

Rev. Kevin A. Karner  
Pastor

Deborah Krueger  
School Principal

# Messenger

October 2023

Vol. 23 No. 10

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](http://www.ilcs.org)

## Save the Date:

**Join us on Saturday,  
November 4 at 4pm  
here at Immanuel.**

Pastor Gem Gabriel of Norwalk will be performing. He is a very talented guitarist. This concert is for all ages. You don't want to miss it. A free will offering will be taken.

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
154 Meadow St.  
Bristol, CT 06010

9/17/23

Members,

At the September 5, 2023 Board of Trustee meeting it was decided to request a special meeting of the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church to discuss concerns regarding the current condition and safety of the church steeple structure.

Upon visual inspection it has been noted that the brick facade veneer on the northeast corner of the steeple is separating from the remaining brickwork. During a further visual inspection inside the aluminum steeple structure, it was discovered that 2 of the 8 bolts attaching the aluminum steeple to the underlying brick steeple base have rusted through and are no longer holding the steeple down. A space has developed between the base of the aluminum steeple structure and the framework designed to hold the steeple in place.

The board's position is that a structural engineer needs to be contracted to examine the steeple and make recommendations regarding the steps necessary to correct these 2 situations. The board has a preliminary contract in hand to begin that evaluation. The cost associated is \$5,800. Since it is more than the \$2,000 allowed by the constitution of ILC, the Board needs congregation approval to begin the process.

Also, it is strongly suggested by 2 of the engineering firms contacted that a protective barrier be installed while the process proceeds. The Board anticipates that a walk tunnel will be necessary and that it will remain in place until the steeple repairs are completed.

In order to avoid another special meeting, the Board is also asking for authorization to rent the necessary protective barrier and to contract the necessary design expense to get a document that will allow for competitive bidding for the necessary repairs. No non-emergency repairs will be started without congregational approval.

The board will give written updates at each quarterly congregational meeting appraising the members of the progress.

Sincerely,

Robert Wollenberg, Chair

Bd. of Trustees



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.

## From the Pastor's Desk

# “YES”

Revelation 2:10 - (Jesus said) *“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*

During my trip to Germany in 2017 I learned a great deal more about the life and death of Martin Luther. But I would never claim to know more than the sainted Dr. Oswald Hoffman (the former Speaker of the Lutheran Hour).

A good many years ago, Dr. Hoffman (Ossie) was in Alaska for a Reformation Day rally.

Before Ossie took center stage, another individual was there talking about the Reformation.

During the course of the man's rather dry remarks, it appeared as if Ossie had fallen asleep. He hadn't. When the speaker asked, “Does anyone know what Luther's last words were?” without opening his eyes, Ossie said, “Yah.” Ignoring Dr. Hoffmann, the speaker asked again, “Does anyone know what Luther's last words were?” A second time, Ossie responded, “Yah.”

Appearing somewhat put out by what he considered to be an interruption, the speaker turned to Ossie and asked, “Okay, Dr. Hoffmann, just what were Luther's last words?”

For the first time Ossie opened his eyes and said, “Luther's last word was “Ja” –“Yes.”

Dr. Hoffmann was right. Martin Luther, the great reformer, was born in the small German town of Eisleben. Sixty-three years later, Luther returned to that town to preach.

While he was there he was struck down by an illness. In great pain he called out, “O God, how I suffer!” Then he lapsed into semi-consciousness. While Luther was in that condition, a friend came to him and whispered, “Reverend Father, do you still hold to Christ and the doctrine you have preached?”

With great effort, Luther responded, “Yes!” After that, Luther went home to be with God.

In the course of his life, Luther had written more than 60,000 pages. In those pages, he had, once again, placed the Bible into the hands of the people; he had reemphasized the scriptural truth that we are saved by God's grace rather than by our actions, and he had let the world know that our just God had done everything necessary so lost souls could be saved through the sacrifice of His Son.

This month we'll be celebrating the 506th anniversary of the Reformation which began the day Luther nailed his 95 debating points on the church door in Wittenberg. We give thanks to the Lord for using the writings of a humble German friar to bless us.

But as we do, we also must say that of all of his words in all the books, pamphlets, sermons, and letters Luther said and wrote, no word was more important than his last, simple, “Yah.”

With that single word, Luther declined to recant that which he had so powerfully preached and proclaimed. With that word, Luther showed that when everything else is gone and there are no more tomorrows, we are saved by God-given faith in the crucified and risen Redeemer.

Is this something you also believe? I pray that you, like Luther, can say, “Yah!”

PRAYER: Dear Lord, we give thanks for the heroes of faith whom You have raised up. We rejoice that You took sinners and used them to accomplish Your purposes. Today we ask that the Holy Spirit touch lost hearts and let them join with Luther in his last confession of faith: “Yah. I am saved by faith alone, as shown in Scripture alone, by God's grace alone.” In Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Pastor Karner  
*1 Thessalonians 5:23-24*

**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)



*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 News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Save the date!*  
**Altar Guild Appreciation  
Light Breakfast and Meeting**  
Saturday, October 14, at 9am — Parish Center

Women of Immanuel  
We will be celebrating our Christmas Potluck on  
Saturday, December 16 at noon in the OSB.  
**Please save the date.** All Women of Immanuel are  
welcome.

The next joint Stewardship and Evangelism  
Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10 at  
7 pm in the Parish Center.

**A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO MEMBERS  
AND ALUMNI**

Forward In Faith serves to grow a “rainy day” fund that addresses the unplanned needs of the church and school long-term. 25% of every dollar given is set aside and fully restricted for Immanuel Lutheran Church & School’s future. The remaining 75% is also restricted, however, accessible and managed by the church council as needed to address non-budgeted needs and projects and to maintain or update/upgrade church and school facilities. At times there may be no needs or projects, other times, there may be several simultaneously. Some small, others of great size. Regardless of the need, Forward In Faith insures that Immanuel Lutheran is better prepared for the needs of the congregation, our school, and all our facilities when they happen moving forward.

**Consider making a gift to the Forward In Faith fund today!**

*From  
The Board of Christian Stewardship*



**CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN**



Ann L. Winters

April 10, 1933 — September 16, 2023



**Immanuel welcomes  
through the rite of Holy Baptism**  
**Carson Herbert Sherman**  
Son of Irving Sherman and Breeann Redman  
**Baptized on September 10, 2023**



Can you identify this couple?  
Their names will be in next month’s Messenger.



### **NEW DATE for our Oktoberfest!**

It's Oktoberfest at our **Thursday, October 12** lunch for our "over age 50" crowd, and you don't want to miss this German Lunch!! Our German cooks are preparing most of the food and others are bringing great dishes for us to enjoy. For only \$5, you can enjoy a wonderful meal of German potato salad, Sauerkraut, sausage, many other dishes and apple desserts. If you help us fill the tables, we ask for only \$2; call Lynda H. 585-7004 for suggestions. This is your personal invitation to attend, call your friends and remind them of this 11:30 Oktoberfest in the old school basement.

Wear your German clothes if you have them and enjoy our entertainment programs this year.

There will be photos from our August German Fest, music, and a wonderful German game we will be playing for the first time with prizes.

Also this month in our school gym, on Friday, October 27 there will be the Annual Sauerkraut Supper, so remember to buy your tickets to support our school.

Next month on Thursday, November 2, we will celebrate our group's Anniversary with the traditional Soup & Sandwich Lunch. It's over 25 years that we have been having these Senior Lunches for you to enjoy.

In December be sure to save the date on your calendar for our annual Christmas Party at Max 4 Restaurant on Middle St. on Thursday, December 7. We are looking for your help in presenting some entertainment for our party – perhaps many talented people can tell jokes, or be singers or magicians or musicians. Let Julie Follo know what hidden talent you have to add to the our noontime Christmas party.

Hope to welcome you at 11:30, Thursday October 12, for German Food, Fellowship and Fun!

From your



Many of us today face challenging situations. What a comfort to know we can turn to our Lord anytime, day or night. The Holy Bible reassures us that all things are possible if we believe. God shows us daily with His Grace and Mercy, none of which we deserve.

Jesus died on that cross and forgave all our sins and rose again on the third day. So we can live with him eternally. What a blessing!! What more do we need.

Anyone requesting a visit please call my cell phone and leave a message at 860-877-0022.

**WALK AND TALK** – Every Tuesday at 9:30 am. in the Parish Center. Open to all adults. Please join us.

**LADIES LUNCHEON** – Tuesday, October 10, at 12:30 at BARC. Bring a Friend. We are encouraging men to please join us. You will have your own table.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – Tuesday, October 17, at noon in the Parish Center. Please join us and bring your lunch.

For those interested, Blood Pressures will be taken in the office every second Sunday after the 8am service.

God's Blessings,

Roberta Kuhr,  
Parish Nurse

### **WANTED! APPLE PIE BAKERS**

We need your help baking those Apple Pies you love for dessert at our annual Sauerkraut Supper in the gym on Friday, October 27. Free apples, as well as recipes, will be available to bakers on October 15. Sign up on Sunday at the Christian Mart. Deliver your pie to the gym on Friday the 27th between 10 am and 4 pm.

Thanks so much pie bakers!

## The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club

# ***Photographing the Suborder Anisoptera***

***The Dragonfly*** is a flying insect belonging to the suborder Anisoptera below the order Odonata. About 3,000 extant species of true *dragonflies* are known. That's always good to remember!

***Patience is key!*** Dragonflies are fascinating insects which can be particularly photogenic due to their bright colors and striking patterns but they're challenging to capture because they are fast, can scare easily and never seem to keep still. They've even developed a knack for flying backwards which comes in handy when trying to catch flies and mosquitoes.

Wingspans go from  $\frac{3}{4}$ " for the Amberwing, 1" for the Calico,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " for the Pondhawk and Halloween Pennant, and  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " for the Blue Dasher and Twelve-spotted Skimmer.

Tools: Tripod, Nikon D500 DSLR, Sigma 150-600mm lens shooting at 9 feet minimum, variable ISO from 450 to 2600, shutter speeds up to  $\frac{1}{3200}$  of a second, and noise reduction software.



Halloween Pennant



Calico Pennant



Blue Dasher



Eastern Pondhawk



Eastern Amberwing



Twelve-spotted Skimmer

**Join us!** Our next meeting is, Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

# Thank You



Dear Immanuel Lutheran foundation,

I am writing to express my gratitude for being chosen as a recipient of the Westfall II trust Scholarship. I learned and experienced so much during my first year of college, and I expect that this year will be similarly impactful. I am blessed to receive your support in the coming year, and so very thankful for your generosity. Thank you, and God bless.

Sincerely,  
Hannah Krueger



Dear Mr. Wentland, the Westfall family, and the members of the Immanuel Lutheran Foundation,

Thank you so much for your generosity in awarding me the Westfall II Trust Scholarship. It is truly a blessing to me, my family, and my education. With your support, I am able to attend Boston College as a nursing major with less financial burden. I am extremely grateful.

Again, thank you and God bless,  
Gabriella Buonafede



Thank you to the Westfall family and Immanuel Lutheran Foundation for the generous scholarship you awarded me. I greatly appreciate this scholarship to help me with my Central Connecticut State University education.

Thank you so very much.  
Sincerely, Luke Foley

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

I am incredibly grateful to have been chosen as a recipient of the Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarship Award for the 23-24 school year. My first year of college had a great positive impact on me, and I hope to learn and grow even more in the coming year thanks to your support. I am blessed and thankful for your generosity, and I hope to be able to give back to my church community with the knowledge and experience I receive in college.

Thank you, and God Bless,  
Sincerely,  
Hannah Krueger



Thank you Immanuel Lutheran church for the generous Scholarship award. I really appreciate this scholarship to help me with my textbook and college expenses at Central Connecticut State University.

Than you very much,  
Sincerely,  
Luke Foley



Cake Bakers & Potato Panoake Makers

Kitchen Cookers & All the Grillers

Biermeisters & Monitors

Preppers & Runners

Ticket Sellers & Kinderland Wranglers

Setter uppers & Taker downers

## German Festival Volunteers

# You're All Invited!

## To the annual post-fest thank you BBQ

Date: Saturday, October 14th

Time: 3:15 PM

Location: Rick & Rhoda's  
85 East Road, Bristol, CT 06010

Rain Date: October 21, 2023

Learn how we did at the festival, eat some good food, games and prizes, relax and enjoy a good time with your fellow volunteers!

RSVP to Rhoda Lange at: (860) 543-5992 or if questions

## LWML

will have a loose change collection on Sunday, October 15, following both services.

Your donations will help us fund our

Mission Projects and reach our Mission Goal.

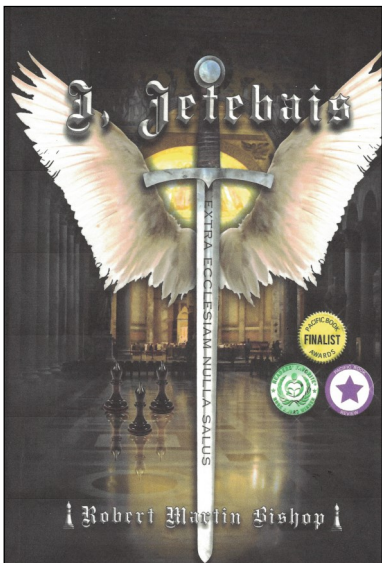
Thank you,  
Lutheran Women's Missionary League

# HISTORY REMEMBERED

by Vern Koch



Can you identify any of these students from Vern's 4th grade class? Their names will be in next month's Messenger.



For those who remember Pastor Robert Riedel and his wife Dorothy as they served Immanuel from 1961-1975 before becoming the first President of the New England District. They had three children, the youngest being Allen. Known now by his pen name, Robert Martin Bishop, he has written a book he claimed was loosely based on my personality which he experienced when I had him in the fourth grade here at Immanuel. The following quote from the jacket of "I Jetebais" will give you a glimpse into his astounding use of the English language. If you would like to be challenged and read this book, it is available from me at any time, Vern Koch.

"Life as a pastor's kid in the 1960s in Bristol Connecticut, immersed Robert Martin Bishop in theology. The divisions that existed between the churches in that small town, such as nuns from the Catholic Church not being allowed to walk on the sidewalk in front of the Lutheran Church, shaped his thinking about the integration and separation that exist in faith. This led him to ponder the integration and separation that is inherent in the story of the Angels and Satan. Bishop was a prolific writer in college, penning short stories and poems in his free time. It was during college that the story of Jetebais began to form in his mind. After retiring from Sales and Management, then retiring from teaching high school, he has been able to devote himself full time to writing."

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **School News** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**From the Principal's Desk**

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

The season of autumn is finally upon us and our students have settled into their new routines.

The 7th and 8th grade students have welcomed the responsibility of reading our morning announcements, putting up and taking down the flags, and serving as acolytes during our Chapel services.

Our Chapel offerings for the first half of the year will be going toward the LCMS ministry that supports chaplains who serve on active duty in the armed forces, to deliver Word and Sacrament to our military personnel and their families.

On October 6th, our faculty will be joining other New England Lutheran school teachers in Holyoke, Massachusetts for fellowship and professional development. We look forward to sharing and gathering ideas to help improve our school.

Please continue to keep our faculty and students in your prayers as we continue to grow.

Yours In Christ,  
Deborah Krueger

The ILS PTO will be doing two fundraisers starting October 2. We will have **Lyman Orchard pies** and cookie dough as well as **Charleston Wrap** (wrapping paper and household goods). These fundraisers will run through October 13th. Pies/cookie dough will be delivered to school a week before Thanksgiving and the other gets delivered directly to purchasers. Order forms will be available in the office.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Our annual Sauerkraut Supper will be held on Friday, October 27**

Once again, the middle school students will be your servers. Our delicious menu will include brats, pork, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, hot dogs, bread, butter, green beans, beets, and, of course, don't forget to save room for our apple pie! So come on down and enjoy a wonderful meal and some fabulous fellowship.

Tickets are available for purchase in the Church and School office 7:30am to 3:30pm and at the Christian Mart between services on Sundays.

**Prices are: Adults \$25, Students \$12, Seniors (over 65) \$20**

Seating times are 4:30, 5:15, 6:00, & 6:45  
Takeout will also be available.


*Once again we need our wonderful volunteers for baking those delicious apple pies.  
Thank you for your support.*



**SAUERKRAUT SUPPER  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023**


**WHO'S TIRED OF COOKING?**

Take a break and enjoy some delicious fried chicken, support a local business and help raise money for our school!



Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm  
Greers Chicken  
64 Matthews St Bristol

A portion of all sales will go towards the ILS PTO to help with student enrichment and activities throughout the year.



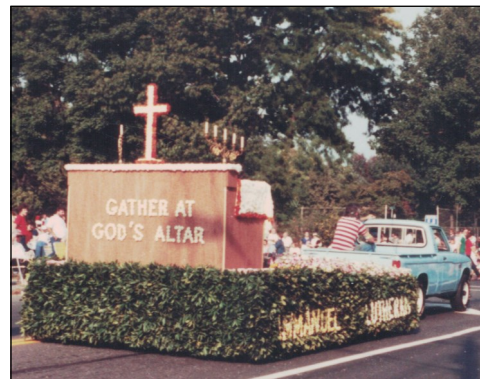


# PAST MUM PARADES by Vern Koch

1983 Best Live Flowers



1984 Best Youth Group



1999



## OCTOBER 2023 BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Anne Karner Rosemary Ryskowski	<b>2</b> Kathryn Provencal	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Michael Harrington Rachel Savage	<b>5</b> Benjamin Bourgoin	<b>6</b> Crystal Fitzgerald David Kuharski Tracy Mitchell	<b>7</b> Andrea Jabs Mike Pankenier
<b>8</b> Lindsey Schaffrick	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Aiden Berrian Nancy Martone	<b>11</b> Vincent Bartucca Lana Dupee Bob Wollenberg	<b>12</b> Sarah Bugryn	<b>13</b> Barbara Emmert Hannah Richards	<b>14</b> Louise Chromy Cynthia Grossmann
<b>15</b> Michael Hamelin Jay Thaxter	<b>16</b> Nicholas Dunn- Milkowski Douglas Fitz, Jr. Norm Winters	<b>17</b> Samantha Shamson	<b>18</b> C. Lindsey Bradshaw Kayle Burt Paul Tessier Rebecca Wolfe	<b>19</b> Myah Croze Susan Ginter	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Sandra Hamelin	<b>24</b> Tara Hogan Thomas Madigan -Scheidel Gretchen Radcliff Jackson Stringer	<b>25</b> Janet Bailey	<b>26</b> Enola Kahle Richard Rindfleisch	<b>27</b> Susan Killian Cynthia Krueger	<b>28</b> John Hebert
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Jillian Kuharski	<b>31</b>				



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