



Immanuel

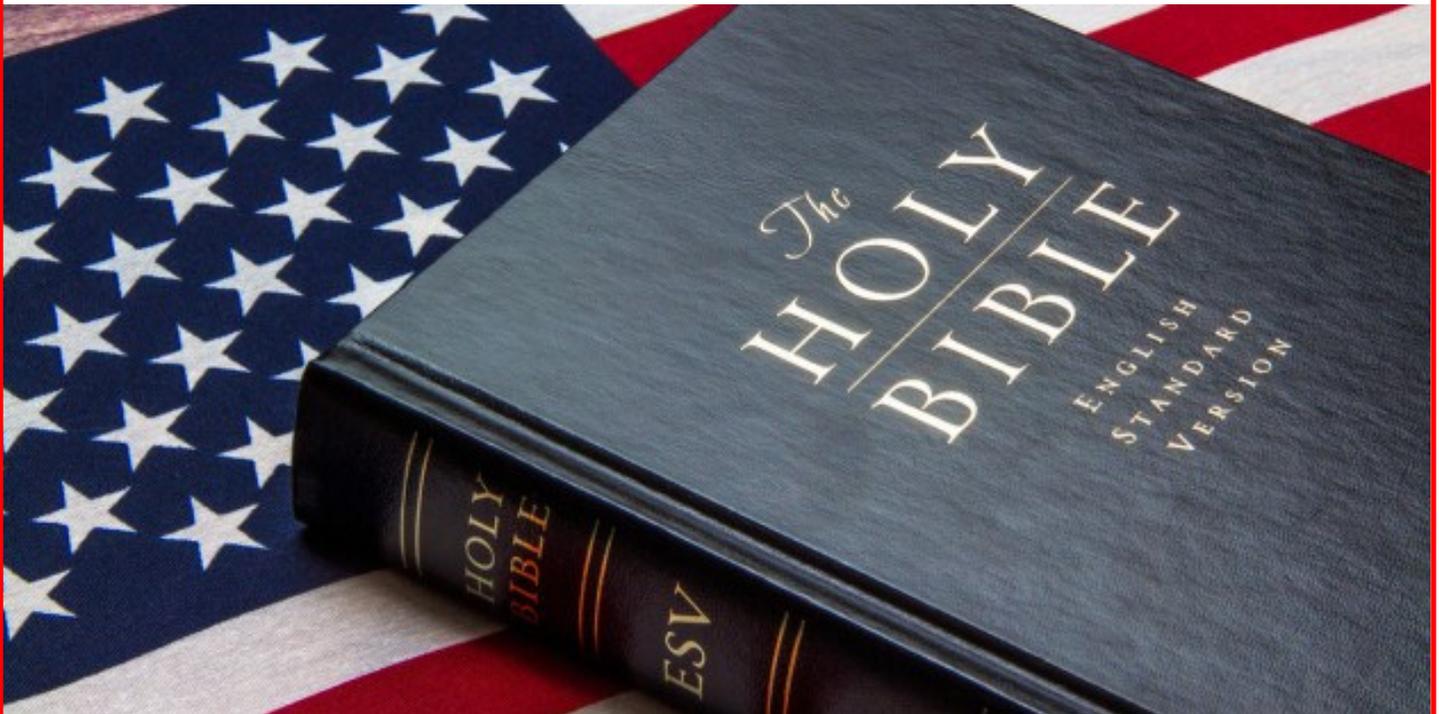
Lutheran Church

Love. Serve. Repeat.

1116 E. Devon Avenue
Bartlett, IL 60103

630-837-1166
immanuelbartlett@sbcglobal.net
www.ImmanuelLutheranBartlett.com

July 2020



Pastor Bauman's weekly sermons as well as pastoral letters are emailed to those who have given us their email addresses, and sent to others by regular mail. The emails contain a link to a video of the sermon on YouTube. Please be sure that the office has your latest contact information. Thank you!

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

It's hard not to be able to visit with family members face to face. Phone calls and texting and internet zoom meetings are helpful, but not the same.

I have missed seeing my grandchildren during this pandemic. I'm missing out on seeing them grow. And I definitely miss gathering for worship with my family in Christ.



Preaching to empty pews without seeing faces is challenging. I am used to watching faces to gauge whether a point I am making is being received. Writing pastoral letters without knowing if they are being read and how they are received is the same.

Not that I am complaining. We certainly can give thanks for modern communications. But being with real people, in the flesh, seems so much more satisfying. I know that many of you are looking forward to that being possible again, and wondering when it will be. And I do very much appreciate the contacts I continue to have by means of phone or computer.

At this time we do not have a date certain for re-opening the church building at Immanuel. It will likely be at least in later July, and possibly August.

As a Visitation Pastor for a larger congregation, Prince of Peace in Palatine, I am very aware that the virus is still not in check and not to be ignored. So I am personally cautious about re-opening, but at the same time hoping to return to some sense of "normal" as soon as possible. I know that many of you have similar mixed feelings.

All that reminds me of a very comforting Scripture passage, one that seems especially meaningful in these days when we have to maintain distance from one another-- Psalm 139. Our God is very close to each one of us, and we remain together in His care:

"O Lord, You have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down AND ARE ACQUAINTED WITH ALL MY WAYS. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay Your hand upon me...."

"Where shall I go from Your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand

shall lead me and Your right hand shall hold me.” So, in the words of the popular song composed by Jeremiah Rankin for his church choir:

“God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you;
With His sheep securely fold you.
God be with you till we meet again!”

Pastor Bauman



P.S. GREAT BIG THANK YOUS to our Treasurer Bob Brinkman, who has also been overseeing property matters, and can be seen at church working on one project or another most every day. And, again to Dick Zoellick for regular work on the lawn and flower beds. And to John Moninger for many hours every week spent on lawn care and videoing the Sunday sermon along with musical offerings by organist Paul Lindblad!



**You can
never go
where
God is not!**

July Birthdays

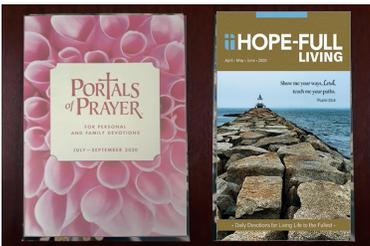
Tom Wachter	07/06	Kaylee Anderson	07/17
Malaiah Guerra	07/07	James Bauman	07/27
Sharon Mulligan	07/14	Dana Duty	07/30



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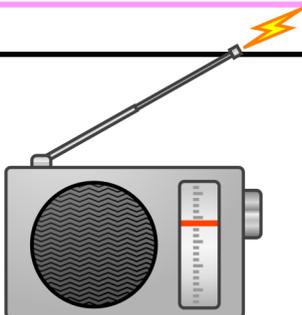
Remember: Every little bit adds up!



Portals of Prayer/Hope-Full Living

Portals of Prayer has been a favorite devotional of generations of Concordia Publishing House readers, a timeless daily source of strength and comfort since 1937. In addition to the *Portals of Prayer* quarterly print publication, CPH also offers it as a digital app. A new resource CPH is introducing this fall is the *Portals of Prayer Devotional Bible*, which weaves more than 700 devotions into the entire ESV translation of Scripture. Learn more at cph.org/portalsbible. *Hope-Full Living* is a newer devotional booklet with daily devotions and especially written for older adults. Many who have used it report finding it very helpful.

The latest edition of *Portals of Prayer*,... also in large print and *Hope-Full Living* are available to be mailed to you by calling the church office at (630) 837-1166.



✝ **KFUO RADIO**

KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts!

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Treasurer's Report July 2020



Hello members and friends of Immanuel.

Finances

Offerings for June were \$7,297 compared to \$12,562 for June 2019, thanks to 24 Giving Units. It is encouraging to see our Giving Units increased from 22 to 24 this past month. Thank you to all members and friends who have been mailing in or dropping off Offerings the past few months. According to my records, Immanuel has a total of 44 Giving Units. Let's see if we can increase those Giving Units further in July and increase our income. Last July's income was \$8,082, so we're not too far off. Are you an unaccounted for Giving Unit? Let's try to increase our active Giving Units closer to the goal of 44 during the month of July.

Immanuel's expenses for June 2020 were \$10,036 compared to \$16,427 for June 2019.

There were a few items minimizing Immanuel's expenses for this past June:

- Waste service was discontinued for May and June for a savings of \$160 each month.

- However, we still owe \$160 for April which was put on hold without penalty or interest until we restart service which will occur in the next few days.

- Com Ed payments due for April (\$337) and May (\$252) were put on hold penalty and interest free pending payment in June (\$352), with an option to elect a payment plan to spread payments over 3 to 6 months for an interest charge of \$314 to \$470. We elected to pay the full amount due (\$941) interest free.

We do have a single large Life Safety capital expense pending which has been partially completed and paid to date involving a 5 year State required test and repair of our sprinkler system throughout the church. The test and certain repairs have been completed and paid for at a cost of \$935 in June. However, we detected a leak in part of the system a while after the work was completed. Long story short, the cost to determine corrections and replace the leaking pipe and connection has been estimated to be \$1,885. Terry Kainz and I need to meet to determine if this can be delayed and/or cost negotiated with our contractor.

A more pleasant topic . . .

Immanuel's landscape crew (John Moninger, Bob B. and Dick Zoellick) continue to care for landscaping and lawn mowing. In June Dick trimmed all of Immanuel's shrubs in front of the church and John sprayed weeds growing between the sidewalks and the driveway areas. Next we'll be spraying to kill the weeds within the parking areas.

Please notice from the current photos in this newsletter the landscape improvements from the previous two issues. The plants and flowers are growing and filling in well to their summertime beauty enhancing the appearance of Immanuel in case you don't drive by or are unable to do so right now. **BUT** unfortunately there is one problem which continues to get worse with time - - -

the weeds are growing just as quickly as the plants and shrubs. We need some volunteers to help clear out the weeds. No experience needed (just bring your work gloves, a few tools for light digging and water to drink). Weeds provided. **Volunteers needed.** It's a great opportunity to get out of the house for a little while. Please practice **Social Distancing**, but please visit with the other volunteers.



And . . . Pastor Bauman has been providing his weekly Sermons to us for several weeks now and I hope you are finding them valuable to your spiritual growth during these trying times. Because many of us are truly locked down, sometimes we just need something extra during the week to reinforce our spiritual needs. I'd like to share the website of **Grace Lutheran, St. Cloud, FL** that Brenda and I attend when wintering in Florida. We love it so much that we "attend" service on-line on Sunday morning or as the need arises. Videos are posted dating back to May 10th, the date this church reopened for church services. If you would like to view Pastor Obermann's service:

To connect, pull up this church's Website on Internet, click website, click Worship, click Video, click on specific date of service to view (if you watch the live service, it should automatically appear a few minutes prior to service at 9am Chicago time).

Once in, it will show the minutes before service begins. You'll also find the church bulletin to the right of the church service. You can go back and forth between service and bulletin to follow printed bible readings and hymns. Hope you find this enjoyable.

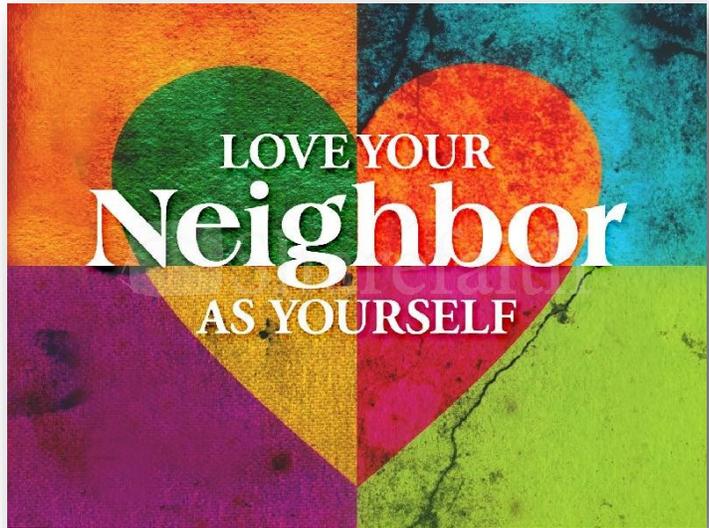
And . . . Don't forget about our members and friends at Clare Oaks. Take a moment to drop them a note and see how they are doing. Please refer to the May Newsletter where names and address to send a note was provided.

Blessings to all.
Bob Brinkman
Treasurer

Statement on the death of George Floyd and the ensuing riots

June 2, 2020

Discriminatory treatment of human beings on the basis of race is irrational evil and results in evil. It is folly, which can produce only anger and hatred. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” America’s original sin of legal racism, the denial of human rights based on race, has reaped the whirlwind.



God’s Word rejects racism. “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). “No one is righteous, no, not one” (Romans 3:10). “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). All are equally created by God. All are equally accountable to God. The sins of all are equally atoned for by Christ. All are equally precious to God. Racial animosity is the result of sin and is sin in itself. Racism is not acceptable in the church. Jesus Himself bids us love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:31) and did so precisely while rejecting racial preference (cf. Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25–37).

Unity in the church according to the Augsburg Confession is defined by Article VII: “For it is sufficient for the true unity of the Christian church that the Gospel be preached ... and that the sacraments be administered in accordance with the divine Word.” Christ and His gifts bring unity and equity in the church. Racial discrimination in or by the church is sin. Racial conflict in our nation calls every Christian to introspection. “It is time for judgment to begin at the household of God” (1 Peter 4:17). “Righteous indignation” without self-reflection and repentance is meaningless, or worse, hypocrisy.

The one who grievously and unjustly took the sacred gift of life from George Floyd — resulting in a charge of 3rd-degree murder — will, ironically, be given the very thing he denied his victim, due process of the law. Justice must be meted out according to the law. Others may be charged.

We weep for George Floyd, for his family and loved ones because he was robbed of life. We weep for our nation. We weep for those across our nation who believe their only recourse is destruction. We weep for police officers everywhere, who carry out their honorable vocations with courage and goodwill but find their task infinitely more challenging and dangerous in the wake of the sad events in Minneapolis. We pray for the safety of all and the welfare of those who have lost property and livelihood. We pray for the police who must stand against mayhem. We support the First Amendment rights of the peaceful protestors.

We deplore injustice. We deplore destruction, robbery and doing physical harm to others. That, too, is injustice. We plead to citizens and governments of this nation for communities beset by poverty, crime

and injustice. We plead for rational and unifying policies that will end injustices and address social breakdown, lack of economic access, and other factors that fuel anger, hatred and dissension.

We shall pray, but we shall do even more. We shall follow the ancient mandate of the prophet of Yahweh: “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8).

And we shall proclaim Christ, “in season and out of season” (2 Timothy 4:2). “For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:7–8).

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 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 3:1–17 ESV).

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

