plan to try many new fundraiser activities going forward this year. We are also asking the congregation for their help as well.

Some facts about the troop:

- We are a "Boy-Led" Troop with many leadership opportunities for our Scouts.
- We have had many scouts earn the prestigious Eagle rank. Two scouts this year alone will earn their Eagle. Only 4% of all scouts will achieve this.
- We have many "Fully Trained" Scoutmasters and have several leaders participating in "WoodBadge" training which is considered the pinnacle of adult BSA Leader training.
- If you look at our calendar you see we camp A LOT! If you were to camp every scheduled trip this year with Troop 320 you could have 20+ nights of tent camping in just your first year.

Troop 320 meets regularly at 7pm on Tuesdays at Immanuel Lutheran Church <http://www.mdtroop320.org>

FELLOWSHIP

Chair: Rhonda Kiler, 410-239-7028

Members: Deb Hebrank, 410-952-3320; Brenda Wulforst, 443-507-6753;

Linda Gregg; Matthew Rooney; Jamie Rooney

The Fellowship committee had a busy Lenten and Easter season with many opportunities for you to gather with your fellow Immanuel members. Many of you prepared soup for the Lenten soup luncheons, supplied fruit trays and also provided bread for these meals. THANK YOU!

A simple meal of soup, bread and fruit was served on Holy Thursday. This Agape Meal had about 25 members in attendance. The service was extremely meaningful for those in attendance.

Easter breakfast was served Easter Sunday between the 7 and 9am services. Dave and Wanda Robinson and their family, Deb Hebrank, Norm Downes, Andy Kiler, Jeremy Edwards and Pete and Brenda Wulforst helped prepare and serve breakfast to about 100 people. Thanks to Steve Burris for running the dishwasher crew and also thanks for making and donating the Easter eggs given away as door prizes. A special thank you goes out to Brenda Wulforst for making the center table arrangements and the Easter egg tree. Also, Rachel Murphy- thank you for managing the advertising and keeping things straight on the calendar.

On Mon, April 23, Immanuel's Fellowship committee hosted The Westminster Conference for Lutheran men. 146 hungry fellows enjoyed a meal together followed by their business meeting and a hymn sing in the Sanctuary. The menu was San Francisco chicken, parslies, potatoes, green beans, bread basket, individual salads, brownies and a ice cream sundae bar. A free will offering was received. It was very rewarding to have this many men gather together for a meal and fellowship.



Don't forget Coffee Hour on May 6 after the 9am service.

May 20th we will honor our two confirmands-Sarah Rose Day and Ashton Eckhardt. Their accomplishments will be celebrated with a cake/coffee reception in the Social Hall immediately following the 9am service.

Maurer and Miller butcher shop is closing their doors in early May. They invited Immanuel to provide a food table at their public sale on Friday, June 8. Please support M & M Meats and your church by stopping by that day. We will be asking for donations of food—watch your weekly bulletin for more information.

Thanks for supporting the Fellowship committee in all we do for you.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer: Sharon Slivecky, 410-790-6146, sslivecky@ielcmd.org

Chair: Jeremy Edwards, 443-695-6371, jedwards@ielcmd.org

Members: Garth Eckhardt, Audrey Shaffer, Matthew Rooney, Jeff Yingling,
Rachel Murphy, Frank Burnette, Norm Downes

AUTOMATIC AND ONLINE DONATIONS

Immanuel offers a secure online giving service through our website! This is an easy way for you to submit one-time donations or setup recurring contributions directly from your checking account or using a credit card. Visit our website: <http://ielcmd.org>

****Instead of going online, there is also a hardcopy form available ****

MONTHLY MISSION SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Please *write checks to Immanuel Lutheran Church*. The collected monies are sent to the organization as one check from Immanuel.



FLEA MARKET SEASON OFFICIALLY STARTED!

St Paul's Church (Rt 30 & Dover Rd Upperco, 21155) held the first of their 7 Flea Markets in April with over 70 vendors!

Stop by and shop—or consider being a vendor one month! For more information, contact 410-526-7598 or FleaMarket@StPaulsUpperco.org

2018 Flea Market Schedule Rain or Shine from 8am to 2pm.

May 19 · June 16 · July 21 · August 18 · September 15 · October 13

CHARLOTTE'S QUEST NATURE CENTER

Visit Charlotte's Quest on May 6 from 12-4pm for SPRINGFEST. Lunch, snowballs, moon bounce, pony rides, local honey and plants for sale, robotics demo, telescope demo, environmental ed. Free parking. No rain date. 410-374-3395 charlottesquestnaturecenter.com

Community Plant Swap Do you enjoy replacing old and receiving new plants? Come swap your plants in a friendly environment on Sunday, May 20 from 1-3pm at Charlotte's Quest Nature Center (3400 Wilhelm Ln Manchester 21102). If you don't have plants to swap, get some plants to take home for a \$5 donation. Master Gardeners available to answer questions. Free Refreshments. 410-374-3395

2018 FREDERICK KEYS BASEBALL & FIREWORKS

Mark your calendars for the Frederick Keys Baseball Game on Friday, August 10 at 7pm. There will be fireworks immediately after the game.

If we buy 25 or more tickets, the cost for reserved seats will be:

Adults - \$10 (ages 13 – 59) Seniors - \$7 (60 & over)

Youth (ages 3-12) and Active Military - \$7

Please let Robert Miller at Trinity UCC (410-374-4455) know by May 27th, if you are planning to attend and whether you would be interested in riding the bus. There is a possibility that bus transportation will be provided and subsidized by the churches attending.

CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Brenda Wulforst, 443-507-6753

Vice President: John Gregg, 410-599-3091

Recording Secretary: Jamie Rooney

Church council met in the MLR on Tuesday, April 10 at 7 pm. One guest-Jeff Mullins—attended this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Immanuel is hosting the Westminster Conference Men's Dinner on April 23 in the social hall.

Council has not stopped pursuing CRASE training. There is an alternate opportunity available- a seminar in Frederick at a personal cost of \$20.00. Information is posted in the weekly bulletin for anyone interested.

Trinity UCC is again organizing a trip to a Frederick Keys game on August 10, Fireworks follow the game. A bus is available [sponsored by 3 area churches]. The bus leaves Trinity around 5 pm. Check the weekly bulletin for details and if you are interested, call Rachel in the church office to reserve your seats,

Two April fundraisers were discussed—one at Grace Lutheran and one at Trinity UCC.

Leaders from St. Mark's, Jerusalem and Immanuel Lutheran Church met April 25th to discuss how we can help one another and continue the work of ministry in our communities in God's Kingdom of Carroll County. Jeanne Swain attended with Pastor Charlie.

OLD BUSINESS

ELCA/MD Synod Conference will be held at Hunt Valley, May 31- June 2. The schedule for the conference is posted on the DE/MD Synod website. If you are interested in representing Immanuel, please contact Pastor or Brenda Wulforst, Council President before April 29 for early bird discount or May 15 at the latest.

Reminder—If you are a Thrivent member, you can get action grants for outreach projects. You can become an Associate member for just \$20.00- this entitles you to one \$250 Action Grant which can be used for an outreach project. There are several members of the congregation who participate routinely and are willing to assist you. If interested, contact Deb Hebrank, Social Ministry, Brenda Wulforst, Council President or Rachel Murphy, Office Manager.

Council discussed the Easter season advertising and its possible effects on attendance.

God's Work, Our Hand's was discussed. If you are aware of anyone who could use "our hands" to do "God's work", please contact any member of church council.

Each month we are looking to recruit new council members. If interested in "testing the waters", please contact a council member.

Continuing to search for Website Admin.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Jen Edwards, 443-883-6138, jen@iostreaminfo.com, Jeanne Swain, Angie Eckhardt,
Pete Wulforst, Jen Robinson, Sandy Voight, Brenda Wulforst

Our Sunday school year is drawing to a close. Our final class will be on May 20. We would like to thank all of the students, their families, teachers, and volunteers as well as the congregation, for all of their support this year!

A reminder about Mar Lu Ridge Summer Camps! If you haven't registered yet, please remember that we have an anonymous sponsor willing to cover the registration costs for your youth. This is an amazing opportunity for your child to spend 5 nights (or a 3 night mini camp) having fun at the specialty camp of your choosing, while building friendships making memories, all while strengthening their relationship with God. If you haven't been to Mar-Lu-Ridge before, it's about an hour from Manchester in beautiful Jefferson, MD.

Please reach out to the Sunday School Team, Rachel or Pastor Charlie if you should have any more questions about the program, covering costs or if you're looking for suggestions or guidance on which camp may be best for your youth. Find schedules, descriptions and more at mar-lu-ridge.org.

The generosity of our sponsor is a true blessing, and I hope you pray on it and consider this great opportunity for your child to attend this summer!

Please note that if your child is too young for an overnight camp, our sponsor is offering to pay for day camp registration at River Valley Ranch! Please see Rachel for more information on this event.

Save the dates! Our VBS will be held July 8 - 12 and our theme is *"Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus"*.

Anyone interested in volunteering and helping is encouraged to come to our next meeting or contact anyone on the Christian Ed team for more info. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 7th at 7 pm.

More VBS Dates: Pastor Charlie's "Shipwrecked Sneak Peek" is scheduled for Sunday, June 10th from 10:30am - 1:30pm. This Bible study and luncheon will offer a great opportunity to learn and dive into the Bible lessons that will be discussed during VBS. We will be participating in the Manchester parade on Wednesday, July 4th and we will be decorating the church on Sunday, July 8th following service.

Please plan on joining for any or all of these pre-VBS dates.



Mar-Lu-Ridge

3200 Mar-Lu-Ridge Rd Jefferson, MD 21755

mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org

1-800-238-9974 301-874-5544

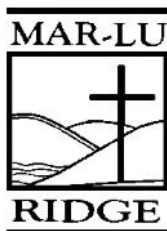
As summer camp approaches, we want to take this opportunity to share some information and extend the invitation to our final Open House.

Mar-Lu-Ridge Summer Camp is a safe, faith-centered outdoor experience for your camper, and a super fun way to connect with new friends and grow in faith and confidence. We offer residential camps for ages 6-17, Day Camp on-site for ages 6-10, and Mobile Mar Lu Day Camps for congregations. There are full week and half week options for our residential campers, and a variety of specialty programs as well as traditional camps from which to choose. Visit our website to learn more!

Open House tour:

Our final Open House will be held Sunday, May 20 from 2-4:30pm in Agape Hall. This is a great opportunity for tours, snacks, and a chance to meet the staff and have your questions answered.

If you are not free to join us that day, please contact the office to arrange a time. All are welcome!



May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>*Going forward, Work Day is now on the SECOND Monday of each month.</i>						
Missions Special Offering Acolyte Appreciation 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Coffee Hour 10:45am Adult Bible Study 7pm Confirmation Class	6 7pm LEAD Meeting 7pm VBS Meeting 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA Office Closed	7 11am Bible Study 7pm Scouts 7pm Council Meeting Office Closed	8 7pm Bible Study - Pr Home 7:15pm AA Office Closed	9 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice Office Closed Pastor Vacation	10 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice Office Closed	11 Pastor Day Off 8pm AA 8pm AI-Anon Office Closed
Ascension Sunday / Mothers Day 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School	13 9am Work Day * 7pm LEAD Mtg - at Chris C Home 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA	14 11am Bible Study 7pm Scouts 7pm Bible Study - Pr Home Office Closed	15 Stephen Ministry 7:15pm AA Office Closed	16 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice Office Closed	17 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice Office Closed	18 Noisy Change Offering 5pm Worship / Communion 6:30pm AA
Pentecost Noisy Change Offering 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Last Day of 2017-18 SS 10:15am Women's Choir 10:15am Confirmation Reception 10:45am Adult Bible Study	20 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA	21 7pm Scouts Pastor Vacation	22 7:15pm AA Pastor Vacation	23 6pm Chime Practice Pastor Vacation	24 Pastor Day Off 8pm AA 8pm AI-Anon Pastor Vacation	25 5pm Worship / Communion 6:30pm AA
Holy Trinity 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Study	27 Memorial Day Office Closed 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA	28 Table of Grace served @ Grace Lutheran Church 7pm Scouts 7pm Bible Study - Pr Home	29 7:15pm AA	30 Pastor Vacation	31 6pm Chime Practice	

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Leaders: Bob Nicoll, Connie Dattilio

Members: Evonne Brillhart, Christine Crouch, Carol Nicoll, Audrey Shaffer

Occasionally we lose our care receivers unexpectedly. When this occurs, we have no time for closure of our relationship. On the morning of a care receivers funeral the Stephen Minister wrote a farewell letter to her dear care receiver.

I will miss you. We spent many Tuesday mornings together. There was a special bond in our friendship and you always welcomed me with a smile. There were times I would wake you, and times when Itsy (your beloved dog) would come to the door, peek out the curtain and see me. I would say “go get her Itsy” and in a few minutes you would appear. You shared your family with me and many times would say “I would like us all to get together sometime: Today is that day! You would tell me how special your mother was and the life lessons she taught you. Now you are the remembered “special mother” and your family will remember all the care, love sacrifices, worries, parties, family meals and even “Mexican Goulash” you shared with them.

As years passed our visits changed. The memories and stories become intermingled and sometimes there was a new version. We always felt comfortable, unassuming and at ease with each other. You never wanted to say goodbye, you would always say as I was leaving “God Bless You” and watch out for the Smokies. I love you.

Submitted by Connie Dattilio

*Because of confidentiality, no names could be mentioned.



SOCIAL MINISTRY

Deb Hebrank, 410-952-3320; Rhonda Kiler, 410-239-7028;
Brenda Wulforst, 443-507-6753, Amanda Yingling, 717-880-5215

Food Pantry Collection



NESAP/TOFF is in need of tuna fish and also bars of soap. Our labeled baskets will still be in the Narthex. Please consider picking up a can or two of tuna fish and some bars of soap (the dollar store sells them).

Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Did you know ???

THRIVENT DOLLARS - Anyone can become an Associate Member of Thrivent for \$20 a year. This entitles you to a one time distribution of \$250. Please consider becoming an Associate Member. Social Ministry & Fellowship can put these dollars to WONDERFUL use. Let us know if we can help you apply.

‘Table of Grace’

Soup Kitchens serve people in different situations, not just the homeless.

It could be someone new to the community

– still looking for a job.

It could be transitional

– someone moving through the area.

It could be working folks

– but just not enough funds/food to cover needs.



In different places around Westminster, there is a Soup Kitchen available at 12noon every day of the week! Seven days a week!

The meal on Tuesdays is served at Grace Lutheran Church. Several times a year, there are months that have 5 Tuesdays. On that 5th Tuesday, Immanuel plans, prepares and serves the meal.

Please join us anytime you can (between 10 and 2) as we make lunch, serve food to the clients and clean up. If you are not able to help on Tuesday, then consider donating a baked good (homemade or store bought). The clients love pies and desserts with icing. Bring with you to Church on Sunday (leave in narthex) or drop off on Monday morning.

Next time we serve ‘Table of Grace’ is on Tuesday, May 29th

NORTH EAST SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAM

1046 S. Carroll St., Hampstead, MD 21074 www.nesapinc.org 410-374-9099

Lynn Sheavly: Executive Director, nesap.director@gmail.com,

Matching Gift Challenge DOUBLE the IMPACT

NESAP Challenge
Food and Funds
April 1 to May 31
Our Goal: \$15,000
matched w/ \$15,000
by our generous sponsors

Monetary donations to:
NESAP, Inc.
P.O. Box 831
Hampstead, MD 21074
or online at nesapinc.org
Food donations (\$1 value
per item) drop off at:
NESAP's Food Pantry
Mon thru Sat - 9am to 2:30pm



NESAP MATCHING CHALLENGE

April 1 — May 31

You can help us receive the food and funding we need for the summer months when donations understandably decrease.

Challenge others to meet the challenge! Plan a bake sale, car wash, or special offering. Coordinate a food drive or collect hygiene items for the food pantry. I know this can be an achievable goal when sponsor and donors join together for the good of others!

NESAP CHALLENGE UPDATE

Thank you to all of the Challenge Sponsors and Donors! Its an encouraging beginning to the Challenge!

Sponsorships Received: \$14,800

Sponsors: Sandy Schaller, Penguin Random House, Sandy and Wayne Sanders, Edie Tracey, Max and Gloria Bair, Pastor Mel Strickin, Evelyn Barrett, Steve W. Eline, Eline Funeral Home, the American Legion Post 200, Ridge Engineering, Jeanne Swain, F. Douglas Harrell, Todd and Kim Renfro, Ken and Donna Wright, Quantum Internet and Telephone, and other anonymous sponsors.

Matching Donations: \$10,008

Matching Food Donations: \$3,634

Goal: \$15,000 in sponsorships, \$15,000 in matching donations

NESAP's ORIOLES TICKET TRIO

We are selling Orioles tickets in Lower Reserve section 75 again this year. Selling tickets for THREE different games! Each ticket purchased brings \$5 of help to clients served by our assistance services.

We have 50 tickets reserved for the following games. Tickets can be purchased for all three games at one time.

Deadline to purchase is May 21:

June 16 vs Miami Marlins at 4:05pm

\$24

Deadline to purchase is Aug 20:

Sept 16 vs Chicago White Socks at 1:05pm

\$20 Give Away: Orioles cap to the first 20,000 fans 15 and over

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Susan Burnette, 410-357-9466, sb31220@gmail.com, Chariman and Woman's Harmony Choir
 Jerry Hoffman, 410-374-2565, Organist/Choir Director;
 Audrey Moose, 410-429-4047, Chime Choir Director
 Judy Bixler, 717-632-1805, Saturday Evening Service; Jennifer Holbrook, 410-374-6401, Acolytes;
 Sandy Voight, 410-239-9428, Altar Guild; Wayne Thomas, 410-374-9538, Adult /Luther Men Choirs
 Amanda Yingling, 717-880-5215, Children's Choir Coordinator

ATTENDANCE RECORDS

MARCH 2018

Weekend Dates	Attendance	Remarks
March 3,4	22 + 92 = 114	Lent 3
10, 11	25 + 91 = 116	Lent 4
17,18	26 + 76 = 102	Lent 5
24,25	27 + 113 = 140	Passion Sat, Palm Sun
Weekend Totals	472	
Weekend Average	118	

MAUNDY THURSDAY GOOD FRIDAY

Year	Maundy Thurs	Good Friday
2014	73	101
2015	42	59
2016	41	67
2017	43	73
2018	54	64

EASTER

Easter Weekend Dates	5pm Saturday Vigil	7am Sunday Sunrise	9am Sunday Resurrection
April 19-20, 2014	52	78	161
April 4-5, 2015	40	61	173
March 26-27, 2016	31	61	116
April 15-16, 2017	50	53	125
Mar 31-Apr 1, 2018	75	44	137

SAVE THESE DATES

May 5-6

Easter 6

Acolyte Appreciation Sunday

Monthly Special Mission Offering
collected for 'Immanuel's Boy Scout
Troop #320'

Sunday Coffee Hour, Social Hall
following service

Weekend, May 12-13

Ascension Services @ 5pm and 9am

Mother's Day Weekend

Sunday: Children's Choir

Weekend, May 19-20

Pentecost Services @ 5pm and 9am

Sunday Rite of Confirmation

Weekend, May 26-27

Holy Trinity Services @ 5pm and 9am

MAY ALTAR GUILD

Steve Burris

Sandy Voight

MAY HEAD USHERS

Saturdays at 5pm:

May 5, 26: Judy Bixler

May 12, 19: Jeanne Swain

Sundays at 9am:

Debbie Hebrank

ACOLYTE APPRECIATION SUNDAY

On **Sunday, May 6th**, Immanuel will congratulate our valuable acolytes for their service to the church on **Acolyte Appreciation Sunday**. These young people serve an important bridge between Pastor Charlie and the congregation at every worship service during the year! Please help thank the following acolytes for their faithful service to our church:

Dylan Andrews

Jayden Bosnick

Jordan Bosnick

Ashton Eckhardt

Tanner Eckhardt

Ryan Edwards

Austin Gregg

Willis Kiler

Joey Pomaes

Kyle Robinson

MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

Mother's Day this year is Sunday, May 13th. Every lady, attending church, will receive a pink carnation, thanking them for helping to nurture the life of a child. A tribute will be displayed outside the sanctuary by the stairway. Please help by donating a photo of your mom, grandmother, sister, favorite aunt or dear friend by Sunday, May 6th. Place your donations in an envelope (marked Mother's Day – Music and Worship) and drop in the Mother's Day basket on the lamp table of the office. Then, stop by and enjoy reading all the thank you notes of encouragement and love to the Mothers of Immanuel.

ASCENSION

The Ascension of Our Lord celebrates the day that Christ, in the presence of his apostles, ascended bodily into heaven, as written in Mark 16:19, “*So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.*” Tradition designates that Mount Olivet, near the town of Bethany, was the place where Jesus ascended into the clouds of heaven. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast¹. Ascension Day occurs 40 days after Easter; therefore, this year, the actual calendar day falls on Friday, May 11th. **The Feast of the Ascension will be celebrated during the weekend services of May 12th and 13th.** The next time you are in the sanctuary, please take a moment to enjoy the beauty of our ‘*Ascension*’ stained glass window to the right of the choir loft. Join us for worship as Immanuel celebrates the final Sunday of Easter ~ the **Ascension of Our Lord**, May 13th.

¹(by permission from Sundays and Seasons, 2018)

PENTECOST

At the weekend services of **May 19th and 20th**, Immanuel will celebrate the **Festival of Pentecost**. On the fiftieth day of Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost is sometimes called the church’s birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism². The color for Pentecost is **RED**. We encourage everyone attending our Pentecost services to wear something **RED**.

²(by permission from Sundays and Seasons, 2018)

THE HOLY TRINITY

Holy Trinity Sunday is May 27th. When the words, ‘*God is the triune God*’, these words are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God.³ Though the word ‘trinity’ is not found in the scriptures, this weekend’s second reading from Romans 8:12-17 describes the new life of faith as Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity ~ the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and sisters and brothers with Christ, the Son. Jesus sent his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than just a doctrine, the Holy Trinity expresses the heart of our faith. We experience the God of creation made know in Jesus and with us through the Holy Spirit. This mystery is celebrated through word and sacrament each week at the communion table.

³(by permission from Sundays and Seasons, 2018)

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIPS ~ FLOWERS and LESSONS & PRAYERS

Fresh seasonal flowers enhance the altar adding beauty and color. Sponsorship of weekly Altar Flowers and the bulletin's Lessons & Prayers are available for sign-up on the 2018 Flower Chart in the office hallway. Sponsorship forms and envelopes are posted. Your written information with payment must be received by 12 noon of the Wednesday prior to your reserved sponsorship date, in order, to insure its inclusion in each weekend bulletin. Consider co-sponsoring with a friend or family member.

Prices: \$50 for both Altar Vases
 \$25 for one vase ONLY
 \$30 for a Center Arrangement

GLUTEN-FREE COMMUNION

For those in the congregation, who are gluten intolerant, your weekly communion offers gluten-free wafers along with regular pita bread or regular wafers as your communion host. Please express your wishes to Pastor Charlie when you arrive for communion. A communion steward will present a ciborium chalice of gluten-free wafers for you. Pre-filled grape juice cups are available in addition to poured wine.

DEVOTIONALS

The April, May, June devotional, Christ In Our Home, is available in the tiered display case at the stairway. Each quarter is provided in small pocket editions and a few large-print editions. Stop by and get your copy.

LECTIONARY SERIES CONTINUES...

For your Home Bible Study

~ Join everyone as we read through the month of May. ~

Week of:	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
April 30 ~ May 6 Easter 6	Acts 10:44-48	Psalm 98	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
May 7 ~ 13 Ascension	Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
May 14 ~ 20 Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:24-34,35b	Romans 8:22-27	John 15:26-27 John 16:4b-15
May 21 ~ 27 The Holy Trinity	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 29	Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17
May 28 ~ June 3	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	Psalm 81:1-10	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Mark 2:23-3:6

MUSIC MINISTRY @ IMMANUEL

Consider becoming a part of the Music Ministry of Immanuel!

We currently support five various groups:

The Sunday Adult Choir

The Chime Choir

The Luther Men

The Children's Choir

Women's Harmony Choir

If you are not able to commit to regular practices at this time, but could participate occasionally during the year, please contact:

Jerry Hoffman (*Organist/Adult Choir Director*) Audrey Moose (*Chime Director*)

Wayne Thomas (*Luther Men*) Amanda Yingling (*Children's Choir Coordinator*)

Susan Burnette (*Women's Harmony Choir*)

No experience is needed,

just a willingness to help and 'make a joyful noise'!

Practice Schedules:

Sunday Adult Choir weekly practices Thursdays from 7-8pm (Sept-May)

Chime Choir practice on Thursdays at 6pm

Luther Men sing quarterly – **singing next on Sunday, July 1**

(Red, White & Blue Sunday)

Children's Choir sing quarterly – **singing on Mother's Day, May 13**

Women's Harmony Choir held first practice on April 22

(Stay tuned for performance date)

For more information,

look for our *Music Ministry Bulletin Board* in the office hallway.



Birthday and Wedding Anniversary wishes are listed in the bulletins and newsletters. If you want to be included, please contact Susan Burnette.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Wendy Maloney
Linda Gregg
Jennifer Robinson
Olivia Yingling
Fred Ayers
Sunshine Cobak
Alice Myers
Stephen Swain

Betty Wildasin
Ellen Linsenbardt
Cheryl Graf
Declan Rooney
Benjamin Eppley
Pete Wulforst
Tracey Graf
Nancy Hoffman

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Harry and Dana Kline	May 6, 2017
Jeff and Jen Yingling	May 6
Fred and Mary Ayers	May 16
Tom and Shannon Taylor	May 21, 2011
Ronald and Janice Martin	May 23

May 2018 Worship Assistants

~ 5pm Saturday Services ~

	Saturday May 5 Easter 6	Saturday May 12 Ascension Wkend	Saturday May 19 Pentecost Wkend	Saturday May 26 Holy Trinity Wkend
Head Usher	Judy Bixler	Jeanne Swain	Jeanne Swain	Judy Bixler
Greeter	Janis Hagert	Barb Davidson	Charlotte Hann	Jeanne Swain
Lector	Judy Bixler	Linda Black	Jeanne Swain	Luther Myers
Offering Ushers	Ellen Linsenbardt Rodgers Hagert	Barb Davidson Ron Davidson	Charlotte Hann Walter Hann	Linda Black Rodgers Hagert
Communion	Judy Bixler	Linda Black	Jeanne Swain	Judy Bixler

~ 9am Sunday Services ~

	Sunday May 6 Easter 6 Acolyte Appreciation	Sunday May 13 Ascension Mother's Day Wkend	Sunday May 20 Pentecost Confirmation	Sunday May 27 Holy Trinity
Head Usher	Debbie Hebrank	Debbie Hebrank	Debbie Hebrank	Debbie Hebrank
Altar Guild	Steve Burris Sandy Voight	Steve Burris Sandy Voight	Steve Burris Sandy Voight	Steve Burris Sandy Voight
Greeters	Betty Miller Kathleen Regester	Linda Gregg Carolyn Kittelberger	John Popp Bart Walder	Chris Miller Debbie Miller
Lector	Joey Pomaes	John Gregg	Russell Jensen	Carolyn Hamlet
Offering Ushers	Barbara Guthrie Linda Schmidt Ron Schmidt Bart Walder	Debbie Mace Steve Mace Alice Warehime Dale Warehime	Laurie Miller Steve Miller Brenda Murray Brenda Wulforst	Audrey Shaffer Barb Skelley Bill Skelley Ernest Weiss
Communion Stewards	Susan Burnette Jo Fleck Joe Fleck Audrey Shaffer	Susan Burnette Carolyn Phillips Carroll Phillips Todd Robinson	Susan Burnette Norman Downes Andy Kiler Barb Yingling	Susan Burnette Christine Crouch Rhonda Kiler Matthew Rooney
Acolytes ~ Torchbearers	Jayden Bosnick Willis Kiler	Dylan Andrews Austin Gregg	Ryan Edwards Willis Kiler	Tanner Eckhardt Joey Pomaes
Crucifer	Jordan Bosnick	Kyle Robinson	Jeremy Edwards	Ashton Eckhardt
Pray w/ Pastor	Connie Dattilio	Christine Crouch	Bob Nicoll	Christine Crouch
Bell Ringer	Ernest Weiss	Joe Fleck	Bart Walder	Chris Miller

NOTE: The Worship Assistant Schedules are subject to change during any weekend service. Reminder emails and/or phone calls are sent each week. Should you be unable to fulfill your responsibility, please contact Susan Burnette at sb31220@gmail.com or 410-357-9466.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ~ SUMMER VACATIONS

If you are currently a weekly or monthly worship assistant during our weekend services, your responsibilities are published in The Visitor for the current month along with an advanced look ahead for the next month. As of this printing, the summer months of **June, July and August** are being finalized.

If you or a family member are regular worship assistants and have planned a summer vacation during these months, please contact Susan Burnette, asap, so adjustments can be made in advance. Thank you.

June 2018 Worship Assistants

~ 5pm Saturday Services ~

	Saturday June 2	Saturday June 9	Saturday June 16	Saturday June 23	Saturday June 30
Head Usher	Linda Black	Linda Black	Linda Black	Linda Black	Linda Black
Greeter	Rodgers Hagert	Barb Davidson	Charlotte Hann	Nancy Hoffman	Rodgers Hagert
Lector	Jeanne Swain	Judy Bixler	Jeanne Swain	Luther Myers	Linda Black
Offering Ushers	Judy Bixler Rodgers Hagert	Barb Davidson Ron Davidson	Charlotte Hann Walter Hann	Cindy Ganjon Jeanne Swain	Judy Bixler Rodgers Hagert
Communion	Jeanne Swain	Linda Black	Jeanne Swain	Judy Bixler	Linda Black

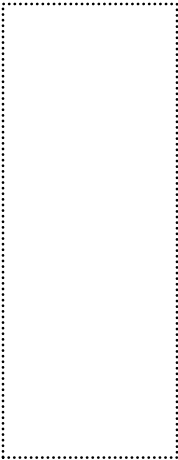
~ 9am Sunday Services ~

	Sunday June 3	Sunday June 10	Sunday June 17	Sunday June 24
Head Usher	Rhonda Kiler	Rhonda Kiler	Rhonda Kiler	Rhonda Kiler
Altar Guild	Rhonda Kiler Betty Miller	Rhonda Kiler Betty Miller	Rhonda Kiler Betty Miller	Rhonda Kiler Betty Miller
Greeters	Jane Taylor Delores Whitehead	Carolyn Kittelberger Kathleen Regester	Linda Gregg John Popp	Chris Miller Debbie Miller
Lector	Barbara Guthrie	Andy Kiler	Joey Pomaes	Jamie Rooney
Offering Ushers	Norman Downes Debbie Hebrank Linda Schmidt Ron Schmidt	Debbie Mace Steve Mace Alice Warehime Dale Warehime	Laurie Miller Steve Miller Brenda Murray Brenda Wulforst	Jeremy Edwards Barb Skelley Bill Skelley Ernest Weiss
Communion Stewards	Susan Burnette Wendy Maloney Sandy Voight Bart Walder	Susan Burnette Jo Fleck Joe Fleck Barb Yingling	Susan Burnette John Gregg Carolyn Phillips Carroll Phillips	Susan Burnette Connie Dattilio Norman Downes Debbie Hebrank
Acolytes	Jayden Bosnick Jordan Bosnick	Dylan Andrews Willis Kiler	Ryan Edwards Austin Gregg	Tanner Eckhardt Ashton Eckhardt
Pray w/ Pastor	Bob Nicoll	Connie Dattilio	Bob Nicoll	Connie Dattilio
Bell Ringer	Bart Walder	Ernest Weiss	Joe Fleck	Chris Miller

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
3184 Church Street
PO Box 739
Manchester, MD 21102

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