

## *God's Good News Outweighs the Bad*

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord,

In this time of overwhelming bad news, anxiety, and uncertainty, I would like to begin with some good things that are happening at Immanuel.

First, I would like to say thank you to all who work behind the scenes at Immanuel and in our community. Using your time, talents, and energy are extensions and expressions of your worship to God. From all the preparations in worship on Sunday morning, to assisting with our food distribution ministry ("Put Your Hands Together"), to care ministries, maintenance of property, serving on commissions, praying and acts of mercy. You are the body of Christ, a people transformed by God's grace, now serving in the name of Jesus. I am grateful.

The long banner in our sanctuary proclaims, "A city on a hill cannot be hidden...let your light shine," and that is exactly what takes place the first and third Wednesday of each month right here at Immanuel. "Put Your Hands Together" food distribution ministry is becoming a beacon to the community. God is being Glorified as we Impact our Community by showing mercy to our neighbors. We may not see the fruit of our labors, but God shows his love to all people through this ministry. We still need volunteers so please sign up through Sign-Up Genius.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of ILC. With your tithes and offerings, we are able to proclaim the name of Jesus in a variety of ways. A number of you have transitioned to on-line giving in the wake of the pandemic and your regular offering is much appreciated. If you do not know how to give online, you can contact Pastor Deombeleg or Joanna Czubernat to help you get started. Some of you prefer to mail in your offering and that is totally fine.

During Sunday worship we are working our way through readings from the Book of Romans. Our series is titled, "God's Greater Story." Romans is jam-packed with words of encouragement, hope, and assurance. Join us to see how you fit into God's Greater Story.

Last year we formed a team to oversee proposed audio-video upgrades to the sanctuary. Funds were made possible through a personal gift from one of our members. The upgrades have been installed and Immanuel is no longer technologically challenged. The upgrades will be apparent to those worshipping in the sanctuary as well as those worshipping from home. In the sanctuary you will see two High Definition screens that are much easier on the eyes, and a rich sound system bringing all things audible to life. At home, we will be able to livestream the service to you in a much-improved audio-video format which will be very noticeable. This will happen once training is completed by our A/V team; it shouldn't be long.

The faculty and staff of our school, Immanuel Christian Academy, through the leadership of Valerie Winston, our Principal, have been working very hard to ensure that the upcoming school year will continue to operate at the highest level possible. They did a wonderful job of adapting to the crisis that changed our world. Enrollment for this coming year is looking very good. I thank God for our teachers and have the highest admiration for them as they went above and beyond their normal duties. Most of them had to learn how to teach their students in a completely different environment. Please keep them in your prayers as they plan for the new school year that already poses great challenges requiring more work and resources.

I wanted to share good things that are happening at Immanuel before addressing the elephant in the room. Clearly, so many people are weary and feel burdened by all that is going on in our world. It is difficult to try and make sense of all the dynamics involved when a nation is going through a revolution. There are no easy answers. What we can do is go the cross, to trust in our Lord and pray for peace in our land. That is the vertical aspect, calling out to the Lord. Jesus also calls us to love our neighbor (Matt 22:39). Love is a verb, therefore, love for the neighbor looks at the neighbor, sees a need, and then takes action in order to meet that need. Jesus is directing us outside of ourselves to the needs of others. That is the horizontal aspect. We cannot solve the world's problems, but if we show this kind of love to others, share the story of Jesus, and pray for them, God can do the impossible. *"The Lord is near to all who call upon him" (Psalm 145:18).*

Let us pray. *Father in heaven, in this time of great unrest, open our eyes to needs of others, to show them mercy and compassion, to shine the light of Your Son. Give us words to speak, energy to serve, and wisdom to help all who are in need, all people of all backgrounds, languages, and cultures. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

In the Fellowship and Love of Christ,

Pastor Steve Deombeleg



## Summer Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9am - 1pm

Closed on Fridays

July 3rd - 12th Office Closed  
*for the fourth of July holiday and for  
waxing floors outside the school office*



## Stewards of Our God-given Vocations

The Pocket Bible Dictionary defines vocation as “a calling based on God’s purpose and grace (2 Timothy 1:9). The Apostle Paul urged believers ‘to walk worthy’ of their Christian vocation (Ephesian 4:1).” God has given each of us different vocations. At birth, we were given the vocation of being a child. Many of us have brothers and sisters, so we have the vocation of being siblings. If we marry, we have the vocation of spouse, and, with children, we have the vocation of parents. Our place of residence makes us citizens of our neighborhoods, cities, counties, states, and our country. Our work is a vocation. At baptism, we are given the vocation of being Christian.

As God’s people, we see our vocations as gifts from God, and, with His help, we can honor Him in each of our vocations. The Apostle Paul tells us “*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him*” (Colossians 3:17). Jesus should accompany us in every vocation of life. In each of our vocations, we have a responsibility to do our best and show God’s love in all that we do. For example, as a married person, I am to love and cherish my spouse. As parents, we are to provide for the physical well-being of our children and most, important, help them to grow in their relationship with Jesus. To walk worthy, as Paul encouraged, implies that we are to be God’s representatives in all of our vocations. In our homes, neighborhoods, places of work, and churches, we are, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to reflect God’s image and values in each of our vocations. God’s image reveals a spirit of kindness, patience, love, and generosity. We are to bring good to others and glory to God in order that His kingdom might advance.

Our careers or places of work are what we reference most when we think about vocations. To work and have a vocation is a wonderful gift from God. Pastor Tony Evans in his book *Kingdom Stewardship* tells us that we are to “stop leaving God at church. Take Him to work. He wants to be part of the widgets you are making, letters you are typing, businesses you are building, and entrepreneurial risk you are taking. He wants to be a part of the education you are pursuing. He wants to climb the ladder with you.”

Our vocations are truly our calling in life. Vocation is much more than our jobs or where we work to earn a living. Our vocations are the places where the Lord has stationed us to love and serve our family, friends, and all people. Our vocations bind us together in loving relationships. These are the relationships that God calls us to steward.



**WHEN WE GIVE  
GENEROUSLY TO  
PEOPLE IN NEED, WE  
DEMONSTRATE MORE  
LOVE FOR THEM THAN  
FOR OUR MONEY.**

“So then, as we have opportunity,  
let us do good to everyone, and  
especially to those who are of the  
household of faith”  
(Galatians 6:10).

## Stewardship Corner

Everything we have is a gift from God? We have food to eat because God gives the sun and the rain and good soil so vegetables, fruit, and other plants can grow. We have good fresh air to breathe because God supplies it. We have homes to live in and clothes to wear all because we have a heavenly Father Who provides for us all that we need. God gives us these gifts because He loves us. Even money we use to buy things comes from God, and He only asks that we share what He gives us with others. If we think about all that Jesus has given and done for us and about how we can show our love for Him by helping others, we may soon find that giving is fun and exciting and a habit we enjoy doing.

*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.

## **July**

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Genesis 8:1-22       | 17 Judges 6:28-40     |
| 2 Genesis 9:1-17       | 18 2 Samuel 7:1-17    |
| 3 Genesis 12:1-9       | 19 2 Samuel 7:18-29   |
| 4 Genesis 15:1-21      | 20 Psalm 89:1-37      |
| 5 Genesis 17:1-14      | 21 Psalm 105          |
| 6 Genesis 17:15-27     | 22 Isaiah 54:1-17     |
| 7 Genesis 18:1-15      | 23 Isaiah 56:1-8      |
| 8 Genesis 21:1-21      | 24 Jeremiah 31:31-40  |
| 9 Genesis 22:1-19      | 25 Jeremiah 32:26-44  |
| 10 Genesis 28:10-22    | 26 Jeremiah 33:1-13   |
| 11 Exodus 19:1-25      | 27 Jeremiah 33:14-26  |
| 12 Deuteronomy 6:10-25 | 28 Galatians 3:1-14   |
| 13 Deuteronomy 7:1-11  | 29 Galatians 3:15-4:7 |
| 14 Deuteronomy 7:12-26 | 30 Galatians 4:8-31   |
| 15 Judges 6:1-10       | 31 Hebrews 8:1-13     |
| 16 Judges 6:11-27      |                       |

### **Set aside time**

to read the Bible on a daily basis.

### **Find a quiet place**

to read and reflect on each day's reading

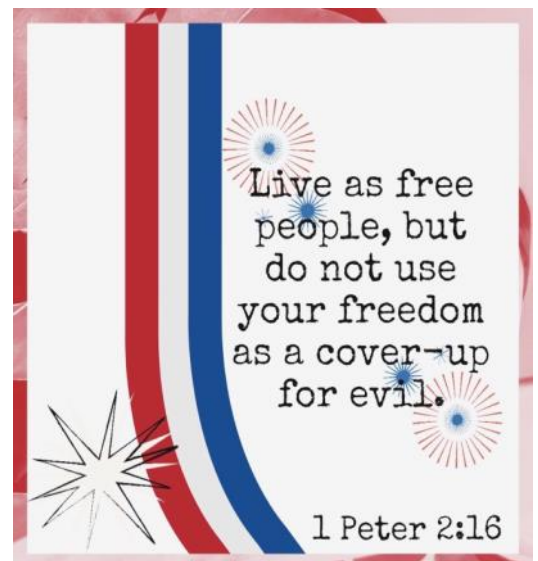
### **Begin with prayer,**

asking God for guidance and blessing.



### **FOR THE RECORD**

**Nothing to report**



Have a Safe and Happy Fourth of July!



# FREE SUMMER FOOD FOR KIDS



**1st & 3rd Wednesday 11am-1pm**

**June 3rd - August 19th**

- **Safe Drive-Thru Grocery Bag Distribution**
- **Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks & Juice**
- **FREE & OPEN to ALL**
- **Register Online for Quicker Pick-up Service at:**  
[www.immanuel-hillside.org/pyht](http://www.immanuel-hillside.org/pyht)

**Put Your Hands Together**  
*A ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church*

**POP-UP FOOD PANTRY**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

**2317 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside, IL 60162 (708)562-5580**



# A Month of Prayer

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

1. Dot Schnieder
2. Karen Sierawski
3. Jayne Siou
4. Rose Slagle
5. Rashaad Smith
6. Daniel Stallings
7. Rita Stallings
8. The Svec Family
9. The Tense Family
10. The Thomas Family (Chris & Katie)
11. The Thomas Family (Paris)
12. Lisa Tipples
13. Lance Turner
14. Debbie & Wayne Valentino
15. Sarah & Thy Vu
16. The Washington Family
17. Marilyn Weeks
18. Randy & Michelle Weeks
19. The Welch Family
20. Dorothy Westphal
21. Philbert Wilcox Sr.
22. Philbert Wilcox Jr.
23. John Wilkins
24. Brett Willis
25. Valerie Winston
26. Vern Witt
27. Harold Zedler
28. Annetta Zimmerman
29. Ron & Barn Arndt
30. Susan Arnold
31. Carolyn Barry



If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, sign up on your web browser. Simply visit AmazonSmile.com, select Immanuel Lutheran Church Hillside as your favorite charity to start generating donations, at no cost to you. Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu. Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.



We are still collecting for Put Your Hands Together and the Westchester Food Pantry. Please drop off items on Fridays between the hours of 10am and Noon. If you are worshiping with us on Sundays, you may bring items to church with you. There are collection bins by the welcome counter.

## Put Your Hands Together Current Wish List

- Cereal
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- 100% Fruit Juice
- Snack Size Crackers
- Snack Size Cookies
- Breakfast Fruit Bars
- Canned Tuna / Tuna Snack Packs
- Single Serve Pasta (Chef Boyardee / Spaghetios)



# JULY 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 11am - 1pm Pop Up Food Pantry	2	3 Office Closed	4 Independence Day
5 - 8:15am Bible Study Worship with HC	6 Office Closed	7 Office Closed	8 Office Closed	9 Office Closed	10 Office Closed	11 Mobile Pantry
12 - 8:15am Bible Study Scrip Orders Due Worship with HC	13	14 -	15 11am - 1pm Pop Up Food Pantry	16	17	18 Garden Work Day
19 8:15am Bible Study Worship with HC	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 8:15am Bible Study Worship with HC	27	28	29	30	31	

## July Birthdays

2 - Philbert Wilcox Jr	10 - Steven Hadler	16 - Hillary Hempel	26 - Virginia Mazanek
5 - Ric Perez	11 - John Wilkins	18 - Mike Hadler	26 - Lisa Tipples
7 - Detrall Dearbone	12 - Annelies Pitz	18 - Robert Brown	29 - Tenley Bozzi
8 - Gay Svec	13 - Kathy Nelson	24 - Rob Blair	30 - Len Manzanek

2317 - 2329 South Wolf Road  
Hillside, IL 60162

Church phone - 708-562-5590

School phone - 708-562-5580

E-Mail: [general@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:general@immanuel-hillside.org)

[www.immanuel-hillside.org](http://www.immanuel-hillside.org)

**RETURN REQUESTED**

**POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL**

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**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.



**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