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Immanuel Lutheran Church
5955 South Elm Avenue
Fresno, California 93706

Ministry & Staff

Pastor: Pastor Taylor Stempniak
Office Secretary/Chimes Editor: Victoria Salwasser
Organist: Laurel Jacobsen
Janitorial Support: Eva Orum & Marcus Orum

Immanuel's Church Council

President: Mark Salwasser
Vice President: Kristi Hollenbeck
Council Secretary: Allyson Kahn
Financial Secretary: Sharon Reynolds
Treasurer: Pat Griffin
Trustees: Daniel Hartwig, Mike Moser
Deacons: Carol Bennetts, Gina Cogan,
John Jensen, Allyson Nielsen
Women's Ministry President: Marcia Hollenbeck

Return Service Requested

The Immanuel Chimes



AUGUST 2023

READ THIS ONLINE AT

www.immanueleaston.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am
Worship and Communion at 10:30am

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church

5955 South Elm Avenue

Fresno, (Easton) California 93706

Church Phone Number (559) 237-7909

Church Office E-mail: office@immanueleaston.com

Pastor Taylor's E-mail: ptmarie96@gmail.com

Save the dates!

August 27th at 10:30AM will be a Country Gospel Service followed by an All Church Potluck after worship!

September 27-30, 2023 will be the dates for our Caruthers Fair Food Booth to support the Fresno Mission. This will be our 20th year hosting a booth!

Pastor's Page

When I was a little girl, I would, on very rare occasions, wake up before my brothers. I would tiptoe up the stairs into the play room and sit down to play Barbies with Jesus. This came about because I was an anxious child, who struggled with bedtime, but when we said our prayers at night, my mother always told me I didn't need to worry because Jesus was always right there with me. God was watching over me. I took that to mean that Jesus was also right there with me when I woke up, and, as a five year old girl, I didn't see any reason he wouldn't want to play Barbies. So when I got up early we'd play. Sometimes when I was changing the outfits on plastic dolls, I'd ask him to help my pre-school teacher who was sick or to send some rain for my neighbor's garden, but most of the time, I'd just chat about whatever I had planned for the day. I was going to see my grandma- he'd really like her. And we were going to go out on the lake later- wasn't that exciting. Just me, Jesus, and Barbie at eight in the morning. A different kind of morning prayer than the one I rise to recite these days, but a type of prayer, none the less.



Like a lot of young girls, there came a time where I packed away my Barbies and Polly Pockets, and I watched as my brothers lost interest in their trains and trucks. In the modern world, we have convinced ourselves that putting away childish things also means discarding the very act of play. We convince ourselves that there is something undignified about whimsy and imagination and silliness, and we begin taking ourselves far too seriously. We become afraid or prideful or far too busy to indulge the part of our mind that is fed by playfulness, but if I am being honest, many of the places I have felt the close to God are the places where I have allowed myself to let go of those things and indulge in the joy around me. I've had breakthroughs while I was praying on water skis behind a boat or teaching stubborn middle schoolers to sing silly gospel songs or playing Barbie with Jesus in the early morning.

NALC Disaster Response continues to:

- * Conduct disaster preparedness trainings: 9 disaster preparedness trainings and 1 "train the trainer" event, as we are training the mission district disaster coordinators to do training!
- * Twelve NALC Disaster Response Sundays have been held at this time. Gift cards are really needed!.
- * Coordinate servant event mission trips-20 volunteer teams of youth and adults have completed servant event mission trips to date-thank you Jesus!
- * Hold "Stuff the Truck" events—25 events have been held in addition to numerous deliveries to our warehouses. After the Arkansas tornado outbreak, we emptied 5 of our regional disaster warehouses and your help is needed to restock! Schedule a "Stuff the Truck" now...

For more information on how to volunteer and support NALC Disaster Response, please contact Mary Bates at 740-509-1132 or disasterresponse@thenalc.org.

Thank you and God bless you for all your prayers! Mary

Prayer Focus For Each Week

Week of 8-7-2023: Focus on calling on the Lord. Isaiah 8:9-10 NIV.

Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say, Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like the noonday."

Week of 8-14-2023: Focus on what is good. Micah 6:8 NIV. He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Week of 8-21-2023: Focus on God's protection. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 NIV. But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.

Week of 8-28-2023: Focus on God's love for us. Deuteronomy 7:9 NIV. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

NALC Disaster Response Report

From Mary Bates

Active Response: Your Help is Needed!

Kentucky flooding July 30, 2022— Over 25,000 homes were destroyed and 37 people died. NALC Disaster Response delivered 5 truckloads of emergency relief supplies and is currently scheduling 5 more and volunteer teams for long term recovery rebuilding, targeting Perry and Breathitt Counties.

Mosquito Wildfire September 7, 2022-This wildfire came within one mile of our congregation, New Hope Lutheran Church, in Foresthill, CA. NALC Disaster Response delivered 1 truckload of emergency relief supplies and is now scheduling volunteer teams to help rebuild homes in Georgetown and Volcanoville, just south of Foresthill.

Hurricane Ian September 28, 2022-A category 4 hurricane struck the Fort Myers, FL area, destroying thousands of homes and over 125 people died. NALC Disaster Response delivered 6 truckloads of emergency relief supplies and is currently established at Tri-County Baptist Church Port Charlotte and First Baptist Church Pine Island to house volunteer teams.

Ohio Train Derailment February 3, 2023-A Northfolk Southern train carrying hazardous cargo derailed in East Palestine, OH, a town of 4,047 families. Thirty-one pallets of cleaning supplies/flood buckets have been delivered through our NALC congregation, Good Hope Lutheran, in Boardman, OH.

Arkansas Tornado Outbreak March 31, 2023—Over 200 tornadoes broke out in AK the evening of March 31st, proceeding through 7 states: Arkansas, Iowa, Missouri, Tennessee, Illinois, Indiana, and Mississippi. Thousands of homes are destroyed and over 30 people died. The town of Wynne, AR is wiped out. Regional disaster warehouses delivered emergency relief supplies to Keota and Hedrick in Iowa, Whiteland in Indiana, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, Little Rock Arkansas and Wynne Arkansas, and several additional communities. Long term recovery will be extensive.

Oklahoma Tornadoes April 19, 2023—Three EF-4 tornadoes struck the Shawnee/Cole area of Oklahoma City, killing 3 people. The NALC congregation, Peace Lutheran has responded with emergency relief supplies and volunteers.

I know it doesn't come as naturally to us as adults. Religion becomes serious business. It's all about checking worship off the list or praying for everyone and everything we can think of. We find ourselves more concerned with tallying up injustices or struggles in prayer than putting pink shoes on plastic feet, and please don't mistake me. Prayer and worship and study are tremendously important to understanding who God is and developing our faith, but so is play. If our understanding of God doesn't include Jesus celebrating and dancing at the wedding of Cana, then it is incomplete. If our understanding of God doesn't include a God that creates sea monsters just for the fun of it, then it is incomplete. If our understanding of God lacks a sense of humor or a sense of wonder or a sense of delight, then it is incomplete. We worship a God who loves when we dance and make music and who invited rowdy, rambunctious children to come and sit with him. We worship a God who plays, and he is a God who formed us to carry his image in this world.

So as the summer winds down and we find ourselves nostalgic for popsicles that melted on our hands and pool parties where we were mermaids or scuba divers in our minds, I want to challenge you to carry God's image. I want you to find a way to play. You can recruit your toddler or grandchild if you need to. If you've forgotten how to play, they'll show you. Take a moment to cultivate joy. Go for a walk or pull out an old instrument. Sit down for a puzzle or paint a picture. Spend time doing something just for the joy of being able to, and in the midst of it, give thanks that we worship a God who wants to see and participate in our joy. We worship a God who is willing to meet us when we're playing with dolls and trucks, and is willing to create sea monsters and turn water to wine we've forgotten the joy of doing things just for the sport of it. We worship a God who encourages us to feel joy and commands that we rest. We worship a God who is just as happy now, as he was when we were three, to listen to our prayers about the big things and the small things in life. So let us dance and sing and play before the altar of the Lord.



Blessings,
Pastor Taylor

News Notes

Happy Birthday to: Margaret Raven on her 90th, on the 2nd; Laurel Jacobsen on her 77th on the 2nd; to Barbara Petersen on her 72nd on the 7th; to Llewellyn Ostergard on her 81st birthday on the 11th and Elaine Mehrten on her 70th on the 11th.

August Milestone Anniversaries:

Congratulations to Ed and Ellen Vike who are celebrating their 64th wedding anniversary on August 16th. They were married at Immanuel in 1959.

New Addresses:

Irma Orozco	Robert & Andrea Bell	Stan & Pam Kjar
P. O. Box 151	6588 E. Liberty	1229 W. Bullard # 109
Caruthers, CA 93609	Fresno, CA 93727	Fresno, CA 93711

TEXAS PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES TOUR

The Bennetts have recently returned from a two-week Presidential Libraries Tour in Texas with their friends, the Matsumotos. After flying into Dallas, they visited various historic sites. The first of many was The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, the unfortunate site of the JFK assassination. Next was the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum. While in Dallas, they also visited Southfork Ranch, the home of the *Dallas* television show and had the very best steak ever at Dunston's steakhouse!

The next leg of the journey was to Willis, where they stayed for 5 nights on Lake Conroe. On the way to Willis they stopped in Ennis and drove the Bluebonnet Trail to see the state's most famous flower in full bloom. From Willis they made several day trips, the first to Houston where they visited NASA. What an interesting place that is, and the tour of the original Mission Control Center that was in operation when the men landed on the moon was especially informative. The next day, the Bennetts and Matsumotos visited College Station, the home of the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

After a day of rest, they drove to Austin where they attended a Leo Kottke concert in the historic and beautiful Paramount Theatre. The next day they visited the third (and last in Texas) of the Presidential libraries, that of LBJ, and then went to see his wife's legacy, The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

From Austin they drove to San Antonio for a total of 964 driving miles (one big triangle shape on the map of a very large state!) They took a canal ride down the famous River Walk section of town, and then visited The Alamo... so much interesting history there.

After accomplishing everything on their agenda, they flew home from San Antonio. It was a great trip with good food, good friends, and good times.

Early on, God realized that the whole sacrifice thing wasn't working. So he said, I don't need bulls, rams, sheep, goats, and doves. What I desire is your faithfulness. He calls us in our sin and says have faith in me, and I will be faithful to you. What faithfulness produces is an eternity with him. God is no dummy, he knew we wouldn't and couldn't be faithful all the time. That's where intention of the heart comes in He knows what's in our heart, I know, it's scary. Because he knew we wouldn't be able to pull it off, he sent Jesus. When we stand in front of the judgement seat that day, Jesus will be standing in front of us, literally. Thank you God.

Faithfulness is important for another reason as well. Our children and by that I mean all the children you encounter in life, learn about all this by watching us. Don't ever underestimate the importance of what our kids see us do and how we live and by what we value.

God calls us to faithfulness. You know your calling, you know what you can add to the pie that is Immanuel and the greater church. You know what's important and what isn't.

After the deacons serve communion, the Pastor dismisses us from the altar with, "Well done good and faithful servant." Thanks Pastor, I appreciate that. And likewise, our Pastor is a good and faithful servant also.

Can I get an Amen!

I love you guys, John.

*Great is thy faithfulness. Great is thy faithfulness.
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All that I have needed, Thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

*Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan Words:
Public Domain; Music: Public Domain*

NALC Youth Convention 2024

Save the date for the NALC Continental Youth Gathering on July 1-4, 2024 in Boerne, Texas! This is for youth ages 12-18, leaders in training ages 19-24 and team leaders ages 25 and up. This four-day gathering provides opportunities for NALC youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the body of Christ. Youth will worship together, study God's Word, participate in large and small sessions, reach out to the community through mission events and engage in fellowship and fun!

Journey on Faithfulness

This started off as a devotion I was asked to give as a member of a group I belong to. As I was pondering what the subject of the devotion would be, I asked God to put something in my view that I could run with. Now to be clear, God doesn't always come up with the easiest notions to expand on. (Please understand that that is a tongue-in-cheek wisecrack). So some days went by and God still hadn't put anything before me, at least not that I perceived to be from Him. Then I was sitting at a funeral service for a person I had never met but I did know the spouse. I'll come back to why being at a funeral service is also an act of faithfulness. Two family members talked about the faithfulness of the departed. They gave example after example how this person had been faithful to their various callings. Then the Pastor jumped right into his remarks by affirming what the family members had said, faithful. Well, by then, I was saying to myself, "Okay God, I get it." So then I started thinking about what faithfulness meant. And more importantly, what God means by faithfulness. Mr. Google says faithfulness is a loyal, firm adherence to the promises of the duties. One of the basic tenets of our Christian faith is that God is truth and that what he says will be. It is dependable, trustworthy and reliable. I would assume that we believe what God says is right. Faithfulness is living a life firmly rooted in that faith. We all are faithful because we believe that being faithful to God's word and calling for us what we will ultimately benefit us the most. So then I started thinking about the people that are, in my opinion, faithful. Many of them I have sat next to in a pew here at Immanuel. But there are many more, in my experience, that I could point to and say that they have always been as faithful as they could. Disclaimer, not one is absolutely faithful, well expect for one. I'm in no way saying that I have been or continue to be completely faithful. I am as flawed as the least of us. But that doesn't mean I don't have the desire to be as faithful as I can be. My sincere belief is that most of us feel that calling to be faithful. Faithfulness isn't my purest virtue. I do need to be intentional about being faithful. At least for me that takes conscientious decisions daily and here we go again. That takes daily scripture reading, daily devotions, Sunday school classes, Bible studies in all their various forms. Praying. Praying at home in your quiet place. Praying in church corporately. Praying on the second Sunday. What all of these do is force us to switch our minds off to the struggles of everyday life and onto God.

Back to the attending funeral services, It's one of those acts of faithfulness, our minds become focused on the scriptures read and the testimonies given. More than that, your physical presence tells the family that you grieve along with them.

JULY RACE TRIP

Iowa, High Pointe Church, Shane & Megan's Iowa family, Attica Speedway, Eldora, Speedway (4 nights) St. John Lutheran Church, Llewellyn's, DollyWood, Kristi's, Gettysburg, BAPS Speedway, Winchester Speedway, Iowa dinner with the kids, Home Sweet Home. That was Mark & Victoria Salwasser's two-week vacation in a sentence. They took their annual racing trip to the Midwest in July. They flew to Iowa, drove their car to Ohio for 5 sprint car races, one of which the winner won a million dollars. It was exciting for that race team. They went to St. John Lutheran Church in Greenville, OH then drove to North Carolina and enjoyed a wonderful but short visit with Llewellyn OSTERGARD. She took them to DollyWood in Tennessee. It was spectacular! Everyone



who loves music, shows, shopping and delicious food should go there. It's beautiful and fun and a perfect wholesome adventure. The next day, they visited Kristi Carlton and her amazing vacation home in Waynesville, NC.



They drove to Pennsylvania and toured

Gettysburg National Military Park that commemorates the 34,530 soldiers who fought in the July 1 -3, 1863 Battle of Gettysburg during the American Civil War. This is a very informative and well preserved historical place. They visited the Flight 93 memorial in Somerset County, PA. It's worth the trip and remembrance. They got rained out at BAPS Speedway in PA. It was a major downpour instantaneously. They enjoyed a champ car race at the historic Winchester Speedway, it is an asphalt track in Indiana. You just have to see that place once. Ironically the winner that night was from Kingsburg, CA. The highlights of the trip were the visits with friends and family. Sprint car racing is fun, and thousands of people travel to long distances to see them. If you would like any infor-



Thank you Immanuel,

Thank you for the prayers, calls, cards, emails and texts during my recovery from knee replacement surgery. I truly appreciate it and my recovery is going well.

Sharon Reynolds

The family of Glenn Rasmussen would like to thank Immanuel for the reception after Glenn's funeral.

Dear Immanuel, we would like to thank you for your generous donation of baby hats, blankets, clothes and soap as well as your participation in our Change for Babies Campaign. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. Blessings, from the Pregnancy Care Center

Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive

August 27, 2023

The summer and holiday months are always the most difficult to get donors in as people are traveling, and the hot weather takes a toll on folks wanting to go out to donate blood. This causes the need to become greater. All the blood that gets donated through the Central California Center goes to over 20 of our local hospitals here in the central valley. All blood donated is used in the central valley. The entire nation is experiencing a big demand for blood in these summer months.

It is important to donate blood because there is always a need for blood since there is no other substitution for blood. Blood cannot be manufactured in any lab and can only be used if it is donated. Since the baby boomers are aging out, it has become a lot more difficult to get the newer generations to understand the need to donate.

Fun Facts about Blood:

- 75% of all Americans reaching age 72 will need blood in their lifetime.
- 97% will have family or friend who will need life-saving blood.
- Every 2 seconds someone in the US is using blood.
- 1 in 7 people that enter the hospital will use blood.
- Most Common Uses for Blood and quantities needed for use:
 - Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery: 1-5 Pints
 - Other Open Heart Surgery: Up to 40 Pints
 - Bleeding Ulcer: 3-20 Pints
 - Fractured Hip/Joint Replacement: 2-20 Pints
 - Brain Surgery: 4-20 Pints
 - Prostate Cancer: 4-6 Pints
 - Aneurysm: 6-10 Pints
 - Auto Accident- Trauma: Up to 50 Pints or More
 - Organ Transplant: Up to 100 Pints or More
 - Bone Marrow Transplant: 1-2 Units of red cells daily for 8-10 Weeks; 6-8 Units of Platelets Daily for 4-6 Weeks

Here is what to expect for a typical blood donation. It's a simple four-step process:

1. Show the Register your Driver's License or other Photo ID (First and Last name, Picture and Number)
2. Mini-Physical and Interview consists of:
 - Check pulse, blood pressure and hemoglobin level (Iron level)
 - Questions to ensure your safety and the recipient's safety
3. Whole Blood Donation: collecting blood only takes up to 15 minutes.
4. Relax and enjoy some treats and replenish your fluids.

to donate time during their lunch breaks and after work to help John build his actual house. Wow. Thanks be to God.

Wednesday, we drove about an hour to Foresthill and stayed at New Hope Lutheran Church. On Thursday and Friday, the group helping Desare drove back and forth to continue and finally finish the shed. Our group drove up to Michigan Bluff and we framed a pump house.



After we returned to the church, there was time as we waited for the other group to return. I and a group of 3 men repaired a rail for the ramp to the church. We built and replaced 2 sections that had rotted due to weather. The kids were playing games and it was then that we became one big group instead of several smaller groups from different churches. There were 8 people from St. Timothy's Lutheran in San Jose, 2 from Pacifica Lutheran, 2 from Our Savior's Lutheran Auburn and 7 from New Hope in Foresthill.



Friday, we worked around the church. We cleared fallen trees, hauled a couple loads to the dump, weeded, trimmed shrubs, and ultimately built them an outdoor worship area. The pastor dedicated the area and they plan to hold church there when weather permits.



I was a little uneasy before I went. I wondered if I would be able to actually help. Was I too old? Was I strong enough? There were jobs for everyone and all of us found ways to contribute. Our ages ranged from 14 to 88. Some folks worked inside, some out. Each of us got to choose where we wanted to help. I have already marked my calendar for next year. It will be held the third week in July. You should too. For further incentive, you will get a free shirt.

NALC Disaster Relief Mission Trip

By Marcia Hollenbeck

The Pacific Region of the NALC Disaster Relief Team held its third annual mission trip July 16th – 21st. Stephanie and I were able to join this trip on Tuesday, July 18th. It was a fantastic experience and we were so blessed to be able to attend.

The Disaster Relief team helps people who have lost everything and who do not have insurance. This year, we helped people who had been affected by the Mosquito Fire in 2022. We arrived at the Pioneer Bible Church in Sommerset late Tuesday afternoon. The crew had been working for 2 days at a site owned by John. John is a contractor, but in the fire, he not only lost his home, he also lost his truck and all of his tools. What didn't burn had been stolen. He was in a hopeless state of mind. The group said that even between Monday and Tuesday, there was a change in his outlook. That was as important as the building we were building, maybe more.



On Wednesday, our team went back up to help John and another team went to build a shed for Desare. She is a single mom of a special needs child and needed a space to store things while waiting for her home to be rebuilt. At John's, the deck (floor) had been built and 2 walls had been framed. We completed the 2 walls and framed 2 more. When we left, all 4 walls were up and John's outlook was one of hope. That was the best part. The room we built will become his wife's craft room eventually, but for now it is a place to store supplies. It is 10 by 12 which is as big as it can be without plans and approval.

God was definitely working there. While we were working, a truck pulled up and asked if we were Habitat for Humanity. Our leader, Mary Bates, explained who we were and what we were doing. This man was from a construction site up the road. To make a long story short, his boss and crew plan

How to prepare to donate blood: Drink lots of water. Eat iron-rich foods. Examples: Oatmeal, Red Meats, Raisins, Beans, and Spinach. Eat a healthy, complete, and full meal before donating. Vitamin C is a good friend of Iron. Avoid Caffeine - it's an iron blocker.

Possible Reasons for Deferral:

- Low Hemoglobin (iron) is the most common reason for deferral. To prevent low hemoglobin, increase your intake of iron rich foods three days prior to donation.
- High Blood Pressure or Pulse: Consider limiting all caffeine (especially coffee and energy drinks) the day of the donation. Instead, drink room temperature water to help increase hydration levels.

After Donation: Resume regular meals and snacks. There are no restrictions to the types of food to consume. Drink plenty of water and stay hydrated. This is just as important post donation as it is prior to donation. Avoid all alcoholic beverages for 24 hours. Avoid going to the gym or any strenuous activity/lifting for at least 24 hours.

If you have been on the fence about whether you want to donate or not, please talk to your health care professional or call the local blood center for answers to your questions.

We are excited to for the upcoming August 27th drive. The signup link below will help us know how to prepare for our blood donors.

<https://signup.com/go/QRMoJUC>

Thank you to all the Immanuel donors,
Rita Guillen, Account Executive, Central California Blood Center

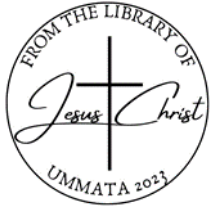
Country Gospel Music on August 27th

You've asked and requested and our music team is going to give it a whirl. Many of our members at Immanuel have missed the Country Gospel songs we use to sing back in our evening Country Gospel Services. If you like Country Gospel you won't want to miss worship on August 27th come early and donate blood if you can!

Invite your friends and neighbors to come and join us for a sing along worship service country style. We will have one of our famous ALL-CHURCH POTLUCKS after the service so plan to stay for a feast and send off the summer months and welcome in fall y'all!

Summer Ummata 2023

Hello Immanuel,



We just finished our 2023 Summer Ummata and we had a blast! Our amazing cooks made delicious meals to help sustain us all. We had three speakers who taught about how kinds of books impact our lives. Since the event is designed around the Ethiopian word Ummata, which means community, we focused on activities that would help those who attended form new relationships and strengthen old ones. We traveled the world in one class. In another class, we made yummy cookie dough, learned some new prayer practices, and created beautiful floral displays. Our third class did some archery and axe throwing and learned about a beautiful hike in our mountains. The last class read some amazing children's books and took part in activities based on the book for the day. Lastly, we worshiped our Lord with music and ate a yummy dessert.

I would like to give a special thanks to all those who helped make it a great event.

Cooks

- Sharon Reynolds and Carol Bennetts
- Marcia and Scott Hollenbeck
- Gina Cogan and Sandra Jensen

Teachers

- Deanna Dunbar and Kaylee Hollenbeck
- Mike Moser, Lee Terkelsen, and Robert Hollenbeck
- Sharon Reynolds and Carol Bennetts, Laurel Jacobsen and Randy McFarland, Sandy Marthedal
- Taylor Stempniak and Allyson Nielsen

Speakers

- Taylor Stempniak
- John Jensen
- Barbara Petersen

Music

- Allyson and Richard Kahn
- Fran Hansen

Ummata Committee

- Kristi Hollenbeck
- Marcia Hollenbeck
- Jackie Caglia
- Betty Moore

All of you who attended!

Women of Immanuel

By Marcia Hollenbeck

Hey, Ladies. You have been 'Chosen' to attend a fun event in August. Have you ever heard of the series 'The Chosen'? It is a re-enactment of stories from the Bible. It is based directly from the Bible, but the producers have taken some creative liberties to make the stories come even more alive.

On August 30, a Wednesday evening, we are going to gather in Grace Hall for a potluck dinner. After dinner we will watch an episode of The Chosen. A short discussion will follow so we can get even more from the story. Check the bulletin for exact time. See you there.

To help you plan to attend even more events this year, we have tentatively set up a few more events. (More details to follow)

Future Events – Mark your calendar

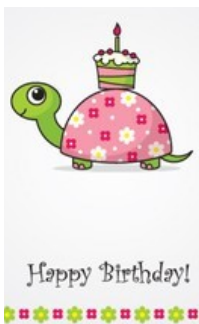
- September 13 or 16 – Paint Event – Vashie Miller will help us to paint a sign. You might want to choose one for the upcoming holidays or fall season. Your choice. She will supply everything we need, and we will use stencils so the finished projects will look great. Cost \$25
- October 21 – Forestiere Underground Garden tour. We will take a tour of the garden and either meet for breakfast/coffee beforehand or go for lunch together afterwards.
- November 15 – Wednesday Evening - We will be having a Meet and Swap (not a swap meet ☺) We will gather for a meal and then to be good stewards, we will have a swap. At this point, we are thinking of swapping clothes, books, puzzles, and household items. Bring things in good condition but that you don't need any more and take home what you can use. All leftovers will be sent to the mission after the Thanksgiving Eve service.
- December (date to be determined) – This event is open to the whole congregation. Hillcrest Tree Farm in Reedley. Travel to Reedley and pick out your Christmas tree, ride the train and enjoy food from the food trucks. Just a fun time for fellowship.
- January - Epiphany Tea

There are a lot of events to look forward to. Mark your calendars and invite your friends. If you have other ideas for events, or if you have suggestions for these, please let one of the members from the women's board know. (Board = Marcia, Jackie, Kristi and Betty)

Our Members Celebrating in August!

Birthdays

- 1-Richard Cisneros
- 2- Laurel Jacobsen
Margaret Raven
- 5-Sandy Marthedal
-Elliot Caglia
- 6-Chris Harding
- 7- Barbara Petersen
- 9-Susie Gardner
Ed Slaton
- 11-Elaine Mehrten
-Llewellyn Ostergard
- 12-Shirley Rasmussen
- 13-Clarissa Johnson
- 19-Marcia Hollenbeck
- 20-Chase Clarkson
-Paige Messenlehner
- 21-Fred Cogan
- 23-Dale Ewing
- 28-Timothy Anderson
- 29-Catrina Johnson



Baptismal Birthdays

- 4-Shirley Rasmussen
- 8-Susie Gardner
Linda Wozniczka
- 11-Nancy Newsom
- 11- Pastor Taylor Stempniak
- 14-Jacqueline Caglia
- 19-Lee Terkelsen
-Garrett Caglia
- 22- Carly Johnson
- 23-Allyson Nielsen
- 26-Jennifer Cisneros



Wedding Anniversaries

- 16 -Ed & Ellen Vike (64)
- 19 -Pastor John & Debby Saethre (45)

If we have missed your special day, please call the church office or email Us with your missing dates.

Prayers of the Church

For Christ's Church: Eternal God, we thank You for Your Church through which the gospel of Jesus Christ has been manifest in every age.

Members and their families serving in the military: Erica Botello, Canaan Campbell, Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Ryan Freitas, Michael Hansen, Leah Linger, Connor Mannix, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Gail Hansen, Paul Pedersen, Kenneth Selzer, Bonnie Terkelsen.

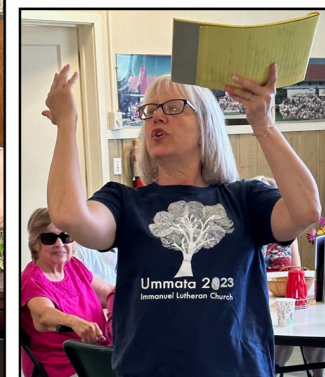
Those in need of pain relief & healing: Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Don Cathey, Gaye Cissel, Valarie Cooper, Margaret Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Ed Gomez, Kay Jensen, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Jan Kersgaard, Diane & Darel Mehrten, Marie Meneses, Marcus Miranda, Velia Miranda, Betty Moore, Laura Nielsen, Gloria Payne, Lance Petersen, Patti Price, Bill Pucheu, Bob Reynolds, Sharon Reynolds, Richard Smith, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

For people dealing with loneliness and depression. For those battling the illness and the health care providers tending to those in need.

Thank you all for a great week! Keep your eyes out for more information about our next Ummata event. We will use the survey results to help inform our decision about the best date for our next intergenerational event. If you haven't had a chance to take the survey, please scan the QR code to take you to it. The survey is for everyone who came this year and those who could not make it.



Kristi Hollenbeck





August

2023



Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>Would you like to share a story without posting on Social Media? Share your stories for our News Notes section of the Immanuel Chimes. Send your submissions and photos in by August 23rd!</p>		<p>1 10: 00 am Women's Bible Study in the church library</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 6:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast in the Social Hall 3:30-4:00 pm Back to School event at the Easton Library.</p>	<p>4 12:00 PM Immanuel hosts the Easton Food Distribution at Easton Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 9:30am Christian Ed. In Grace Hall 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:45am Fellowship Outside</p>	<p>7 NALC Convocation 7:00 pm NA in Grace Hall</p>	<p>8 NALC Convocation 10: 00 am Women's Bible Study in the church library</p>	<p>9 NALC Convocation</p>	<p>10 NALC Convocation 6:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast in the Social Hall</p>	<p>11 NALC Convocation Pastor Taylor's Ordination Anniversary</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:30am Christian Ed. In Grace Hall 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:45am Fellowship Outside</p>	<p>14 7:00 pm NA in Grace Hall</p>	<p>15 10: 00 am Women's Bible Study in the church library</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 6:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast in the Social Hall</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9:30am Christian Ed. In Grace Hall 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:45am Fellowship Outside</p>	<p>21 7:00 pm NA in Grace Hall</p>	<p>22 10: 00 am Women's Bible Study in the church library 6:30PM Council Meeting in GH</p>	<p>23 September Chimes Deadline!</p>	<p>24 6:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast in the Social Hall 12:00PM Fellowship Luncheon in Social</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 Blood Drive 8:30-12:30 9:30am Christian Ed. In Grace Hall 10:30am Worship & Communion Country Gospel Style! 11:45am All Church Pot Luck!</p>	<p>28 7:00 pm NA in Grace Hall</p>	<p>29 10: 00 am Women's Bible Study in the church library</p>	<p>30 FCA Lunch Women's Event!</p>	<p>31 6:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast in the Social Hall</p>	<p>September 1 Save the dates: 9. 27-30.23 for the 20th Annual Immanuel Food Booth at the Caruthers Fair for the Fresno Mission!!! Prayers & Volunteers needed!</p>	<p>2</p>