

Rev. Kevin A. Karner
Pastor

Deborah Krueger
School Principal

Messenger

September 2024

Vol. 24 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
OCTOBER
Messenger is
September 25.

JOIN THE FUN AT THE 2024 GERMAN FESTIVAL!

Friday, SEP 20th
6 PM - 9 PM

&

Saturday, SEP 21st
12 PM - 9 PM



Get the latest
info on the
festival

Scan me

Friday Menu

Bratwurst
Hot dogs
Sauerkraut
Vesperplatte
German Pretzels
German Desserts
Imported German Beers
Wine & other beverages

Saturday Menu

Roasted Pork
Sauerkraut
Spätzle
Bratwurst
Vesperplatte (while it lasts!)
German Pretzels
German Desserts
Imported German Beers
Wine & other beverages



SATURDAY FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Official U.S. Stein-holding Competition (21+ only)
at 3 PM (arrive by 2 PM to participate)



Live German Music by the Austrian Boys Band

FREE Kinderland Activity Area For Kids with
facepainter, mini-golf, games, crafts, scavenger
hunts, prizes, and more!...



Friendly Event

154 Meadow Street, Bristol, CT (on the corner of West & Meadow Streets, across from the Boys & Girls Club)

BAKERS! BAKERS!

GERMAN CAKE BAKERS NEEDED!!



At our German Festival on September 20 & 21, 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 Friday and Saturday, September 20 & 21, 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. There is a signup sheet near the Christian Mart.





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 25th 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

From the Pastor's Desk

“A Covenant of Forgetting”

Psalm 103:10-12 - *He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.*

It's no surprise that God remembers. He is God, after all, our all-knowing, almighty Creator, who says, “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:9). God remembered – and fulfilled – His covenant promise, sending His Anointed One, the long-awaited Messiah, His only Son. Yet Scripture also assures us that there are some things, surprisingly enough, that God doesn't remember. “I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins” (Isaiah 43:25). His new covenant is a covenant of forgetting: “I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah ... I will remember their sin no more” (Jeremiah 31:31b, 34b).

Our sins are washed away in Jesus' blood, the blood of that new covenant. God doesn't remember those sins or hold them against us, but all too often we remember them quite clearly. Our sins can loom large in our eyes. We become fearful, wondering if we're truly forgiven, even imagining that we can't be forgiven. Will God hold certain sins against us, those sins we find so hard to forget? Maybe He forgives everything else, but what about those sins of which we're so

ashamed, the ones we've confessed but can't forget? Doubts arise in our hearts and minds.

The psalm assures us, “He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.” God deals with us, not according to our sins, but according to His grace. He sent His Son Jesus to be born among us, the Lamb who laid down His life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. Jesus shouldered that guilt that's so hard for us to lay aside. The “record of debt that stood against us” has been cancelled, nailed to the cross (Colossians 2:14). At the cross of Jesus, God cancelled out our sins, not because we're worthy or deserving, but because His love for us is “as high as the heavens are above the earth.” God removes our sins from us “as far as the east is from the west,” distances that are beyond measure.

When we're tempted to dredge up the memory of our sins, we can turn to our Savior and, through Him, we can measure the measureless love of God and determine the profound depths of His forgetfulness. His love is as wide and as tall as the rough-hewn cross once lifted up outside of Jerusalem. His forgetfulness concerning our sins is as deep and as dark as Easter's empty tomb.

THE PRAYER: Lord Jesus, when we're troubled by sin and guilt, turn our hearts and minds to You, to the cross and empty tomb, and to Your measureless love. 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

Dear Member(s) of Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Recently, it was proposed that we consider changing our Sunday morning Divine Service schedule to include one service time instead of two (year-around, not just during the summer). In other words, instead of having two services at 8:00am and 10:45am we would gather at one Sunday morning service (at a time to be determined).

This proposal has been discussed among the Board of Elders, the Church Council, and at the July Voter’s Assembly. What follows are some of the “pros” and “cons” that have been identified during these discussions:

PROS

- Positive Energy (more voices)
- Unity of fellowship
- Communion every service
- Easier on staff & altar guild
- Adequate # of ushers

CONS

- Longer services
- Decrease in attendance
- Harder for elderly & night time workers to attend

This survey is to determine how much interest there is to make a change to our Sunday morning schedule. It is ONLY a survey; the final decision rests with the voter’s assembly.

Please check the appropriate box below, detach the bottom section, and return your survey as soon as possible. You may do so by: 1) placing it in the offering plate, 2) mailing it to the church office, or 3) dropping it off at the church office.

If you have questions regarding this survey please contact me.

One survey per communicant member.

Thank you for your response.

Pastor Karner, (on behalf of the Board of Elders).

() **Yes, I am in favor of having one Sunday morning service.**

() **No, I am NOT in favor of having one Sunday morning service.**

() **Other (Please specify below).**

Young at Heart

Here it is September already, and we are busy planning the German Fest on Sept. 20-21 and our special INTERNATIONAL LUNCH for September 5, Thursday, at 11:30. Everyone is asked to add to our buffet tables by bringing a special dish or item from China, Italy, Mexico, Spain, Sweden, Germany, etc. that you enjoy. What a surprise it will be to see what we will be eating on Sept.5.

After our interesting lunch, Immanuel’s Jason Krueger, Director of our Bristol Senior Center, and the Social Worker will make us all aware of the community programs available for older adults.

Find out what you may be missing out on or be eligible for as a senior in our area.

Last month we had directors of KINDCARE as our program and they have reached out to our group to partner with them in some of their programs. Right now they are looking for one or two knitters who could teach a few residents how to KNIT; if you can help please let Julie Follo know.

Be sure to save the date of October 3, Thursday, for our Young-at-Heart OKTOBERFEST Lunch here at 11:30 in the OSB. We are looking for ideas for German Entertainment so let us know if you have



Photos from our August luncheon. Ellyn Arter, sale and marketing manager of Kindcare.

suggestions for Oct. 3. We always enjoy wonderful German foods and hope you can help fill our buffet tables; need suggestions - call Lynda 860-585-7004.

Join us on September 5, and also plan to bake or volunteer for our German Fest also. Blessings!

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 8, Pastor Karner 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.

2024 Foundation Scholarship Awards

Each year since 2006, the Foundation has presented scholarships made possible by bequests from Amelia Westfall.

The Westfall I scholarship makes funds available to a member of Immanuel pursuing a career in the ministry of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. **Deborah Krueger** is a recipient of this award.

The Westfall II scholarships are to be awarded to

Deserving high school graduates and undergraduate students who are members of Immanuel Lutheran Church or graduates of Immanuel Lutheran School and they are to be presented in memory of Amelia Westfall and her siblings; Elenora, Helena, Wanda, and Emil Westfall.

This year’s recipients are:

- Gabriella Buonafede:**
- Hannah Krueger:**
- Kurt Radcliff:**

Please join us weekly at the Parish Center.



CARDS Every Monday at 1:00 pm. (No card on Sept. 2 Labor Day). Open to all adults. Please join us for an afternoon of laughs.

Walking every Tuesday at 9:00 weather permitting, and **Walk and Talk** at 9:30 am. (No Walk and Talk on Sept. 3) All are welcomed. We are a fun group – we even laugh! Snacks and coffee provided. Please join us, we'd love to see you.

LUNCH at BARC

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, **September 10**, at BARC - 12:30 pm. Join us and bring a friend.

Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Sept. 17 at noon. Bring a lunch, and join us for a Bible Study in the Parish Center.



If anyone in the church would like a visit from the Parish Nurse, please contact me. If someone is being admitted to the hospital or having surgery, please let me know.

God's Blessings,
Roberta Kuhr RN BSN FCN
860-621-0230

Immanuel Lutheran Church announces its 2024 Scholarship Awards

This year's recipients are:

- Gabriella Buonafede
- Hannah Krueger
- Kurt Radcliff



Photos from LUNCH at BARC on July 8



CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN



Phyllis Steinackle

August 9, 1939 — July 22, 2024



Clifford McCorrison

January 17, 1939 — August 27, 2024



~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **VBS 2024** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



Thank you to all the wonderful, giving and generous volunteers for "God's Living Water" ! 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!! We give all the Glory to God.

Brenda Buonafede



The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club

Photo Club Assignments for 2024 - 2025



September - Monochrome

New Year's Day for the Photo Club is September 3. With it comes the 2024-2025 Photo Club Assignments or Topics for the next 10 months.

The best way to learn photography is to practice...to push yourself to new things...to change your perspective. Assignments define what to photograph and maybe a way to get out of a rut. They help develop new skills and inspire the imagination.

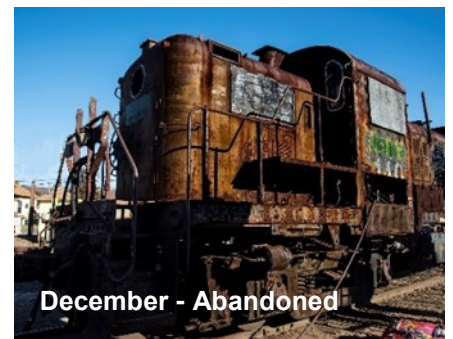
That's all good!



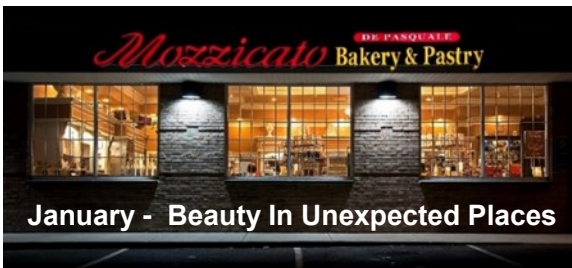
October - Flowers in Nature



November- Waves and Ripples



December - Abandoned



January - Beauty In Unexpected Places



February - Animals



March – Intriguing Reflections



April -The Color Red



May - Cold



June - Patriotic

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

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

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

A new school year has begun and we are excited to see all of our returning families and welcome new families as well.

The theme for our 2024-2025 school year is "Endure" from Hebrews 12:1-3. It reminds us to run the race that is set before us with endurance, looking to Jesus for strength as we remember that He endured the cross for us.

We have two new staff members joining us this year. Kathy Burns is our new PK4 teacher and Katie Stevens will be teaching art along with algebra and some reading classes. Sheila Martel is returning this year, but in a new position as our music teacher.

Our oldest toddlers just graduated and will now be entering three year old preschool. We are excited to see them advance and join us in the main school building!

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

Attention all 7th and 8th grade Public School students!

Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday,
September 4 at 4:15pm.
Please contact the church office at 860-583-5649.



Youth Sunday School will begin on
September 8th
9:30-10:30 AM.

We will begin in the library at **9:30** for music time.
Pre-K through Kindergarten will have
additional activities in a nearby Pre-K room.

Students **Grades 1 - 5** will continue in the
library. Activities will include Bible Stories,
games and crafts.

Parents are welcome to join the Adult Bible
Study in the Old School Building during that time.

Please contact Diane Ruffino (860-685-0626)
or wdruffino@att.net
if you have any questions.

A special voter's meeting is being called by Howard Schmelder, President, For September 8 following the 8 am service. Single item agenda: expected expense of steeple repair.

~~~~~

## **Steeple project update**

The Board of Trustees would like to provide the latest update regarding the steeple project.

The steeple work that has been completed has temporarily secured the brick facade that was a risk hazard to any pedestrians. The water leak that was occurring through the steeple base into the sanctuary has been corrected.

The contractor we anticipate using is Valley Restoration. This contractor has made 2 site visits and has prepared a scope of work and anticipated budget. We are waiting on an engineer's confirmation of the contractor's proposed plan. We expect to receive the engineer's report within the next 2 weeks. After receipt of the engineer's report, the contractor will provide a more in depth plan and budget proposal. Then, a special congregation meeting will be scheduled. The meeting will be a presentation of the anticipated repairs, the budget numbers, and a plan to raise the funds. Congregational approval needs to be obtained in order to schedule the work. Presently, a completion date of summer 2025 is anticipated.

In the interim, the brickwork is temporarily secured, pedestrian safety from falling brick is minimized and the roof leak is contained.

If there are any questions, feel free to contact any member of the Bd. of Trustees

Respectfully,  
Robert Wollenberg, Chair, Bd. Of Trustees  
860-877-3031 (call or text), [robertwollenberg@gmail.com](mailto:robertwollenberg@gmail.com)



**Church News**



**LUTHERANS FOR LIFE - REGIONAL CONFERENCE - NORTHEAST**



**Immanuel Lutheran Church  
on Saturday, September 14, 8 am – 4 pm**

Hear from national life experts reaching others with the Gospel of Life, enjoy time of fellowship and service together. Registration includes a catered lunch. Limited childcare slots available coordinated by the congregation.

**SPEAKERS**

- **Rev. Evan McClanahan, *Pastor, First Lutheran Houston***  
Presentation - Biblical Manhood
- **Rev. Scott Licht, *CFO/COO, Lutherans For Life***  
Presentation - India, Finding Life in Christ Amid the Orphan Crisis
- **Michelle Bauman**  
*Director of Y4Life, Lutherans For Life*  
Presentation - Raising Life Affirming Kids
- **Rev. Michael Salemink**  
*Executive Director, Lutherans For Life*

**REGISTRATION** <https://lutheransforlife.org/conferences/>

**Adult Registration \$25.00 includes lunch.**

**Youth Registration \$12.50 includes lunch.** (Youth age 13 thru college age).

**Child Registration w/childcare includes lunch, and snack, Children must be potty-trained.** A fee or donation may apply. (Space is limited).

**SEPTEMBER 2024 BIRTHDAYS**

| Sun                                                     | Mon                                                               | Tue                                                               | Wed                                                                                 | Thu                                              | Fri                                                                            | Sat                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>Jonathan Harrington                         | <b>2</b><br>Shari Kohl<br>Elias Lopisi                            | <b>3</b><br>Barbara Greenlaw<br>Keegan Thormahlen<br>Brian Winter | <b>4</b><br>Reinhart Hermann, Jr.<br>Meghan Roy                                     | <b>5</b><br>Marcia Massaro<br>Trina Theriault    | <b>6</b><br>Lindsey Klemyk<br>Leo Madore                                       | <b>7</b>                                                            |
| <b>8</b><br>Heidi Dennis<br>Dawn Ewen                   | <b>9</b><br>Brittany Dunn<br>Michelle Helming<br>Jonathan Tessier | <b>10</b>                                                         | <b>11</b><br>Cody McIntyre                                                          | <b>12</b><br>Pamela Prindle<br>Josie Rindfleisch | <b>13</b><br>Sarah Gurgigno                                                    | <b>14</b><br>Shannon Gurgigno<br>Jaime Mitchell<br>George Tavernier |
| <b>15</b><br>Grady Savage                               | <b>16</b><br>Clara Mason                                          | <b>17</b><br>Joan Kirschner                                       | <b>18</b><br>Rebecca Fitzinger<br>Ronald Helming<br>Janet Romanko<br>Kimberly Wolfe | <b>19</b><br>Savana Tonn                         | <b>20</b><br>Joseph Zerbey                                                     | <b>21</b><br>Elizabeth Mazzaccaro                                   |
| <b>22</b><br>Noah Delaney<br>Tom Hislop<br>Cole Raymond | <b>23</b><br>Cordelia Behrendt<br>Paul Tessman                    | <b>24</b><br>Joshua Bodley                                        | <b>25</b><br>Robin Bodley                                                           | <b>26</b>                                        | <b>27</b><br>Anthony Buonafede<br>Rickard Darm<br>Karen Machado<br>Jordan Tonn | <b>28</b><br>James Jacy<br>Christine Morel<br>William Wentland, Jr. |
| <b>29</b><br>Jared Krueger<br>Fred Mitchell             | <b>30</b><br>Kristine Beaudet<br>Kylie Berrian<br>Quinn Tessier   |                                                                   |                                                                                     |                                                  |                                                                                |                                                                     |



NON-PROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 BRISTOL, CT 06010  
 PERMIT NO. 382

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 154 MEADOW STREET  
 BRISTOL, CT 06010  
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Messenger 