



May 2020

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Caring For Our Community Through Christ

## **PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

How is everyone doing? I know that for myself, given the current situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been times when my emotions have been all over the place. My family can attest to that. I'm thankful for their love, patience, and grace for me.

For me, I've found that turning off the news and opening God's Word has brought me much joy and comfort. For example, the Psalmist writes,

**"I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore" (Psalm 121:1-8).**

What great comfort we find in the Lord who is our helper. He comes to us at the Great Physician with His sweet medicine of grace for our troubled souls. He is our Good Shepherd who never sleeps but who watches over and protects us as a Father does His children. And He is our faithful Creator, who spoke all things into existence and who is in control of all things even today.

Friends, let that be a great relief for you. For we know that when we can cast all our cares upon Jesus, He will take them to heart and will comfort us and give us strength even when we are feeling weak and our faith is lacking. We don't have to worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow belongs to Jesus and the next day and every day after that. All He asks us to do is to be faithful and trust in Him and He'll take care of the rest. Praise the Lord for that!

And thanks be to God that He never lets His people sleep either. Even in this time of pandemic, our Lord directs us to go and love our friends and neighbors. He created them too. They need to hear



*Continued on Page 2*



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod

***Caring For Our Community Through Christ***

**REV. DAVID CASEY-MOTLEY, PASTOR**

## **PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION**

Cell Phone.....253-241-1435  
Email ..... pastordavid.immanuel@gmail.com

## **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and by appointment

## **BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS**

The office is normally open from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Please remember that the administrative assistant may be  
away from the office running errands during this time.

Office Phone .....410-673-7107  
Office Fax Number .....410-673-1426  
Office Email .....immanuel.lutheran.preston@verizon.net

## **CHURCH OFFICERS — 2020**

President..... Ruth Thomas  
Secretary..... Lynn Short  
Financial Secretary ..... Dee Lambert  
Treasurer..... Carol Frase  
Evangelism Chair ..... Marsha Kenton & Shelly Kapitan  
Trustee Chair ..... Dale Kenton  
Stewardship Chair..... Lynn Faulstick  
Board of Education Chair ..... Rene Langwost  
Elders Chair ..... Richard Wheatley

that they are loved by our Lord. Thankfully we can live out that message of love as we reach out and take care of both their bodies and souls even while practicing social distancing.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I just wanted to take the time to acknowledge our mothers out there. Your vocation is never easy. It comes with dirty diapers, late nights, lots of laughter, tears, and an infinite number of prayers. Our Lord is with you too and He will give you grace even when you want to throw your hands up, give up, and feel like you don't deserve it. You are the apples of His eyes, His daughters, whom He loved enough to lay down His life for you. And, He'll never leave you nor forsake you. Happy mother's day. May it be truly blessed in every way.

And for all of you ladies who have wanted children and who have never had them, or for those of you who have lost children, know that our Lord remembers you too. His grace is sufficient and He will bring to completion the great work He began in you. You are precious in His sight and He will wipe your every tear. Our Lord's plan for you is perfect, gracious, and loving. Cling to Him and sing His praises for in you He has also found favor.

Thanks to all of you for being the saints our Lord has called you to be. Every day you make me even more proud to be your pastor. I miss all of you. I love you. And I look forward to worshipping with you again in our beautiful building as soon as we can.

In Christ's Service and yours,  
Pastor David

HAPPY  
*Mother's*  
Day



*From the*  
*President's Pen*



Thank you all for tuning into the Facebook recordings of our services during this COVID-19 pandemic. It has been encouraging to see the number of views each week. We also appreciate the pledges and other gifts coming into the office and through the website.

You may have heard about relief for businesses and nonprofits through the CARES Act and the Payroll Protection Program. Thanks go to Carol Frase, our Administrative Assistant and Church Treasurer. Carol applied through our bank and received funding that will supplement our needs during this shutdown. As long as the monies are used for salaries and utility payments, this loan should be forgiven by the Small Business Administration under this program. The Nursery School also received a similar loan.

As we move into May, I am hopeful that we will soon be able to meet again for corporate worship. Meanwhile, we will be trying an Internet-based fellowship time at 10 am on Sundays to greet each other prior to the 10:30 am service. Watch your e-mail for more information.

Finally, as Pastor has emphasized on his weekly messages, please continue to send in your gifts and pledges. Our expenses continue, and you can mail in checks or go online to <https://www.ilcpreston.org/> and click on the Donate button at the top to give via PayPal or credit card.



## Trustees Update

The trustees have been trying to get some projects completed, so when church services resume, hopefully you will see some noticeable improvements.

- 1) Light bulbs in the church have finally arrived and are installed for the hanging lights.
- 2) The church elevator has been serviced, and waiting for an inspection.
- 3) It was decided to have the church and Geiger Hall pressure washed, due to a heavy build up of mold and mildew on the back roof, and concrete surfaces. The total cost for the project will be approximately \$4,450.00. Payment for this has been approved through special funds.

It's now the time of year for grass cutting to start. If anyone wants to help with this, please call Rex Rosebrock or myself to set this up.

There always is a need for some raking, weeding, trimming, etc. to be done. If someone has the urge to get out in the fresh air, this would be a perfect opportunity.

Respectfully,  
Dale Kenton

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## Evangelism - at a Distance?

We find ourselves in a strange new world, one in which we must change the way we meet and share the gospel. Sure, fellowship is more difficult. But God's plans are still in place, as are the tasks that he has given us. Do we put evangelism on hold until we can re-engage face to face? No way. There is no better time to share, as people everywhere look for a message of hope and purpose. So what are some things that we as Christians can do right now?

### **Pray and be a calm presence to others.**

Pray for an end to the pandemic, to give governing authorities wisdom in their management of the crisis, to bring healing and comfort to those who are sick. Pray for the protection of health care workers, essential workers at all levels and for open hearts and minds to the gospel as we witness and serve others.

### **Keep in touch with the people around you, particularly the vulnerable, isolated or needy.**

Reaching out to others is one of the greatest things we can give right now. By phone, email, video or through social media. And remember, everyone does not have access to technology but usually has access to a phone or U.S. mail.

### **Look for ways to show kindness.**

Reach out at any level you are comfortable with and in ways that are safe. Prepare meals, run errands, support local businesses and donate to charities. Be a good listener – people are going through difficult times – financial struggles, health issues, feelings of increased isolation and anxiety about the future. Sometimes the best way to help someone is to listen.

### **Point one another to God and His promises to us through Jesus.**

Encourage one another to look to God first and depend on him in all circumstances. Circumstances will change, but God and his love for us will continue.

### **Know your limits and care in ways that are sustainable and safe.**

Care for yourself physically, emotionally and spiritually so you can care for others. Engage in fellowship. Adhere to government health directives. Get adequate sleep and rest. Balance news with time spent in prayer and God's word.

Let's not waste the time God has given us. Let's use it to be creative and compassionate, to appreciate friends and family and the beauty of the natural world. Let us learn lessons and develop habits that will benefit us in years to come!

The Evangelism Committee

- Parts were retrieved from article by Sally Sims, [Matthiasmedia.com](http://Matthiasmedia.com)





# JOY:FULLY LUTHERAN

1 THESS 5:16-18

REJOICE / PRAY / GIVE THANKS

## Lutherans trust in Christ alone for salvation

“Our churches teach that people cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works. People are freely justified for Christ’s sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor and that their sins are forgiven for Christ’s sake. By His death, Christ made satisfaction for our sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight” (AC IV). This article is often referred to as the doctrine on which the Church stands or falls. This confession relies entirely on God’s work in Christ for salvation. This is joy: God loves you and has worked for your salvation. Rejoice! Find out more at [joyfullylutheran.org](http://joyfullylutheran.org).



Our beautiful Easter Cross filled with flowers from our church family and local community.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mark and Jessie Harding, on the birth of their daughter, Andee Joyce Harding on April 7, 2020. Andee was born at UMSMC in Easton, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. She joins her two older twin sisters, Hannah and Rylee.



## **SPECIAL FUNDS**

### **Pastor’s Grant Fund**

Jeanette Schmick

Helen Schmidt

Richard & Irene Wheatley

# Mothers and Fathers: The Christian Parenting Team

CPH Blog—Delania Byerley  
May 2020

## Fathers in the Family: Teach Children about Christ

There are many important fathers in the Bible, some that trusted God fully and others that fell short. A father's role is to bring up his children in faith and to do so with love and patience, not with anger or provocation. Deuteronomy 6:5–7 says it this way: “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

[Noah](#) is one of the biblical patriarchs that really understood this verse. In a world that was so corrupted that God felt the need to wipe it out with a flood, Noah trusted God to keep him and his family safe. He loved God and taught his children about God's saving grace through it all. Abraham trusted God so much that he was willing to sacrifice his son, Isaac.

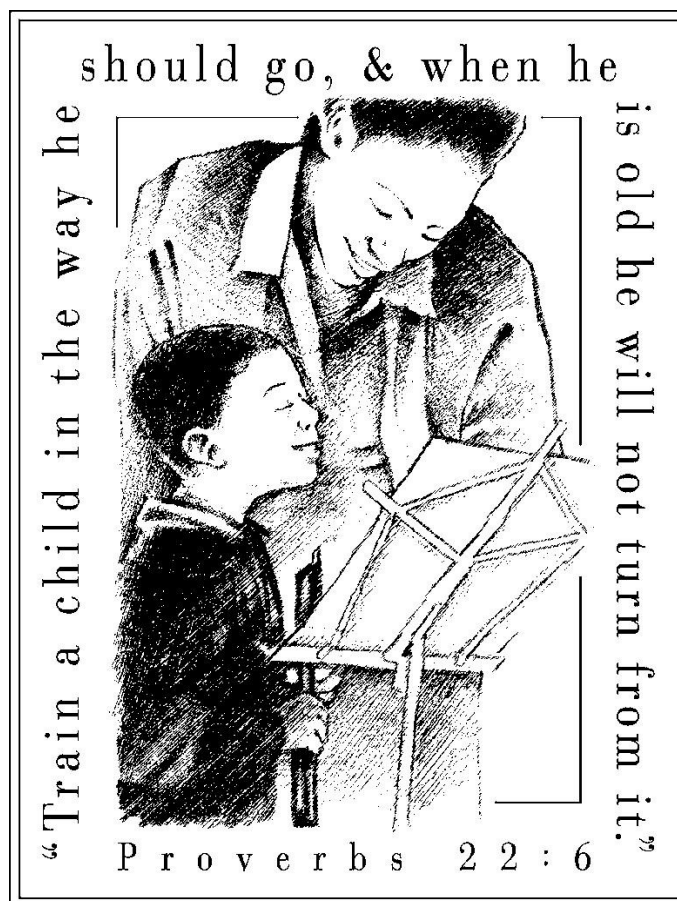
Another great Bible verse about the role of fathers comes from Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.” The Word of the Lord endures forever, especially in the heart of a child who has come to know and love Christ with the help of a wonderful father who leads by example.

## Mothers in the Family: Supporters and Nurturers

The very first mother, Eve, is described as being created to be a helper to Adam, which is one major role that mothers have. Although fathers are meant to discipline children, moms are meant to nurture and care for them, while also stepping back and allowing a child to learn lessons on their own. Moms help dads to raise children in Christ while also reflecting God's love for them in parenthood. [Proverbs 31:10-31](#) has frequently been

used as a biblical example of the role of a mother, both as a helper to the father in the household and as her own individual person.

Look at all the different mothers recounted in the Bible. Hannah waited patiently for the Lord to send her a son; Mary trusted that God would provide for her, Joseph, and baby Jesus. Many biblical mothers had the same struggles that today's mothers do, but they show that following God's plan for them is ultimately what's best.



## **BRENDEN HARRELL — IMMANUEL'S ADOPT-A-STUDENT**

***Brenden Harrell is our Adopt-A-Student from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. We support his education with a yearly donation to the Concordia Seminary. If you would like to help us with sponsoring a student, please make your donations to the Jesse Ellis Fund (Special Funds). If you have any questions, or would like to send Brenden a note of encouragement, contact the church office for his mailing address.***

Time has been flying by! Vicarage has been an amazing experience. The repetition of teaching, preaching, planning, etc. has made things more than theory from a book. I am very grateful to be able to serve in such a vibrant and healthy congregation. I have met so many amazing people and have had so many opportunities to try things out. It is crazy that I have already had to sign up for classes and am starting to figure out how to move back to St. Louis for my final year.



There has not been a dull week here. Between my various responsibilities with youth, and the homeless community I have also had the opportunity to teach a number of bible studies and preach regularly. Katie and I have also been able to find some time to get away and relax a little. Last month we were able to attend the Best Practices conference in Phoenix Arizona. That trip was the first vacation we have been able to take since we got married last May. We brought back many great memories and were able to see family and friends from all across the nation.

It means so much to know that this time of training and growing has been supported by you and your prayers. God's kingdom is so much bigger than anyone of us and it is so encouraging to think about all the wonderful work that He is doing throughout the world and in each of our lives.

Yours in Christ,

Brenden Harrell



## ***Brenden Harrell, continued...***

It feels strange that it is already almost May! This year has flown by while on vicarage. I have been very blessed to be able to teach bible classes, confirmation class, preach and lead services as well as engage in the homeless ministry here.

Since Colorado initiated a stay at home order things have changed quite a bit. I have seen a lot less people and not had as many opportunities to do “normal” church activities. Katie and I still dressed up for Easter and made sure to make it the special day it is.

Yet despite the strange and often upsetting nature of this time. It has also been a gift. It has been a very valuable time of self-reflection and preparation. This year has been a good start on putting together real world tools and practicing skills that I will need no matter what the world looks like in the future.

I am excited for the opportunities God is opening up during this new and uncertain time. I have heard and experienced many stories of people who did not care or have a place for faith in their life because of busyness or comfortable living now beginning to seek for something more than this life. I cannot wait to see what God is going to do through us His church to reshape this world that has been so shaken up.

Your continued support of me and Katie has been a true and constant blessing. The future may be uncertain but the hope we hold in our hearts has never been more certain. Romans 5:5 “and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”



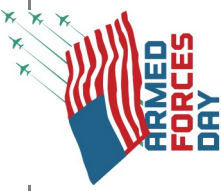



Yours in Christ,

Brenden Harrell





# May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 	8	9
10 	11	12	13	14	15	16 
17	18	19	20	21 	22	23
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 	<p>Please note that the church office is open Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m., (Closed on Memorial Day.)</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours are 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Call ahead to schedule communion, or to spend time in the church sanctuary.</p>					

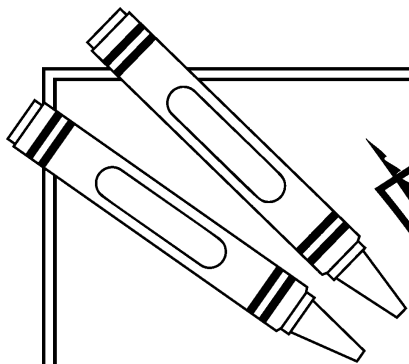
## THOSE SERVING IMMANUEL MAY 2020

Date	Usher	Lay Reader	Greeter	Assisting Elder	Kids Worship	Acolytes	Head Tellers
May 3							
May 10							
May 17							
May 24							
May 31							

Due to Worship Service cancellations, you will be notified individually if needed.



Brook Coppage Ridenour	5/1	Mallory Morris	5/16
Jessica Marine	5/4	Shelby Stevens	5/16
Kelli Schanken	5/5	Mary Ann Frase	5/19
Katherine Bowman-Pinder	5/8	Jimmy Johansen	5/23
Robin Starken	5/8	Sandra Monroe	5/24
Dawn Gencel	5/9	Eleanor Wittemen	5/15
Ella Mae Cannon	5/10	Chuck Braband	5/29
Doug Frase	5/10	Barbara Andrew	5/30
Gunner Johansen	5/11	Brody Christopher	5/30
Lynn Faulstick	5/13	Ruth Thomas	5/31
Hugh Smith	5/13	Reece Durham	5/31
Kristy Marshall	5/15		



# PUZZLE

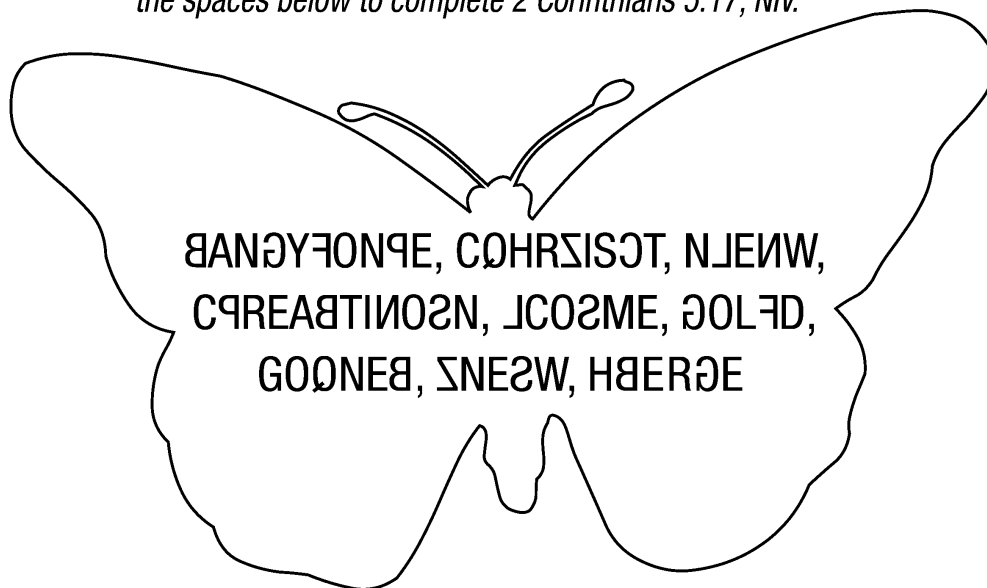
## Transformation**POWER**



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,  
God transforms us from old to new.



*Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.*



Therefore, if \_\_\_\_\_ is in \_\_\_\_\_,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_:

The \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_!

2 C O R I N T H I A N S 5 : 1 7 , N I V

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here





***Immanuel Lutheran Church***  
***P.O. Box 39***  
***Preston, Maryland 21655***



***The Grapevine***  
***May 2020***

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