

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**5955 S. Elm Ave.**  
**Fresno, CA 93706**



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### **Ministry Staff**

**Pastor:** Rev. Taylor Stempniak  
**Youth Director:** Jacob Wood  
**Office Secretary/Chimes Editor:**  
Victoria Salwasser  
**Organist:** Laurel Jacobsen  
**Sound & Technology:**  
Christian Jensen & Jacob Wood

### **Immanuel's Church Council**

**President:** Fred Cogan  
**Vice President:** Kristi Hollenbeck  
**Council Secretary:** Allyson Kahn  
**Financial Secretary:** Sharon Reynolds  
**Treasurer:** Laura Nielsen  
**Trustees:** Noah Cisneros, Jim Hansen, Karl Nielsen,  
**Deacons:** Carol Bennetts, Gina Cogan,  
John Jensen, Barbara Petersen &  
Cindy Tews  
**Women's Ministry President:** Victoria Salwasser

*Return Service Requested*

# The Immanuel Chimes June 2021



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church  
5955 South Elm Avenue  
Fresno, (Easton) California 93706  
Church (559) 237-7909

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**Pastor:** [ptmarie96@gmail.com](mailto:ptmarie96@gmail.com)  
**Youth Director:** [youth@immanueleaston.com](mailto:youth@immanueleaston.com)

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE SUNDAYS**  
9:00AM Sunday School for all ages via Zoom  
10:30AM Worship & Communion

**Online worship link:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCEvC2vAmozUVexp1qUNMgTg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEvC2vAmozUVexp1qUNMgTg)

## From our Pastor

I remember the first time I cried while making dinner. I had been halfway through making a sauce with the chicken in the oven and I realized that I was missing a key ingredient, and while I was rushing to find a substitute, something else started burning. Nothing was turning out right and Luke was in town—a special treat since we lived six hours apart at the time. I got so frustrated, I burst into tears. As soon as he realized what was going on, he came into the kitchen and wrapped me in a hug. “Hey, dinner isn’t the main thing here. I came to see you.” At the time, this was a small comfort. Part of my brain had convinced me, even though we had been dating for years and even though we were engaged, that I had to earn his love through dinners or gifts or jokes, even though he had never told me that or treated me that way. But the relationship, the time we spent together, and the way we prioritized each other over distractions—that was the man thing. It’s important in life to take moments and assess: “Hey, what is the main thing here?”

And there’s a simple place I go: The First Commandment. “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt and slavery, you shall have no other God’s before me.” There are so many distractions in my life. Work, sports, extracurricular stuff, politics, housework, and many, many other things that all threaten to pull my focus away at any given moment. What’s tricky is all of those things are important and even good! Until they become the center of my life. I love my job. I love watching a good ball game and keeping a tidy house, but what starts off as a distraction can quickly become the most important thing on any given day. It becomes what I channel my energy and love into. Even Church on Sunday mornings can become distracting if we’re careless. Suddenly, the type of music that we play, the color of the carpets, or symbols in our sanctuary become more important to us than the God we’re there to worship, pulling our focus away from the only thing meant to be central to us. Life can be so loud that it’s easy to become distracted. It’s easy to latch onto other things and convince ourselves “This is the most important thing.” It seems harmless enough for a while until we realize what we’re willing to give up. I’ll neglect devotions before I’m late to the job. I’ll forget prayer before I forget the dishes in my sink. I’ll even leave the church when scripture starts to challenge me a little too much before I let the word of God transform my heart. That’s the risk we run when we try to make other little gods that look like us, talk like us, and think exactly like us. It becomes easy to justify distraction or neglect or even anger.

That’s exactly why God gave us this commandment first.

Because it’s not just an order. It’s a promise about our relationship with



## Immanuel's Library!

Summer Reading plan for Children and Adults gets a bit physical! ChurchArt.com has a great plan to keep us active including activities to do after reading referenced scripture. You can go at your own pace but keep going... a special “prize” waits at the end of the race! When you are tired and your faith feels weak, trust Jesus to give you strength. Invite your friends and family to participate with you. Pick up the reading plans on the table under the gold bulletin board.

## Bit's from Bethel Lutheran Home

We at Bethel, are all taking in a deep breath of fresh air as we begin to feel a little bit of normalcy with the decline of COVID. The distribution of the vaccination has proven to be very successful!

Also, our residents are now able to have visitors, as long as the visitors have been vaccinated and for those who are not, we offer rapid testing. We celebrated “Nursing Home Week” with a BBQ in our park for all of our Bethel residents on May 14, with board members happy to be do all of the BBQ’ing.

As you already know about our beloved Bethel Lutheran Home, you may not know we also offer an **Independent Living side called, The Village**. Which is comprised of 36 adorable cottages in a beautiful, serene park-like setting. We’re so excited to announce that we are offering, for our 1st time ever, a **\$99 move-in special** We also invite you to join us for a tour of The Village Cottages, which also includes a complimentary restaurant style meal. Please contact us today with any questions or to book an appointment.

If you are looking for residency for yourself or a loved one, please call us at 559-896-4900 or visit us at [www.bethellutheranhome.org](http://www.bethellutheranhome.org).

Stay Safe & God Bless!

Stephanie Carreiro

Village Services Coordinator.

The Village at Bethel Lutheran Home

559-896-4900 ext. 123

# In Celebration of Our Members

## June 2021

### Birthdays

3-Dennis Wynn  
-Joseph Orozco  
12-David Terrones  
13-Linda Wozniczka  
Phil Tews  
Garrett Caglia  
17-Diane Mehrten  
18-Lee Terkelsen  
19-Jennifer Cisneros  
24-Andrew Severin  
25-Debbie Goff



### Wedding Anniversaries

18-Laurel Jacobsen & Randy McFarland ( 22)  
19-Shane & Sue Johnson (28)  
21-Aaron & Terra Harding (7)  
26-Fred & Gina Cogan (29)  
28- Kurt & Laura Wolfe (7)

### Baptismal Birthdays

2-Bobby Bell  
Randy McFarland  
3-Kendal Anderson  
5-Verna Koslan  
10-Florence Johnston  
11-Kristi Hollenbeck  
12-Bonnie Terkelsen  
17-Emerson Linger  
22-Lois Rasmussen  
25-Elizabeth Petersen  
29-Gaye Cissel  
30-Mim Gould



him. We retire from our jobs, sports seasons and school years end, politicians disappoint us or lead us astray, and housework is often thankless. All of these things may contain joy, but they also contain moments of disappointment, moments of broken promises, moments of deception, and all of them will eventually come to an end. God doesn't, and neither does his relationship with us. God's first commandment to us is that we put our trust in him, and he will challenge us, but he will not leave us to slavery or Egypt or sin or death. We don't have to have a perfect faith, where we earn his love through perfect prayers or huge offerings. All we have to do is focus our faith on him, and be willing to leave behind those distractions that try to convince us that there are other things more important to us.

He has dominion over this earth and all within it, so he will set me free from all that plagues me, and instead, lead me in the ways of his goodness. There are times where God asks me to do things I don't want to do. There are times God asks me to rethink beliefs or parts of my life I had always taken for granted. There are times God asks me to make sacrifices for my neighbor or for my church, and I do those things because I trust the promise that God has given me—that he alone is my God, not my neighbor who judges me or the sin that tempts me, just God. There's nothing else so big I should be distracted by it. There's nothing else more important that I would leave my God behind for it, and there's nothing more powerful that can threaten me where my God has already promised to rescue me. If I am living my life centered on God, then God's ways become my own. I will stumble, but my love for him will always bring me back to a solid foundation, where I can rest my feet. And more than that, when my life starts to rattle me because I am disappointed or hurt or scared, I am given the opportunity to feel those emotions, but my hope still remains because God has promised that all things are in his hands, all power is his, and the promise of grace is found in him. What God could I hope for before him? At the end of the day that's the main thing: That the Lord, my God, brought me out of death and sin, and I will have no more God's before him because he has already promised all that I could need for my soul. His first command to us is a reminder, a promise that a relationship with his people is what the Lord seeks in each moment of each day. Praise be to God for his love for us!

Blessings to you,  
Pastor Taylor

I AM  
the LORD  
your God...  
You shall have  
NO  
other gods  
before Me.



Exodus 20:3

Missing your birthday or anniversary on this page? Please notify Victoria at [office@imanualeaston.com](mailto:office@imanualeaston.com) or by phone at 237-7909 and we will add you in.

# Prayer Focus For the Week

**Week of 6-7-2021. Focus on God's enduring love.** Psalms 107:1 NIV.  
"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."

**Week of 6-14-2021. Focus on the completeness of the LORD's Prayer.** Matthew 6:9-13 NIV. "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one'."

**Week of 6-21-2021. Focus on our fathers and the father of all fathers.** 2 Corinthians 6:18 NIV. "And, I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty."

**Week of 6-28-2021. Focus on our graduates.** Proverbs 9:9 NIV.  
"Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning."

**Friends and Family of Immanuel in need of healing prayers:** Sandy Britter under treatment for bone cancer; Ed Bordin, Sandy Britter's cousin, kidney cancer treatment; Gaye Cissel, recovering from pancreatitis; Pastor Gary Gould, heart issues, diabetes, difficulty breathing; Al & Judy Hooper, Judy's broken arm, Al battling strength and stability and mobility issues; Florence Johnston undergoing cancer treatments; Don Nielsen undergoing cancer treatments; Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen, Glenn battling memory issues, strength and peace for Marilyn as caregiver; Andre Oudum, principal of House of Hope Cambodia School, recovering from Hepatitis; Christie & Don Pettitt, Christie recovering from 3rd hip replacement and Don battling COPD; Virginia Pilegard battling cancer; Mandi Powell battling COVID-19; Freida Rice, John Reynolds' cousin with breast cancer; Beatrice Salazar, undergoing cancer treatment; Jimmy Stricklin, Victoria Salwasser's cousin, battling severe weakness and lack of strength, heart problems and diabetes; Aslak Syse, friend of Laurel Jacobsen, battling cancer; Timm Trickett, battling Amyloidosis; Caitlin Tyler, friend of Jennifer Perez, living with Rhett's Syndrome & Lymphoma; Mark & Kami Waggoner, Kami is Sharon Reynolds' cousin and the caregiver for her husband, Mark, battling intense cancer; & Joe Wozniczka, Lee Terkelsen's brother-in-law, who battles many health issues.

Tithing is not a membership fee, and as your pastor, I do not have a secret number I expect anyone to give each week. Instead, let us think of tithing for what it is: a spiritual practice that asks us to look at the gifts the Lord has given us— ourselves, our time, and our possessions— and asks us how we can use each of these blessings to serve the Kingdom of God. I ask that you let prayer and the Holy Spirit guide you on how you give to the church—through financial or volunteer means. Ultimately, tithing is an act of praise and trust for our God, we are praying, "Lord, I am giving to your church through service or donation because I trust you to take what you have given me and use it to build your kingdom up, so that all may see how loving and good you are." And the Lord, who is good, answers those prayers with generosity and faithfulness to his children.

In Christ,  
Pastor Taylor  
[Ptmari96@gmail.com](mailto:Ptmari96@gmail.com)  
(803)767-5128

## Thank you from House of Hope!

Dear Immanuel,

Last time when you visited, you asked me, as we have just one bike (motor scooter), if we are in need of another one. I told you we are fine with one bike and instead of a bike, we need a printer and if it is ok with you, can you buy a printer for us? You gave us money and we bought a printer. During November 2020 to the second week of March 2021, schools were opened. This year, as I have two kids who are in grade 12, they have to go for tuition classes and their schedules are different. They go to school by bicycle, but for tuition classes till 8:00 at night, bicycle is difficult. I let one take the bike and another go with his friend. But going with a friend is sometimes not the best thing and I said we need to pray for a bike. We were praying for it and this time, through your church, God answered our prayer. We never received this much of support at one time, so this is clear that this is an answer to our prayer for a bike.

All glory and praise to God who answered our prayer according to our need. This is just awesome.

Sincerely,  
Biaki

Thank you to all who supported House of Hope in Cambodia through our Lenten offerings. Immanuel was blessed to donate \$2,613.00.

## *Financially Speaking...*

Dear Immanuel Church Family,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ! It has been such a blessing to serve alongside Immanuel since I've arrived, and I give thanks for the ways that you have welcomed me into your community. Luke and I feel tremendously blessed to call Easton our home! It is the time of year where we send out giving statements to the congregation, and I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you! Thank you for the many ways that you have given and supported your church over the past year. I am so grateful for those of you who have volunteered to offer music, teach Sunday School, lead book studies, lock up after church, or offered your talents in other ways, and I am grateful for each of you who has given financially to help us care for our church building and, just as importantly, help us care for the Kingdom of God and help our neighbors in need.

I wanted to take time to update you on how your giving is being used and what the needs of the church are. At Immanuel, we continue to prioritize caring for our neighbor through financial support for the Fresno Mission, the Cambodian Orphanage, the NALC's disaster relief programs, and the support of missionaries, including several members of CRU from our very own congregation. We are grateful to have the means to support these faithful groups as they continue to care for our neighbors and live out the Great Commission by sharing the good news of the Gospel. We are also doing our best to maintain our church plant so that we will continue to have a welcoming environment that allows us to serve each of you and the community of Easton. This year, we have experienced new financial costs. We are moving forward with plans to remodel the Social Hall, and we give thanks for your support as we continue to raise funds for the project. While the Social Hall is a wonderful opportunity for the future of this church, the church bell, part of the history of Immanuel and Easton, is in desperate need of repair, and to have it done by a qualified craftsman will cost us around \$3,000. These costs, combined with the new costs of managing online worship, the technology we need to broadcast it, and the cost of a fulltime pastor, have put a strain on our budget this year, and all I ask is that you pray about how you can best support your church at this time.

We don't often talk about tithing in the church because we view it as strictly money, and that's an uncomfortable subject. I am well aware that this is a time of financial uncertainty for many of us. So I want to stress:

## *COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic*

Immanuel will be hosting a COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic on June 3rd from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m. If you or your friends or neighbors would like to be vaccinated, please contact the church office for more information. If you have any questions about the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine for you or your family, please contact your primary care physician or you can call the church office 237-7909 and we will provide you with medical pamphlets explaining the pros, cons, and safety behind the COVID-19 vaccination. We are excited to offer this opportunity to the community of Easton, as we work to make our town a safer place! Thanks be to God for our doctors and nurses who have cared for those affected by this disease and medical researchers who have helped develop this vaccine.

## *Refuge at Immanuel*

Happy Summer Immanuel,

Just a few quick announcements regarding youth ministry.

- Reminder: If you have a student who is going to be a 6th grader in the fall, they are welcome to join us on Wednesday nights!
- We will be meeting at 6:00PM and dinners will be provided for students. We will not be taking a break during the summer.
- With dinners being provided, we are looking for people to help provide dinners to serve about 13-15 people per week. Sign ups are in the the Narthex.
- Youth are selling \$30.00 Sal's Vouchers enchiladas or burritos.

Pastor Taylor and I are discussing what Sunday school may be like in the fall, so stay tuned!

Jacob Wood, Youth Director at Immanuel

## *Sympathy Love & Prayers*

Funeral services for Myrtle Terkelsen-Klinkby who lived eight months beyond her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday were held May 17. Myrtle was a sister to Ken Terkelsen and the last surviving of 20 sisters, brothers and in-laws to Bonnie. She grew up in Caruthers where she was confirmed at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. She married husband Evan at Immanuel. Later, she and Evan moved to Fresno and became members of Grace Lutheran Church where their pastor was George Demant, father of former Immanuel Pastor Paul Demant. Her latest membership was at Bethel Lutheran Church. She is survived by daughter, Christine (Thom) Cerda, and son, Charles; and preceded in death by Evan, Ken and sister Marjorie Klinkby.

# Journey

So this is going to be my Seinfeld Journey offering.

Seinfeld, of course, was a sitcom from the early '90's and was billed as the show about nothing. It followed four friends as they lived their pointless lives. Jonathan and Seth could quote whole episodes verbatim. There you go, a pointless point.

So then, this Journey is going to be some random thoughts and I'm not sure at this moment how many that will be. We'll find out together. Some of them will end in an opinion and some will not.

The first one is something I've thought about off and on for years, many years. That is the notion of an organized church. Not only Immanuel, but all churches. Now, for sure, I love Immanuel. I like the facilities, I like the location, I like the spirit of what we do here. But overwhelmingly, I love you, the people. I love the things that we do together, especially the things that reach out to those who need to know someone cares about them: Fresno Mission, Breaking Grounds, FCA., the blood drive, youth, etc. Those things all have one thing in common: they look out beyond our walls. They're all inclusive missions. But here's what I often ponder. What would Jesus think or have to say about all this organization—possessing property, building buildings, budgets, stained glass windows and on and on. I picture him asking, "How did you get from me sitting on a hill side telling you to love and care for one another to all this?" We've turned some of the things he said into formal rituals and ceremonies. I just wonder if he would prefer we just invite people over for a meal and tell them who he is and what he has done for us. If he meant just to remember him and what he did before we eat. Anyway, that's just where my mind goes sometimes. Understand I'm not suggesting we change anything; maybe just remind ourselves why we have all this stuff.

Next. We have had some really great youth groups over the years. I know, I had one back in the early '70's. Back then, it was called Luther League, which, of course, meant nothing if you weren't Lutheran. I will claim partial credit for moving away from Luther League to just the youth group. So much more inclusive. I think we have always had dedicated youth leaders. I don't want to give him a big head, but having been a youth leader and watching subsequent leaders, I am so proud of Jacob and his work with the our youth. Honorable mention to his faithful assistant, Al. If he has faults, and I know we all do, he makes up for with it unconditional love and enthusiasm for his kids. Good job Jacob. It's just one of those things I think about often.

# Immanuel News Notes

**Immanuel Grants Scholarships to WUHS students!** Every year, Immanuel gives a \$500.00 scholarship to a senior attending a Christian College as part of our budgeted benevolence for the year. Most Christian colleges offer a church match program where the student receives a matching amount up to \$500.00 from their university if they receive a scholarship from a church. This year, the award went to Breanna Gutierrez who will be attending Fresno Pacific University in August and major in nursing. The crew at **Breaking Grounds Café** decided to donate a scholarship again this year even though we were unable to interact with the students and get to know them. The staff at Washington Union chose Larissa Venegas to receive the \$500.00 scholarship. Larissa plans to attend Point Loma Nazarene University in the fall.

**Beverly Marie Hansen** was born to Mike and Olivia Hansen on 4/28/2021. She was 8.2 pounds and 20.5 inches and three weeks early. We are so thankful she is healthy and thriving! Her grandparents are Jim and Fran Hansen. Her great grandparents are Gail Hansen, and Jack and Bev Reed.

Fran Hansen is starting a new business-**Miss Fran's Online Tutoring Service**. She will be working with 3-year olds through fifth graders. Specialized lessons will be provided for children on an IEP, early childhood development, kindergarten readiness, and language development. Please contact her at 559-419-0030 or [missfrantutoring@gmail.com](mailto:missfrantutoring@gmail.com) for more information.

**Mark and Victoria Salwasser** spent time in April visiting Llewellyn Ostergard in North Carolina and attending the World of Outlaws Sprint Car Races at Bristol Motor Speedway in Tennessee. They enjoyed the beautiful gardens at the Biltmore Castle in Waynesville and enjoyed every second of their time with Llewellyn and Kitty-O. They also had a great time running in to Kristi Carlton and Tim in Waynesville.

**Thank you Blood Donors on May 16th!** We collected 17 pints of much needed blood that Sunday. Please sign up for the 2021 drives!

07.16.21 <https://signup.com/go/vOYSOuN>

09.19.21 <https://signup.com/go/EKoaJp>

11.21.21 <https://signup.com/go/wabVKef>

Blood Drives are 9 weeks apart so if you miss on our Sunday, you are able to donate the week after to keep on our 8-week schedule.

## College Graduations

**Matthew Nielsen** (son of Mike & Laura Nielsen, grandson of Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen) will be graduating from CalPoly University on June 12. He graduates with a BS in Environmental Management & Protection with a Biology minor and a concentration in Wildlife Biology. Matthew will continue working for the Ag chemical research company that he has worked for this last year.



**Audra Salwasser** (daughter of Mark & Victoria Salwasser and granddaughter of Marie Salwasser) graduates from University California of Los Angeles on June 11, 2021 with a Bachelors of Science in Biology. She is very excited to be done with school for awhile and will begin the job search after graduation. She is interested in water preservation and hopes to share her passion for protecting our environment as her career path.



## *Pregnancy Care Center Change 4 Babies*

Immanuel continues to support the Change 4 Babies campaign for the Pregnancy Care Center. Your change can change lives! The Pregnancy Care Center is a faith-based, life-affirming, non-profit medical clinic that provides free and confidential services and resources to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies. PCC provides a safe environment where clients can learn truth, gain hope and feel confident about their pregnancy. Their services include medical, advocacy, resources and education. They help thousands of people through difficult situations and guide them to Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

Immanuel has baby bottles on the worship supply table. Simply take it home, fill with your change and return by Father's day, June 20th. Your contribution helps men and women find support through options, education, pregnancy loss support, and much more. Thank you for your support.

And finally in this episode of Seinfeld Journey. I go back to where this Journey began. Caregivers. I think we under estimate the value of caregivers. Institutional caregivers, I guarantee you, are under paid, over worked and underappreciated. It's one thing to care for someone you love, but it's another thing to care for someone you don't have that emotional bond with. Next time you go to a care facility, engage a caregiver and tell them how important they are. Non-institutional caregivers have seen God's face! They understand sacrificial love like not many do. If you care for your spouse, sibling, child or grandchild, your aunt or uncle, your cousin or other relation, you not only are a blessing, you are blessed. God has given you an opportunity to walk in his sandals. Embrace that gift and know you are called by God.

So that's my Seinfeld Journey for now. Please feel free to agree or disagree with any of my musings. Let me know. I'll be waiting for you at Moe's Diner.

As you well know, my musical taste runs to '70's rock and roll, no apologies from me. But one of my favorite songs of all time is a poem written by Carl Boberg and put to music in 1885.

Then sings my Soul, My Savior God to Thee.  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art...  
When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart...  
How great Thou art. How great Thou art.

Love you guys,  
John

## *NALC District Relief Team*

The NALC disaster relief team is looking for a place to store a trailer. The trailer is going to be converted into a shower trailer to be taken to disaster areas for our relief teams to use. For now, we are looking for a secure place with power available so volunteers can install the necessary shower stalls, water tanks, etc. The work would most likely be done on the weekends. Our project planner is from Kingsburg, so we are hoping to find somewhere here, rather than further north. After it is built, we will be looking for long term storage so when disaster help teams go out, they can grab the trailer and go. If you have a space that you are willing to let us use, let Marcia Hollenbeck know at 269-7299.

# APPLE Method Bible Study

This month I want to talk about a simple Bible study method called the APPLE Method.

The APPLE Method is helpful when you want a quicker method of studying a passage. To begin this Bible study, gather your supplies. You will need a Bible, colored pens or highlighters, paper, and possibly a journal.

After setting up our Bible study time and space and beginning with prayer, we are ready to begin. Choose a passage to study. You can use a chapter or just a paragraph. Read through your passage a couple of times. You might want to read it in multiple versions, too, if you have time.

Next, you will read through the passage looking for each of the five letters of APPLE. APPLE is an acronym. The A stands for Attributes of God. Choose a color (I use purple) and underline or highlight in your Bible any attributes of God that you find. If you are like me and find it hard to write in books, you can also use a piece of paper and list any attributes of God you find. When doing this type of study, it is important that you only find things actually written in God's word and not make inferences. The goal here is to study God's word for us, not our own ideas.

You will continue going through the passage and identifying each of the other four things. The first P stands for Promises of God. Choose a different color (I use blue) and underline or list God's Promises in your passage. The second P is Principles for Life (green). Read through the passage and find any principles you can apply to your life there. L stands for Lessons Learned. Choose a color (orange) and find all of the lessons you can learn from your passage. Finally, E stands for Examples to Follow. Choose your color (red) and find all the examples you hear God telling you to follow.

The final step is to journal what you learned. Putting your thoughts and inspirations on paper helps to solidify the process. This can be as long or as short as is meaningful to you.

I have included a short passage for you to try studying using the APPLE method. It is blank at first. After you have finished, and after the blank passage, I have included my version both marked in the passage and listed. Do not worry if what you marked is different than mine. God may be telling you something different than He told me. The Bible is a living word and God speaks through it. I just thought it might be helpful to have a completed example.

God bless you all.  
Marcia Hollenbeck

& Marilyn Nielsen) started her school career in our little town of Easton at the Learning Center. From there she attended kindergarten at her mom's alma mater as a Pacific Union Skunker. She entered into the Fowler school district in the first grade and is now a co-salutatorian graduating senior. Sadly, she hasn't gotten to have the full senior experience with, of course, the saddest being no grad night at Disneyland. But thankfully, she does get some end-of-the-year events, including prom, top ten senior and scholarship recognition ceremonies. Brittney has been accepted into all 6 colleges that she applied to, including Pepperdine. As much as Pepperdine would have been a dream to attend, the full tuition scholarship at Cal Poly was too good to pass up, so she will be an official Mustang in September!! In spite of Brittney having to walk through some of the most difficult years of her young life, her mom is beyond proud of the lady she has become and all of her amazing accomplishments. Her mother wishes her nothing but happiness for her future.



**Maddison Gifford** (daughter of Aaron & Christina Gifford and sister to Kaylee Hollenbeck) is graduating from Hoover High School this year. She is enrolled at Fresno City college to fulfill her general education requirements. She has already begun working a part-time job and is excited to see what God has in stores for her.



**Paige Messenlehner** (daughter of Chris & Kristin, granddaughter to Janet and Bill, and great-granddaughter to Art and Marian Olesen) will graduate on June 12th from Washington Union High School. She is one of several valedictorians with a 4.17 GPA. She also received the B'nai B'rith Student Athlete Scholarship for Washington Union High School. She has chosen to continue playing softball while furthering her education at the University of Redlands. She will be pursuing a degree in Psychology.



## Immanuel Graduates in 2021

**Kaylee Bennetts** is being promoted this year from Tioga Middle School where she was an honor student and played the viola in her school orchestra. She is the goalie for her Alliance travel soccer team and has enjoyed playing for a number of years. Kaylee will attend Bullard High School next year where she hopes to play more soccer!

**Hilary Gardner** will be promoted from Sutter Junior High School to Fowler High School. Hilary will be graduating 8th grade and is doing incredible after the year of 2021. She will follow in her sister's footsteps at Fowler High. Her mother wishes her nothing but happiness in high school.

**Isaac Orozco, Jr.** will graduate from Alvina Elementary School and attend Caruthers High School in August.

### High School

**Liberty Auer** (granddaughter to Mike & Carol Bennetts) is graduating from University High School where she has attended the past four years (on the CSU, Fresno campus). She was a member of GSA and played the euphonium in the orchestra. Liberty hasn't finalized plans for next year but hopes that the UHS seniors will be able to have a small graduation ceremony this year, pandemic permitting!



**Bethany Gardner** (daughter of Brad & Ericka Gardner, granddaughter of Lance & Barbara Petersen) will be graduating from Fowler High. She was a four-year varsity athlete and captain of her volleyball team, as well as a member of the swim team and color guard beginning her junior year. She has also been a coach for the Sea Dragons swim program in Fowler. She ends her high school career in the Top 10 of her class and will be recognized as a Salutatorian. She has chosen to attend Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ, and will be majoring in elementary education with a minor in STEM or special education. She is excited to experience life outside of CA and explore the "red rocks," although she will miss easy access to beaches!



**Brittney Gardner** (daughter of Susan Gardner & Josh Gardner and granddaughter of Glenn

## Psalm 1 (NRSV)

1 Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; 2 but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; 6 for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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5 Therefore **the wicked will not stand** in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
6 for the **LORD watches over the way of the righteous**, but the way of the wicked will perish.

### APPLE Method written out

**A – Attribute of God** = God is watchful over the righteous. (v.6)

**P – Promise of God** = Those who delight in God's law will yield fruit and prosper. (v. 2-3)

**P – Principle for life** = Do not follow the advice of the wicked. In other words, be careful who you listen to. (v.1)

**L – Lesson learned** = The wicked will not stand. (v. 5-6)

**E – Example to follow** = Be like the righteous who delight in God's laws and meditate on them night and day. (v.2)

Journal in your own words: I need to be sure I listen to God and not the wicked of the world. If I do, and study His word night and day, God will watch over me and make me fruitful and prosperous.

# Family Camp 2021

Family camp was reserved for **July 5th-12th Monday—Monday** at Loggers Flat Group Campground in the Sequoia National Forest. We have several families signed up to go camping in trailers and tents! It's going to be a lot of fun! If you are a weekend day camper or in for the whole week in the wilderness, this will be a place for serenity and peace. Please sign up if you plan to go up to Hume Lake, even if it's only for the day. We would like to have a quick meeting with those planning to go before the week begins.

Many have marveled at the Herculean efforts it took to construct the Great Pyramids in Egypt. Another Herculean effort – cutting down the largest trees in the world - occurred 125 years ago in our own backyard where Immanuel Lutheran Church gathers for Family Camp each summer. Lee Terkelsen has offered to take campers on a tour of the area to tell the story of the sequoia logging era.

It took 10 days to cut down one tree, but, perhaps, it was more challenging to transport the sequoia trees to the sawmill after they were cut down. The tour will include three stops: 1. Stump Meadow where one can overlook a sea of sequoia stumps, just a small portion of the 8000 sequoia trees that were cut down. 2. The sight of the sawmill. Very few people know where the sawmill was, though there remains lots of evidence on the forest floor. (This is also the home of 10 billion lady bugs, but they may have flown off by the time we are there.) 3. A bathroom stop. No, there are no bathrooms on this route, but Lee will show you what he discovered years ago when he hiked through the forest to go to the bathroom. It really shows how challenging it was to transport the trees to the sawmill.

Each stop is along a dirt road, but requires short easy hikes of less than a quarter of a mile. If time allows, we can also visit Hoist Ridge and the Chicago Stump, the remains of the tree that was put on display at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair.

Many of us enjoy a hike around the lake, followed by a stop at the Hume Lake canteen for a milkshake. Lee says there are some hidden historical sights and relics around the lake and is also willing to point those out if anyone is interested on another day during the camp.

Even if you are not planning to camp for several days, you can join either tour by driving up for the day. For the sequoia logging tour, let's plan to meet in camp at noon for lunch on Saturday, July 10, with the tour following lunch. The date for the hike around the lake will be announced later.

# Women's Ministry

**We got together again!** It was a great day on May 15th when the women of Immanuel gathered together after a long break waiting for the virus to pass through and get vaccinated down enough for stress-free enjoyable gatherings! We gathered at Country Roots in Sanger to shop and learn about succulents. The owner, Brynn, taught us about her passion for growing succulents and how to care for them. After we all picked our project and planted our succulents, we headed over to Sharon Reynolds' home for lunch and devotions read by Marcia Hollenbeck and visited a while longer. It was a great morning, simply invigorating to be together again for something fun with sisters in Christ. Some old friends, some new friends and some faithful regulars. We all had a great time.



**The next  
Women's Ministry Event  
will be on  
Tuesday June 29th  
Ice Cream Sundaes  
& Bunko!  
Check your Sunday  
Bulletin for more details.**

