

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

EXPERIENCING GOD'S | GRACE GROWING IN HIS WORD | SERVING OTHERS IN JESUS' NAME

In This Issue

IN MEMORY OF JENNI

NEW SMALL GROUP
STUDY

VBS REGISTRATION

ASCENSION SERVICE

I LOVE YOU MORE

BY PASTOR GARCIA

The woman my family, and so many others, affectionally called Peep is now with Jesus. Easter Day, Jesus wrapped our dear Jennifer Wilkinson in His loving arms. This hits me with profound sadness and even greater joy.

Last month's newsletter article from me talked about how in the midst of our loss we keep our eyes fixed on the One who holds each day in His hand, and that the greatest Easter in this life, is always yet to come.

God has seen fit to call my friend to himself to await the resurrection of all flesh. I cannot explain why. I don't have to like it. But I do know that His will is perfect and His love is true.

Jenni expressed that love to all of us as Office Administrator for our church office. She was gifted with the ability to connect with and listen to people who came through our office doors. She served them with the servant heart of Jesus. It was beautiful to see.

Jenni made deep connections with so many of us because of this love that she expressed.

She will be missed dearly.

Jenni had many sayings, and while she wasn't always good with words, you knew what she meant. One goodbye that continues to ring in my head is her "I love you more." This Easter Jesus took her out of her battle and said, "I love you more." And through tears we say "until we meet again."



VBS 2025

JUNE 16-19
5:00PM-8:00PM

*Have you been
wondering how you
can help?*

Pray

You can be praying that the Gospel comes through clearly and for many kids to participate. Please also pray that planning goes smoothly for all the leaders involved, and that we have the volunteer help that is needed.

Invite

You can invite kids from the neighborhood, extended family, or maybe your child has friends they would like to join them. You can grab information or registration forms from the table in the narthex or use the QR Code to the right. VBS is open for age 3 through entering 6th grade.



Preparations

Everyone is welcome to help prepare materials, assemble nametags, paint a backdrop, etc. We'll gather at 6:30pm on Wednesday, May 28. We'll set up and decorate after church on June 15.

During the week of VBS

Do you enjoy taking pictures? Would you like to be in a Bible Story skit one or more nights? How about rotating with a group or being a helper at a station? We'll have a training session at 6:30pm on June 9. Share your interests with Deaconess Lisa at lisa@immanuelbaycity.com.

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU CONSIDER BEAUTIFUL?

As the season changes, the flowers open their blooms. Beauty can come in the form of caring words or a smile to brighten your day. Maybe you see beauty in a perfectly cooked steak or the biggest fish you caught. Try out this question at the dinner table or at bedtime for our May family connection.



LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

May 4 is our last day of Sunday School for the school year. Parents are invited to join their kids during the Sunday School hour. We'll have refreshments and fun activities. Watch for more information on opportunities during the summer.

IMMANUEL LADIES AID AND FRIENDSHIP GUILD MEETING MAY 12, 2025

On Monday, May 12, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room, both Ladies Aid and Friendship Guild will be meeting together for a special program. Bay County Sherriff, Troy Cunningham, will be our guest speaker. Among other things, he will be talking to us about safety-in and out of our homes, and online- and also the Bay County 911 system. Desserts and coffee will be served.

In order to know how many people will be attending, please RSVP by phone or text to Laurie Allison (989) 295-5057 or Flo Ricker (989) 284-2286.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL IS HIRING

We are seeking a 5th/6th grade teacher for the 25/26 school year.

The candidate must:

- +Love Jesus and display Christian Character
- +Be certified in Elementary Education through the state of Michigan
- +Enjoy serving others in a God-centered, high quality Christian educational program.

Applicants may send a resume to:
heathv@immanuelbaycity.com



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated food to the Immanuel Food Pantry for the Easter Distribution, which was held on Saturday, April 12th. We assisted 35 families with a ham, fresh potatoes and all the fixings for an Easter dinner, plus some additional groceries too. We greatly appreciate your support!

~ Immanuel Lutheran Food Pantry

JR. HIGH GATHERING

Join us in Frankenmuth for an unforgettable time with amazing speakers, games, food, opportunities to serve, and the largest indoor waterpark in the State of Michigan! This event is open to those entering 6th-9th grade in the fall of 2025. Let us know if you want to go! More information will be coming, but we'd like to start gathering our group of participants.



MAY 2025 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

+Saturday, May 3

Elder: Warren Abbs
Usher: Jim & Karen Kern
Karen Andrzejewski
Communion Asst: Dennis Datte
Broadcast: Tom Jacobs

Sunday, May 4

Elder: Wayne McAlpine
Usher: Jim Hadaway
Nigel Mills
Jessica Gohs

Saturday, May 10

Elder: Dennis Metevia
Usher: Bob Samyn
Pat Tucker
Norm Warsaw
Broadcast: Gary Bremmer

Mother's Day

+Sunday, May 11

Elder: Don Haynes
Usher: Noel Norman
Karen Andrzejewski
Nancy Greene
Communion Asst: Brian Young

+Wednesday, May 14

1:30pm

Communion Asst: Dennis Metevia

Statement of Faith

+Saturday, May 17

Elder: Warren Abbs
Usher: Jim & Karen Kern
Nancy Greene
Communion Asst: Dan Kretchman
Broadcast: Karen Koutcher

Confirmation Sunday

+Sunday, May 18

Elder: Bill Noonan
Usher: Gordy Bushong
Communion Asst: Brian Young

Saturday, May 24

Elder: Layne Scharich
Usher: Bob & Flo Ricker
Karen Andrzejewski
Broadcast: Tom Jacobs

+Sunday, May 25

Elder: Wayne McAlpine
Usher: Jim Hadaway
Nigel Mills
Jessica Gohs
Sandy Johnston
Communion Asst: Greg Wischmeyer

+Saturday, May 31

Elder: Dennis Metevia
Usher: Bob & Flo Ricker
Pat Tucker
Communion Asst: Randy Tomke
Broadcast: Gary Bremmer

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY
“Anxious for Nothing” - Finding Calm in a Chaotic World

TUESDAY OR THURSDAY EVENINGS
FIVE SESSIONS
MAY 13 - JUNE 12
6:30PM - 8:00 PM

The serious struggles of our adult lives contrast sharply with the memories of carefree childhood laughter. The anxieties of our lives sometimes even push thoughts of our loving God aside. How can that be?

That is what this Bible study is all about.
How can we -

Rejoice in the Lord always?
Let our gentleness be evident to all?
Present our requests to God?
Let the peace of God guard our hearts?
Meditate on such things?

Philippians 4:4-8



We are going to look at these questions through the eyes, words, and leadership of pastor, teacher, and author Max Lucado. There will be a study guide along with videos to help us in our discussion. Bring your Bibles, questions, experiences, hearts, and minds as we learn together and encourage each other.

The studies will take place in the home of Ellen Pett on Tuesday evenings, and in the home of Deaconess Lisa Brand on Thursday evenings. If you can't make it to all the sessions, join us for the ones you can. You may also choose to participate in Tuesday night sessions some of the time and join the Thursday night sessions at other times. Just come!

Please let Deaconess or Ellen know of your intentions by email or by text, so they can have comfy seats and study guides ready for you.

Ellen Pett (989/225-1864)
ellenp@immanuelbaycity.com

Deaconess Lisa Brand (507/469-5500)
lisa@immanuelbaycity.com

We look forward to seeing you there to learn, share, and laugh together!

Immanuel Lutheran

May Calendar of Events

Sunday May 4

Confirmation Exam- 6pm (MPR)

Monday May 5

Board of Elders- 6pm (MPR)

Board of Trustees- 7pm (Conf. A)

Tuesday May 6

Board of Mission & Outreach -6pm (Conf. A)

Saturday May 10

Men's Breakfast - 8am (MPR)

Monday May 12

Ladies Aid & Friendship Guild -6:30pm (MPR)

Wednesday May 14

Mid-week Communion Service- 1:30pm (Sanctuary)

Saturday May 17

Confirmation Weekend Walkthrough- 4:00pm (Sanctuary)

Statement of Faith - 5pm (Sanctuary)

Confirmand & Prayer Partners Dinner -6pm (MPR)

Sunday May 18

Confirmation Pictures -8:30am (MPR)

Confirmation Breakfast -9:15am (MPR)

Confirmation Day -10am (Sanctuary)

Monday May 19

Church Council- 7pm (MPR)

Tuesday May 20

N/E Pastors Conference (Frankenmuth)

Wednesday May 21

N/E Pastors Conference (Frankenmuth)

Thursday May 29

Ascension Day Service -7pm (Pilgrim Essexville)



Cards
Thursdays - 1pm (MPR)



Adult Choir
Thursdays- 6:30pm (Sanctuary)



Praise & Worship
Saturdays- 3pm (Sanctuary)



Rev. Erv Hutter
Preaching



Rev. Phillip Baerwolf
Liturgist



Bay City Circuit



ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

PILGRIM LUTHERAN ESSEXVILLE



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

1705 Nebobish, corner of Pine



Michigan District

Thursday, May 29, 2025—7:00 pm