

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER**



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Erie PA 16505  
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Any submissions for the November Newsletter will need to be provided to Brenda no later than October 21st.



## Grace & Peace : From the Pastor's Desk

Psalm 27:1 “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Walt Disney was an amazing man. He was not only a wealthy movie maker, an amusement ride genius, and a production wizard, he was a man who lived out his faith. He once said...” Whatever success I have had in bringing clean, informative entertainment to people of all ages, I attribute in great part to my Congregational upbringing and my lifelong habit of prayer. To me, today, at age sixty-one, all prayer, by the humble or highly placed, has one thing in common: supplication for strength and inspiration to carry on the best human impulses which should bind us together for a better world” (Bill Iadonisi. WALT DISNEY AND RELIGION. Feb 13, 2017 | Talking Disney. Disneynews.com).

Another of his quotes, “Somehow I can’t believe that there are any heights that can’t be scaled by a man who knows the secrets of making dreams come true. This special secret, it seems to me, can be summarized in four C’s. They are curiosity, confidence, courage and consistency.” I believe these 4 C’s are something that can build a Christian’s life and faith.

Curiosity... Have you always wondered what made something work or are you content with knowing it works, not caring how or why? Are you curious about where life is taking you, or are you content with where you’ve landed and expect no more? Are you curious about what God has in store for the rest of your life? God isn’t finished with you yet, you can ask God to reveal to you what he wants you to do in the time you have left on this earth.

Confidence... So many of us second guess ourselves, worrying that we’ve made a mistake or that what we’ve planned isn’t going to accomplish the desired outcome. When our confidence is rooted in God, we can be assured that God has control of the outcome. Our confidence comes from our faith in God.

Courage... I’ve referenced Psalm 27:1 at the beginning of this article because it is one of my favorite Bible passages. It speaks to courage, of having no fear because God is with me. But courage is more than having no fear, courage is doing what needs to be done even when you’re afraid to do it. God’s presence and guidance gives confidence and courage to those who lean on God.

Finally consistency.... You most likely have heard insanity defined as doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Einstein has often been credited with the quote about insanity, however it originated with the writer Rita Mae Brown. Consistency isn’t equated with that quote. Consistency means that when you do a task repeatedly it becomes so ingrained in you that it is a second nature. It is building a good habit that leads to a better life, such as beginning your day with Bible reading and prayer, perhaps some time of quiet contemplation or meditation.

Walt Disney shared these words of wisdom that described how he reached his dreams. We can use them to build a better Christian life. Curiosity, confidence, courage and consistency... we can add a 5<sup>th</sup> C... Christlike. May we all live a Christ-like life.

As always I am available to you. Please call if you want to talk about this article or anything else that may be on your mind. I’m in the office Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m., and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. 814-833-4062, or my cell phone 724-557-2386. Please leave a message if I don’t answer.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Karen

You can find Pastor Karen's latest sermons in print on our webpage here  
<http://www.ilc-erie.org/worship-.html>  
and the video is posted to our  
[Facebook page](#)



## A SEASON OF Giving

As we begin to enter this time of year, it is called the “season of giving.” You will begin to see a lot of wonderful causes that need donations and Immanuel will be collecting for several of those causes. Whether it be food, clothing or other essentials for our community these requests may seem overwhelming.

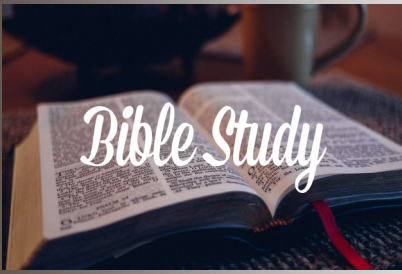
Please feel free to choose the place or places that you would like to donate to. You may opt to donate to one or more than one. Whatever you should decide, please don't feel obligated and do not let yourself get overwhelmed by all of the options.

The only thing we ask is remember those who are less fortunate that rely on donations for their survival. If you are unable to donate an item that is needed, there are also volunteer opportunities that need filled during this holiday season and as the cold weather descends upon Erie.

Let's try to help someone have a full belly, a little warmth and an enjoyable holiday season. Every little bit helps. Pass some of your fortune on to those who are less fortunate. Those who have nobody really appreciate knowing they are thought of.

Thank you and God Bless you all for your caring hearts.





Come to Bible Study on Thursday mornings at 11 am.

Pastor Karen continues to discuss the book of Hebrews. Everyone is welcome to join in. It is never too late to start coming to Bible Study!! We hope to see you there!

**Bible Class for Children**  
**Children (ages 4-8 years) are invited to a one hour Saturday bible class at Immanuel, beginning September 28. Children experience Old and New Testament bible stories by participating in crafts, songs, music videos, story discussions and re-enactments, and games. The curriculum is called "Simply Loved" from Group Publishing. Parents are invited and encouraged to participate with the children. Anyone who is interested should call Brenda Durst (814-873-0451).**



**Join us for Family Fun Halloween Sunday, October 27, 2024 2:00-4:30pm**

**\$8/person - Registration deadline is October 20th.**

**2:00-4:00pm** – Hay Rides, Halloween Carnival Games, Crafts, S'Mores, Jump Pillow, Nature Activity, Scavenger Hunt, Discovery Room

**4:15pm** – Gather at Dogwood Pavilion for All Saint's Devotion followed by Trick-or-Treating Each family is asked to bring candy/items to pass out for trick-or-treating. You will be notified how many kids to be prepared for prior to the event. Adults will pass out treats and Lutherlyn staff will take the kids trick-or-treating. Trick-or-treating is for kids who are 13 or younger.

### Saturday Safaris

Lutherlyn Saturday Safaris are a great way to spend some time learning about nature in the woods!

**November 2, 2024: Survival Skills** – Learn some of the essentials to surviving in the forest alone. We will primarily focus on being prepared, building a shelter, and building a fire. Dress to be outside. (Registration deadline: October 28)

Safaris are \$10 per person for a 2.5 hour program. Children age 4 and under are free of charge. Each Safari program will begin at 9:30 am at the Environmental Education Center at Lutherlyn. (The Maple Sugaring session will also have an additional offering from 1 - 3:30 pm.) Register online at [www.lutherlyn.campbrainregistration.com](http://www.lutherlyn.campbrainregistration.com).



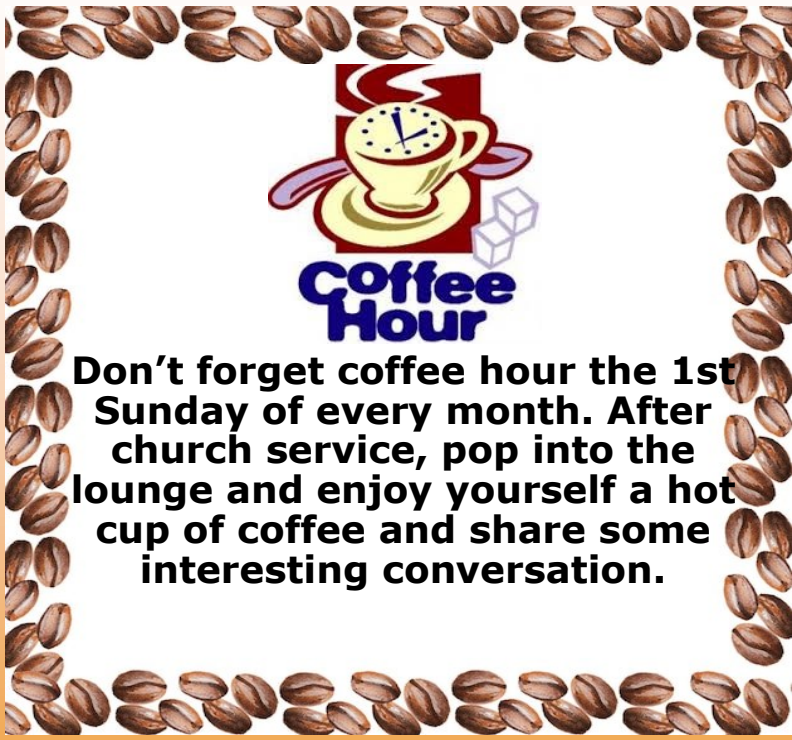
**Don't forget that choir practice will be on Thursday's at Noon. Please note the new time. Everyone is welcome!!!**



Faith Lutheran will be holding a 75th celebratory Communion Worship on October 6th at 11 am with Bishop Michael Lazano.



**Don't miss the Annual Blessing of the Quilts. October 6th during worship.**





A big thank you to all that donated items in support of the Crime Victims Center Caring Cupboard.

We collected 244 items or packages of shampoo, bodywash, razors, shaving cream, nail clippers, combs, hairbrushes, tampons and pads.

Thank you for your generosity!



## ***Coats for Kids 2024***

**Inter-Church Ministries is asking for help in the 2024 Coats for Kids campaign. The Social Ministry will be collecting donations from October 1st—20th.**

**Immanuel Social Ministry will be collecting new or gently used coats for youth of all ages and sizes. A monetary donation may also be made, but please mark your donations “Coats for Kids.”**

**In 2023 the Coats for Kids drive was a success due to the continued support and participation of our community. Let’s come together again this year and provide some warmth to our youth in need.**

**The Social Ministry appreciates all of your support and your donations.  
THANK YOU!**

**ANNUAL BLESSING OF  
THE QUILTS  
OCTOBER 6TH  
DURING WORSHIP**



The ladies of the Immanuel Lutheran Quilters (top photo) from left to right: Debbie Redditt, Debbie Madurski, Mary Hauser, Donna Dorler, Cindy Kersch, Cindy Eckman and in the front is Janice Kreger.

Please join us in worship on October 6th for the Annual Blessing of the Quilts.







## ***Church Directory:***

***A decision has been made that there will not be an official church directory at this time.***

***However, the membership will be updated and there will be an “unofficial” directory.***

***If anyone would like to have a photo with your updated / changed information, you can email to the church or see Pastor Karen or Brenda to get your smiley shot taken!***

***Any change in your information should be submitted ASAP.***

***~Thank You~***



# Rooted in Faith, Growing in Grace



Monthly  
Spotlight on  
one of our  
Immanuel  
Family  
Members

A high-school friend of mine coined the word, *Metheran*, because so many people in the small community of McKean, PA, switched between the Methodist and Lutheran churches there. I might be a “Metheran”. Although both of my loving parents spoke to us of God and lived Christian values, neither of them attended church until their later years. As a pre-adolescent, I began walking to the neighborhood Methodist Church on Meadville Street in Edinboro, where I was baptized and confirmed. I continued membership there through high school, when they moved to their new building on High Street. In the late 1970’s, I found myself as a recently divorced single mother, and I returned to that church on Meadville Street that had become the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Edinboro. I was loved and supported by the wonderful church family there and my (our) daughter, Kristy, was baptized and confirmed in that church. In 1986, I met my wonderful husband (on a blind date!), and we were married by Pastor Dick Schultz, who was serving the Lutheran congregation in Edinboro at that time. We began our marriage as a blended family, with one young adult son (Eric), one teenage daughter (Angie), and one second grader (Kristy).

Fast forward to the year 2000. My dear mother-in-law, Margaret Durst, was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Pastor Russel Shuluga, from Rick’s home church (Simpson Methodist) provided loving and devoted pastoral care to Rick’s mom and our entire family. The Lutheran Church in Edinboro had dissolved and became an Episcopalian Church. In 2001, we returned to our Methodist roots and remained active in that congregation for over 20 years. When Simpson/Table of Grace church made the decision to disaffiliate from the Methodist Conference, Rick and I began exploring other worship opportunities. God led us to Immanuel.

Denominations aside, my faith journey has been a long slow process of maturing in God’s love and forgiveness. I have no dramatic conversion story to share, though I always appreciate hearing about those who can name the time and place that Jesus came into their lives. I am so grateful for the many pastors, teachers, and friends, that God has placed in my life to help me learn and grow. God has always been with me in the best and worst of times. I am so blessed in my retirement to have the time to study and pray for a short time each day. I find great joy in serving others in Jesus’ Name.

Rick and I love the bible studies at Immanuel as well at the liturgical worship. Many years ago, at the Edinboro Lutheran Church, there was a dear older lady named Ann Hetrick. I will always remember these words from her, “A good sermon is just the icing on the cake, but the liturgy is my love affair with God!”

*Brenda Durst*

# Did Someone Say “Pizza”???



Who doesn't love a fresh out of the oven baked pizza loaded with all of your favorite toppings??

Stop into Donato's Pizza on October 5th from 11 am—10 pm and enjoy a hot steaming pizza!!!!

You will be supporting Inter-Church Ministries. ICM will receive 20% of the total sales that day.

What better way to support ICM?? You get a hot, yummy pizza and 20% of your purchase goes to ICM!

You can call ahead to order at 814-722-5900  
Or just pop into Donato's at Greengarden Place.

**This year, Immanuel Lutheran will be partnering up with Agresti Real Estate to host Trunk or Treat in the Immanuel parking lot. The event is October 19th from 5-7 pm. Everyone is welcome to participate!! Bring out your little monsters for some ghoulish fun!**

**Everyone is welcome to participate!!**

**TRUNK OR TREAT**  
WITH YOUR AGRESTI TEAM

Join us Free!

OCT 19th  
5-7PM

Our treat to you!

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1002 Powell Ave, Erie PA 16505

Trunk or Treat

Sanderson Sisters

360° Photo Booth

Happy House

Best Trunk Contest

Glitter Tattoos

Katie Cameron REALTOR®

Adell Lane REALTOR®

Brittany Redditt REALTOR®

Kelsea Thomas REALTOR®

FRENCH CREEK AGRESTI REAL ESTATE Party

**RULES FOR PARTICIPATION :**

- ◆ If you are setting up to hand out candy, please arrive by 4pm to get set up.
- ◆ ALL décor & costumes MUST be family friendly.
- ◆ Must provide your own candy or items to pass out as treats.
- ◆ Vehicles must remain parked in the same location until 7:20 pm or until there are no families/children wandering about.
- ◆ Please reserve your spot and register your vehicle BY OCT. 12th. Limited spots are available. Call 814-969-2916 or [katie@tryagresti.com](mailto:katie@tryagresti.com) .
- ◆ This is a park at your own risk event.
- ◆ You can reach out to Agresti Real Estate with any questions. 814-969-2916.



## ***Holy Trinity Church Thursday Night Dinner***

**Each year, twelve Lutheran churches take turns hosting the Thursday night dinner at Holy Trinity Church, located at 643 West 17th street.**

**Thursday, October 24th is Immanuel Lutheran's night to serve this year.**

**We will prepare a delicious meal of sloppy joes, pasta salad, applesauce, cupcakes and capri suns. We will also put out Halloween candy, for an extra treat.**

**We need volunteers to help cook and serve, as well as donations of food. However, this year the needed items may change from the previous years, so be sure to check the sign-up sheet or check with Debbie Madurski.**

**Volunteers will need to be at Holy Trinity at 4 pm.  
Dinner is served at 5pm.**

**Look for a Sign Up sheet to help prepare, donate and volunteer on the bulletin board in the main hallway.**

**As always, The Social Ministry Committee appreciates all of your support.**



**Thursday,  
October  
31st  
6pm—  
8 pm**



**From now through Halloween, we will be accepting donations of candy to pass out for our annual Trail of Treats.**

**The items you donate can be placed at the Donation Station.**

**We are also in need of volunteers to hand out candy during this fun event!! Volunteers are needed on October 31st from 5:45— 8 pm.  
Sign up sheet is in the hallway.**



**Stop by the church with your Little Pumpkin for a sweet treat!!**



## *Reformation Sunday, October 27, 2024*

Every year on the last Sunday in October, many churches set aside this day as “Reformation Sunday.” If you didn’t grow up with this practice, you may wonder where this tradition comes from, and why some congregations continue to practice it.

So ... what is Reformation Sunday, and why should we care?

### *History*

What follows is a very simplified explanation of complex theological, political, and economic events that all coincided.

In 1517, across Europe, the Roman Catholic Church was engaged in one of the greatest fundraisers in all of history.

If a person – out of contrition for their sins and as a sign of repentance – made a financial gift to help with the building of Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome, then the church would furnish that person with a certificate acknowledging that gift and promising that they or their loved ones would be freed from a portion of the misery expected in the afterlife.

In short, the church at that time taught that even those bound for heaven had to be cleansed of their earthly sins and this cleansing (purging) in the afterlife took place in a place called Purgatory. The certificates offered by the church (called “Indulgences”) promised to lessen this time of cleansing for oneself or others who have already died.

The word "Continued" is written in a stylized, bubbly font with a rainbow gradient from blue to red. Each letter has a black drop shadow, giving it a 3D effect.

There were some very nuanced explanations of this practice at the time. And there were other very crass explanations that basically amounted to people paying to be forgiven.

November 1st was an important day for the selling and buying of these indulgences, known as All Saints Day on the church's calendar.

The day before a German Monk named Martin Luther posted a list of 95 Theses – 95 reasons that he objected to this practice of selling indulgences. Along with other writings by Martin Luther, those 95 Reasons went viral among the people of that time.

Luther insisted that we are not forgiven because of anything we do – including the buying of Indulgences or doing enough good work. ***Instead, we are forgiven because of who God is.*** We are loved and forgiven because God is full of grace and mercy. Salvation is not for sale, it is a free gift from God.

It's not an "If... Then..." As in, "If we do this, think this believe this, then God loves and forgives us." Rather it is a "Because... Therefore..." As in, "Because God is love and offers grace to all through Christ, we are loved and forgiven and given the gift of new and abundant life."

His teachings and writings got Martin Luther kicked out of the church. But he didn't go alone. Others agreed with him, and after his death those who agreed with Luther became known as Lutherans and also as Protestants.

Every Protestant church traces their roots back to this moment in history.

## ***Why Reformation Sunday Matters***

This is a chance to reclaim and retell the story of how God is always making us new and to focus in on the free gift of God's grace for you, me, the church, and the whole world. We give thanks to God for this gift of grace and salvation.

Reformation Sunday also gives us an opportunity to celebrate how God is always making things new – constantly forming and reforming us for life in the kingdom of God here and now and forevermore. It begs us to ask the questions – what in the church needs to be reformed? What in the world needs to be made new?





**This year Immanuel Lutheran will be participating in the 2024 Box of Love Thanksgiving on November 25th.**

**For over 15 years the Mission has worked together with hundreds of volunteers and community partners to distribute more than 1,000 Thanksgiving boxes annually during it's Turkey Bag Distribution.**

**The Mission will continue to provide all of the fixings for a traditional Thanksgiving meal for a family of 4-5 people in need, with a renewed focus on supporting a fun, family-oriented holiday feast.**

**\*\*Each Box of Love includes side dishes, a turkey, homemade dessert and an activity\*\***

**We are collecting the following items to complete 10 meals to provide to those in need.**

- ◆ 10 Boxes Turkey Stuffing**
- ◆ 20 Packets Turkey Gravy (NO jars)**
- ◆ 10 Large Cans Yams**
- ◆ 10 Cans Cranberry Sauce**
- ◆ 10 Cans Vegetables (corn, green beans, peas)**
- ◆ 10 Disposable 14" aluminum Roasting Pans**

**The following items have already been taken care of by Immanuel Family Members:**

**10 Bags of Potatoes**

**10 New Testament Bibles**

**10 Family Card Games**

**Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Let's make this a success for those in need! Donations can be left in the church office or given to Pastor Karen.**



*Please remember the Immanuel family who are "shut in," or having some health challenges and cannot make it to service. You may want to offer them a ride, give them a friendly call or send them a card. Or maybe just stop in and check on them so they know they are being thought of.*

*The current Shut-In Mailing List is available in the office.*



*If you are sick or in the hospital, please notify the church office.*

*If you would like home communion or a copy of our newsletter, please contact the office.*

**KEEP IN PRAYER:**

**Eric Adkins & family**

**Vince Belinski**

**Julia—Cindy Geddes' Niece**

**Karen Byrd**

**Janice Kreger**

**MaryAnn Long & Russ Long**

**Penney Maloney**

**The Botwright family**

**Connie Cooper**

**Jim & Lorraine Hornaman**

**Kyle Husted**

**Carol & Gordon Ketchel**

**Patrick Lewis—friend of S. Kocur**

**Sandy's cousin - Scott Farr and Sandy's close friend's son-in-law- John**

**Bishop Michael Lozano**

**Andy Potaki**

**Carole Rickrode**

**Sharon & Bob Roemer**

**Alice Tillotson (Mary Hauser's sister)**

**All of our members & friends who are grieving;**

**Who are in nursing homes;**

**All who are ill at home**

**We pray for those in the military:**

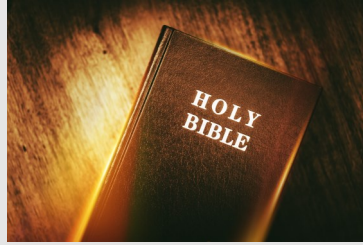
**Christopher Peterson – Navy**

"Let my prayer stand before you like incense; let my uplifted hands be like the evening offering."

PSALM 141:2



# Thirteen Events in the Life of Martin Luther



- **1483, November 10** Martin Luther born in Eisleben, the second son of Hans Luder; baptized at St. Peter's Church the next day November 11, on the feast day of St. Martin of Tours.
- **1507, April 3.** Luther ordained priest at Erfurt Cathedral.
- **1518 (?)** Luther's "tower experience" understanding Roman 1:17 how we are counted as righteous by the work of Christ, to arrive at the justification by faith in tower of Black Cloister in Wittenberg, exact date unknown.
- **1520, June 1.** Leo X issues papal bull *Exsurge Domine*, giving Luther sixty days to recant or be excommunicated.
- **1521, April 18.** At his second hearing, Luther distinguishes between his books, allowing him to make a statement. On key points, however, he stands firm. He says, "My conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I can do no other, God help me. Amen."
- **1521, May 4.** Luther "kidnapped" in the forest near Mohra.
- **1525, June 13.** Luther marries Katharina von Bora a former nun in Wittenberg, who he had helped escape from a badly run convent.
- **1526, August.** Diet of Speyer in the Edict of Speyer reaffirms the Edict of Worms only for Catholic territories and allows German Lutheran princes the right to establish religion in their territory, stopping the Edict of Worms for the Lutheran princes (for now).
- **1529, March-April.** Second Diet of Speyer, condemned the results of the Diet of Speyer of 1526 and prohibited future reformation aiming to reverse the policy of religious tolerance adopted in 1526, the Lutheran members of the Diet protested, resulting in the issue of the Pretestio, giving rise to the label "Protestant," which the Romanists applied to all who agree with Luther.
- **1529, October 2-4.** Luther, Melanchthon, and Zwingli meet for Marburg Colloquy; Reformed and Lutherans are brought together to create a united Protestant front, unable to agree on Lord's Supper.
- **1530, June 25.** Augsburg Confession first read and presented to Charles V at Diet of Augsburg.
- **1538** Luther's Smalcald Articles published.
- **1546, February 18.** Luther dies at the age of 62, in Eisleben.

# October Celebrations of Life and Love



10/2 David Bednar  
10/2 Steven Minski  
10/2 Heather Rohan  
10/8 Kenneth Kreger  
10/11 Betsy Harmle  
10/11 Penny Maloney  
10/13 Jacob Hunter  
10/19 Cathy Bednar  
10/21 Bill Kostur  
10/21 Robert McCracken  
10/21 Mitchell Molnar  
10/21 Kristy Sturgeon-Marucci  
10/22 Brody Bonsell  
10/23 Karen Kostur  
10/23 Ronald Madurski  
10/23 Sandy Moore  
10/30 Paula Holsopple Shaw

10/2 Vic & Kim Paternosh  
10/4 Lynn & Daniel Jackson  
10/5 Michael & Cindy Rohan  
10/11 Kelly & Jason Hunter  
10/14 Steven & Jennifer Minski  
10/22 Karen & Bill Kostur  
10/27 William & Sandy Moore

Happy Anniversary

## Capital Campaign - Boiler:

Funds for the boiler campaign currently show \$29,678.19 toward our goal of \$58,803.



Pennies for Poverty collection is an ongoing effort in support of the Women of the ELCA – donations welcome in the Donation Center canister.



## LITTLE FREE PANTRY AT IMMANUEL

**IF IN NEED – TAKE SOMETHING  
IF YOU CAN SHARE - LEAVE SOMETHING**

Feel free to bring items to church office & we will make sure they get in the pantry for you.



## Green Corner NWPAsynod Green Team

### Sometimes in Our Own Back Yard...

Many times we look high and low for persons, places and things that will teach us about the environment and how to care for our wonderful, God-given earth. And sometimes there is something right in our own back yard which is a precious gem that might get overlooked. This month we want to highlight the **Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC) at Presque Isle State Park in Erie, PA.** This state-of-the-art, green-designed facility encourages visitors to experience the unique history and ever-changing, diverse ecosystems of Presque Isle State Park. It is the first building in the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks to earn a LEED silver certification rating.

TREC is an educational center dedicated to teaching visitors about the unique 3,200 acres of Presque Isle and the many different forms of life that inhabit the peninsula. TREC also serves as a center for research – contributing to conservation efforts and promoting environmental awareness, helping to preserve the unparalleled beauty of Presque Isle and Lake Erie, the site of Pennsylvania's only seashore.

While some facilities along the Great Lakes offer environmental education and others do research, only the TREC offers research, education, and visitor services in one place, making it a unique destination for learning, wonder and fun. TREC is open year-round and offers free admission to its interactive exhibits, glass-enclosed tower and orientation movie. Learn about the history of Presque Isle and how you can contribute to keeping it healthy, pristine and beautiful. Perhaps you can plan a day trip to Erie to enjoy and learn more about this wonderful gift to the community. And be sure to check the movie schedule at the center – they are exciting and very educational!! To learn more about TREC go to [www.dcnr.pa.gov/stateparks/findapark/PresqueIsleStatePark](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/stateparks/findapark/PresqueIsleStatePark).

The Green Team's purpose is to "raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation." Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.

[nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook: Northwestern PA Synod Green Team-Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

October 2024

# Twelve Tribes of Israel

**DIRECTIONS:**  
Find and circle  
the names in  
the grid. Look  
for them in  
all directions  
including  
backwards and  
diagonally.

ASHER

BENJAMIN

DAN

GAD

ISSACHAR

JOSEPH

JUDAH

LEVI

NAPHTALI

REUBEN

SIMEON

ZEBULUN

Q	N	K	Z	P	J	D	F	U	D	S	V	Z	N	X	J	Y
L	G	A	M	G	S	N	U	K	Q	R	T	Y	E	F	H	D
W	T	X	P	V	Y	Y	U	S	D	X	P	I	B	S	M	J
E	O	X	X	H	V	U	D	L	A	F	S	C	U	P	F	Z
L	B	A	Z	J	T	Z	O	Y	J	S	M	H	E	U	W	X
N	Z	F	I	I	C	A	O	Q	A	S	H	E	R	L	T	A
P	Y	O	B	V	F	L	L	C	K	V	N	W	J	W	G	G
Y	K	X	B	F	L	Q	H	I	Q	G	B	V	O	O	R	W
Q	I	T	L	D	E	A	W	Q	Q	F	M	M	S	D	V	E
N	F	I	Z	E	R	I	H	N	U	L	U	B	E	Z	E	J
F	D	D	H	S	S	H	X	Q	N	G	T	N	P	A	T	G
H	D	E	F	S	Z	G	H	U	A	K	O	F	H	Q	S	C
Z	Y	N	O	E	M	I	S	E	N	I	M	A	J	N	E	B
H	A	D	U	J	W	G	M	V	S	S	S	W	T	D	D	I
P	Y	T	I	Z	O	A	V	N	U	W	S	X	D	X	N	C
X	I	H	G	A	H	D	A	Z	M	U	T	R	N	H	M	T
U	V	I	V	E	L	D	J	T	Q	C	U	S	S	D	U	Q



*Jacob Blessing his Sons, drawing, Adam van Noort.*

# *Pumpkin Bacon Soup*

- 3 pound sugar pie pumpkin
  - 6 slices bacon diced
  - 1/2 cup onion chopped
  - 2 carrots peeled and chopped
  - 1 teaspoon minced garlic
  - 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
  - salt and pepper to taste
  - 4 cups chicken broth
  - 3/4 cup heavy cream
  - 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds
  - 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- cooking spray



## INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Cut the stem end off the pumpkin.
- Cut the pumpkin in half lengthwise and scoop out all the seeds. Place the pumpkin halves, cut side down, on a sheet pan coated with cooking spray.
- Roast the pumpkin for 35-40 minutes or until very soft.
- While the pumpkin is in the oven, cook the bacon in a large pot over medium heat. The bacon should be crispy and browned, which will take 5-6 minutes.
- Remove the bacon from the pot and reserve for later use. Drain most of the grease from the pot, leaving 1 tablespoon in the pot.
- Add the onion and carrots and cook for 5-7 minutes or until onions have softened. Add the garlic and thyme. Add salt and pepper to taste. Cook for 30 seconds.
- Remove the pumpkin from the oven. Scoop out the flesh and add it to the pot.
- Pour the chicken broth into the pot. Bring to a simmer.
- Let the soup simmer for 10-15 minutes or until vegetables are very tender. Stir in the heavy cream.
- Use an immersion blender or a traditional blender to puree the soup until smooth. Taste and add more salt and pepper if needed.

Top the soup with reserved bacon, pumpkin seeds and parsley, then serve.

# Why Reflecting on Fall Bible Verses Is Important?

Fall is more than just pumpkin-flavored treats or choosing Halloween costumes. It's a time to reflect and be thankful, as nature itself shows us the importance of change, patience, and the rewards of hard work. Why should we think about these themes during fall? They help us appreciate life's natural flow, encourage us to adapt like trees losing their leaves, and teach us to wait for the rewards of our work, just like farmers at harvest time. It's a season that reminds us to be grateful for everything we have, big or small.

There's no better way to get in touch with these feelings than through the Bible. The Bible captures fall's spirit, giving Bible verses about autumn that touch our hearts. Reading these verses, you celebrate not just a season but life's deep teachings.

## **Matthew 9:37-38**

*"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'"*

## **Isaiah 43:19**

*"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*

## **Romans 12:12**

*"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."*

## **Psalms 100:4**

*"Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!"*







**October 13, 2024**

**11:00 am—2:00 pm  
4:30 pm—7:30 pm**



The Second Harvest Food Bank is hosting the Third Annual Empty Bowls event on October 13, 2024.

This fundraiser consists of a modest meal of soup and bread as a reminder that too many of our community members and neighbors are facing hunger with “empty bowls.” Guests will enjoy a variety of soups, breads and desserts that have been so generously donated by local restaurants. With 100’s of handmade bowls to choose from, all guests attending will select a bowl as a memento of their contribution toward alleviating hunger in northwest Pennsylvania.

Supporting the Second Harvest Food Bank Empty Bowls event helps to provide nutritious meals for the more than 95,000 individuals facing hunger in our community, including 1 in 5 children. Just a \$20.00 donation to Second Harvest provides enough meals to feed one person for two weeks.

Tickets for the Empty Bowls event are \$25 per person prior to the event and will be \$30.00 at the door.

There are two meal times. The first session is 11 am —2 pm. The second session is being held from 4:30 pm—7:30 pm.

With the price of admission, guests will enjoy a selection of delicious sops from various local restaurants. The event will also feature live entertainment.

Each person attending will select a hand-made bowl to take home as a reminder that many of our neighbors need our help to fill their “empty bowls.”

Who doesn’t love a good bowl of soup and some yummy bread! This is for a worthwhile cause in helping stamp out hunger in our community.

What a great way to get out of cooking lunch or dinner!



# The Leaves They Are a-Changin’

With the autumnal equinox in late September, foliage season has officially begun across much of the United States.

## *Why do leaves change colors?*

Did you know that fall’s vivid colors are actually hidden underneath summer’s green? The main reason for the color change is not autumn’s chilly weather, but light—or rather, the lack of it. The green color of leaves disappears when photosynthesis (from sunlight) slows down and the chlorophyll breaks down. Trees with a lot of direct sunlight will produce red leaves, while other trees may turn yellow, orange, or brown.

## *When is the best time to see autumn color?*

Unfortunately, autumn color is not very predictable, especially in the long term. Half the fun is trying to outguess nature! But it generally starts in late September in New England and moves southward, reaching the Smoky Mountains by early November. It also appears about this time in the high-elevation mountains of the West. Remember that cooler high elevations will color up before the valleys.



# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY



October 4, 1927— October 31, 1941 400 workers sculpted a colossal 69 foot high carving of US Presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln to represent the first 150 years of American history. This mountain side is know as Mount Rushmore. This project was dreamed up by Doane Robinson to attract tourist to South Dakota. It worked too! Mount Rushmore is visited by more than 3 million people annually.

The presidents were chosen for their significant contribution to the founding, expansion, preservation and unification of the country. George Washington (1789-1797) was chosen because he was our nation's founding father. Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was chosen to represent expansion, because he was the president who signed the Louisiana Purchase and authored the Declaration of Independence. Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) was chosen because he represented conservation and the industrial blossoming of the nation. Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) was chosen because he led the country through the Civil War and believed in preserving the nation at any cost. Each president's face is 60 feet high. The faces appear in the order: Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, Lincoln. Jefferson was originally intended to be on Washington's right. After nearly two years of work on Jefferson, the rock was found to be unsuitable and the partially completed face was "erased" from the mountainside using dynamite. Washington's face was completed in 1934. Jefferson's in 1936. Lincoln was finished in 1937.

The actual carving was done by a team of over 400 men. Remarkably, no one died during construction. The men who worked on the mountain were miners who had come to the Black Hills looking for gold. Although they weren't artists, they did know how to use dynamite and jackhammers. 90% of the mountain was carved with dynamite, and more than 450,000 tons of rock was removed. Afterwards, fine carving was done to create a surface about as smooth as a concrete sidewalk. The drillers and finishers were lowered down the 500-foot face of the mountain in bosun chairs held by 3/8-inch-thick steel cables. Workers at the top of the mountain would hand crank a winch to raise and lower the drillers. If they went too fast, the person in the bosun chair would be dragged up the mountain on their face.

Every night, Mount Rushmore gets illuminated for two hours. Since illumination can impact the natural environment (think lost moths, among other things), a new high-tech LED lighting system was installed in 2015 to minimize the negative effects of lighting Mount Rushmore.

Some believe you can see an elephant, or at least the stone face of an elephant, if you look to the right of Lincoln. Others believe if you look at a picture of the mountain rotated 90 degrees, you can see another face. Mount Rushmore is granite, which erodes roughly 1 inch every 10,000 years. Since each of the noses is about 240 inches long, they might last up to 2.4 million years before they completely wear away. After about 500,000 years, the faces will likely have lost some of their definition. But at this rate the basic shape of the presidents' heads might last up to 7 million years.

# 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	2 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	3 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm	4 AA 7:00 pm	5
6 9:30 am Worship Blessing of the Quilts Quarter Sunday Coffee Hour	7 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Chorus 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	8 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	9 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	10 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12pm	11 AA 7:00 pm	12
13 9:30 am Worship Church Council 10:35 am	14 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Chorus 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	15 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	16 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	17 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm	18 AA 7:00 pm	19 Trunk or Treat 5 pm—7 pm
20 9:30 am Worship	21 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Chorus 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	22 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	23 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	24 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm Holy Trinity Dinner 4 pm - ?	25 AA 7:00 pm	26
27 Reformation Sun- day 9:30 am Worship	28 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Chorus 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	29 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	30 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	31 Halloween Bible Study 11am Choir 12 pm Trail of Treats 6 pm—8 pm		

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector
10/06/2024	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
10/13/2024	Kostur	Debbie Redditt	Bill Redditt
10/20/2024	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Debbie Madurski
10/27/2024	Kostur	Anita Byrne	Cindy Eckman



If you would like to volunteer to Lector, please email or call the church office.



Lectors:

Remember to adjust microphone towards you & speak into it for all to hear!



**Altar Guild:** Sue Pfeiffer, Penny Maloney & Sally Leubin

**Counters:** Stan Holsopple & Denise Arnold

**Usher:** Bob Dorler

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment – please find an alternate & notify the church office.



*Faith*





**Immanuel**  
Church Office  
814-833-4062

Office Hours  
8:30—12:30 Monday  
–Thursday

immluthch@verizon.net

### Staff

Pastor Karen Kostur 814-833-4062  
or Emergency #: 724-557-2386  
Pastor's Office Hours – Tuesday 1:00-  
3:00 Thursday, 9:30am-2:00pm

Church Caretaker: Wally Coughlin  
Organist/Music Director: Allan Slovenkay  
Admin. Ofc.: Brenda Matson

### Sunday School

Coord: Anita Byrne & Janice Kreger  
Teachers: Anita Byrne & Pastor Kostur

### 2024 Congregation & Church Council Officers

Pres: Bob Dorler 814-833-2719  
VP: Rick Kuntz 814-572-3719  
Sec.: Mary Hauser 814-397-7552  
Fin. Sec.: C. Geddes 814-734-1286  
Treasurer: Bill Redditt 814-833-9756

### Additional Council Members

Sally Leubin, Dave Mays, Joe Bryne



2024 Council Members

## Church Council Committees

*We invite all members of Immanuel to join any of these committees and/or offer your gifts where you can – many hands make light work!!*



Check out our website and "FRIEND" us on [Facebook](#)  
Did you miss church? Need to keep updated and want easy access to the church calendar, newsletter or annual report?  
Check out our website <http://www.ilc-erie.org/>

**WATCH FOR US ON FACEBOOK, GOERIE.COM, ERIE NEWS NOW AND IN PRINT IN THE ERIE TIMES NEWS**

### Fellowship, Outreach & Growth

Council liaisons: Sally Leubin  
**COFFEE HOUR 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**ONGOING COLLECTION FOR LITTLE FREE PANTRY, SOUP COOKOFF, CHURCH PICNIC**

### Finance

Council liaison: Vacant  
**ANNUAL Budget**

### Property

Council liaison: Bob Dorler & Rick Kuntz  
Committee Chair: Debbie Redditt  
Committee: Rick Durst  
**FACILITY MAINTENANCE**  
**RENTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**  
**ONGOING BOILER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

### Stewardship

Council liaison: Dave Mays

### Social Ministry Committee

Committee chair: Debbie Madurski

### Worship & Music

Council liaison: Joe Byrne Chair: Sue Pfeiffer

### Christian Education

Council liaison: Mary Hauser