

Rev. Kevin A. Karner  
Pastor

Deborah Krueger  
School Principal

# Messenger

September 2023

Vol. 23 No. 9

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

## Rockwell Park Summer Festival

Saturday, August 19



Roberta Kuhr and Pastor Kevin Karner working the booth for  
Immanuel Lutheran Church

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the cake bakers and potato pancake makers, to the preppers and runners, the “setter uppers” and the “taker downers,” the kitchen cooks and all the grillers, to the pretzel producers and the kinder wranglers – together you meticulously orchestrated all the various aspects of our annual German Festival event.

From planning to execution, your dedication played a significant role in making this year’s event a great success.

Your hard work did not go unnoticed! As we reflect on this past weekend, we are grateful for each and every one of you who contributed your time and talents in any way.

Your efforts have left an indelible mark on our church, school and in our community – you have our sincerest thanks for helping create an unforgettable experience for everyone involved. Stayed tuned for the date and information about our annual Volunteer Thank You BBQ!

– *The German Festival Committee*



Festival photos on Pages 5, 6 & 9



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.

**SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICES**

8:00 a.m.

— (Live Streaming) —

Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday of the month.

~ ~ ~

10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion on the 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday of the month.

~ ~ ~

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

9:30 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](http://KoolOldiesRadio.net)

**From the Pastor's Desk**

**“Planted and Growing”**

*Psalm 1:2 – But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.*

September brings our focus to Christian education. Our day school, Sunday school, Bible studies, and adult instruction. It’s about spiritual growth. An analogy would be gardening. Gloves, trowel, mulch, seedlings, and seeds – all the necessary supplies are assembled and close at hand. Gardening may be an enjoyable and relaxing hobby, but often it’s a lot of work. The newly planted seeds and seedlings enjoy, literally, the fruit of the gardener’s labors. In the same way, through no effort on our part, we who are called blessed by the psalmist, we who delight in the law – the teachings – of the LORD, find ourselves planted like healthy, fruit-bearing trees that thrive beside a stream.

In this sacred planting, our Heavenly Father is the gardener, “**the vinedresser**” (John 15:1b). In Baptism He carefully placed us, rooting us deeply in Christ our Savior. The Word of the Gospel is the powerful, implanted seed that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, gave us new life. The Word is also the living soil in which we grow and thrive. Jesus said, “If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you “free” (John 8:31b-32). Through the witness of the Word, we know the truth about our Lord Jesus, who is Himself the truth and who suffered, died, and rose from death to set us free from sin and death. By God’s

grace, through faith in Jesus, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of eternal life. Through the witness of the Word, we know that we thrive and bear fruit only when we are joined to Jesus, the true Vine, our Source of life. Our living faith is nourished as we hear and read His Word and receive His body and blood in His Holy Supper.

Blessed by the Lord and empowered by His Spirit as by a life-giving stream, we no longer seek to stand with sinners or keep company with those who scoff and deny our Savior. Planted and growing in Christ Jesus, we remain rooted in the Word and prosper in bearing the fruit of faith, the fruit of humble acts of love and service that glorify our Heavenly Father. With the psalmist we exclaim in grateful praise, “Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day” (Psalm 119:97).

*THE PRAYER: Lord Jesus, we love Your Word! Through that life-giving Word, draw us ever closer to You so that we might grow in faith and bear the fruit of love that will glorify our Heavenly Father. Amen.*

Pastor Karner  
*1 Thessalonians 5:23-24*

**Attention all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Public School students!**

Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 6. Please contact the church office at 860-583-5649.

*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*

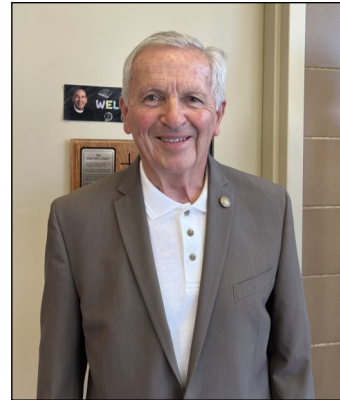
## **From the Pastor's Desk**

### **Meet the Board of Elders**

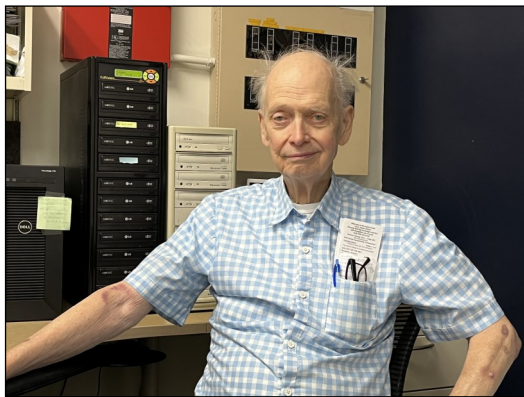
These four men have been elected to serve as elders of Immanuel Lutheran Church. As such, they assist the pastor in matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of our congregation. They are ready and able to help the members of Immanuel with any questions or concerns (especially at those times when the pastor is unavailable (i.e. – vacation, conferences, illness, etc.).



If your last name begins with “A – E” Don Smuda is your elder. He can be reached at 860-628-8291 or at [gsmuda@cox.net](mailto:gsmuda@cox.net).



If your last name begins with “F – L” David Peplau (Chairman) is your elder. He can be reached at 860-582-7723.



If your last name begins with “M – R” Marv Heidorn is your elder. He can be reached at 860-583-9766.



If your last name begins with “S – Z” Norman Stone (Secretary) is your elder. He can be reached at 860-621-2070 or at [stonen@cox.net](mailto:stonen@cox.net).

### **New Adult Instruction Class**

Do you desire to become a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, or do you know someone who does? Are you a life-long Lutheran ready to dust off your Catechism and renew your understanding of the chief articles of the Christian faith? In any case, we've got the opportunity for you!



On Sunday, September 10, I will begin teaching a 12-week class in the OSB. The content will take you to the heart of the Bible's message. In His undeserved love, God is “for us” in Jesus Christ, offering us forgiveness, joy, hope, assurance, direction, and new life through Him.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in attending, please call the church office at 860-583-5649.



***Thank you bakers for all those wonderful cakes you made for our German Festival. We all appreciated the special German recipes that produced all those sixty delicious cakes we sold last weekend in our Kaffee and Kuchen area. THANK YOU!***

Here it is September already! We hope you plan to join us for our **INTERNATIONAL LUNCH** on Thursday, September 7, at 11:30 am in the Old School Basement. Everyone is asked to add to our Buffet tables by bringing a special dish. You could bring a dish that represents your heritage or just a special dish from Mexico, Italy, China, Spain, France, Sweden, Germany, etc. that you enjoy. What a surprise it will be to see what we will be eating. Call Lynda H. 585-7004 with questions.

After lunch, our own Vern Koch will present our program about our church's interior. As you sit in your pew, do you wonder which statue of an apostle is around the pulpit and what about the decorative

stained glass? All will be described by Vern in his presentation, don't miss out.


Be sure to save the date of Thursday, October 5, for our Young-at-Heart **OKTOBERFEST LUNCH** here in the old school basement at 11:30. We are looking for entertainment for our German Lunch so let us know if you can help. out. We always enjoy wonderful German foods and hope you can fill our buffet tables; need suggestions – call Lynda 585-7004.

New friends arrive every month at our door to enjoy good food and Christian fellowship. Why don't you join our over age 50 members for a couple of hours on September 7!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Women of Immanuel** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**“TAKE HOME” Bake Sale**  
A special thank you to everyone who baked for our bake sale.

Please join us for our  
**September meeting on Saturday, Sept. 16**  
**at 11 am in the OSB.**  
Bring your Mite donation and dues and join us.

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

**Monday Cards** Anyone who wants to laugh, please join us for cards every Monday at 1:00 pm in the Parish Center. You don't even have to know how to play. It's easy to learn and many laughs. It's so much fun and great socialization. We'd love to have you! Any questions, call Roberta at 860-621-0230.

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

**Luncheon at BARC** Tuesday, September 5 at 12:30 at BARC.

**Women's Bible Study** Tuesday, September 19 at noon in the Parish Center. Please join us and bring a lunch.

Roberta Kuhr, Parish Nurse



**Friday Night German Festival**  
*photos by Eric Larson*





**Saturday  
German  
Festival**  
*photos by  
Eric  
Larson*



# The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club *Happy New Year! ... At least for Us.*



September '23 – Fences and Bridges

New Year's Day is *September 4<sup>th</sup>*. With it comes the 2023-2024 Photo Club Assignments or *Topics* for the next 10 months.

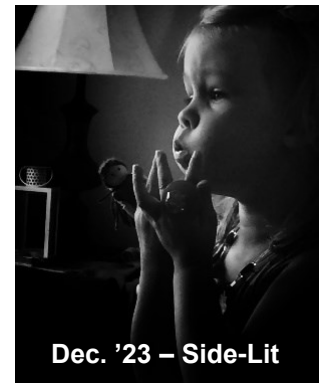
The best way to learn photography is to practice...to push yourself. It's a big world out there!! That's why photographers value assignments. They provide a purpose, a direction of what to photograph and maybe get a way to get out of a rut. They inspire the imagination and help develop new skills, and are a proven way to make yourself a little crazy! Fortunately, we've learned to handle crazy pretty well with great results.



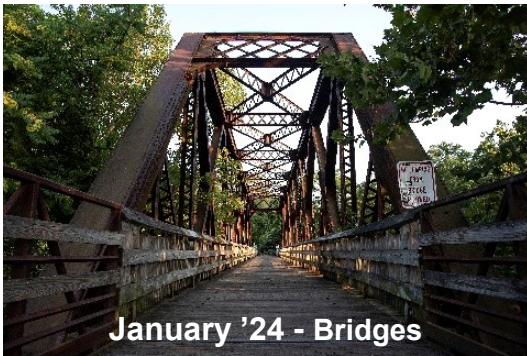
October '23 - Seeds



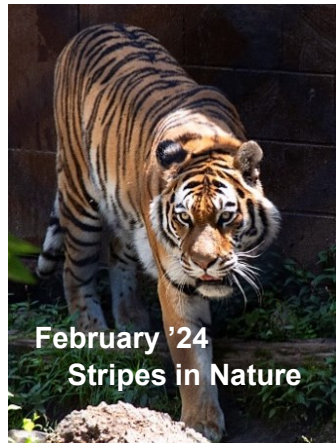
November '23 - Fibers



Dec. '23 – Side-Lit



January '24 - Bridges



February '24  
Stripes in Nature



March '24 - Feathers



April '24 - Curves



May '24 – White



June '24 - Trees

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

# ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ School and Church News ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## **From the Principal's Desk**

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

We are off to a great start to another school year. After a successful "Meet the Teacher" night on August 28th, teachers and students were excited to begin their first day of school on Wednesday, August 30th. We began the new school year with an opening chapel service from Pastor Karner, and then students went about their day learning new routines and making new friends. We have four new staff members joining us this year and some returning staff have taken on new roles. We also have new students in our classrooms and our enrollment continues to grow. Some of our toddlers have recently graduated and moved ahead to preschool, but those vacancies continue to fill as we regularly get calls for tours of our toddler and infant programs. Our mission continues to stay strong with God's blessings upon us, and I am looking forward to a great year!

Yours In Christ,  
Deborah Krueger, Principal

**You can help cut the cost of printing and postage by getting your *Messenger* via email instead of through the Post Office. Contact Dee Krampitz at [dkrampitz@ilcs.org](mailto:dkrampitz@ilcs.org).**  
**REMINDER:** the deadline for submitting items for the October *Messenger* is September 19.

### Youth Group

The youth of Immanuel will once again be collecting your returnable cans and bottles, during the month of September!  
**Please leave them in the kitchen near the gym, thank you for your support!**



### German Festival Signs

If you haven't already done so, please bring back the lawn signs for the German Festival and leave them in the lobby near the Christian Mart glass display. Thank you to everyone that put out the signs to promote our 2023 festival!


# GROWING IN FAITH

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Learning All About Jesus!  
PreK - 2nd grade  
Make new friends, faith-based activities and fun!

Every Sunday 9:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church (meets in PreK room next to Library)  
154 Meadow Street, Bristol, CT 06010 | [www.ilcs.org](http://www.ilcs.org)




AT EVERY AGE!

## YOUTH CONNECTIONS

Faith & Life For Today's Youth  
7th - 12th grades  
Meet friends, faith-based discussion, activities, serving others

Every Sunday 9:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church Parish Center  
250 West Street, Bristol, CT 06010 | [www.ilcs.org](http://www.ilcs.org)




## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Learning All About Jesus!  
3rd - 6th grade  
Make new friends, faith-based activities and fun!

Every Sunday 9:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church (meets in Library)  
154 Meadow Street, Bristol, CT 06010 | [www.ilcs.org](http://www.ilcs.org)

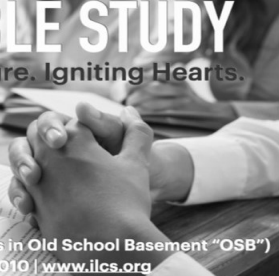


## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Exploring Scripture. Igniting Hearts.

Every Sunday 9:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church (meets in Old School Basement "OSB")  
154 Meadow Street, Bristol, CT 06010 | [www.ilcs.org](http://www.ilcs.org)







## SEPTEMBER 2023 BIRTHDAYS

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

**3**  
Barbara Greenlaw  
Keegan Thormahlen  
Brian Winter

**4**  
Reinhart Hermann, Jr.  
Meghan Roy

**5**  
Marcia Massaro  
Trina Theriault

**6**  
Lindsey Klemyk  
Leo Madore

**7**  
**14**  
Shannon Gurgigno  
Jaime Mitchell

**8**  
Heidi Dennis  
Dawn Ewen  
**15**  
Grady Savage

**9**  
Ethan Beaudoin  
Brittany Dunn  
Michelle Helming  
Jonathan Tessier

**17**  
Joan Kirschner

**18**  
Rebecca Fitzinger  
Ronald Helming  
Janet Romanko  
Kimberly Wolfe

**19**  
Savana Tonn

**20**

**21**  
Elizabeth Mazzaccaro

**22**  
Noah Delaney  
Thomas Hislop  
Cole Raymond

**23**  
Cordelia Behrendt  
Paul Tessman

**24**  
Joshua Bodley

**25**  
Robin Bodley

**26**  
Barry Simard

**27**  
Anthony Buonafede  
Rickard Darm  
Karen Machado  
Thea Sonnenberg  
Jordan Tonn

**28**  
James Jacy  
Christine Morel  
William Wentland, Jr.

**29**  
Jared Krueger  
Fred Mitchell

**30**  
Kristine Beaudet  
Kylie Berrian  
Quinn Tessier



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 154 MEADOW STREET  
 BRISTOL, CT 06010  
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Messenger 