

MEAL COORDINATOR NEEDED



Immanuel is looking for a new Meals on Wheels coordinator. This person will be responsible for the meal delivery service for half the month of January and all of July. If you would be interested in helping, please talk to Pastor Jeremy

MEET YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

A new series where we'll get to know the church council through a short Q&A!

Mark Behrens, council president, has served on the council for a year and a half, and has another year and a half to go.

He's been married to Mary for 43 years. They have three married children and seven grandchildren:

- Daughter Amanda and Scott Schulte, Kate and Reed
- Son Anthony and Rachel Behrens, Jackson, Cameron, and Emma
- Son Austin and Holly Behrens, Amelia and Hunter



Mark with his wife, Mary, in Montana.

It's Friday night after a terribly busy week, how do you spend it? Sit back with a cold V8 and get together with friends, family, and grandkids, and go to or watch sporting events.

What is a memorable quote or scripture verse that has changed you? Psalm 46:1-3, Whatever good or bad happens in our lives God is there to help and strengthen us. We just have to put our trust in Him.

What is one thing you are passionate about? I am passionate about finding new destinations and off the beaten path vacation spots for Mary and me, family, and friends.

If you could ask Jesus to change one problem in the world today, which problem would you pick? The deterioration of the family unit in this country, as well as the political division.

JFA SERVICE AND LEARNING TRIPS

Justice For All (JFA) is very excited to announce dates for upcoming 2023 Service and Learning Trips! The trips are designed to be an opportunity to bless others through work projects, learn and experience a different culture than our own and see what God is doing in these communities.

The sites/dates are: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez MX – Jan 20-27; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson MS – Feb 3-10; JVM Perkins Foundation, Jackson MS – Feb 11-17; Grace Covenant Ministries, Annville, KY – Mar 3-10; Grace Reigns, Hildale UT – Mar 24-31. There is more information about each project on the JFA website (www.jfa-niowa.org). If you'd like to sign up or want more information, contact Nick LeLoux at JFA (712-476-2804, nickl@jfa-nwiowa.org.)

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

- 5th – Lawrence & Norene Funk
- 11th – Matt & Kari Matuska
- 16th – Brent & Amanda Jorth
- 24th – Jason & Kari Dirks
- 25th – Joel & Charlene Bathke
- 29th – Muayed & Stacey Dizaye

BIRTHDAYS

- 1st – Jack Denny
- 2nd – Amanda Denny
- 2nd – Kari Dirks
- 8th – William Kruse
- 10th – Lillian Jorth
- 11th – Sosie Ver Steeg
- 13th – Kim Dykstra
- 14th – Ashton Gierhan
- 14th – Justin Bathke
- 17th – Mark Stueven
- 18th – Gabe Karalius
- 22nd – Loren Krull
- 30th – Henry Winter
- 31st – Mark Behrens



A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEREMY

Putting God First in Our Lives

Well, I had a good year out of the old garden, but I think it is about done for the season. I can't be too disappointed though as we had a lot of fresh vegetables. Green beans in abundance and more tomatoes than I knew what to do with. My cupboard is full of jars of pickles. I think I used every zucchini recipe the internet had to offer trying to use them all up. Yep, it was a great year for the Winter garden. It is all done now though. All I have left is a couple straggler tomatoes out there. Tomatoes, which if I am being honest, I am not even sure I will actually pick. They certainly are not getting me excited like they did earlier this summer. Somehow the ones at the end just aren't quite as good as the ones at the beginning. That goes for anything in my garden. The first fruits are always the most exciting and seem to taste the best.

First fruits are a real thing, especially in our Bible. There are many places in our Bible that talk about first fruits. All of them saying the same thing. We should be giving our first fruits to God. For the ancient Israelites that actually meant giving the first things they grew. It was important for the people of Israel to give the first part of their harvest, whatever the crop may be, to God as a sacrifice. Not because the first fruits were actually the best, in fact they often they are not. But because it was a way to show they knew the source of their abundance was God. It was a way for them to acknowledge and thank God not only for those first fruits but for all the harvest that was to follow.

It is a concept I think we really need to embrace again in our lives. For so often in life we give God our final fruits.

We use what we need first and give God whatever is left. We spend our money on the things we want first. We make sure we first have the nice car and house and all the toys we want in life and if we have something left, we can put some of it in the offering plate. We spend our time on the things that have nothing to do with God first. We fill our schedules with work and hobbies and friends and all sorts of good things but don't carve out time for God. Maybe if we are not busy, we can find some time to read the Bible or go to church. All too often we don't put worshipping God or doing God's work first.

God wants our first fruits though. God wants us to put him first and foremost. God wants us to make Him a priority in the way we live our lives. After all, God has given us all that we have. Our very life and being. Endless love and eternal life. We have more than enough reasons to give God our best. To give God our first fruit. We just need to do it. To make God a priority in our lives. To give to God first then use what is left for ourselves and for others. To lay out our first fruits in gratitude and praise.

So, as you budget you time, your commitments, and your finances remember to make God first. Don't make giving back to God an afterthought. Show God your thanks. Show God your praise. Show God your love. Make God first. You will be amazed at how much it helps you realize what God has given you. For God has given you a lot. God has given you blessings beyond belief. Let us give to God our first fruits and show God you thankful we truly are.

OCTOBER BREAD OF LIFE ITEM: SNACK CUPS

The monthly item being collected for October is snack cups – gelatin cups, pudding cups, etc. Donations may be left by the pantry door. In September, Bread of Life in George served 40 households, compared to 37 households in August. Sadly, the number of food insecure families continues to rise.

Distribution Help Wanted

Immanuel is scheduled to help with the Bread of Life Food Distribution on Wednesday, Oct. 26. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for volunteers.



THIS MONTH AT IMMANUEL: OCTOBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/communion	3	4	5 Faith Night at Immanuel 6-6:30 Youth Meal 6:30-7:30 KFC, Confirmation, HS Bible Study	6	7	8
9 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship	10	11	12 Faith Night at Immanuel 6-6:30 Youth Meal 6:30-7:30 KFC, Confirmation, HS Bible Study	13	14	15
16 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/communion Council Meeting	17	18 Deadline for November Newsletter Submissions!	19 Faith Night at Immanuel 6-6:30 Meal 6:30-7:30 Service Project Night	20	21	22 Directory Photos
23 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Communion Class Directory Photos	24	25	26 5:00 Bread of Life Distribution	27	28	29
30 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Reformation Sunday/ First Communion	31  Happy Halloween!					

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers – October: Julie Ver Steeg; November: Mark Behrens

Sound/Power Point

- Oct 2: Henry Ver Steeg & Aiden Bathke
- Oct 9: Richard Heidloff & Fred Landis
- Oct 16: Alexis Landis & Lillian Jorth
- Oct 23: Greg Ver Steeg & AJ Landis
- Oct 30: Gregory Stueven & Sosie Ver Steeg
- Nov 6: Clay Hansmann & Aiden Bathke
- Nov 13: Henry Ver Steeg & Fred Landis
- Nov 20: Richard Heidloff & Lillian Jorth
- Nov 27: Alexis Landis & AJ Landis

READERS

- Oct 2: Angie McConnell
- Oct 9: Richard Heidloff
- Oct 16: Marla Ahrenholtz
- Oct 23: Lillian Jorth
- Oct 30: Julie Ver Steeg
- Nov 6: Mark Behrens
- Nov 13: Kristi Landis
- Nov 20: Cathy Huff
- Nov 27: Mary Behrens

GREETERS

- Oct 2: Jim McConnell & Janet Boone
- Oct 9: Brent & Amanda Jorth
- Oct 16: Greg & Julie Ver Steeg
- Oct 23: Kevin & Lynette Herding
- Oct 30: Rich & Marla Ahrenholtz
- Nov 6: Fred & Kristi Landis
- Nov 13: Clay & Deb Hansmann
- Nov 20: Brent & Amanda Jorth
- Nov 27: Dave & Kathy Huff

ACOLYTES

- Oct 2: Jack Denny & Isaiah Sandbeck
- Oct 9: Cullen Funk & AJ Landis
- Oct 16: Aiden Bathke & Bennett Jorth
- Oct 23: Colin Phelps & Khoryn Funk
- Oct 30: Leo Ver Steeg & Jack Denny
- Nov 6: Isaiah Sandbeck & Cullen Funk
- Nov 13: AJ Landis & Aiden Bathke
- Nov 20: Bennett Jorth & Colin Phelps
- Nov 27: Khoryn Funk & Leo Ver Steeg

COUNCIL MINUTES

September 18, 2022

President Mark Behrens called the meeting to order at 11:40am. Amy Phelps, Julie Ver Steeg, Ryan Funk, Mark Dickmann and Pastor Jeremy Winter were present. Fred Landis was absent.

Pastor Jeremy opened with devotions.

Pastor's Report

"God's Work Our Hands Sunday" was a success! Approximately 15 congregation members pitched in to help paint at Siebring Park. Pizza was served at the park and the project was done around 1:00. It was noted that this type of project, easily tackled in a short time, is ideal and enjoyable for these kind of events.

Pastor Jeremy noted that the funeral of Gordon Siebring was held at Immanuel earlier this week. Installation is complete and KFC/Confirmation are in full swing.

October 16 – Acolyte/Sound Training

October 23 – Communion Class for kids & members of all ages!

October 30 – Reformation Sunday/First Communion

Secretary's Report

Approved via email.

Financial Secretary's Report

No report.

Treasurer's Report

Amy presented financial/budget reports. Julie made motion to approve, Mark Dickmann second. All in favor, reports approved.

Evangelism/Worship

Pastor Jeremy will be gone on October 9th.

Property/Stewardship

Spare boiler pump still in question. Mark Behrens will follow up with Jim Bathke. Necessary electrical work will be completed early this spring. Mark will get parts ordered. Sanctuary lights replaced with LED's. Parsonage renter's lease will be renewed through June 1st and options for parsonage will be re-evaluated at that time. Pastor Jeremy noted that the water fountain is leaking and will need to be repaired. Mark is replacing the handicapped parking sign and will add blue paint to curb.

Education & Youth

Our first Service Project night will be Wednesday, September 21st, with meals, cards and prayer shawls being made.

Old Business

Joe Quincy and Jeff Groote are collaborating to develop a plan for the choir loft project, which will begin in February.

New Business

Immanuel will need a new Meals on Wheels coordinator. We are responsible for the meal delivery for half the month of January and all of July. An announcement with more information will be added to the bulletin and newsletter.

Pastor Jeremy had an idea for a possible "Lending Library" type box for non-perishable food items to be installed outside of the church. This would be for community members who find themselves short between Bread of Life distributions. The council agreed this was a good idea that should be pursued.

The next meeting date was set for October 16 following worship.

Amy made a motion to adjourn, Ryan second. All in favor, meeting adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

PLEASE LIFT IN PRAYER

Clay Hansman, Doug Hilbrands, Rita Hilbrands, Bev Hoing, Bev Kaster, Sandy Luenberger, Wanda Parker, Teresa Popkes, Isaiah Sandbeck, Wendy Smith, Military Families, and Ukraine.

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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

