



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025

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

CONTACT US

314-993-2394
9733 Olive Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
Pastor Karg
rkarg@immanuelolivette.org

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

@ilsolivettemo



Immanuel Lutheran Church-Olivette

Last Year was so much fun, we are doing it again!

Join us for food & fellowship at a

BREAKFAST POTLUCK

Sunday, August 31, 2025, 8:00 am to 9:15 am
A single church service follows at 9:30 am
Suggestions for sharing: Egg and other breakfast bakes, sausage, bacon, muffins, fruits, juice, etc.



OFFICIAL ACTS

RELEASED

Emily Dowling (Sydney & Lily French) to Child of God, St. Peters

REMOVED TO JOIN ANOTHER DENOMINATION

Ruthie Grollman

MARRIAGE

Timothy Branneky II to Hannah Doss

BAPTISMS

Athena Musselwhite on 5/3/25

Cruz Creath on 5/15/25

Rose White on 6/8/25

Josephus White on 6/8/25

DECEASED

Lester Boyer on 5/2/25

MEMBER UPDATE

CHANGE:

Zane Zeable
228 S. Drexel Ave.
Bexley, OH 43209

PASTOR

Rev. Rory Karg 314.761.5523

DEACONESSSES

Kan Hsu, Helen Zhang

SCHOOL FACULTY

Christine Nixon– Principal

Adam Schoedel– Grade 8

Brenda Hente – Grade 7

Jamie Hart– Grade 6

Clayton Erdmann– Grade 5

Amanda Wilson– Grade 4

Lori Steingraber– Grade 3

Chris Meyr– Grade 2

Hailey Cole– Grade 1

Lisa Mull– Kindergarten

Bethany Greatens– Pre-Kindergarten

Cheri Fitzgerald- Preschool

Anna Iannucelli– Jr. Preschool

Adam Schoedel– Athletic Director

Keith Huckshold-Algebra Teacher

ELDERS

Head Elder – Todd Mirly

Zone 1 (A-B) – Luke Burkemper

Zone 2 (C-F) – Jeff Nixon

Zone 3 (G-I) – Jacob White

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) – Peter Seddon

STAFF

Connie Baur– Business Administrator

Helen Zhang– Light of Christ Secretary

Ksenia Mirly– School Secretary

MUSIC MINISTRY

Paul Snyder- Worship Coordinator
& Choir Director

FIELDWORKERS

Andrew Cole, Ethan Luft, Steve
Steingraber, Abram Egger

VICARS

Justin Hilton, Nan Tian

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Neal Niewald– President

Brian Bunte— Vice President

Natalie Oleshchuk– Secretary

Gregg Knehans– Treasurer

Joan Marek– Financial Secretary

Bethany Greatens– Sunday School
Superintendent

Todd Mirly– Elders Board Chairman

Curtis Niewald– School Board
Chairman

Jerry Watkins– Stewards Board
Chairman

Beth Carter– Parish Education
Chairman

CO-EDITORS

Rita Eckert

Katie Krenning

ARTICLE DEADLINE

**Sept. 14 for October/
November 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

A Community of Faith

That's my answer—my definition. In the past, I have described what we have here at 9723–9733 Olive Boulevard, Olivette, Missouri, as a “three-fold ministry” of church, school, and mission—and we are. But we are so much more. I believe “ministry” speaks to the work of advancing the Gospel, which certainly takes place in our church, school, and Chinese mission. However, when we consider the people, families, and connections that make up this place, a better word—a better description—is a **Community of Faith**.

Community is a feeling of fellowship with others; together we share common attitudes, interests, and goals. At the heart of our community is a shared faith in Jesus. And while this can be said of the broader Christian community, because of language, culture, and even denominational differences, our community of faith is unique.

What began over 180 years ago as a primarily German-speaking faith community has grown into one where both English and Chinese are regularly spoken in worship. Today, our community includes families from a variety of cultures and languages, many of whom are connected through our school ministry.

Ministry is what we do. Community is who we are.

The focus of our ministry has not changed. In church, school, and mission, we are still committed to teaching and sharing the Good News of Jesus—sharing the forgiveness of sins, and the hope and promise found in Him. Yet, over the years, the community itself has changed. We are no longer a community of farmers, and we no longer hold services in German. Instead, we are now a vibrant, multicultural community, connected by our faith and united in our mission to serve one another and reach others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As a part of this **Community of Faith**, you are invited to join us for **Mission Festival Worship on Sunday, September 28, at 9:30 a.m.** Come together with your community for worship, fellowship over lunch, and a special guest speaker as we celebrate our identity in Christ and reaffirm our shared purpose—working together through Church, School, and Chinese Language Mission to reach others for the Gospel.

Remember: Ministry is what we do. Community is who we are.

-Pastor Karg

Save the Date. Mission Festival
(Imm/LOC community worship),
Sunday, September 28, 9:30 am, followed by
lunch fellowship and guest speaker.

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**.*

A Joyful Start to a New School Year

"I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart! Where? Down in my heart! Where? Down in my heart!" Do you remember singing that song? I sure do! It's a song that has stayed with me after learning it in Sunday School. It fits with our theme, Joyful in Jesus, and the verse for the school year. Psalm 98:4 says, "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" It is with joy we walk with Jesus everyday, even with challenges that may come our way. I look forward to witnessing the discoveries, lessons, interactions, and activities that bring us closer together and to Christ. We thank and worship Him with heartfelt sounds of joy, for it is ours in Him.



There are exciting additions happening at the school. A highlight is our lunch program that is making a comeback! On Tuesdays and Thursdays, hot lunch will be offered to our students and staff. We can't wait for the delicious dishes prepared by Chef Pradeep Gopalakrishnan and thank him for joining us! In addition, choir, handbells and a variety of sports and activities will be offered.

As we begin this new school year, we invite you—our families, congregation, and community—to join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord. May this year be a year of celebration, of faith-filled learning, and especially a year where the joy of Jesus shines in every heart at Immanuel Lutheran School.

Get ready for a joyful year!

In His Service,

Christine Nixon

Principal

Back to School Orientation

This year's Back to School Orientation takes place on Thursday, August 14. There will be a morning session from 10-1 p.m. and an afternoon session from 4-7 p.m. Parents will use a link to reserve their conference time with their student's teacher, as well as choose a time to get their student's picture taken. Families will meet other staff and faculty, sign up to volunteer in various ways, pick up their themed shirts, return forms, order Spirit Wear, and so much more! This day brings a sense of excitement and anticipation as we await the year to begin!



WELCOME OUR NEW TEACHER & CHEF!

Amanda Wilson joins Immanuel as our new 4th grade teacher. She is thrilled to begin! She graduated from Concordia University Chicago (River Forest) in 2020 and has been teaching for the past four years at Zion-Concord Lutheran School in Bensenville, IL. She has lived in Chicago since 2018, but Immanuel has always been close to her heart—she grew up here!

At Zion, she was involved in the altar guild, handbell choir, and taught Sunday School. She is excited for the opportunity to take part in some of these activities, this time as a member of Immanuel. It will also be a treat to work alongside some of the same teachers who once taught her!

In the classroom, she loves using games and hands-on activities to make learning engaging and meaningful. Her goal is to create a faith-filled classroom that feels like a family—where students feel valued, supported, excited to learn, and loved by their Heavenly Father.

Chef Devipradeep Gopalakrishnan is a classically trained and award-winning culinary professional with over 17 years of hands-on experience across diverse cuisines and kitchen environments. From his early days learning to cook in humble home kitchens to being named the 2022 ACF St. Louis Junior Chef of the Year, Chef Pradeep has built a career marked by resilience, creativity, and excellence in food preparation and leadership.

Chef Pradeep grew up in India and was raised in New York. After moving to St. Louis, he worked in every corner of the kitchen—from dishwasher to line cook to sous chef—before earning dual associate degrees in Culinary Arts and Baking and Pastry Arts from St. Louis Community College – Forest Park in 2023. He holds both ACF (American Culinary Federation) and ServSafe certifications, and brings a deep understanding of food safety, nutrition, and high-volume kitchen operations.

Currently, Chef Pradeep is a Line Cook at The Gatesworth, where he works closely with the Sous Chef on recipe execution, food quality control, and kitchen leadership, while backing up all kitchen stations to ensure smooth service. His long-term goal is to become a Head Chef and eventually open a restaurant that reflects his heritage, creativity, and commitment to excellence.

We extend a warm welcome to Amanda and Chef Pradeep and pray God's blessings on them. We look forward to their ministry at our school and church!

IMMANUEL CAMPOUT



Campout weekend, September 5-7 is just around the corner! Everyone is welcome... the more the merrier!

All cabins are currently filled with Immanuel folks at the present time. But campsites are available! Just pack up your gear and enjoy the great outdoors and fellowship in a beautiful setting!

Please let Jenny or Bryan Hackmann know if you plan to camp, 314-420-8347. They can get you the number to call!

ATTN: ALL IMMANUEL GROUPS

Making plans for the coming year? It is very important for you to submit your activity dates for August, 2025 through July, 2026 to the church office ASAP so they can be placed on the master calendar. First come, first served; please do not assume facility availability. Electronic submission can be made to cbaur@immanuelolivette.org.



The Lord is My Shepherd – by Helen Z.

In 2003, I moved to the US from China without any knowledge of the Gospel. The transition to a new country was overwhelming—I faced cultural differences, a new language, and not fitting in. To improve my English, I attended an ESL class at a local church, where I met Pastor Mike Paul and his wife, Irene. Through them, I was introduced to the Bible. The story of Jesus as the Good Shepherd particularly resonated with me, as I felt like a lost sheep in a foreign land. The idea that Jesus cared for and watched over us brought comfort to my heart.

As I continued to learn about the Bible, I came to understand the concept of sin and its consequences – death –but also the promise of eternal life through Jesus. At the time, I didn't take the idea of salvation seriously, as I was an atheist and believed death to be a natural part of life. That changed when my younger daughter was born prematurely. Seeing her tiny, fragile body in the hospital made me confront the fragility of life. A prayer from Irene during that difficult time filled me with peace I had never experienced before. I recognized God's love and felt deeply grateful. After my daughter was out of danger, the Holy Spirit called me back to God. In 2006, I was baptized alongside my daughters.

Not long after my baptism, Pastor Paul's family moved to Taiwan, and I felt lost. Without a ride and not knowing others at the church, I stopped attending worship. I did not feel anything wrong with this, but then Pastor and Mrs. Shaw, newly arrived in St Louis, visited us and invited us to Light of Christ. The warm welcome from the congregation helped us return to regular worship. God once again sent His angels to find us. He would not let one of His sheep be lost. He brought me back to His home.

In 2007, my husband was baptized. Going to church every Sunday has been an important part of our family life. However, in 2008, a job relocation took us to Evansville, Indiana, where there were very few Chinese and no Chinese church. Though we connected with a few Christian families for Bible study, we felt spiritually isolated. Despite the challenges, God remained faithful. In 2011, Pastor Paul's family visited us in Evansville. We asked Pastor Paul if he would be willing to pastor the Chinese community there. To our surprise, he prayerfully considered and said yes. Soon after, the first Chinese church in Evansville was planted. I finally had a spiritual home again and continued to grow there.

Unfortunately, after Pastor Paul was called to a different ministry two years later, the church struggled. My spiritual life waned. I stopped reading the Bible and praying regularly. Then personal trials struck—my twin sister fell seriously ill, and my husband lost his job. I was overwhelmed with fear and anxiety. In this dark time, God reminded me of John 10:9: "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved." Why have I been worrying and fretting about worldly things? Hasn't the Heavenly Father promised that He is my Shepherd, and that I shall not want? I knelt down and confessed my sins. At that time, God's words comforted me, "Children of the heavenly Father, Safely in His bosom gather," although death is fearful, "death is swallowed up by victory," the Lord Jesus has already conquered sin and death, and saved me with His own life, I am already in God's hands. What do I have to fear? It was then when I truly knew how precious God's salvation was!

During this time, God opened my eyes. I read God's words every day with hunger and thirst. I truly experienced the abundance in life! He is truly the Bread of life. As He said, "I have come that the sheep may have life and have it more abundantly." I thank God for bringing me out of those dark days. I am no longer afraid, and my heart is full of gratitude and joy. It is true that everything is in God's good will. In 2016, My husband was offered a job at Washington U, and coincidentally - perhaps God had planned it - Pastor Shaw, whom we had not contacted for many years, called us that very day, and he was ecstatic to hear that we were moving back to St. Louis.

God's leading did not stop there. He saw that my zeal alone was not enough and prepared opportunities for me to be equipped. Pastor Lim, who succeeded Pastor Shaw, encouraged me to consider seminary. Though hesitant at first, I trusted God's call. With church support and prayer, I enrolled in the EIIT program in 2020. Four years later, I graduated and was commissioned as a deaconess at Light of Christ.

When I look back on this spiritual journey, I deeply realize that God is truly a Good Shepherd, "I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak" (Ezekiel 34:16). Every time I have lost my way, every time when I was weak, God has sought me out and brought me back to Him. God also sends His shepherds to pastor His sheep. I have gone from being a Gentile who did not know God at all to being a worker of God today. What a blessing that is! God's love transcends ethnic groups, languages and cultures. I'm committed to sharing this abundant life and hope I've found in Him. All glory be to God!



OUR COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S GUILD LWML

If you have ever wondered what the “Ladies” of Women’s Guild get up to... our first meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 2nd at 6:00 pm. Please bring a cup of your favorite salad ingredient to add to the big bowl of lettuce. If you would rather eat dinner at home, you are more than welcome to arrive at 6:30 for our meeting and activity. And since women like to travel in packs, bring a friend or two! The more the merrier. See you then.



MEN'S CLUB

Immanuel Men’s Club will not have an August meeting but there will be a September meeting that will be held on the 2nd at 6:00 pm. The September meeting normally includes an activity and a cookout. More details of the meeting will be shown in the weekly church announcements several weeks prior. You don’t need to be a club member to attend and guests are always welcome! So, please plan to join us in September.



CHRISTMAS COTTAGE

Mark your calendar! Friday, December 6th, will be the 2025 Christmas Cottage. Many volunteers are needed!

The cottage is always accepting donations. Donations may include items to be sold, gift bags, bows, or financial support. Items may be placed in the plastic tub under the desk near the lower elevator. We are keeping Christmas Christ-centered, so no Santa items please. Any questions, contact Pam Niewald 314-805-0716.



COMMUNITY CARE TEAM

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION RECAP

The Community Care Team's 19th Annual School Supply Collection took place during June and July. The CCT used our own funds to purchase \$2,500 of gift cards which were used to purchase Visa gift cards for the four organizations we supported this year. The gift cards were 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)



All our recipients were thrilled and very grateful. Thank you to all our Immanuel members who contributed to this year's Collection! Supplies were purchased for at least 100 students. Your ongoing generosity...for 19 years....has enabled many students to get their school year off to a good start. Thank you so very much!

FOOD PANTRY

The Jewish Food Pantry and Concordia Seminary both received a trunk full of non-perishable food donations in June. A food pantry Wish List is available on the Food Pantry table near the church elevator. Donations may be left there at any time. We are happy to accept monetary donations and do the shopping for you (checks payable to **Immanuel Lutheran Church and Food Pantry** in the memo). Your donations make a difference! Thank you for helping to keep this ministry going! Questions? Contact Diane Tallyn, (314) 910-2032.



IMMANUEL INBOUND

Stop by to pick up an updated Inbound information sheet available by the black mailbox in the atrium for the remainder of 2025.

September Birthday - Dorothy Knoll - due date September 14

No postage necessary. Just place the card in the black mailbox. Contact Diane Tallyn (cell 314-910-2032 or diane_tallyn@hotmail.com) with any questions.



IMMANUEL GOLF CLASSIC

Join us at the Immanuel Golf Classic for a day of golf, games, gifts, prizes, and lunch – all in support of ILSO Athletics & Activities! This year's tournament is Sunday, September 21 at Florissant Golf Club – shotgun start at 1:00 pm.



IMMANUEL GOLF CLASSIC
2025

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

FLORISSANT GOLF CLUB
12:00 pm – Check-in/ Lunch
1:00 pm – Shotgun Start

REGISTER NOW!
<https://forms.gle/7kCqt2xEbCguKVHS6>
\$100 per Golfer
4 Person Scramble

Benefiting Immanuel Lutheran School – Olivette Athletics & Activities



Ready to **register**?

<https://forms.gle/3sBsb1fbZb4887JF6>

Interested in **sponsoring**? <https://forms.gle/ukUBZBLrVyJBpGJ9>

Questions? Contact:

Lindsey Hackmann – Tournament Chair

(lindsey.hackmann@yahoo.com)

Adam Schoedel – Athletic Director

(aschoedel@ilsolivette.org)

We can't wait to see you on September 21st!

MEET VICAR HILTON

Hi, my name is Justin Hilton. I'm honored to be a seminarian at Concordia St. Louis, but I've lived a lot of different places in my 35 years. I have a wonderful wife named Grace, and three wonderful children too, Epiphany, Ira, and Boaz.

I was born in Pennsylvania. My family has always been Christian (broadly evangelical/non-denominational) but I didn't become Lutheran until much later. We lived in Pennsylvania and New Hampshire until my father contracted a huge desire for our family to serve on the mission field. We packed up our life and left for a "Mercy Ship" (Mercy Ships operates a fleet of hospital ships that provide medical care in countries without it). My dad was the ship's plumber, and my mom was the librarian. Those seven teenage years were extremely formative for me, and living with a multitude of other nationalities on the ship (there were about 400 people on the ship at a time) as well as visiting almost 20 countries really shaped my worldview.

After graduating high school, I attended Brooklyn College and graduated with a bachelor's in History. During this time I started dating my wife, who also grew up on the ship. Grace and I got married in 2014 after I graduated college, and though she wanted to move to New York City, I "won" and moved to Seoul, South Korea (Grace is Korean). Though we were planning to spend only a year or two there, we ended up staying for a whopping nine years. We attended the non-denominational church Grace was part of and I was first a teacher at an English-language preschool and then began tutoring business English for companies like Samsung and LG. I traveled around Seoul and would have hour-long classes with executives who wanted to work on their negotiation skills or practice business phone calls. Instead, the classes often felt more like counseling sessions, and often my students would want to eschew the curriculum so they could just talk about their lives and their problems. Being outside their social circle and also not Korean, my students often felt they could tell me anything because I wouldn't judge them for it. Years of teaching like this were definitely preparation for pastoral ministry and the attentive listening required.

During Covid there was extreme leadership conflict at our church and we ended up leaving. The Lutheran Church had always flown under my radar (actually, I had intentionally ignored Lutheranism because my takeaway from living in NYC was that Lutherans are Protestant ultra-liberals), but by God's grace we ended up at the LCMS mission congregation in Seoul. It was easily the best church we'd ever been a part of. I read the Book of Concord and was blown away.

The thought of serving Christ's Bride as a pastor had occurred to me a few times in the past, but in a non-denom church it always felt daunting, like being a start-up founder: where do you start? But once we became LCMS it made sense: oh, there's a whole system for this! You just go to seminary and they send you where you are most needed! Great! So I asked Matt Wasmund, one of the LCMS missionaries at our church, if we could meet up for coffee so I could ask what he thought about me going to seminary. Amazingly though, the first words out of his mouth when we sat down in the coffee shop were, "Have you ever considered seminary, Justin?"

God has been so good to me in my life. Despite my obstinacy and laziness and sin, He has faithfully carried me (and now, my family), and never has His provision and guidance been more palpable than in this whole experience of seminary. Vicarage is going to be great because He's going to be there and He's going to be using it for His purposes.



RALLY DAY 2025

A Joyful Start for Sunday School and Bible Classes!

Join Us for a New Season of Learning, Worship, and Fellowship – September 14, 2025

Get ready to kick off a new season with our annual Rally Day, happening Sunday, September 14, 2025! We invite families and congregation members of all ages to join us as we celebrate the beginning of Fall Sunday School and Bible Classes, with special events, meaningful presentations, and joyous music.

Special Moments in Our Worship Services

Our Rally Day festivities begin bright and early at the 8:00 am service, where the 1st-4th Grade School Choir will lift their voices in song, filling our sanctuary with praise and energy. During this same service, there will be a heartfelt presentation: 2nd and 3rd grade students, along with congregational children, will receive their very own Bibles, joined by their parents as we celebrate this milestone in their faith journey. Additionally, our 6th Grade Confirmands will each be presented with Luther's Small Catechism, marking an important step as they continue in their studies and spiritual growth.

Sunday School: Learning and Adventure Await

At 9:20 am, all Sunday School children, age 2 through 4th grade, will gather in the east building commons for a lively praise and worship opening. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to sing, celebrate, and start the day with joyful hearts praising Jesus, our Savior! After our opening, students will head off to their classrooms to meet their teachers and classmates, and enjoy a delicious snack. The fall semester's lessons will take us on a journey through the Bible, discovering how God was at work in the lives of His people long ago—and how He is still at work in and through us today.

Confirmation Instruction

Current 5th graders will travel through the Bible to see how God unfolds His plan for our salvation in His Son, Jesus. They will meet in the art room in the east building.

Current 6th-8th graders grow in faith and prepare for their Confirmation through the study of Luther's Small Catechism. The class is held in the science room in the main school building.

Bible Classes for All Ages

We are thrilled to offer a variety of Bible study opportunities this fall, welcoming everyone to connect in faith and community. Grab a cup of coffee in the fellowship hall and then settle at one of the following by 9:30.

Families of Faith Bible Class: Resumes in the east building. All families, especially those with young through school age children are encouraged to join for fellowship and spiritual encouragement with an emphasis on teaching about Jesus and sharing the faith in the home.

Women's Bible Study: Meets in the parlor with Carla Krazl, continuing an engaging study using the SOAP method. Never heard of it? Come and find out what makes this approach to Bible study unique!

High School Youth: Gather in the youth room for lively discussion, connection, and faith exploration tailored just for teens.

Adult Bible Class: Resumes in the fellowship hall, offering a welcoming space for adults of all ages to dive into God's Word together.

Join the Celebration!

Rally Day is a beloved tradition that marks the beginning of a new chapter for Immanuel's educational ministries. Whether you're a longtime participant or a newcomer, there is a place for you and your family here. Let's gather in worship, grow in faith, and support one another as we begin our journey through the fall and God's Word together. We can't wait to see YOU on September 14th!

YOUTH GROUP

It was our great pleasure to help chaperone 19 of the 18,000 teenagers at the Lutheran youth gathering in New Orleans this July.

Over four spirit-filled days, our youth participated in morning Bible Studies and music, followed by two to three engaging breakout sessions each afternoon and concluded each day with high-energy evening events featuring inspirational speakers and music with all 22,000 in attendance.

Our youth represented us with grace, curiosity and enthusiasm. Their parents, grandparents and teachers should all be proud. It gave us great joy to watch our youth grow in their faith. They all seemed to enjoy the music, the fellowship and the various topics that were covered at the breakout sessions.

While this is a youth-centered event, John and I found great value and inspiration in the sessions we attended as well. The music, fellowship, and thoughtful conversations were impactful for all ages.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars: the next gathering is already scheduled for July 2028 in San Antonio. My prayer is that you all fight over a chance to chaperone our youth in three years. It truly was an amazing event for both young and old.

Blessings to you,
John and Suzanne Domalewski

BOARD OF STEWARDS



Greetings on another hot, St. Louis summer day! For this *Cross Connection* issue, we wanted to share with the congregation that Immanuel is practicing what we preach -- our own Stewardship. What do we mean by this, you ask?

Immanuel, like others, received funding during COVID and elected to apply the funds toward some needed repairs and updating in the East Bldg. Right in our own midst is an excellent example of the 3 T's of Stewardship.... **TIME**, **TALENTS** and **TREASURES**.

TIME – Things don't get done by themselves... it takes people's valuable time to engage in such an undertaking!

TALENTS – There are folks who are handy and have skills/experiences volunteering to start (and complete) projects!

TREASURES – No secret sauce here, it takes God's financial offerings received from Him in the first place!

To GOD be the glory!

Immanuel Stewards

GREETERS LIST

Notes To Greeters:

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

August 2025

Sat. 8/2: 5 pm Mike & Mar Croxton
 Sun. 8/3: 8 am Ken & Rita Eckert
 10:30 am John & Suzanne Domalewski
 Sat. 8/9: 5 pm Leslie Elgert
 Sun. 8/10: 8 am Char Gordon
 10:30 am Tim & Cheryl Schaff
 Sat. 8/16: 5 pm Jerry & Margaret Watkins
 Sun. 8/17: 8 am Natalie Oleschuk
 10:30 am Greg & Sherry Miller
 Sat. 8/23: 5 pm Ricki Grabski
 Sun. 8/24: 8 am Rae Mohrmann
 10:30 am Diane Tallyn
 Sat. 8/30: 5 pm Becky Shaw
 Sun. 8/31: 8 am Bob & Angie Sudbring
 10:30 am Cheryl Lokke

September 2025

Sat. 9/6: 5 pm Leslie Elgert
 Sun. 9/7: 8 am Brice & Lisa Williams
 10:30 am Bill & Judy Budner
 Sat. 9/13: 5 pm Ricki Grabski
 Sun. 9/14: 8 am Lois Stiegemeier
 10:30 am Tim & Cheryl Schaff
 Sat. 9/20: 5 pm Sue Wyland & Betty Crane
 Sun. 9/21: 8 am Ken & Rita Eckert
 10:30 am John & Suzanne Domalewski
 Sat. 9/27: 5 pm Mike & Mar Croxton
 Sun. 9/28: 8 am Rae Mohrmann
 10:30 am Jerry & Margaret Watkins

AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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				1	2	5:00 Worship
3 8:00/10:30 Worship	4	5	6 9:00 Bazaar	7 9:30 Quilters	8	9 5:00 Worship
10 8:00/10:30 Worship	11	12 6:30 All Boards	13 9:00 Bazaar	14 9:30 Quilters	15	16 8:30 Campus Cleanup 5:00 Worship
17 8:00/10:30 Worship	18	19 6:30 Council	20 ILS First Day of School 9:00 Bazaar	21 9:30 Quilters	22	23 5:00 Worship
24 8:00/10:30 Worship	25	26	27 9:00 Bazaar	28 9:30 Quilters	29	30 5:00 Worship
31 8:00 Breakfast Potluck 9:30 Worship	Sunday Morning Schedule <u>Immanuel:</u> 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship			Sunday Morning Schedule <u>Light of Christ:</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship		

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2 6:30 Women's Guild 6:30 Men's Club	3 9:00 Bazaar	4 9:30 Quilters	5 Campout	6 5:00 Worship
7 8:00/10:30 Worship Campout	8	9 6:30 All Boards	10 9:00 Bazaar	11 9:30 Quilters	12	13 5:00 Worship
14 Rally Day 8:00/10:30 Worship Cross Connect Deadline	15 9:00 Women's Zoom Bible Study	16 6:30 Council	17 9:00 Bazaar	18 9:30 Quilters	19	20 5:00 Worship
21 8:00/10:30 Worship 1:00 ILS Golf Tourney	22 9:00 Women's Zoom Bible Study	23 6:30 Voter's Meeting	24 9:00 Bazaar	25 9:30 Quilters	26	27 5:00 Worship
28 Mission Sunday 8:00/10:30 Worship	29 9:00 Women's Zoom Bible Study	30				



Still so much summer to enjoy!
Take time to smell the flowers and
attend worship!