

Rev. Kevin A. Karner
Pastor
Debbie Krueger
Interim School Principal

Messenger

August 2023

Vol. 23 No. 8

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT



OUR MISSION

The people of Immanuel Lutheran Church are living proof of the grace of God through salvation in Jesus Christ. Empowered by Christ, our mission is to reach out in love to those who have not yet responded to the Gospel that all may be united in Christ.

School Mission

The Mission of Immanuel Lutheran School is to provide a loving atmosphere of academic excellence for children while developing in them and their families a lasting relationship with Jesus Christ.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
and School
154 Meadow Street
Bristol, CT 06010
860-583-5649
www.ilcs.org

REMINDER: the deadline for the September Messenger is August 19.

New Dates For German Festival 2023!

Friday
August 25, 2023
6-9PM
&
Saturday
August 26, 2023
12-9PM



Sign Up To Volunteer At The Christian Mart!

BAKERS! BAKERS! GERMAN CAKE BAKERS NEEDED!!



At our German Festival on August 25-26, we will need about 50 Cakes in our Dessert area in the old school basement. We slice and package the cakes, hopefully made from authentic German recipes, that we will sell on Friday evening and Saturday. Actually, many different apple cakes and chocolate cakes come in for a wonderful assortment from Black Forest cakes to Apple strudel. Please **sign up** on Sundays near the Christian Mart or at Coffee Hour or during the week in the church office. Some recipes will be available. *Thank you in advance for helping!*

Women of Immanuel Bakers needed for our Bake Sale!



At our German Festival on Saturday, August 26, we need baked goods to be sold in the old school basement. These baked goods are sold to be taken home. Examples are pies, breads, packaged cookies and other goodies. Proceeds from our bake sale go to help others.





Messenger is published monthly by Immanuel Lutheran Church and School for its members and friends.

Immanuel is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Ed & Dee Krampitz
Newsletter Editors
Deadline for submissions
is the 19th of the month.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June – July – August

SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICE

with Holy Communion
9:00 A.M.
— (Live Streaming) —

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE
10:00 A.M.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
10:30 A.M.
— (Live Streaming) —



WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSIBLE

Worship Services are
broadcast each Sunday
at 1:00 p.m. on

WNTY Radio

AM 990

&

FM 96.1

and online at

KoolOldiesRadio.net



From the Pastor's Desk

“Opinions”

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Romans 1:16-17

It seems like our phones – landlines and cellular – are constantly ringing. The voice on the other end is extolling the virtues of solar panels and disability insurance or, they’re calling to ask our opinion.

Regarding our opinions, those questions are diverse. What’s your opinion on home security systems? What are your political preferences? Where would you most like to go on vacation. Personally, I try very hard not to be rude – before hanging up!

Opinions. We all have them.

Name a recent president, and most people will be vocal as they share their opinion about him. We have opinions on the garbage collector, the children’s teachers, the preacher in the pulpit, the auto mechanic, the next-door neighbor, and the check-out person at the grocery store. We have our opinions, and we’re usually not afraid to say what we think; unless, of course, we believe the individual we’re talking about might hear us or a spy might tell on us.

After all, we don’t want anybody to talk badly about us.

Over 500 years ago, Martin Luther said, “It is a common evil plague that everyone prefers hearing evil to hearing good of his neighbor; and ... we cannot suffer that any one should say anything bad about us ... everyone would much rather that all the world should speak of him in terms of gold, yet we cannot bear that ... spoken about others.” Luther knew. We like to talk about others, don’t we?

Now, the rest of this devotion could be an

encouragement to “defend our neighbor, speak well of him and put the best construction on everything (Small Catechism, Eighth Commandment). Yes, we could do that, but we won’t. We have other fish to fry.

Instead, let me ask, have you ever noticed how often people have an opinion of, and are willing to talk about, others? Have you also noticed that many of those people don’t have an opinion about Jesus? Almost as bad, if they do have an opinion, they aren’t going to talk to others about Him.

Isn’t that amazing? How could anybody not be vocal in expressing their opinion on Jesus?

Jesus stands alone. Jesus is absolutely unique. Shakespeare may be brilliant in his writings, but there are others like Homer who wouldn’t be embarrassed to stand by his side. Alexander the Great was a genius in battle, but Caesar, Napoleon, Rommel, and Patton could command, too.

But Jesus Christ is special. He’s one of a kind. More than anyone else, Jesus is the world’s exceptional, extraordinary Person. He has changed the way the world thinks, the way humanity lives, and He alone is the way to forgiveness and eternal life.

All of this motivates me to offer this bit of advice: if you must talk of someone, let that someone be the Savior. Let others know how you feel about the Lord who gave His life for yours.

THE PRAYER: *Dear Lord, guard my tongue from saying wrong about others and guide my tongue to proclaim the wonders of Him who has called us out of darkness into the Lord’s marvelous light. This I ask in Jesus’ Name. Amen.*

Pastor Karner

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. — 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Church and School News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN



Barbara Erling
August 16, 1956 — July 6, 2023



From your



I'd like to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Parish Nurse coffee hour.

Walk & Talk — Every Tuesday at 9:30 am. Please join us in the Parish Center. It's a Christian fellowship you will enjoy.

We will be having a **Ladies Lunch** on Tuesday, August 8, at BARC - 12:30 pm.

We are encouraging men to please join us. You will have your own table.

Women's Bible Study Tuesday, August 15 and 29 at noon in the Parish Center.

Please join us and bring your lunch.

Please contact me if you have any questions, suggestions or want a visit from your Parish Nurse. God's blessings for a wonderful day. Thank you again for your prayers and support.

Roberta Kuhr, Parish Nurse

**Immanuel Lutheran Infant Center
Now Enrolling!**

Call Today: (860) 583-5631
Accepting ages: 6 weeks to 12 months!
Program hours 7am-5:30pm.
Call today for more information!



A MINISTRY OF
IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Jesus said "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to those such as these".
— MATTHEW 19:14

Thrivent Action Teams needed!

If you are a Thrivent member then you are eligible to apply for funds to help with an action team project. If you are interested in using your funds to help the German Festival, contact Jason Krueger at dj2hkrueger@gmail.com, or stop by the Senior Center and see Jason for help filling out these requests.

From the Editors:

Please consider having the *Messenger* sent to you electronically.

The *Messenger* deadline is the 19th of each month. Articles should be either emailed to dkrampitz@sbcglobal.net or brought to the church office and left in the mail slot.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Church and School News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

As the summer moves ahead, we are getting excited to begin a new school year which will start on Wednesday, August 30th. We will have a back to school night on Monday, August 28th for the families to come and meet all of the teachers and staff. The LCMS theme this year is “Connected” and it is based on John 15:1-5, “...I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” Immanuel Lutheran School is a great example of the good fruit that is produced from being connected to God. We are a blessing to many families and our enrollment continues to grow. New families are coming in every week for tours, and our current enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is 142 children including infants and little lambs. Now that the infant center is completed, renovations to add a child-sized bathroom in each little lamb’s classroom will soon begin, made possible through a covid safety grant. The PK - 8 building is also polishing up nicely with newly painted classroom walls and soon to be waxed floors. Please continue to spread the word about our wonderful school and continue to pray for this important mission.

Yours In Christ,
Debbie Krueger
Interim Principal

Do you have any creative, technical, social media, marketing or promotional skills? Or, are you interested in learning more about these things and want to help Immanuel out in a new way?

We are looking for some additional volunteers to help throughout the year with various tasks that will help grow our presence in our community and beyond. This includes all sorts of fun things including creating messages and graphics to helping with social media and more! Younger or older, age doesn’t matter!

If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to Rhoda Lange by emailing her at rhoda.lange231@gmail.com or calling (860) 543-5992.

Serving Christ’s church in a second career

Dear Baptized in Christ,

Set Apart to Serve (SAS) is The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s church work recruitment initiative. Since 2019, we have focused on the formation and recruitment of our youth, encouraging them to consider a full-time vocation in church work. Together with the whole Synod, we are working to raise up a new generation of church workers.

This year, we expanded our focus to include those considering a second career in church work. It may take several years for a youth to begin considering church work, pursue a church work degree and finally become an ordained or commissioned church worker. To help fill the current need for church workers more quickly, we have begun a parallel emphasis on second-career

pastors, Lutheran school teachers and church workers.

An important first step is to ensure everyone understands that there are options to pursue pastoral ministry, church work or teaching in our Lutheran schools as a second career.

Would you help *SAS* reach potential second-career church workers by sharing this message?

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. James A. Baneck
Executive Director
LCMS Office of Pastoral Education

“Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (Matt. 9:38).

Young at Heart

How is your summer going? Lucky for you, we are having an August 3 COLD Lunch for your enjoyment. It's a great opportunity for food and fellowship and Bristol history on the first Thursday in the OSB at 11:30. Like last year, it will be a **COLD LUNCH** and we're asking everyone who attends to please bring a COLD item for our buffet tables, and donate \$2 at the door. Suggestions are: fruits, cold cuts, sandwiches, salads of all kinds, jello, vegetables, tuna, cheeses, watermelon, beverages (nothing hot). We will only be eating what YOU bring at 11:30, so this will be an interesting and exciting lunch for all of us.

For our August program, we'll have Tom Dickau, an expert on Bristol history, with us to present, "Bristol

and Forestville 'Recycled' Then and Now". It will be a look into the past at the old buildings in town prior to redevelopment, and how they are being repurposed and used today. Tom has done many presentations of Bristol's history for the Historical Society over the years and we are excited to welcome him on August 3, to the OSB.

Our annual German Festival is this month – August 25 & 26. We really need your help this year as a volunteer. You can help by selling tickets where you can sit down, baking more than one German cake, helping to sell cakes, taking food orders, etc. We really need everyone so sign up even for a couple hours. Signup on Sundays near the Christian Mart.

Former Member Has Written a New Book

(Reviewed by Pastor Karner)

Jay Sonstroem, son of Gordon and Janice Sonstroem and a graduate of Immanuel Lutheran School, has written an important book entitled, "Loving Science But Not the Empire: How Real Science Reveals A Creator But The Establishment Keeps Us In The Dark." The book, published by WestBow Press, is dedicated "To all the scientists whose views and work have been hidden, cancelled, or crushed by The Empire."

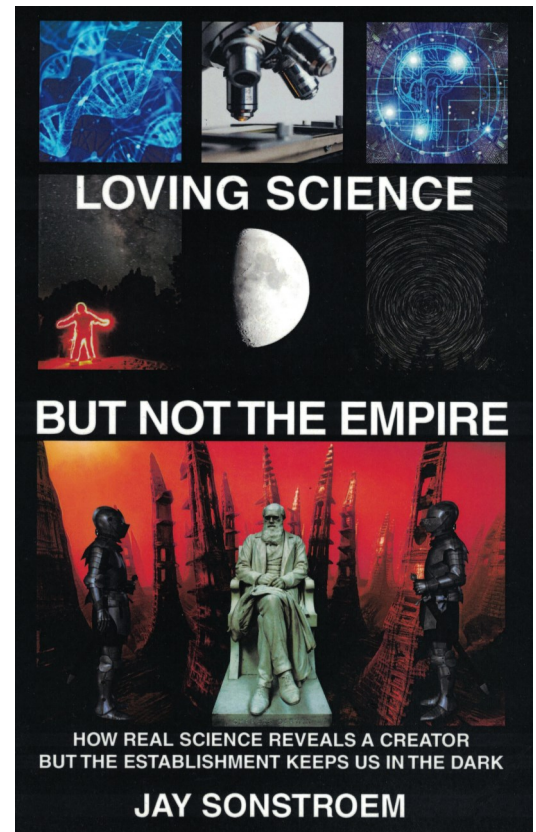
The back cover of the book has this to say:

"For decades the world has been telling us that God is dead and science has proven it, but is that really true? As the evidence has continued to accumulate, the tide has turned. God is back to full health and not only that, but He is far more awesome and ingenious than we ever imagined. Now it is the scientific establishment that is on the ropes as a century of errors and deception has been unearthed.

In *Loving Science – But Not the Empire*, experimental scientist Jay Sonstroem helps readers discern between the findings of real science and fables which have been pushed by an entity he calls The Empire. Jay provides short, readable chapters to reveal both the wonders of creation, and the schemes and blunders of The Empire which have resulted from its hijacked version of science. Topics include the hidden truth of DNA, the wonders of biology, the fine-tuning of the universe, and evolution and Darwinism debunked.

Is it possible to love science but not worship it? You bet. Does a person who believes in God have to give up Reason? Not one bit. Come along and piece together the puzzle of life, the universe, and everything in between. What you believe about your origins has everything to do with what you believe about your destiny. Follow the Light, find the Truth, and together, let's free science from a godless agenda."

Order your copy today!



The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club

Just Bring Your Camera

Unpredictable things can happen in the most unexpected places - like driving down a new road or just on the way to someplace. You could be anywhere! All of a sudden, that perfect shot is right before your eyes. It could very well become the best picture you've ever taken or at least one you really really like ... if only you had your camera. *So just bring your camera, and keep your eyes open.* That shot is waiting for you.



Join us! *Our next meeting is, Tuesday, September 5, at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.*

Blessings: shared by Vern and Lois Koch.

Blessing 1. It was Ascension Day, 1964, when a certain soprano (Lois Koehn) in the Senior Choir looked over at the organist while walking out of church. These two would later choose August 14, 1965, the hottest day of that summer, to get married. Thank goodness for the cool breezes at Chippanee Golf Club where they enjoyed their reception.

Blessing 2&3. Forward to June 12 of 1969 when they were blessed with a healthy son, Peter John, who was baptized on the day man first walked on the moon.

Two years later Peter was joined by his brother, David Andrew, born on October 25, 1971. He is now superintendent of the Air Force’s Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Blessing 4. While attending Springfield College in Massachusetts Peter met Laura Davis, the love of his life. They were joined in marriage on October 1, 1994.

Blessings 5&6. Autum Michaela, September 19, 1995; Hannah Ruth, January 30, 1998.

Since they were home schooled they had opportunity to attend ‘Grandpa’s School’, work at the sauerkraut suppers and sell their home baked bread and sticky buns at their church in Maine to help fund their trips to Washington, D.C. They have fond memories of Mary Aszklar.

While the girls attended VBS Laura assisted Grandma Koch in the kitchen at Vacation Bible School after Lois took over from Wanda Hubbard. Later the kitchen torch was passed to Claudia and Stefanie Riegler, and Mel Schab.

Those were the hot, hot days of summer with Pastor Schumacher, George and Michele Tavernier at the helm.

Friday evening was a review of the week’s lessons and songs followed by a social hour crowned by a ‘make it yourself sundae’ provided by the Ice Cream Churn and owner Fausto Palizzetti.

Blessings 7-9. Sarah Jane, May 11, 2003; Emma Kathryn, September 19, 2005; Katelynn Rose, July 26, 2007.

Blessing 10. Autum met Joe Chretien and they were married in a small family ceremony on November 28, 2020, in the midst of the COVID epidemic.



Louis James Chretien

Blessing 11. Louis James Chretien joined Autum and Joe on Monday, December 12, 2022, and was the first male offspring in the Koch family. OUR FIRST GREAT, GREAT GRANDSON! (*Monday’s child is fair of face.*)

Blessing 12. Hannah met Eric Schurman and they were married on November 14, 2020, also in the midst of COVID.

Blessing 13. Benjamin Thomas joined Hannah and Eric on Friday, December 23, 2022, as the second male offspring in the Koch family. OUR SECOND GREAT, GREAT GRANDSON!
(Friday’s child is loving and caring.)



Benjamin Thomas

AND THE BLESSINGS CONTINUE TO ABOUND

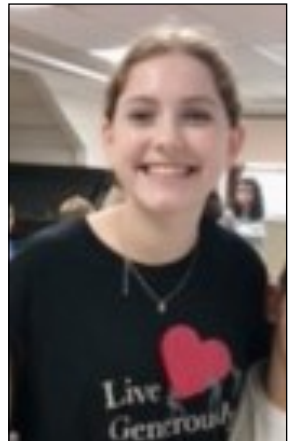
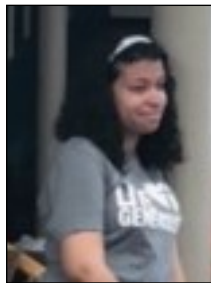
Please share your story with your Immanuel Family.

~~~~~ **VBS Volunteers** ~~~~~



Thank you to all the wonderful, giving and generous volunteers for "Keepers of the Kingdom"! I can't do anything without you all! We are a team! You did above and beyond what it takes to make VBS happen! God did bless us!! Keep wearing your armor! We give all the Glory to God. Here are some of our volunteers; please forgive me if I missed a photo of you.

– Brenda Buonafede





~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Church News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Immanuel Lutheran Church announces its 2023 Scholarship Awards**

*This year's scholarships are awarded to:*

**Luke Foley  
Hannah Krueger  
Jared Krueger**



**The Immanuel Lutheran Foundation announces its 2023 Scholarship Awards**

The **Westfall II** Scholarships are awarded to members of Immanuel Lutheran Church or graduates of Immanuel Lutheran School. These are given in memory of Amelia Westfall and her siblings: Elenora, Helena, Wanda and Emil Westfall. Scholarships are awarded to members of Immanuel Lutheran Church or graduates of Immanuel Lutheran School entering or in a degreed program at an accredited college or university.

**2023 recipients are:**

**Gabriella Buonafede  
Luke Foley  
Hannah Krueger  
Jared Krueger**

## AUGUST 2023 BIRTHDAYS

| Sun                                                                                                  | Mon                                                        | Tue                                                                           | Wed                                                                                          | Thu                                                                               | Fri                                                     | Sat                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                      |                                                            | <b>1</b><br>Laurie Grekula<br>Holly Tonn                                      | <b>2</b><br>Rosemary Badenhop<br>Amy Richmond<br>Cindy Schuler                               | <b>3</b>                                                                          | <b>4</b><br>Stephanie Bennett<br>Louise Winter          | <b>5</b><br>Peter Tonn                                        |
| <b>6</b><br>Alexis Fitzherbert<br>Ryan Hill<br>Jordan Kuharski<br>Alicia Michelson<br>Madison Turley | <b>7</b><br>Seth Michelson<br>Eric Velasco<br>Robert Wells | <b>8</b><br>Amy Sonstroem                                                     | <b>9</b><br>Mark Blank<br>Kimberly Debaise<br>Michael Killian<br>Rachel Shields              | <b>10</b><br>Aaron Desjardins<br>Sage Galindo<br>Caitlyn Pacitto<br>Clara Stevens | <b>11</b><br>Carissa Darm<br>Deborah Swicklas           | <b>12</b><br>Eric Larson                                      |
| <b>13</b><br>Kenneth Michelson                                                                       | <b>14</b><br>James Fitzgerald<br>Maggie Theriault          | <b>15</b><br>Abigail Deloge<br>Sierra Reed                                    | <b>16</b><br>Armin Hauer<br>Joanne Kinosh<br>Joyce Marion<br>Breeann Sherman<br>Ryan Tessman | <b>17</b>                                                                         | <b>18</b><br>Madison Charles-Durham<br>Anthony Santilli | <b>19</b><br>Barbara Radcliff<br>Molly Tower                  |
| <b>20</b><br>Brody Fabrizio<br>David Kissner                                                         | <b>21</b><br>Jackson Violet                                | <b>22</b><br>Paula Bunce<br>Scott Eschner<br>John Fitzherbert<br>Karl Riegler | <b>23</b><br>Craig Stange<br>Jonah Tonn                                                      | <b>24</b><br>Michael Behrendt<br>Janet Desrosiers<br>Lauren Simard                | <b>25</b><br>Wayne Kuharski<br>Daniel Tonn              | <b>26</b><br>Jamie Laforge<br>Marilyn Schmelder<br>Linda Wall |
| <b>27</b>                                                                                            | <b>28</b><br>Mikaela Bennett                               | <b>29</b><br>Barbara Wallick                                                  | <b>30</b><br>Danielle Pion                                                                   | <b>31</b><br>Alexandra Dubois<br>Jon Sonstroem                                    |                                                         |                                                               |



**Messenger**   
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
154 MEADOW STREET  
BRISTOL, CT 06010  
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