



JUNE/JULY 2024

THE CROSS CONNECTION

News and Happenings for the "Connected-Compassion" Community

A publication of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Light of Christ Chinese Ministry, and Immanuel Lutheran School

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Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturdays – 5:00 pm
Sundays – 8:00 am and 10:30 am
(also Live Streamed on [YouTube](#))
Holy Communion served 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays each month
Sunday School Sundays – 9:20-10:15 am
Bible Classes Sundays—9:30-10:15
Light of Christ Worship
Sundays—10:30 am (also Live streamed on [YouTube](#))
Holy Communion served 1st & 3rd Sundays each month

CONNECT WITH US

 Find & Like us on Facebook!
[@immanuelolivette](#)
[@ilsolivette](#) 
 Immanuel Lutheran Church-Olivette

IMMANUEL CELEBRATES 180 YEARS!

Join us in celebrating 180 years of Immanuel Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 8th! The celebration begins at 5:00, followed by a potluck dinner. Barbecued chicken and salad will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. If you haven't already done so, sign up here: <http://tiny.cc/sl74yz> or use this:





OFFICIAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

Emma Kilby, Mar. 20, 2024

Maximus Adriano, Apr. 7, 2024

Jaden Abotsi, Apr. 7, 2024

DECEASED

Ronald Jacobson, Mar. 10, 2024

Joyce Crook, Mar. 27, 2024

Jim Myers, Mar. 27, 2024

Robert Imholz, Apr. 15, 2024

MARRIAGE

Noah Poeling to Qiong Zhang

PASTORS

Rev. Rory Karg 314.761.5523

Rev. Alex Schrader 314.591.4305

MISSION PASTOR

Rev. Edmund Lim 314.991.8804

DAY SCHOOL FACULTY

Christine Nixon– Principal

Karlyn Cameron– Grade 8

Brenda Hente – Grade 7

Jamie Hart– Grade 6

Clayton Erdmann– Grade 5

Rachel Larson– Grade 4

Lori Steingraber– Grade 3

Chris Meyr– Grade 2

Amy Goltl– Grade 1

Lisa Mull– Kindergarten

Bethany Greatens– Pre-Kindergarten

Hailey Cole– Preschool

Cheri Fitzgerald- Preschool

Anna Iannucelli– Jr. Preschool

Tara Copeland– Athletic Director

Melissa Orr-Admission Director

ELDERS

Head Elder - Greg Miller

Zone 1 (A-B) - Luke Burkemper

Zone 2 (C-F) - Greg Miller

Zone 3 (G-I) - Brian Bunte

Zone 4 (J-L) - Drew Hackmann

Zone 5 (M) - Tim Schaff

Zone 6 (N-R) - Todd Mirly

Zone 7 (S) - Bump Trower

Zone 8 (T-Z) - Pete Seddon

STAFF

Connie Baur– Business Administrator

Helen Qiu– Light of Christ Secretary

Ksenia Mirly– School Secretary

MUSIC MINISTRY

Paul Snyder- Worship Coordinator
& Choir Director

FIELDWORKERS

Luther Cameron, Andrew Cole,
Matthew Goltl, Steve Steingraber

VICAR

Davin Alberson

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Neal Niewald– President & Vice
President

Natalie Oleshchuk– Secretary

Gregg Knehans– Treasurer

Joan Marek– Financial Secretary

Bethany Greatens– Sunday School
Superintendent

Greg Miller– Elders Board Chairman

Connie Jander– Day School Board
Chairman

Carla Krazl– Stewards Board Chairman

Kathy Murray– Parish Education
Chairman

CO-EDITORS

Rita Eckert

Katie Krenning

ARTICLE DEADLINE

July 14

August/September Issue

Articles can be placed in the Anchor Mailbox in the fellowship hall or e-mailed in a **Microsoft Word** document type format (*.doc) to anchor@immanuelolivette.org

FROM THE PASTOR



Happy Birthday, Immanuel! How does it feel to be 180 years old? Celebrating birthdays or special anniversaries gives one the opportunity to reflect on the past year or years and recognize God's gracious blessings in one's life. While not one of those anniversaries that advances by quarter century increments....150, 175, etc., a 180th Anniversary of Immanuel's beginning, marking our birthday as a congregation, is a wonderful opportunity to consider all of God's blessings.

On June 9, 1844, 20 families established their own church on Old Bonhomme (now Warson Road). "On this God's Little Acre" a church, school, parsonage and a cemetery were built. Interestingly, it would be 22 years before the name "Immanuel" would be officially accepted; prior to that people knew the congregation as "The Evangelical Congregation U.A.C. (Unaltered Augsburg Confession) on the Bonhomme Road." Around 1880, the present church and school property was purchased (for \$300); a new brick church would be built (1883); and a new school building (1905). These would be replaced by the present stone church and the school buildings you see today, as well as expanded with the addition of the East Building property. As interesting as all the changes might be, ministry is more than properties and structures.

From the very beginning, Immanuel's ministry has been about sharing Jesus with people; sharing the good news that **"we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus."** For 180 years, that grace of God has been at the heart of ministry for Immanuel, through our church, school and (for the last 24 years) Light of Christ Chinese Ministry.

How do you account for all of the blessings that God has so graciously showered upon Immanuel as a church, school and Chinese mission? It is impossible. For how do you account for the effect of God's Word taught and proclaimed in services throughout 180 years? How do you consider all of the new creations in Christ brought up out of the waters of Holy Baptism in the past 180 years? How many have knelt at the Lord's Table and with out stretched hands, received Christ's body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of their sin? How many over those years came to faith because someone invited, "Come and see"? It would be impossible to make a record of blessings; all we can do is sing, "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" and trust that God in His faithfulness will continue to bring blessings through His Word and Sacraments for another 180 years and beyond!



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL



Partnering with Families to Prepare God's Children for the Future

ILS Olivette's Vision is to lead students to seek and know their identity in Christ, develop a continual love of learning, and live fully redeemed lives serving others.



Blessings Overflow

Well I must say, this school year flew by and was full of many blessings. As I began to serve as Principal last summer, I saw these blessings begin to take place. The West Building classrooms got a much-needed makeover. Our campus clean-up days saw people from the church, school and Light of Christ come together to make improvements and spruce up the campus. Sports, accreditation, LHSN Academic Fair, PSCE Trivia/Auction, Son + One, Ties and Tiaras, pizza lunches and other exciting activities all highlighted the year. We had great family events and opportunities such as our Early Childhood International Night. Here, different cultures and their traditions, foods, clothing and games were celebrated. Immanuel's Christmas Walk shared the good news of Jesus being born, second grade Animal Night, Danny and the Shacks musical, and our VIP morning breakfast and worship. And who can forget the fun field trips like the Arch, Zoo, Art Museum, BizTown, Botanical Gardens, and our outdoor education? Our students grew tremendously and the teachers and pastors spent time ensuring our Christ-centered education and our spiritual, emotional and physical growth flourished. Immanuel truly is an amazing and special place!

Our theme verse, John 15:5 says, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." As "Connected" was our theme this year, "Connected in Christ" was seen all around us. The most important evidence was the sharing of Jesus' love, forgiveness, grace and eternal life through Him with each other. Through our weekly chapels, devotions, Bible lessons and prayer, the Word of God was shown daily. Students helped one another in simple, but meaningful ways. Picking up an item that dropped or spilled on the floor, smiling at their neighbor, comforting a sad friend, helping a classmate put their coat or shoes on, or assisting a teacher with things in their classroom or organization. Our students in Lutheran Junior Honors Association assisted at the Egg Hunt, provided updates and led in our morning announcement pledges and prayers. They organized the hymnals and straightened up areas in the church. Our students witnessed their friends being baptized into Christ's family in chapel and church services, as well as hearing their friends affirm their faith through the Rite of Confirmation. Teachers and students spent time learning, laughing and listening to each other. Connections were made all around! It is a joy to see and celebrate as these are some of the many reasons and ways our school is so wonderful.

I cannot thank you enough for your welcome and encouragement as Immanuel's new principal. I am grateful for the small notes, smiles and visits. Immanuel's staff and faculty are supportive team players and uplift each other and our families. It is a blessing to see each of their talents and gifts shine. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the ministry at Immanuel Lutheran School.

In His Faithful Service,

Christine Nixon

Principal

WE BID FAREWELL

We bid farewell and thank you to a few teachers and staff who will be venturing to new things.

Amy Goltl and her husband, Matthew, will be moving this summer. Matthew recently graduated from Concordia Seminary and has been called to be the associate pastor at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Wichita, Kansas. Amy will be teaching 3rd grade at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Wichita. They are so grateful for their time at Immanuel and that they had the opportunity to be a part of the ministry here.

Karlynn, Luther and Violet Cameron will be moving to San Jose, California as Luther begins his vicarage assignment in July. He will be serving in a dual parish: Shepherd of the Valley and First Immanuel Lutheran. They are excited to continue their work in ministry and are very thankful for all the love and support they received from Immanuel Lutheran Olivette.

Tara Copeland hopes to get back to coaching high school girls basketball. She is currently in the process of filling out applications. She has been an asset to our athletic program and we appreciate her time and service.

Melissa Orr will be pursuing additional education and credentials to teach full-time.

They have all been wonderful to us and our school and church family. We pray for God's blessings and protection on their new adventures!

8th GRADE CLASS OF 2024

On May 23, the class of 2024 graduated from Immanuel Lutheran School. We congratulate and celebrate with these students on a job well done. We know God has amazing plans for their future. May He continue to bless and guide them in all ways.

Beatrice Braig - Lutheran High St. Charles

Bria Redmond - Rosati-Kain

Annalise Dunbar - Lutheran High St. Charles

Audrey Runser - Lutheran High St. Charles

Sydney French - Lutheran High St. Charles

David Steingraber - Lutheran High South

Addison Hundelt - Lutheran High St. Charles

Ruth Weldetadike - Lutheran High St. Charles

Grace Mertzluft - Lutheran High St. Charles

Justin Wilson - Westminster High

Matthew Orr - Lutheran High St. Charles

ILS ALUMNI NEWS

John Gong, junior at Lutheran High St. Charles, recently participated in the Individual Player National Championship Tournament in Chicago for Scholar Bowl. John also traveled to the University of Missouri-Columbia for the MSHSAA State Solo & Small Ensemble Festival, earning a gold medal on his piano solo.

Jackson Holmes, recent graduate of Lutheran North, received the "Nehemiah" Christian Character Award and the Outstanding Humanities Student Award. He is headed to Washington University to study Mechanical Engineering.

Cassie Pura just graduated from Lutheran North and is headed to Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville to study English.

Nathan Salemink was Valedictorian of the LN Class of '24 and was a Missouri Scholars 100 Scholar. He received the "Isaiah" Christian Character Award and the Outstanding Choir Student Award. He is headed to Hillsdale College to study Art.

Nathan Wittler was Salutatorian of LN's Class of '24. He received the "Paul" Christian Character Award and the Outstanding Math/Science Student Award. He is headed to St. Louis University to study Biomechanical Engineering.

Please note! If you graduated from Immanuel Lutheran School, or are the parent of a graduate, please let us know of any significant events or honors bestowed while in high school or beyond. You may send a printed description, picture, and/or link which includes the pertinent info to ILS secretary, Ksenia Mirly at kmirly@ilsolivette.org or to Rita Eckert at anchor@immanuelolivette.org. The information will be posted on the new "ILS Alum News" display board in the school main hallway and included in the subsequent issue of *The Cross Connection*.



April 14 was a day of great joy for Light of Christ Church, as three new brothers and sisters joined the family of Christ through baptism: Sister Pan Yu, Brother Liao Fuyi, and his son Ivan.



Sister Pan Yu has been coming to Light of Christ for over a decade. She joined the computer class at the center and came to church gatherings occasionally but remained hesitant to accept the Lord due to her background in Buddhism. Thanks to the continuous work of the Holy Spirit, she finally opened her heart, abandoned her former belief and accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior. Truly, God works in mysterious ways!

Brother Liao Fuyi, since moving to the United States, first encountered Christianity when he saw the powerful impact of the Christian faith in the life of his co-worker. In wanting to know more, he started attending services at Light of Christ in 2021, listening to the sermons, actively participating in various groups and fellowships, and interacting with many brothers and sisters who provided him with much help and guidance. In his testimony, he said,

"Thank God, over the past two years, I have gained a deeper understanding of the Christian faith, leading to profound changes in my life. Previously, I often quarreled with my wife, which hurt my family, but now, whenever I feel angry, I think of God's words – 'Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. ...Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things.' (1 Cor 13:4-7), and think of my own sins, and the Holy Spirit would help me to calm down. From the first time I hugged my daughter before she went to school, to admitting my mistakes and asking for forgiveness in front of my daughter, to my son becoming confident and cheerful, all of these I could not have done without the help of the Lord."

Fuyi also mentioned his expectations for his children, saying, "I remember the joyful scene when celebrating my daughter's one-month birthday more than ten years ago. At that time, I was full of expectations, wanting to provide the best for my daughter, looking forward to her growing up, getting married with happiness. However, the reality is that all these are worldly vanities, temporary. Only knowing and trusting in God can bring true and eternal joy. Therefore, I will continue to pray for my family, hoping they will turn their hearts to the Lord!"



Fuyi's wife and daughter have not yet accepted Christ, but they often attend church. Let us continue to pray for them, that the Holy Spirit will continue to work in them to receive the gift of salvation so that the whole family can worship the Lord together and become a blessed family. Let us also continue to pray for Fuyi and his son, that God will strengthen their faith, and lead them in spiritual growth, as Fuyi himself expressed,

"Today, I am baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, praying that the Lord, through the work of the Holy Spirit, will help me live out this new life to become the light and salt of the world, and proclaim the love of God. May the grace of the Lord strengthen me until eternity! Amen!"

OUR COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S GUILD LWML

On Tuesday, June 4 at 6:00pm, Women's Guild will close out the year with a yummy Cup-o'-Fruit dinner. All ladies are invited and asked to bring one cup of fruit (fresh or canned) to add to the salad bowl. The committee will provide sandwiches and dessert. Following a brief meeting, we will enjoy "Rob Your Neighbor" so bring along one or more wrapped white elephant gifts and look forward to leaving with a treasure or two!



MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club will have their annual **Cookout and Washer Tournament** on Tuesday evening, June 4, beginning at 6:00 pm. All congregational men and current Men's Club members are encouraged to attend an evening of good food and socializing. Hope to see you there!



VBS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Children age 3 through 5th grade will "Celebrate the Savior!" at Immanuel's VBS, June 3-7, 9-11 am. Thank you to all who have already registered. Walk-ins are welcome! Get ready to celebrate with stories, songs, crafts, science demos, snacks, and more!



COMMUNITY CARE TEAM

FEEDING THE HOMELESS

For 15 years the Community Care Team has been serving a dinner meal the first Monday of each month to our 60 friends at Sts. Peter and Paul Shelter in Soudard. The shelter has expanded to serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals. Currently, Immanuel's Care Team is serving lunch the first **Wednesday** of each month to 30-40 friends at the shelter. We're thankful for the opportunity to provide Christ's love and hospitality to our brothers at the Shelter. Any questions, contact Diane Tallyn (314) 910-2032 or diane_tallyn@hotmail.com or Suzanne Hough (314) 546-6310.

June 5 - Prepare lunch/dessert and deliver/serve - Pam & Neal Niewald

July 3 - Prepare lunch/dessert and deliver/serve - Suzanne Hough

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

The Community Care Team's 18th Annual School Supply Collection is supporting Immanuel Lutheran Day School, Lutheran North, Concordia Seminary, and Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA). **We'll be in the atrium Sundays, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30** to collect your donation and will continue receiving donations through **July**. Each year, we provide supplies for at least 100 students. As always, all Immanuel members are welcome to contribute to this collection, as all funds given will be used to offset the cost of the school supplies. Checks may also be placed in the church offering or dropped off at the church office. Make checks **payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church** and write **"CCT school supplies"** in the **memo** section. Thank you for your continued generosity!

CCT will use our own funds to purchase \$2,500 of VISA gift cards for the four organizations we support. The gift cards will be purchased through our school's PSCE and used as follows:

\$1,000 gift card for Immanuel Lutheran Day School

\$500 gift card for Lutheran North Junior High School

\$500 gift card for Concordia Seminary

\$500 gift card for Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA)

The gift cards for Immanuel and Lutheran North will be given to them to purchase the supplies that they need most.

The Community Care Team will purchase school supplies (\$500 each) and deliver to Concordia Seminary and CFNA.

FOOD PANTRY

Immanuel Food Pantry donations help our friends at the Concordia Food Bank and Jewish Food Pantry. With students being out of school for the summer, both pantries are in greater need of donations. All donations, no matter the size, help to keep the pantry shelves stocked. "Thank you" to everyone who supports this mission by monetary or food pantry donations! If donating monetarily, make your **check** out to **Immanuel Lutheran** and in the **"memo"** write **Food Pantry**. Thrivent money has been used by some to help support the food pantries. We are happy to do the shopping for you, or, pick up a list of food pantry suggestions on the food pantry table near the church elevator. Food donations may be left on the table at any time. Questions? Contact Diane Tallyn (314) 910-2032.

IMMANUEL INBOUND FAMILY

June Birthday - Joan Gansman

Cards are due Sunday, June 9 at 10:30 am

August Birthday - Zane Zeable

Cards are due Sunday, August 11 at 10:30 am

Birthday Cards are available while supplies last. A black mailbox in the atrium is available for all birthday cards to be delivered to the Inbound. Make sure the recipient's name is on the envelope. Cards will be delivered by an Immanuel volunteer.

Questions? Contact Diane Tallyn (314-910-2032 or diane_tallyn@hotmail.com).



Care Team

Our Mission: To reach out in compassion and care to those in need in our community in the name of Christ.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

Join a team in July to put on an English Bible Camp to share the Gospel with elementary and middle school-aged children in Taiwan! This week-long event is similar to a VBS. Your team will be in charge of planning the English Bible Camp using the curriculum provided. You will work with local church members to share the Gospel with the children that attend. The curriculum incorporates the Bible lessons with English lessons, games, music, and crafts. The English learning is informal-- not as it is taught in school. It offers the kids the opportunity to put into practice the English that they already know.

Dates: July 10-20, 2024

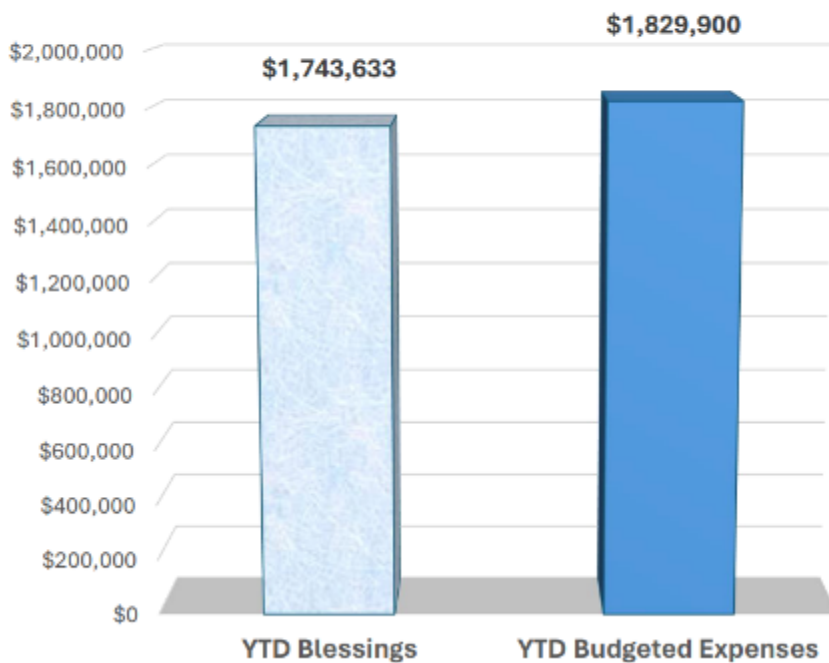
Cost: Approximately \$300/person (airfare not included)

Questions: erin.alter@lcms.org

Details: <https://servenow.lcms.org/opp/2024-english-bible-camp-taiwan/>

BOARD OF STEWARDS

Current 2023-24 Year Blessings vs. Expenses



YTD Results: **-\$86,267**



Immanuel's Fiscal
 YTD (9-month)
 results:

July 1st, 2023
 thru
 March 31st, 2024

Sources:
Immanuel's Treasurer
& Business Office

YOUTH AT IMMANUEL NEWS

SUMMER KICKOFF

You're invited to our June 2 youth summer kickoff event! Here at Immanuel at 5:30pm, come enjoy BBQ dinner, fellowship, games, and fun! We will also be chatting about summer schedules and plans for our youth outings. Keep an eye on the youth site as information becomes available. Looking forward to seeing you there!



YOUTH GROUP NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

It's that time again! Three times a year, we set our schedules for the upcoming months. You'll notice the updated youth calendar for summer based on the events you have suggested. But if you still have suggestions, we're open to hear them! (this can be for our regular Sunday evening youth group, or even something special during the week). You can e-mail me, or bring your ideas to our gathering on the evening of June 2, and let us know if there are other things you'd like to do!

Don't forget to sign up for donuts! We won't have any this coming Sunday, May 26, but help is needed to keep them going through the summer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044DADAD2FA1FB6-donut#/>

Our election of officers for the upcoming school year will be this August. Keep thinking if you're interested in serving President, VP, Activities Manager, Secretary, Media Manager, or Senator.

As always, don't forget to check the youth site for updates! (www.immanuelolivette.org/youth (password: "f"))

CAMP TRINITY

Lastly, don't forget if you're interested in joining us for the few days at Camp Trinity, those forms are due June 2.

Camp this year is June 9-14.

6th-7th graders: As noted in the handbook, the parent meeting, and e-mails, camp for 6th and 7th grade is "required". A few of you parents have spoken to me that your child will not be able to make it, thank you for letting me know. If you're not able to make it, please let me know, I will have materials that they can work through on their own this summer, parents with students, to make up for the learning that will take place during camp.

8th graders: For 8th grade, you are more than welcome to join us, although it is not required. Many of you were excited to come and had worked hard to plan ahead, so we welcome you and encourage being part of the church family.

Any questions? Contact Pastor Schrader aschrader@immanuelolivette.org

GREETERS LIST

Notes To Greeters:

Please note on your personal calendar, and trade with someone if you have a conflict. Badges are in the Volunteer Room. **More Greeters are always welcome.** Please call Judy Meyr (314-265-1182) if interested in this service to the Lord.

June 2024

Sat. 6/1 5 pm Mike & Mar Croxton

Sun. 6/2 8 am Diane Tallyn

10:30 am John & Suzanne Domelewski

Sat. 6/8 5 pm Rolf & Bert Kaslin

Sun. 6/9 8 am Duane & Bette Bude

10:30 am John & Christa Hellert

Sat. 6/15 5 pm Becky Shaw

Sun. 6/16 8 am Luke & Barb Burkemper

10:30 am Greg & Sherry Miller

Sat. 6/22 5 pm Leslie Elgert

Sun. 6/23 8 am Bob & Angie Sudbring

10:30 am Tim & Cheryl Schaff

Sat. 6/29 5 pm Jerry & Mary Edsen

Sun. 6/30 8 am Ken & Rita Eckert

10:30 am Jerry & Margaret Watkins

July 2024

Sat. 7/6 5 pm Ricci Grabski

Sun. 7/7 8 am Rae Mohrmann

10:30 am Luther & Lori Lunn

Sat. 7/13 5 pm Sue Wyland & Betty Crane

Sun. 7/14 8 am Leon & Carol Mittler

10:30 am Courtney Zalmanoff

Sat. 7/20 5 pm Leslie Elgert

Sun. 7/21 8 am Lois Stegemeier

10:30 am Andy & Michele Zalmanoff

Sat. 7/27 5 pm Rolf & Bert Kaslin

Sun. 7/28 8 am Mark & Char Gordon

10:30 am Tim & Cheryl Schaff

JULY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:30 Bazaar	4 Independence Day Church/School Offices Closed	5	6 5:00 Worship
7 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 6:30 Sr. High Youth	8	9	10 9:30 Bazaar	11 9:30 Quilters	12	13 5:00 Worship
14 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship Cross Connect Deadline 6:30 Sr. High Youth	15	16 6:30 Council Mtg.	17 9:30 Bazaar	18 9:30 Quilters	19	20 5:00 Worship
21 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 6:30 Sr. High Youth	22	23	24 9:30 Bazaar	25 9:30 Quilters	26	27 5:00 Worship
28 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 6:30 Sr. High Youth	29	30	31 9:30 Bazaar	