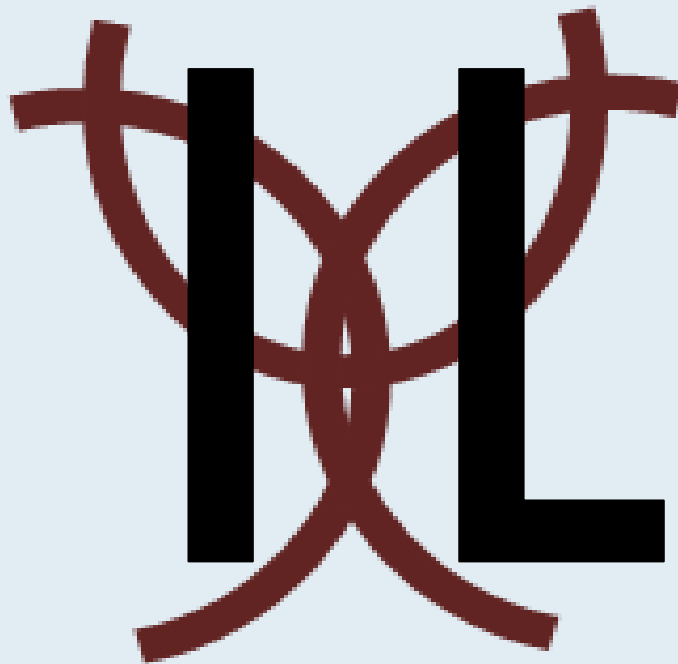


IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY NEWSLETTER 2023



**1002 Powell Avenue
Erie PA 16505**

814-833-4062

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE, NEW BEGINNINGS!!



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Grace & Peace From the Pastor's Desk

My youngest great niece graduated from my alma-mater this month; I couldn't make the ceremony in person but through the wonders of technology I was able to watch her walk across the stage and receive her diploma. It wasn't quite as exciting as being there in person, however it did have advantages. Besides having a clear view of my great niece and all her classmates being individually presented with their diplomas, I was able to clearly hear the speech of the Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Class Choice. I must tell you, not only were their orations almost impeccable, their content was impressive.

The first speech I heard was a girl who spoke of how the class had learned to "love". She made it clear that she was not speaking of boyfriend/girlfriend type of love (which is also known as "Eros"), but the love they were showing one another was a deeper respect and caring, or what could be called agape love; a type of love that goes beyond expectations of personal profit.

Following this young woman, a young man spoke about friendship. If the message hadn't been so well presented I'd say it was a typical "we have developed these great friendships and we should stay friends for life" kind of graduation speech.

Now, I don't know if it was intentional, probably not, but it worked out that they saved the best speech for last. The theme of this young woman's speech was "character". She spoke of character development, its importance and the fact that it is a continual process of growth. She was even able to include several Bible verses in her talk.

Unfortunately I didn't take notes while I was watching the ceremony, and the recording isn't available to the public, and I don't have a photographic memory, so I can't tell you the exact Bible verses she used. I would choose Romans 5:4-6. "And endurance builds character, which gives us a hope that will never disappoint us. All of this happens because God has given us the Holy Spirit." Another I would choose would be Galatians 5:22-26 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." I actually think this was one of her choices because, if I remember correctly, she spoke to how these are qualities of good character.

Listening to these graduating students was an uplifting experience, and I believe their subjects can be applied, not only to graduating students but to life in general. Choosing sacrificial love, faithful friends, and building Godly character are lifelong processes.

I'll be back in the office Tuesday, so if you need to speak with me stop in or call Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feel free to call my cell phone anytime 724-557-2386.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Karen

Bill and I would like to thank everyone who took the time to fix and deliver us meals, send cards, texts, and prayers for us during my recovery. We're looking forward to returning.

NWPA ELCA Synod Assembly 2023



Thursday, June 8, 2023

- 1:30 Opening of Synod Assembly
Greetings From Theil College President
Orientation
Report from Registration
Synod Council Recommendation #1 Rules of Procedure
Synod Council Recommendation #2 Agenda
Introduction of New Rostered Leaders
Report of Nominations
Report of Reference and Counsel
Report of the Bishop
Synod Council Recommendation #3 Budget Parameters
Synod Council Recommendation #6 Constitution Revisions
- 7:30 Eucharist with Necrology

Friday, June 9, 2023

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
Elections (Ballot 1)
Reports of Related Agencies and Institutions
- 11:00 Forums
- 1:30 Opening Prayer
Synod Council Recommendation #3 Compensation Guidelines
Synod Council Recommendation #4 Mission Support Formula
Elections (Ballot 2)
Vocations Committee Report
Presentation of Seminarians and TEEM Candidates
- 4:30 Forums
- 7:30 Hymn Sing (Ampitheater)
Fellowship
Fireworks

Saturday, June 10, 2023

- 8:30 Field Service
- 9:30 Synod Council Recommendation #5 FY 24 Budget Parameters
Report of ELCA Church Council and ELCA Representative
Rostered Leaders Anniversaries
Congregational Anniversaries
Mission Support McCoid Order
Installation of Synod Officer and council
Order for Closing the Synod Assembly
- 12:00 Adjournment

For those unfamiliar with the annual NWPA ELCA Synod Assembly, it is the annual required business meeting of our Lutheran Synod which takes place at Theil College, Greenville, PA. It is in this forum we hear the annual reports from our elected leaders in the synod, committees, and our representatives from the ELCA in America (National). Bishop Lozano and team have created a three-year theme for our assemblies titled: "I Love to Tell The Story". For the first assembly falling under this theme, it proved to be much more diverse and applicable to our mission than one might expect.

Opening of assembly took place on Thursday at 1:30 with a brief opening prayer service presided by Bishop Lozano. We were then welcomed by Susan Traverso, President of Theil College. In her welcome, Traverso reminded the assembly the Theil's founding pastor William A. Passavant deeply held the belief that our Christian faith is tied to social responsibility and as Lutherans our responsibility to embrace social diversity. Following this warm welcome, we began the business of the assembly as you will see in the schedule. Many of the recommendations to the constitution were updates to modernize language and conform to current day operational procedure. These clinical and technical updates to language all passed on slate. It included adjustment to quorum counts, inclusion of online protocol (pandemic influence), and only one item was extracted for further investigation. The recommendation took away the responsibility of the Treasurer to ensure the proper bonding was in place for secure operation. Later in the assembly it was clarified that this was removed as bonding is currently a requirement of all insurance providers making this a redundancy and responsibility unnecessary to operate. The recommendation was then adopted on Saturday morning. The Bishops report provided statistical information on congregations and the diminishing number of full time pastors to serve our region. This is not a problem we face alone, but is across the entire religious sector. The SAWKS initiative was introduced by Pastor Jake Jacobsen and Pastor Doug Dyson. This is an initiatives focus is that of the future of the church and how to make worship accessible by meeting God's people where they are.

Friday's activities included presentations from MIF, Lutherlyn, Region 7&8 Candidacy and Leadership, Portico, LIRS, LAMPA, ELCA Foundation, Luther Memorial Academy and United Lutheran Seminary. These presentations covered a variety of topics from planned giving, the green initiative, and our direct impact to long term care. Pastor William Cox of Luther Square presented on the emerging foundation formed in part by the late Pastor Al Gessler. This newly emerging grant maker is in its infancy stages and more information will soon be available to the initiatives it will support.

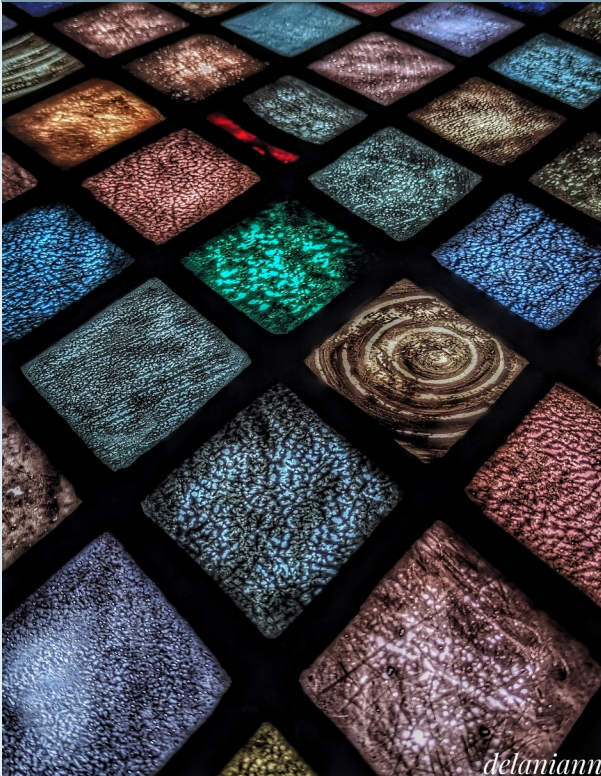
Saturday began with a gathering outside of the Theil Chapel for a field service presided over by Bishop Lozano, Pastor Eric Young, and Pastor Christopher Otten (Representative). This service was to honor Bishop Lozano's retirement from the U.S. Military. Lozano is representative of the Army, Pastor Young, Navy, and Pastor Otten, Air Force. Out of the 65 ELCA Synods in the United States, NWPA is one of two that has a bishop who is also a military chaplain. Following the field service, the assembly returned to finish with technical matters of synodical business and housekeeping. Final vote to adopt budget, council members, and representatives carried unanimously. A final recommendation to the floor was made to authorize the Synod Finance Committee to carry the authority to be proactive on investment funds. This motion passed again unanimously. Recognition of Rostered Leaders and Congregational Anniversaries were recognized at this time. Among awards presented, Pastor Brian Moran and Pastor Karen Lundwall were honored (Thursday Evening) for their contributions to ministry. Pastor Sandra Jones and Pastor Ralph Jones were also honored (Friday).

It is highly recommended to anyone who has not served as a representative to Synod Assembly that you reconsider at the next opportunity. It was an honor to represent Immanuel, re-connect with the synod leadership, and create new friendships throughout our community. Strongly recommended to those with the capability is to check out the NWPA Synod Website: www.northwesternpasynodelca.org for the written reports along with many other tools and information offered by the Synod Office.

Respectfully Submitted: Bryan M. Timm

Wonders of Stained Glass Windows

Submitted by Delani Kinzig



Immanuel Lutheran is planning a road trip to visit St. John's Episcopal Church in Franklin, Pennsylvania. There will also be a lunch after, at one of Franklin's delicious dining spots. St. John's is one of the last remaining churches in the U.S. to house Tiffany stained glass windows.

This Fall, Pastor Shawn Clerkin will host attendees, leading a discussion on the architecture and history of their church and the unique story behind their beloved windows.

After an uncontrollable fire in 1900, the church was left in complete devastation; all that remained was the bell tower. After half a decade of despair, the community came together in 1905, to watch as the old church was made anew, completed with beautiful, ornate Tiffany windows.

In preparation for the upcoming trip, questions about stained glass windows are at the forefront of many congregation members' minds.

delaniann Stained glass has a fascinating history, with colored glass beads dating all the way back to ancient Egypt, somewhere between 2750-2625 BC. These stained beads laid the foundation for what would someday become the process used to create much larger works of art, like stained glass windows.

The oldest remnants of stained glass windows were found in Jarrow, England, at the St. Paul Monastery. While archeologists were only able to recover fragments of what was once a great masterpiece, they were able to determine the window dated back to 686 AD.

Throughout history, many cathedrals and places of worship used stained glass windows as a way to tell their congregation stories through the use of pictures. It was common to see reenactments of famous scriptures cast into the beautiful artwork, making it a useful tool for many who were unable to read. Windows commonly depicted the crucifixion, resurrection, the great flood and other important biblical occurrences, as well as, the images of prominent Saints and biblical figures.

The stained glass was used to emphasize a church's status and wealth. At the time, such decadent murals were extremely time consuming and costly to create. Very few artists were skilled in the art of molding molten glass. In addition to boasting their prominent status, the stained glass windows added insurmountable beauty to any church, instantly raising the overall appearance and atmosphere, both in and outside the building.



delaniann
These photographs are of Immanuel Lutheran's own stained glass windows.

**It's time to begin preparations for
the annual....**



On August 9th at 5:00 pm, Immanuel Lutheran's FOG Committee will host the annual Church Picnic. There will be plenty of hot dogs, drinks, fellowship and french fries for everyone.

Attendees are asked to bring an additional dish to share with the congregation, as well as, their own dinnerware.

Please plan to attend this annual event, filled with great food, friends and fellowship! Should less-than-favorable weather inhibit our planned date of Wednesday, August 9th, a rain date of Thursday, August 10th has already been scheduled.

We look forward to seeing everyone!



 **Worship &
Music**

**COFFEE HOUR
1ST SUNDAY OF
EVERY MONTH.**

Stop by the lounge after church service.



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](#)

Please take a moment to visit the Narthex or the Donation Station to sign up your favorite hymn.



YOU can have input in the music we sing!



We've got some **BIG NEWS!**

On July 2, 2023, we will host a second service of worship at 11:00 am. There will be a coffee hour after our 9:30 am service, then Pastor will lead the second service.

In an attempt to accommodate varying, busy schedules, we're testing the idea of multiple services. An announcement will be made at a later date if this second service will remain permanent.

Please join us for worship each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. either indoors or in our drive-in services.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE SIGN-UP

WE ARE ONCE AGAIN POSTING OUR ALTAR FLOWER AND SANCTUARY CANDLE SIGN-UP SHEETS IF YOU WOULD CARE TO SPONSOR EITHER OR BOTH IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF SOMEONE -- IT WILL BE NOTED IN OUR WORSHIP BULLETIN.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CATHY'S FLOWER SHOPPE, WHO HAS BEEN PROVIDING THE FLOWERS FOR US FOR MANY YEARS HAS HAD TO INCREASE PRICES SO **FLOWERS WILL BE \$36/WK** - SANCTUARY CANDLE REMAINS AT \$5/WK. WHEN PAYMENT IS MADE, PLEASE INCLUDE THIS NEW AMOUNT IN YOUR PAYMENT STARTING THIS MONTH! YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO BRING IN YOUR OWN PLANTS/FLOWERS FROM YOUR GARDEN, ETC.

Christian Education

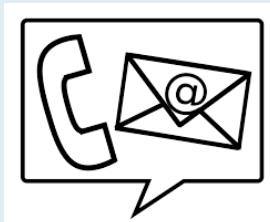
Are YOU interested in serving your church?



Immanuel Lutheran is looking for people interested in learning to Usher Or Assist as Worship Leaders during Sunday Service.

If you are interested in becoming an Usher, please contact Bob Dorler

**Email: Dorlerr@yahoo.com
Phone: (814) 833-2719**



HERO HOTLINE VBS

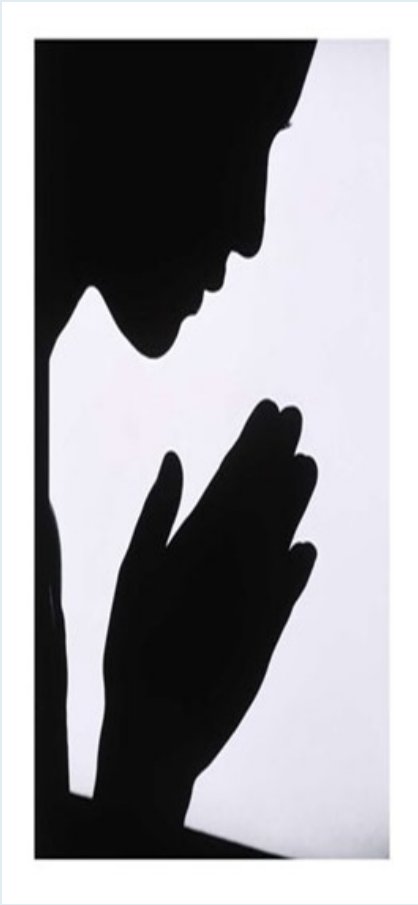
**July 9th — 13th
6:00 pm — 8:05 pm**

Ready for some fun with the ultimate hero team? Cokesbury's Hero Hotline VBS invites children of all ages to answer the call to serve God together. Join the Professor and Super Meer as young Heroes learn to strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up as we are taught in Romans 14:19.

Information and sign up sheets area available at the donation station and in the office. If you're interested in helping VBS, please see Anita Byrne (814) 397-7319

To learn more about becoming an Assistant Worship Leader, please contact Pastor Karen

**Email: pastorkaren.immanuel@gmail.com
Phone: (724) 557-2386**



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.



Please remember the members of Immanuel 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, send them a card.

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

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Penney Maloney
Pastor Karen and Bill Kostur
Denise Arnold and family of Lucie Arndt, her sister, Lana Huhn
The Botwright family
Ian Byrne
Connie Cooper
Mary Hauser's sister - Alice Tillotson
Jim & Lorraine Hornaman
Kyle Husted
Carol & Gordon Ketchel
Janet Gray – Pastor Karen's sister
Leslie
Patrick Lewis–friend of Sandy Kocur,
Sandy's cousin - Scott Farr and Sandy's close friend's son-in-law-John
Rick Kuntz
Bishop Michael Lozano
Diane McGranor
Zach Middaugh
Kathy – friend of Lori Nemenz
Carole Rickrode
Bob & Sharon Roemer
All of our members & friends who are grieving;
Who are in nursing homes;
Who are serving on the "front line" during the COVID pandemic
All who are ill at home

We pray for those in the military:

Scott Case– Navy, (C. Geddes nephew)

Member Update: Sharon Roemer is now a resident of Fairview Manor.

Mailing address: 900 Manchester Road, Fairview, PA 16415

Your prayers & cards are appreciated.

Social Ministry: School Supply Collection

The Social Ministry Committee will be collecting supplies to help students with the upcoming school year.

Starting July 9th and ending August 6th, items may be dropped off at the church during regular office hours, Monday—Thursday 8:00 am—12:00 pm. Items can also be brought during Sunday Worships.

There will be a box labeled School Supplies near the Donation Station.



Suggested items for collection:

Pencils, pre-sharpened
Erasers
Colored Pencils
Crayons
Markers
Glue Sticks
Dry Erase Markers
Pocket Folders
Notebook Paper
Boxes of Tissues
Clorox Wipes
Hand Sanitizer
Snacks, individually wrapped

Can't shop? Monetary Donations can be placed in the offering plate. Please mark your donation Social Ministry School Supplies.



Green Corner NWPA Synod Green Team

RAIN GARDENS TO LESSEN THE IMPACT OF STORMWATER RUNOFF

There is no denying that humans alter the landscape, leading to more stormwater runoff. Stormwater picks up pollutants carrying them to local streams and rivers. Increased stormwater increases the risk of flooding, decreases infiltration and groundwater recharge and increases the cost of water treatment. Property owners can make small changes to help curb the growing stormwater problem and improve water quality.

- Rain gardens are bowl-shaped gardens designed to capture water, allowing it to soak into the ground. They can drain water from roof downspouts, driveways, walkways or other impervious surfaces. They slow and reduce the amount of runoff from your property, while adding a lovely garden feature that reaps the following benefits: flood reduction, pollutant removal, groundwater protection, enhanced wildlife habitat and improved aesthetics.
- A rain garden must be designed and installed with careful consideration or you may create more problems. First look at the topography, take a walk in the rain and study water flow on your property. Choose a location that gets runoff from a roof downspout or other impervious surface and ask your municipality for specific ordinances.
- Know your soil type. Avoid areas with soils that are permanently or periodically waterlogged. Once constructed, ponding depth should be less than 12 inches; 4-8 inches is best.
- How do you determine the size of your rain garden? It's important to place your garden where it will collect as much runoff as possible.
- To learn more about creating and managing a rain garden to control stormwater on your property, go to <https://extension.psu.edu/rain-gardens>. By making changes upstream, we can all play a part in improving water quality. <https://extension.psu.edu/rain-gardens-the-basics>
- Choose native plants suitable to the area based on soil, sunlight and location in the garden. The plants must be able to tolerate variable moisture conditions. Select plants with a variety of shape, color, height and bloom time to maximize the benefits for wildlife, including pollinators. Also consider choosing a plant with some evergreen leaves to prevent soil erosion in winter months. Check out <https://extension.psu.edu/rain-gardens-the-plants>

JULY 2023 Worship Calendar for Immanuel Lutheran, Erie PA

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector
7/2/23 9:30 AM	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
7/9/23 9:30 AM	Kostur		Debbie Madurski
7/16/23 9:30 AM	Lay Leader Cathi Newara	<u>Asst. Lay Dist.</u> Hannah Mays	
7/23/23 9:30 AM.	Pastor Alli Leitzel	Stan Holsopple	



Altar Guild: Judy Stewart & Donna Dorler
Counters: Cindy Geddes & Barbara Coughlin
Ushers: Ushers as assigned by B. Dorler

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

Lectors:

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

We continue to offer our services indoor or via drive-in service so if you can't be with us in person in the church, join us in our parking lots or in the immediate vicinity of the church and tune to 93.7 on your FM dial each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. You can also listen via speaker in our Nursery or Kindergarten Rooms.



Celebrations of July Life and Love

Birthdays

7/4 George Pfeiffer, III
7/6 Janet Griffin
7/8 Carol McCray
7/9 Tean Summers
7/13 David Sierota
7/18 Donna Dorler
7/19 Michael Feiler
7/20 Cathy Shabla
7/21 Jennifer Hunter
7/22 Robert Roemer
7/23 Michelle Sturgeon
7/26 Cindy Eckman
7/30 Rebecca Rickrode
7/31 Stanley Holsopple
7/31 Michael Redditt

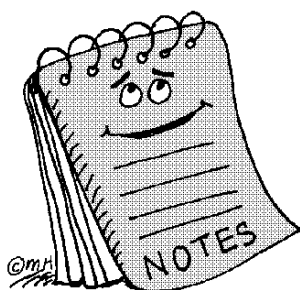


Wedding Anniversaries

7/8 Ron & Carole DelPorto
7/20 Mary & Robert Hauser
7/24 David & Cathy Bednar
7/25 Joseph & Anita Byrne



**Ongoing Appeals
Capital Campaign - Boiler:**
Funds for the boiler campaign currently show \$24,887.78 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.

July 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Coffee hour Quarter Sunday SECOND SERVICES AT 11	3 Quilters 9:30 am Flute Choir 7pm	4 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	5 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	6	7 AA 7:30 pm	8
9 9:30 am Worship VBS Begins School Supply Collection Begins	10 Quilters 9:30 am Flute Choir 7pm	11 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	12 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	13	14 AA 7:30 pm	15
16 9:30 am Worship	17 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Cho- rus 7 pm Flute Choir 7pm	18 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	19 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	20	21 AA 7:30 pm	22
23 9:30 am Worship	24 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Cho- rus 7 pm Flute Choir 7pm	25 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	26 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	27	28 AA 7:30 pm	29
30 9:30 am Worship	31 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Cho- rus 7 pm Flute Choir 7pm					



Immanuel
Church Office
814-833-4062
Hours: Mon-Thurs.
8:00am-12:00pm
Welcome immluthch@verizon.net

Staff

Pastor Karen Kostur 814-833-4062
or Emergency #: 724-557-2386
Pastor's Office Hours – Tues &
Thurs.9:30am-2:00pm

Church Caretaker: Wally Coughlin
Organist/Music Director: Bryan Timm
Admin. Ofc.: Delani Kinzig

Sunday School

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

Congregation & Church Council Officers

Pres:Debbie Redditt 814-449-1855
VP:Bob Dorler 814-833-2719
Sec.:D. Madurski 814-774-3590
Fin. Sec.:C.Geddes 814-734-1286
Treasurer: Bill Redditt

Additional Council Members

Cindy Eckman, George Pfeiffer,
Sally Leubin, Cindy Geddes, Mary
Hauser



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!!
Council usually meets the 2nd Sunday of the month*



Communications

Council liaison: D.Redditt Committee Chair: vacant

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 & Cindy Eckman
COFFEE HOUR 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
ONGOING COLLECTION FOR LITTLE FREE PANTRY
SOUP COOK BOOKET AVAILABLE

Finance

Council liaison: George Pfeiffer
ANNUAL AUDIT

Property

Council liaison: Bob Dorler Committee Chair: vacant
**FACILITY MAINTENANCE –OUTSIDE OUTLETS IN-
OPERABLE, RENTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE –
BATHROOM UPDATE POWELL AVE.**
ONGOING BOILER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Stewardship

Council liaison: Cindy Geddes

Social Ministry Committee

Council liaison: Debbie Madurski – Committee chair: Debbie Madurski

Worship & Music

Council liaison: Debbie Redditt Chair: Sue Pfeiffer

W&M COMMITTEE MTG: To Be Announced
DRIVE-IN AND INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES 9:30 A.M.