

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2021

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Worship & Music – SAVE THE DATE 8/29

August Calendar

Drive-In worship participants we are asking you to drive up to the door/overhang at the Education wing in the main (south) parking lot. The usher will hand out communion, bulletins and receive offerings. Using the overhang, the usher will be somewhat protected from the weather and will also not have to cross the street!



Immanuel Lutheran Church

1002 Powell Ave.

Erie, PA 16505

814-833-4062

LIKE US on Facebook

www.ilc-erie.org

Office: immluthch@verizon.net



**Grace & Peace
from the
Pastor's Desk**



The Season of Pentecost

**But strive first for the
kingdom of God and his
righteousness, and all
these things will be given
to you as well.**

—Matthew 6:33

In 1971, after a Bible study/prayer meeting Karen Lafferty wrote a Christian worship song based on Matthew 6:33, Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4. The hymn was published and copywritten in 1972 by Maranatha! Music. "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" is #783 in With One Voice, the blue paperback hymnal in our racks.

Seek! Seek ye first! Not as an afterthought, not as something to do when I have more time, not something to be totally ignored, but first... the first thing we should turn to every day, and not put out of our minds. What is it that we should be seeking? The kingdom of God. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.

What are the things that you will be given when you first seek God's kingdom? According to Matthew 6 beverage, food, and clothes, all things that are necessary for survival. And even though we sometimes fail to realize this, we need relationships to survive. Relationships can be difficult, they take work on both sides of the relationship, but they are essential to live a healthy life.

Although the world may not acknowledge it, as Christians the most important relationship for us is the one that we have with our Triune God, God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. It is the thing we should strive to put first in our lives. Seek the relationship as though your life depends on it, because it does. Prayer, a conversation with God is the best way to build a relationship with God. A conversation is two-sided, that means you need a time of silence to hear God's reply.

Are you seeking God with a passion? Are you looking for God's kingdom on earth? In the 1977 movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" the main characters were consumed with the desire to create sculptures of something they didn't understand. Eventually they find it is Devil's Tower, in Wyoming, a tower of igneous rock believed to be the petrified volcanic eruption left after the mountain soil washed away that they are consumed with duplicating. This may be a bit of hyperbole (Jesus used hyperboles in his speech) but searching for God's kingdom is something that should consume us. It is something we should pursue until we make it our own, find it our home!

As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you'd like to talk. I'm in the office Tuesday and Thursdays 9 am – 2 pm (814-833-4062), or call my cell phone (724-557-2386) and if I don't answer please leave a message.

***Grace and Peace,
Pastor Karen***

Christian Education



Sunday School Newsletter – August

VBS (July 11-15th) was small but mighty! BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN HIS MIGHTY POWER PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD...was part our banner verse as we enjoyed our Knights of the North Castle theme. Thank you to everyone who donated snack items. It is a big, big help to have those items in advance and ready to use. Anita Byrne handled coordination with Lakewood as well as outreach for Immanuel and Registration at the event every evening, Debbie Madurski – sharing her amazing craft talents each night, Rick & Jen Kuntz, Lori Nemenz and Pastor Kostur helped at various times throughout the event with Jen Kuntz teaching a portion of the Adult track – some good conversations about how we “armor” ourselves for the challenges of this world.

I didn't see any youth from Immanuel participating this year, though we thought we might have some of our Confirmands helping with set-up, but the kids that did join in rotated between stations – crafts, science, Bible stories (Pastor Karen helped here), recreation and snacks. The countless hours of creativity & work from the director (Pam Anthony – Sunday School Director from Lakewood) made the week go by fast and flawless. Running, jumping, dancing, laughing, singing was a joy to behold.

Enjoy the rest of your Summer. Thanks for reading. Sunday School Team



Sparky the dragon and the North Castle set



The kids enjoyed the Storytime Room complete with the Fiery Furnace (the silver box to the right) that each of the kids could enter and exit as they experience the Bible story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

The Sunday School has also been busy collecting and recently redeemed **Aluminum Cans raising \$46.00** for our Youth Ministry efforts. A big thank you once again to the Kuntz family for gathering and transporting the cans for redemption and to all of you for supporting this effort...

I know Summer is a big aluminum can time in the Swanson and Nemenz households with picnics, family gatherings and parties so I'm glad we can do our part to close the circle and recycle these aluminum cans!!

REMINDER: Our next Confirmand Meeting will be August 1st after worship with Pastor Karen.

~ Sharing the Good News ~





Immanuel Worship Calendar

AUGUST 2021 Worship Calendar for Immanuel Lutheran, Erie PA

Volunteers Welcome

Counters and Ushers needed in 2021

We would welcome additional folks to join us in both of these church tasks. Please see the lists in this newsletter and reach out to Cindy Geddes for Counters and Bob Dorler for Ushers if you think you'd like to give this a try.

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector
8/1/21 9:30 AM	Kostur	Debbie Redditt	Bill Redditt
8/8/21 9:30 AM	Snider	<u>Asst.-----Lav Dist.</u> C. Geddes----H. Mays	Claudia Skerlong
8/15/21 9:30 AM	Kostur	Anita Byrne	Barb Coughlin
8/22/21 9:30 AM	Kostur	Stan Holsopple	Stan Holsopple
8/29/21 9:30 AM	Kostur	Debbie Redditt or B.Dorler	Bill Redditt or B.Dorler

Altar Guild: Donna Dorler/Judy Stewart

Counters: S. Holsopple/D. Arnold **Ushers:** Ushers as assigned by B. Dorler

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

Sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for August
SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: AUGUST 15TH

August 2-9 - Pastor Karen off – emergency contact will be Pastor Ron Freebourn 814-490-0548

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend a short congregational meeting on August 8th to discuss and approve boiler replacement.

August 8th – Council Meeting

August 17-22 – Wally Coughlin, our amazing caretaker is off

**PROFESSIONAL
RESOURCES IN OUR FAITH
COMMUNITY**

Would you like to be listed? Give me a call or drop me an email in the office.

814-833-4062 or

immluthch@verizon.net~Lori



DID YOU KNOW?



"Photo Courtesy Paul Lorei"

Michael shares that Sierra Griffith is the first person from our region to be accepted to the School of American Ballet (SAB), since the 1980s.

Michael Patterson who has been a Lector and reader for us prior to the pandemic and in his career life is the Artistic Director of the Patterson School of Ballet, which was founded in August of 2014. Michael's training began locally with the late Sharon Filone who fostered his love of the art form and nurtured his talents. His training continued at the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet in Carlisle, PA under the watchful eye of world renown teacher Marcia Dale Weary. While at CPYB, Michael received an invitation to join the Pennsylvania Ballet, which is the sister company of the New York City Ballet. There he had many opportunities to perform a variety of works ranging from the rigorous classical to the neoclassical and modern works. He has had many ballets created for him including the work Cellophane, created for him by Brian Sanders, which was featured in the benefit performance, Shut Up & Dance. While a member of Pennsylvania Ballet Mr. Patterson had the opportunity to work with and perform Christopher Wheeldon's groundbreaking version of *Swan Lake* at the Edinburgh International Arts Festival in collaboration with the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra of Moscow Radio where the Lord Provost honored them.

Throughout his career, Michael has had many opportunities to grow and learn from his professional colleagues in the field and has made it his mission to enrich children's lives and provide opportunities for personal growth and achievement by utilizing the skills developed in the studio. Students of his have danced with or are currently dancing with Joffrey Ballet, Washington Ballet, American Repertory Ballet, Minnesota Ballet, Sarasota Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Orlando Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Boston Ballet, and Netherlands Dans Theater. Recently, one of his students was invited to the year-round program at the School of American Ballet (SAB) the nation's preeminent ballet school, which is located in Lincoln Center, NYC. Michael Patterson's students regularly perform throughout the community helping organizations such as the Festival of Trees raise money for the Children's Miracle Network, JaDE Benefit which benefits the Special Olympics of Crawford County. Additionally, the Patterson School of Ballet helps to create opportunities for children to experience the arts at the Barber National Institute, the ExpERIENCE Children's Museum, as well as many other local organizations. Programs offered are for ages 3 and Up.

Michael Patterson has been attending Immanuel since 2017 and is the husband of Immanuel's long-time organist Bryan Timm.

Thanks for sharing your Time & Talent at Immanuel & in our community Michael.



KEEP IN PRAYER: Denise Arnold and Denise's Mom Lucie Arndt and sister, Lana as well as brother-in-law Pastor Huhn; John & Tim Botwright and Tim's wife Karen; the Feiler & Lee families; Ruth & Ken Foos – friends of Carol McCray and Carol's sister Marilyn; Cindy Geddes' family friend Deedee; Jim & Lorraine Hornaman, Kyle Husted, Bill Kostur, Jim Kuntz, Nancy Leonard – Pastor Karen's friend; Patrick Lewis – family friend of S.Kocur; Bishop Michael Lozano, Diane McGranor, Phyllis Lindahl, Carole Rickrode, Sharon Roemer, Jan Rowe – Pastor Karen's friend; Dr. Carl Seon; Pastor Roy Washill, and the Washill family as they face his health challenges; and all of our members who are grieving; who are in nursing homes, who are serving on the "front line" during the COVID-19 pandemic or who are ill at home.

We pray for those in the military: **Scott Case– Navy, (C. Geddes nephew)** & Christopher Peterson – Navy (Grandson of the late Agnes & Chuck Peterson).

Sharing this prayer request update from Cindy Geddes on her nephew: My nephew Scott is still in the Navy and is with the Seabees. He has served in the Navy for the last 18 years and he is being deployed this Fall to Africa for 6 months. He has a wife Amy and two sons Hunter and Jaxon. Please continue supporting them all with your prayers.

If you are sick or in the hospital, please notify the church office and if you'd like home communion or a copy of our newsletter ~ please let us know in the office.



Please remember the members of Immanuel who are "shut in," 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 or see our current directory.

Current Shut-in list: Judi Casler and Sally Fager.

Update: We no longer have current contact information for Audree Adams. Please share with the office if you are aware.

Shut-In Ministry

***No time in your busy life for much more?
How about just an occasional phone call or card?***

FAITH

IN

ACTION

Thank you
for sharing
your
Time &
Talents

SCHOOL



SUPPLIES

Collecting School Supplies

Social Ministry will be collecting school supplies during the month of August 15 thru Sept 5th.

- Pocket folders
- Notebook paper
- Highlighters
- Dry Erase Markers (black)
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Flash cards (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and/or division)
- Flash cards (sight words)
- Erasers
- Pencils
- Boxes of tissues
- Hand sanitizer
- Clorox wipes
- Snacks (individually wrapped)
- Jump ropes, balls, etc. (for recess)

Take advantage of any of the great back to school sales!
Items may be dropped off at the church during office hours or after the service on Sunday mornings.

Cash donations can be placed in collection basket and marked "Social Ministry School Supplies"

Thank you!
Social Ministry

A total of \$16.60 in pennies was redeemed recently for the **WELCA Pennies for Poverty** ongoing campaign.
Keep them coming!

Our gratitude to Debbie Redditt who was able to have the pennies machine-counted for us at her bank saving Immanuel a service fee.

FAITH IN ACTION

Thank you
for sharing
your
Time &
Talents



We have all heard and seen the devastating environmental events that are happening around the globe. Extreme heat, wild fires and drought in the West, horrible flooding in Europe, frequent, intense thunderstorms right here. We are called upon to **be the good stewards of our home that God expects** us to be. Individual actions won't be enough to stop our environmental crisis, but **your actions can be a catalyst**

for change. Every dollar you spend (or don't), every contact you make (or don't) with policymakers, every conversation with family, friends, or colleagues sends a message to the market, to the legislature, to others about their actions. Be faithful in your creation justice efforts.

You can **lead by example**, by your actions and your words showing family, friends, fellow congregation members, co-workers, and even strangers what is important and how they too can take action for good.

When you talk about creation care, don't double down on statistics or guilt. Live what you value. **What you make a practice speaks volumes to others.** If you recycle, if you choose durable over single-use plastic, if you consistently avoid food waste or compost it, if you plant trees or native plants for pollinators, and so on, people notice, and people ask. Then you can share why you do it and the benefits you experience. And people listen.

Numerous climate justice organizations are doing excellent work. Explore them to continue to **educate yourself.** You may also choose to **sign advocacy petitions**, which will be sent to appropriate policy makers, or to support their work financially, knowing that *you*—through these groups—will continue to make a positive difference. **Support their work also with your prayers.**

From the SWPA Synod "Green Team" and the UMC Creation Justice

SAVE THE DATE:

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS – SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is traditionally an ELCA day of service event so we are sharing this opportunity to serve:

**The NW PA Synod Green Team
is planning a Presque Isle
Clean-up Event**

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 AT 1 P.M.



Volunteers from some of our synod churches will meet for brief prayer, fellowship, a snack & a short educational intro from Jen Salem of the Tom Ridge Env. Center. Jen will then guide our efforts to address clean-up concerns at Presque Isle. Come and help as you are able.

Please contact your Synod Green Team member, Lori Nemenz, for more info at 814-833-1426 or nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com

Worship & Music in the News....

Check out the audio files of
our services at the link below:

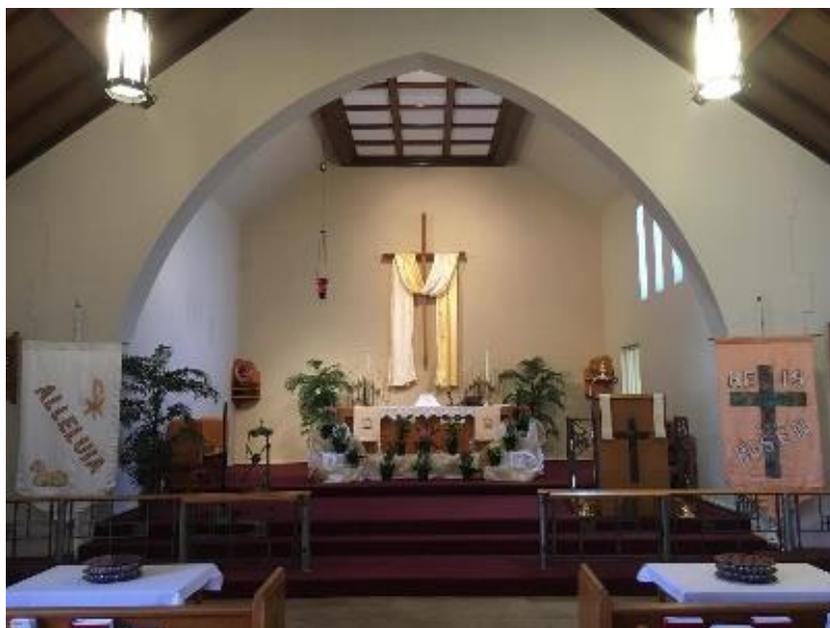


For OneDrive login page,
click here:

[https://onedrive.live.com/
about/en-us/signin/](https://onedrive.live.com/about/en-us/signin/)

You can find Pastor Karen's
latest sermons in print on
our webpage here

[http://www.ilc-erie.org/worship-
.html](http://www.ilc-erie.org/worship-.html)



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

SAVE THE DATE – AUGUST 29TH



Join us for an outdoor worship service on August 29th
at 9:30 a.m. followed by our annual church picnic.

Please bring a dish to share.

A big thank you to Worship & Music as well as our
FOG committees for coordinating these upcoming
events!!

Consider bringing your own table service

Celebrations

of Life and

Love

August Birthdays

August 4	Jennifer Kuntz
5	Craig Casler
6	Kim Lee
11	Barb Nelson
15	Trista Paternosh
16	Janice Kreger
21	Mia Penpek
24	Mabry Szima
29	Richard Feiler/Jonathan Redditt
30	Anita Byrne

Everyone loves a birthday card! Please remember a member!!

August Anniversaries

August 1	Donna & Bob Dorler
18	Hannah & David Mays/Laura & Jeremy Ditzler/Bryan Timm & Michael Patterson

Congratulations to those celebrating!!!

Did I forget you? Please e-mail me or call me with your birthdays, anniversaries or a special day you would like us to share.

immluthch@verizon.net



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 \$35/WK** – SANCTUARY CANDLE REMAINS AT \$5/WK - SO WHEN PAYMENT IS MADE, PLEASE INCLUDE THIS NEW AMOUNT IN YOUR PAYMENT STARTING IN JUNE.

YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO BRING IN YOUR OWN PLANTS/FLOWERS FROM YOUR GARDEN, ETC.

August 2021

Greetings of Peace



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship: 9:30 a.m. QUARTER SUNDAY Confirmand Mtg: 10:30 QUARTER SUNDAY	2 QUILTERS 9:30 AM FLAGSHIP CITY CHORUS 7 PM PASTOR KAREN OFF	3 AA MTG 7:30 PM PASTOR KAREN OFF	4 TOPS 9:30 AM AA MTG 7:30 PM PASTOR KAREN OFF	5 PASTOR KAREN OFF	6 AA MTG. PASTOR KAREN OFF	7 PASTOR KAREN OFF
8 Worship: 9:30 a.m. COUNCIL MTG. Congregation Mtg. PASTOR KAREN OFF	9 QUILTERS 9:30 AM FLAGSHIP CITY CHORUS 7 PM PASTOR KAREN OFF	10 AA MTG 7:30 PM	11 TOPS 9:30 AM AA MTG 7:30 PM	12	13 AA MTG.	14
15 Worship: 9:30 a.m. SEPT. NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 QUILTERS 9:30 AM FLAGSHIP CITY CHORUS 7 PM	17 AA MTG 7:30 PM PROPERTY COMMITTEE MTG. WALLY OFF THIS WEEK	18 TOPS 9:30 AM AA MTG 7:30 PM WALLY OFF THIS WEEK	19 WALLY OFF THIS WEEK	20 AA MTG. WALLY OFF THIS WEEK week	21 WALLY OFF THIS WEEK
22 Worship: 9:30 a.m. WALLY OFF THIS WEEK	23 QUILTERS 9:30 AM FLAGSHIP CITY CHORUS 7 PM	24 AA MTG 7:30 PM	25 TOPS 9:30 AM AA MTG 7:30 PM	26	27 AA MTG.	28
29 Outside Worship: 9:30 a.m. Church Picnic 	30 QUILTERS 9:30 AM FLAGSHIP CITY CHORUS 7 PM	31 AA MTG 7:30 PM				

WHAT IS GOD ASKING OF YOU TODAY?



**All are
Welcome**

Immanuel Hours

Church Office – 833-4062

Hours - Mon-Thurs. 8:30am-12:30pm

immluthch@verizon.net

Staff

Pastor Karen Kostur – 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.: Lori Swanson Nemenz

Sunday School

Coord: Anita Byrne & Janice Kreger

Teachers: Rick Kuntz & Jen Kuntz,

Pastor Kostur

Congregation & Church Council Officers

Pres. – Debbie Redditt – 449-1855

Vice Pres. – Bob Dorler – 833-2719

Sec. – Debbie Madurski – 774-3590

Fin. Sec.: Cindy Geddes – 734-1286

Treasurer: Bill Redditt

Additional Council Members

Cindy Eckman, Char Feiler, George

Pfeiffer, Sally Leubin, Bob Dorler,

Cindy Geddes

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*

Christian Education

Council liaison: Cindy Eckman

CONFIRMATION CLASS 10:30 A.M. – 8/1/21

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
RECYCLING OUTDATED EQUIPMENT**

Fellowship, Outreach & Growth

Council liaisons: Sally Leubin & Char Feiler

ANNUAL PICNIC – 8/29/21

Finance

Council liaison: George Pfeiffer

2020 AUDIT

Property

Council liaison: Bob Dorler Committee Chair: Stan Holsopple

**FACILITY MAINTENANCE, RENTAL PROPERTY OVERSIGHT
BOILER REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE/RESEARCH**

Stewardship

Council liaison: Cindy Geddes

MEMBERSHIP RECORD UPDATE

Social Ministry Committee

Council liaison: Debbie Madurski – Committee chair: Debbie Madurski

SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

Worship & Music

Council liaison: Debbie Redditt Chair: vacant

****Looking For New Committee Co-Chairs****

OUTDOOR WORSHIP 8/29/21

DRIVE-IN AND INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES

OneDrive audio files of recorded services

<https://onedrive.live.com/about/en-us/signin/>

PASTOR KOSTUR'S SERMONS ON OUR WEBPAGE