



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.

Immanuel Informer

August 2020

Volume 16, Issue 2

God's Living Word Revives You!

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus,

While driving, I recently stopped at an intersection, and on one corner the township placed a banner that read, "Have a Great Summer." For a second, I thought, how nice of them to wish everyone a great summer with this large Hallmark-like poster. In theory the words of inspiration were well-meaning for those who passed by. It was a nice gesture for communicating goodwill to onlookers. But, in light of the current melee gripping our nation, I did not think it was very inspiring. Or, maybe I was in one of those moods. Good thing the radio wasn't playing "Roll with the Changes" by REO Speedwagon or "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey, that would have been over the top for anyone waiting for the light to change during rush hour.

Inspiring words are great, but sometimes they fall short of refreshing, especially during a worldwide pandemic mixed with anarchy, isolation, and anxiety. People are on edge. They need words that do more than make them feel warm and fuzzy inside. During times of suffering and despair God's Word is more than inspiring, optimistic, or cheerful. Reading the Psalms is not like reading poetry or a Hallmark greeting card. God's Word is very different from man's word.

God's Word is living and active (Hebrews 4:12), it actually gets things done! (Isaiah 55:11). Martin Luther said, "No other book than Scripture is able to comfort us. Scripture alone bears the title... 'Book of Comfort' which can sustain the soul in all tribulations..." (What Luther Says #949). The psalmist David spoke about being revived by the living Word, "*My soul clings to the dust; give me life according to your Word! (Ps 119:25).*"

When the psalmist talks about God's Word, he is not talking about a verb or a noun, or even a sentence. Paul agrees with the psalmist when he says, "*And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, **which is at work in you believers***" (1 Thessalonians 2:13).

God's Word has incredible power. Jesus said, "*The Words that I have spoken to you are Spirit and life*" (John 6:63). In your time of suffering, you receive new life and strength through His living Word in sermons, Bible Study, reading your Bible, and singing hymns based on Bible passages. God's Word will revive you, just as it revived David. In the Book of Proverbs, God

says, *"My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For **they are life** to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh"* (4:20-22). In this time of discouragement and despair, trust only in God's living Word. Through Jeremiah, God says He will perform His miracle of spiritual healing within you, *"I am watching over my word to perform it"* (1:12).

Many people are suffering from loneliness, separation from friends, and discouragement. Perhaps you sense that God is far from you, or has forgotten you. In times such as these, listen to the call of your heavenly Father. Come to Him and receive the life-giving power of His Word. Then you will be able to pray to our Father and say, *"This is my comfort in my affliction, that Your Word has revived me"* (Psalm 119:50).

Some of you have chosen to stay home during this pandemic, which has magnified your weariness. You are not attending church in order to protect yourself and your loved ones, which I fully understand and support. My concern is that in your hardship you may be lacking spiritual nourishment, which is essential if you are to remain steadfast in your faith. You need God's Word to sustain you. I realize that not all of you have access to the internet but if you do, Immanuel is now able to bring you God's Word on Sunday mornings at our regular worship time of 9:30 am. Worship with us and receive the life-giving Word of your Savior. It is also available to view at any time on our YouTube channel. Subscribe to [Immanuel-Hillside Youtube](#) and join us for worship. Be fed, be revived with God's Word. We also offer Bible Study on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am following worship. That too is available through the internet using the ZOOM platform. Regular invites are sent to our members to join us, I hope you will.

Let us pray. *Father in heaven, we have grown weary and burdened in this present time. Your promise in John 6:63 is our hope each day for spiritual help, and emotional and mental health. Help us to turn away from our own efforts and focus our thoughts on You and Your life-giving Word. Enable us to thirst for Your living Word and to say, "As the deer pants for streams of water, so pants my soul for you, O God" (Psalm 42:1). Thank you, Father, for Your life-giving Word that has brought us spiritual healing and given us new hope, both for this life and for the life to come. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Pastor Steve Deombeleg

MONTHLY EVENTS

(unless otherwise noted)

Put Your Hands Together

Food Pantry

1st & 3rd Wednesday

11am - 1pm

Bible Study Sundays

11am in Sanctuary & via Zoom

Garden Work Day

1st & 3rd Saturday

9am - Noon

REMEMBER TO PRAY...

If you have a prayer request, please call the pastor in the church office (708-562-5590).

We are praying for you!

Please notify the office when circumstances of your request change or when the Lord answers your prayers.

We want to rejoice with you and thank the Lord.



FOR GOD
HAS NOT GIVEN
US A *spirit* of FEAR
BUT OF & LOVE
POWER OF
AND OF A *sound mind*
2 TIMOTHY 1:7

Blessings on your Stewardship Journey

God Will Supply

We go to work based on the promise of a wage for our labor. We enter into marriage covenants promising to be faithful to our spouses for life. We get on planes, trusting the pilots are well trained and the aircraft safe so that we can get to our destinations. We drive our cars on the right side of the road (in the US, anyway!), confident that oncoming traffic will stay in their proper lanes.

If we put so much faith in fallible humans who are prone to error and misjudgment, how much more can we live as stewards who give first to God, trusting Him to supply all our needs! *"Praise be to the Lord,"* prayed Solomon. *"Not one word has failed of all the good promises He gave through His servant Moses"* (1 Kings 8:56).

God's stewards throughout history have praised God for His faithfulness: Elijah, fed by ravens beside the brook (1 Kings 17:2-4); Daniel in the lion's den (Daniel 6); Paul preaching the Word of God even while imprisoned (Acts 28:17-31).

How about the Macedonians who gave generously even out of their poverty to share with others they felt were even more needy (2 Corinthians 8)? All these attest to the faithfulness of God. Surely God has blessed us, too, so that we can bless others with our gifts. David, the psalmist, wrote from experience: *"I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed"* (Psalm 37:25-26).

Stewardship Corner

Those who watched Jesus carry His cross to Golgotha saw a broken weak man, so weak, in fact, that another had to be enlisted to finish the walk with Jesus' burden. Ridicule was heaped on Him, even as He hung there. *"...let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God"* (Luke 23:35), they jeered. But in His weakness, He paid the penalty for our sins. His only possessions, His clothing, were taken from Him. Yet He had everything, for He had the pleasure of His Father resting on Him. No wonder Paul wrote, *"For the sake of Christ, then, I am content...For when I am weak, then I am strong"* (2 Corinthians 12:10). God's power is made perfect in our weakness.

A Month of Prayer

The fellowship of prayer consists of caring people who pray daily for members in the church. Members and their families will be listed in alphabetical order each month. Please pray for both their known and unknown needs.

1. Leonard Bartels
2. The Bell Family
3. The Bettin Family
4. Karen Bimler
5. The Blair Family
6. Bud & Lois Boese
7. Elaine Boettcher
8. The Bozzi Family
9. Roger Brabant
10. Ruth Anne Brendemuhl
11. Bob Brown
12. Doretha Brown & Rashaad Smith
13. Joe & Lisa Chioda
14. The Czubernat Family
15. Detrall Dearbone
16. The Deombeleg Family
17. Laprika Duff and Jayla Pernell
18. Dorothy Francis
19. Arlene Gasperich
20. The Hadler Family
21. Steve & Lucretia Hardy
22. Evelyn Haynes
23. Corinne Hein
24. The Hempel Family
25. Violet Horn
26. Sandra Houle
27. Leslie Iacovetti
28. Dorothy Ivers
29. The Karpierz Family
30. Clyde and Omie Lane

**Service is
nothing
but love in
work
clothes.**

Immanuel Christian Academy

Unshakeable Faith

by Valerie Winston

Unshakeable Faith is the theme that has been chosen for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. It is based on 1 Corinthians 16:13, which says, "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith, be courageous; be strong." The faculty chose this theme during one of our Zoom meetings in June. It seemed to speak to them about what we have been experiencing over the past few months. We had previously reviewed a few verses back during a meeting in either January or February, but this verse had not yet been an option.

As I was taking down my classroom in June, I was stopped by a poster on one of the bulletin boards. The poster said, Unshakeable Faith. The bulletin board itself was about all those great heroes of faith in the Old Testament. The Old Testament was the focus for 5th-8th grade Religion classes last year. As I studied the poster and was reminded of those great heroes, it made me think about what we need to do for this upcoming school year.

There has been so much that has affected us and changed the way we live, the way we view life, the way we connect with family and friends, and the way we see others. There have been highs and lows, losses and gains, and a continued feeling of unease about the future. There are times when we wonder what will happen next or how much more we can take. Sometimes we feel as if the ground we are standing on is unsteady.

But we know that as God was with all those heroes of faith who struggled in their own situations, He is most certainly with us. We can be inspired by their tenacity, their courage, their strength, and their unshakeable faith. As we prepare for the beginning of another school year, I ask for your strength and prayers for our school, our teachers, our staff, our families, and our students. I ask that you stand firm with us as we seek to continue our ministry with these ever-changing times. Thank you for your continued unshakeable faith as you have continued to support the school. Blessings!



Put Your Hands Together

A ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Pop Up Pantry August 5 & 19
11am - 1pm

Volunteer Sign-up on Sign-Up Genius

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084dafaf29a57-popuppantry>



Food collection will continue.
Please drop off pantry
items in the Narthex.

Blood Drive

Saturday
September 26
10am-1pm



- Oatmeal / Cereal
- Toaster Pastries
- Granola / Cereal Bars
- Applesauce Cups
- Canned Meat
- Canned Soup / Ramen
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Meals (Stew, Macaroni, Ravioli & Chili)
- Juice (Plastic Bottles)
- Snack Crackers
- Snack Size Chips, Popcorn, Pretzels
- Snack Size Cookies
- Fruit Snacks
- Allergy Free Foods

Put Your Hands Together

A ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church

DIAPER & FORMULA DRIVE



Donation Drop-off in the Narthex
Fridays & Sundays 9am-Noon

Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures gives. Romans 15:4

Getting the Most Out of Your Daily Bible Reading

As you read the Bible each day, allow the Scriptures to speak to you. This daily “dialogue “ between you and the biblical text will reveal new understandings about God, and about yourself.

August

Set aside time to read the bible on a daily basis.

Find a quiet place to read and reflect on each day’s reading.

Begin with prayer, asking God for guidance and blessing.

1 Romans 12:1-21	17 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17
2 2 Corinthians 1:1-11	18 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18
3 2 Corinthians 4:1-15	19 2 Timothy 1:1-18
4 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10	20 Titus 1:1-16
5 2 Corinthians 5:11-21	21 Titus 2:1-15
6 Colossians 1:1-14	22 Titus 3:1-15
7 Colossians 1:15-2:5	23 Hebrews 10:19-39
8 Colossians 2:6-23	24 Hebrews 12:1-13
9 Colossians 3:1-17	25 Hebrews 12:14-29
10 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	26 Hebrews 13:1-25
11 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16	27 1 Peter 3:8-22
12 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13	28 1 Peter 4:1-19
13 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12	29 1 Peter 5:1-14
14 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11	30 2 Peter 1:1-21
15 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28	31 2 Peter 3:1-18
16 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	

For the Record

Deaths

August 2 - Dennis Ondrovic



Happy Birthday



Birthdays

5 - Jayla Pernell	22 - Annetta Zimmerman
6 - Paris Thomas	23 - Mike Northcutt
8 - Dave Svec	25 - Debbie Valentino
12 - Tom Sierawski	26 - Ron Arndt
16 - Rashaad Smith	28 - Johnny Welch
21 - Lynn Rand	31 - Tracy Bell

Important Dates:

1	Garden Work Day
5	PYHT Pantry Day
9	Scrip Order Due
13	Elders Meeting
7-12	School Registration (by Appointment) Stewardship Meeting
15	Garden Work Day
19	PYHT Pantry Day
31	1st Day of school



As Immanuel prepares for a school year like no other, please keep the school, faculty, staff and students in your prayers.

Due to policies set by the Illinois Board of Education and the CDC, we must have

individual sets of toys and manipulatives for our Preschool and Kindergarten students as well as aftercare participants. We also need extra bins and storage bags to keep items separate and clean for all grades.

If you are able, please consider donating items from the following list. Please bring the items to church and leave in the bin that will be set out on August 9th. Thank you!

- Target, Walmart or Amazon Gift cards
- Small Pay Doh Sets
- Small Lego Sets
- Magnetic Puzzles
- Packs of Crayola Crayons (8 or 16 pack)
- Small Animal or Car Sets
- Small Books (Step into Reading or I Can Read Books)

Please make sure all toys are for ages 4 years old and up. Thank you!



AUGUST 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:30am Worship HC 11am Bible Study	3	4	5 11am - 1pm Put Your Hands Together Food Pantry	6	7	8 9am - Noon Garden Work Day
9 - Scrip Order Due 9:30am Worship HC 11am Bible Study	10	11	12	13 6pm Elders Meeting	14	15 9am - Noon Garden Work Day
16 9:30am Worship HC 11am Bible Study	17	18	19 11am - 1pm Put Your Hands Together Food Pantry	20	21	22
23 9:30am Worship HC 11am Bible Study	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:30am Worship HC 11am Bible Study	31 1st Day of School					

2317 - 2329 South Wolf Road
Hillside, IL 60162

Church phone - 708-562-5590

School phone - 708-562-5580

E-Mail: general@immanuel-hillside.org

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RETURN REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

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Deatrice Honey, Administration Assistant

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Valerie Winston, Principal

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Glorifying God. Impacting the Community.

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10*