

Rev. Kevin A. Karner
Pastor

Deborah Krueger
School Principal

Messenger

November 2024

Vol. 24 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



Vernon C. Koch

*A gift from Lois Koch
and family.*

*This music note plaque will
be on the church organ. The
bottom photo shows what is
on the back of the music note.*

Vernon C. Koch
January 17, 1939-September 9, 2024
Organist Immanuel Lutheran Church
August 1961-September 2024



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

November 10-16

It's that time of year when we try to fill our community food banks for the holidays. We will be collecting for a week instead of 2 days. **Please help us out by bringing in non-perishable food items and place them in the box in the lobby.** Most sought after items are ones that can be opened and ready to eat. Any questions please feel free to contact Christy Hislop or Christina Curry.

Ready to eat items:

- Beef Stew
- Canned Soup
- Cereal/Oatmeal for children
- Peanut Butter/Jelly
- Frozen Turkeys - bring in only on November 16 & 17
- Canned Tuna/Chicken
- Instant Soups, Rice
- Juice Bottles
- Paper Supplies
- Pasta/Sauce
- Single Serve Snacks
- Personal Care Items
- Coffee/Tea/Powdered Creamer

THANK YOU and GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

“A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.” — Proverbs 22:9



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 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

“Thanks for What?”

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, “The LORD Reigns!” Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for He comes to judge the earth. Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever! 1 Chronicles 16:31-34

This month, America stops to count its blessings.

Actually, I should say this month is when most Americans count their blessings. I say most, because, according to a study done by LifeWay Research, there are those who just don't do a lot of thanking. Instead, their survey said that seven percent of Americans don't offer up any thanks on Thanksgiving Day. Another four percent said they don't thank God, or family, or anybody else, for that matter. Two percent said they have nothing for which to be thankful.

I'll bet they're a lot of fun to have at the holiday table.

That being said, the giving of thanks remains important to the vast majority of our people and, even though the Lord has been insulted by society and shoved to the side by various groups, most of us still give thanks to our God for all He has done for us.

Now that doesn't mean we're all thankful for the same thing. We're not.

For example, if you are 65 or older, you're most likely thankful for family (92 percent) and good health (86 percent). A lot lower on your list would be things like “fun experiences.”

On the other hand, if you're 25 or younger, you're likely to value those fun expe-

riences (70 percent) and your own personal achievements (61 percent).

This may lead you to ask, “Is there any common place where age groups come together and show an appreciative attitude?”

The answer is yes. No, it's not in offering thanks for money or a good job. Nor do most folks wish to show their gratitude for friends and a comfortable home.

That which brings together young and old, rich and poor, educated and self-taught is – can you guess – it's family. It's in our families that we do our best and most frequent arguing, but it's also in our families that we find love, understanding and compassion. Maybe that explains why 80 percent of people put “family” at the top of their list.

Following up were things like health (77 percent), personal freedom (72 percent), and friends (71 percent).

Now I know you just have to be dying to find out what was at the bottom of people's lists for appreciation. Well, it's not what you might think. No, occupying the lowest spot is wealth.

Now I don't know how you would have answered those pollsters if they had called you. But I most certainly pray you would have insisted they put “My Savior” onto their list. Truly, if you have the Savior and all the blessings His sacrificial life has won, you have everything you need. Without Him, well, without Him, the other blessings, while still wonderful, somehow don't shine as bright.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, may every day of our lives be filled with thanks for our Savior. In His Name. Amen.

Pastor Karner

1 Thessalonians 5:23

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** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Immanuel welcomes through the rite of Holy Baptisms
Lee Marsh Tessman
 Son of Ryan Tessman and Michaela Violette
Baptized on October 13, 2024
 —●—
Jackson William Esteves
 Son of Jonathan and Brianna Esteves
Baptized on October 20, 2024




Mid-Week Worship this month:
Thanksgiving Eve
Nov. 27
7 pm
 —●—
Mid-Week Worship in December:
Advent
 Dec. 4
 Dec. 11
 Dec. 18
10:45 am and 7 pm


LWML
 Thank you for your donations to the loose change collection. We collected \$417.82
 Your donations will help us fund our Mission Projects and reach our Mission Goal.
 Thank you from the Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Please join us weekly at the Parish Center.
Parish Nurse CARDS Every Monday at 1:00 pm. 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. 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, **November 12**, at BARC - 12:30 pm. Join us and bring a friend.

Women's Bible Study
Tuesday, November 5 and 19 at noon. Bring a lunch, and join us for a Bible Study in the Parish Center. 

The Women of Immanuel will hold their annual Christmas potluck on Saturday, December 7 at noon in the OSB. Bring your favorite dish and a friend; desserts will be provided. All women are welcome. Mark your calendar to celebrate the Advent of the coming of our Lord with your sisters in Christ.
 Don't forget to bring your Mite Box offering for LWML.



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

In Remembrance of Vern Koch

These messages were sent to Lois in remembrance of Vern.
She would like to share a few of them with you.

I've known Vern since meeting him in the summer of 1970. I taught with him for 6 years, sang in his choir, and was often accompanied by him for wedding solos. He holds a cherished page in my memories. With gratitude to God for such a special friend.

We were all blessed to have Vern in our life. I was blessed to have him as a teacher.

I cannot even tell you what a friend Vern was to our whole family, from the time he came to Bristol. So many stories; so many memories. He was one of the great people of the faith. No one lived their faith everyday the way Vern did. He was loved by everyone who knew him.

I had Mr. Koch as a 5th grade teacher in 1968-69, and he made a lasting impact. I became a teacher in part because of him. I will miss running into him around town.

Many of us remember the times we were without a chief shepherd-sometimes for long periods of time and there was Vern — always willing and competently able to step into the breach. One of the sheep assuming the role of chief shepherd during the emergencies. How blest we were! We remember much with exceeding gratitude.

I was a student at Immanuel Lutheran School, when Mr. Koch was principal and attended church when he played the organ. At 22 years old now I still remember him as a wonderful man and impactful example. Once again, I am so sorry for your loss.

Vern was such an inspiration to me and we'd always have the best conversations.

He was a wonderful teacher who really helped me to learn and love music in a way that I hadn't before because I'd always struggled with reading music. I appreciated all that he did for me and I'll cherish those memories of playing bells with him in that 8th grade class forever!

Memories of Vern. Most of all I will remember a man of strong faith who loved his Lord, family, music, organs, friends, and students.

We lost an amazing man, Mr. Koch. But now we will carry on his memory and all the great lessons he taught. Mr. Koch was an incredible friend, mentor and teacher and my life will forever be better for knowing him.

I have so many wonderful memories of Vern. Many of my favorites have to do with our DC Trips. Vern would always enjoy telling the kids stories especially when we reached Gettysburg. It was a joy to see him interact with the kids.

I find it very difficult to put into words my thoughts on my friend Vern. I'm deeply saddened by his passing. He was a true man of unwavering faith in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! He demonstrated that faith every day of his life. His life long service to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School is unparalleled in the history of our church. He was a mentor to me in many aspects of my life. Whenever there was a situation or problem at the school or church, I knew I could talk with Vern about it and he always listened thoughtfully and then would give me counsel and advise. What I will miss most is his playing of our magnificent Austin pipe organ. He was a master at those key boards and I learned much from him that helped me to fill in whenever he needed me.

Well Done Thou Good and Faithful Servant!

Young at Heart

We are celebrating this month as it is our 30th ANNIVERSARY of our Senior Lunch program here at Immanuel. It was back in November of 1994 when Rev. Rockemann put in a bulletin announcement asking for older members to get together for lunch and fellowship. A few changes have happened since then, but here we are still enjoying getting together for lunch and fellowship and an interesting program, so join us on Thursday, November 7. We will share homemade soups and sandwiches and an anniversary cake at 11:30 in the old school basement.

It's a \$5 donation or only \$2, if you bring food to share; call Lynda at 860-585-7004 with questions.

Last month thirty-four of us enjoyed our annual German Lunch followed by a fun Oktoberfest Bingo game with prizes. After lunch this month we will welcome therapists from nearby Select Physical Therapy to help us out as many of us frequently say

"Oh, My Aching Back!"

Come for helpful suggestions and demonstrations.

Invitations for our annual Christmas Party will be distributed at this lunch or mailed to you. Join us on Thursday, December 5 at 11:30 at Max IV Restaurant on Middle St. on the second floor (elevator) where there is easy parking and we'll be the only group there. This year our musical entertainment will be provided by the talented couple, Kevin and Diane Read. If you didn't get an invitation, please call the church office and one will be mailed out to you so you can join us.

Remember to mark your calendar for our 30th Anniversary Lunch on Nov. 7. The deadline for our Dec. 5 Christmas Party signup is Wednesday Nov. 27. Why stay home alone; come and enjoy the Christian fellowship that Immanuel has offered our older members for 30 years!!

Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarship Thank You

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

I am writing to express my gratitude for your continued support through the Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarship. This generous award has helped me so much over the past two years, and I am thankful to have been chosen again this year. I am excited to continue my Linguistics studies in my junior year, and your support in this means so much to me and my future. I hope to give back to Immanuel as you have so generously given to me, and I thank God for this gift.

God Bless,
Hannah Krueger



**You are invited to Immanuel Lutheran School's Annual Veterans Day Celebration
Friday, November 8,
at 9:00 AM**

In the gym followed by a continental breakfast.

All Veterans will be recognized and thanked for their service.

We look forward to seeing you!



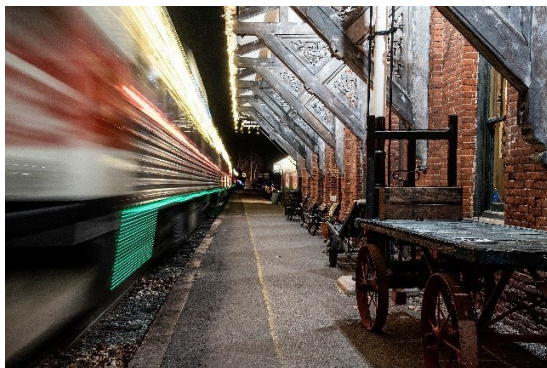
**Veterans Day,
Monday, Nov. 11**

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Digital Photography Club

Roadtrip The Original Big Wheels!

IT'S HISTORY MEASURED IN TONS

Throughout history, trains have been a source of great excitement due to their ability to rapidly transport people and goods over long distances, essentially "shrinking" the world. This led to a sense of wonder and adventure particularly during the Industrial Revolution when they were a new technology. This excitement was further fueled by the spectacle of a huge, powerful steam engine. That experience can still be had standing next to these beauties. Visit the Essex and Thomaston Train stations or better yet, travel to the Scranton and Stroudsburg train museums in Pennsylvania. Be sure to take your camera along so you can ring your memories back home. Yes, Scranton... that's where the Big Boy lives.



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



Orphan Grain Train Announces Shipment

Volunteers for the Orphan Grain Train's (OGT) New England Branch, located at 33 South Main St. in Terryville, Ct. loaded a 53 foot container of needed items on Oct. 14 for the hurricane victims in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. OGT has the use of a warehouse in Terryville that is owned by Mr. Bill Allread, who has made space available for this charitable work.

The shipment was sent to the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP), one of our mission partners, which aids those less fortunate over a 12 state area and is headquartered in Kentucky. They will forward the items sent to the affected states and have already sent 12 truckloads into the area. The shipment included an estimated 20,000 pounds of supplies including Hygiene kits, Blankets, Clothing, Layette kits, over 1800 pounds of Food, Tools, Toys, Household items, Beds, 3 Refrigerators, Appliances, Lawn tools, Furniture, Medical supplies, Buckets and Cleanup items. The shipment is scheduled to arrive on Oct. 15 and be offloaded for transport to the affected areas. The Branch also sent a \$5,000 contribution, which was 50% matched by the Thrivent Insurance company, to the National OGT organization which is assembling food shipments into the affected areas.

Other shipments have gone to missions in a number of countries e.g. Liberia, Nicaragua, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Lithuania, Latvia, Nepal, the Philippines, Trinidad, Panama, Ghana and the Republic of Georgia, as well as Appalachia and previous hurricane relief for Puerto Rico, Florida and North Carolina. The Branch also helps those locally in New England, giving medical items that have been donated to individuals in need and thru the visiting nurse and hospice care organizations of the area. It has also helped with a shipment to the Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

The effort is an Outreach Ministry of the Lutheran Church, and OGT is a 501(3)(C) charity affiliated with the church and supported locally by Holy Trinity Lutheran in Terryville and Immanuel Lutheran in Bristol and St. Johns in Waterbury and is open to all who want to help others. For more information, please call Holy Trinity at 860-582-0723 and/or check out the OGT.org website.

Shipment to the Foundation of the Blind, Romania delivered. A Real Blessing to those in need. Next shipment is to Latvia on Nov. 18th loading at 9am.

Blessings,

Paul & Linda Arbesman



Photo of the shipment unloading in Romania.

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

The month of October was eventful and we enjoyed having another successful sauerkraut supper. Our middle school students did a great job serving to earn money for their trip to Washington D.C. We also had a paint night to raise money for an after-school drama program, and we look forward to having another one in the spring.

We are now preparing for our annual veterans' day program on Nov. 8th and all veterans are invited to attend. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Please continue to pray for the growth of our school and our mission to help students and their families develop lasting relationships with Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,
Debbie Krueger, Principal

THE *Bristol* CHORALE
PRESENTS

love & joy

A HOLIDAY CONCERT
15
DECEMBER
AT 3 PM
BRISTOL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
480 WOLCOTT STREET
BRISTOL
Tickets -- \$20 (age 10 & under -- \$10)

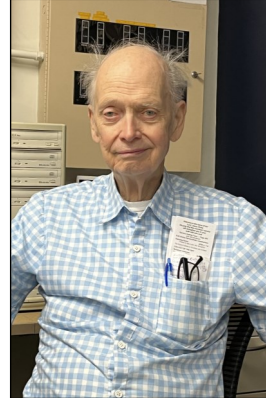
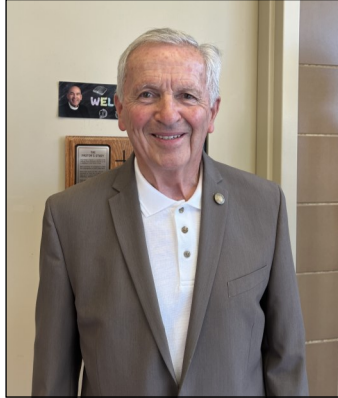
FOR TICKETS

Tickets also available at:

www.bristolchorale.org
Michaels Jewelers
99 Farmington Ave Bristol
(CASH ONLY PLEASE)

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.

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.

NOVEMBER 2024 BIRTHDAYS



**Veterans Day,
Monday, Nov. 11**

3
Sandra Fabrizio
Taylor Milano

4
Albert Emmert

5

6
Amanda Duval
Levi Fortier
Donna Kuharski
Janet Voisine

7
Janet Riemer
Suzanne Wentland

10
Lindsey Donahue
Peter Malsheske
Candace Michelson
Christina Signore

11
Shirley Bartucca
Rowan Morel-Poole
Jacob Turley

12
Ryan Delaney
Breanna Hoyt
Norman Kirschner
Michelle Matthews
Eric Starzyk

13
Jill Casey
Nathan Kirschner

14
Holly Fitz
Wayne Ruffino

17
Nancy Malsheske
Kelley McIntyre
William Palmisano, III

18
Rudolph Jabs
Paul Newport
Robert Theriault

19
Ashley Bielert
Alice Helming

20
Gracie Marcantonio
Diane Read

21
Patricia Bohn

24
Duane Reich

25
Warren Kirschner
Michael Lauretti, Sr.

26
Lori Fitzherbert
Joan Heidorn

27
Evelyn Phillips

28

Fri

1
Alena Hauer
Morgan Hebert-Dubois

8
Raymond Ryskowski, Jr.

15
Stephen Mockler

22
Julie Burt
Beth Houle
Ida May
Ingrid Triplett

29
Kashif Nazir

Sat

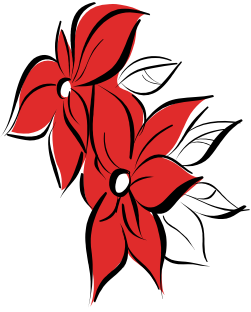
2
Bobby Boucher
Julie Phillips
Sara Triplett

9
16
Rick Gurgigno

23
Dawn Santilli

30
Gabby Badenhop
Andrew Follo
Delaney Parenteau
Chelsea Schaffrick





Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to order a poinsettia for the altar for Christmas, please fill out the order blank and attach cash or check (made out to Altar Guild) and leave it in the church office. **Last day to order is December 8.**

Name _____ Phone _____

| | Red | White | Total \$ |
|---------------|-----|-------|----------|
| 7½" @ \$12.00 | | | |

In Memory of _____

I will pick up after Christmas _____ I will deliver
Day service _____ to a shut-in _____

Altar Guild Flower Fund

If you choose not to buy a poinsettia, you may want to make a monetary donation to the Altar Guild Flower Fund. This fund will guarantee that flowers will be on the altar during services when no one has specially ordered them.

Name _____ Donation \$ _____



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

