

Immanuel Lutheran Church

October 2018

Messenger



Immanuel Lutheran Church
Called, Empowered, and Sent by God to Live, Love, and Learn God's Word
Nuestra Declaración De Misión
Somos llamados, autorizados, y enviados por Dios para vivir, amar, y aprender la Palabra de Dios
360-592-5876
Church Email: Immanuel.everson@gmail.com

Immanuel Lutheran Church
5782 Lawrence Rd.
Everson, WA 98247

From Pastor Leslie:

October comes to visit with brilliant colors and cooler temperatures, but we find a warm glow at the feet of Jesus this month. As we continue in the Holy Gospel of Mark, Jesus keeps us on task to remember that we, if left alone, cannot keep the laws of God. It's simple: we will fail. I think we know that. I think we all know that we will say things we wish we had thought about before we said them, or maybe hadn't been caught rolling our eyes at the very moment we were caught doing it. I think our tempers are faster to flair than they are slow to be calm.

Jesus, as we know in Mark's Gospel, breaks into our lives. There is nothing to stop him, and he is as predictable as the orange leaves and the blue sky. Sometimes we wonder about this though, when the clouds are hanging low and the colors are fading.

I have loved autumn all of my life. Perhaps it's odd because for many it is the season of death, but for me it is the season of resting, the getting ready for the earth to begin to make itself ready for spring. In many ways, autumn is a way of Sabbath. Sabbath seems to be a lost art. I admit it's a new discipline for me to take an intentional Sabbath, I've never ever taken time for Sabbath, and I'm finding it difficult to do.

So, like any leader, I am going to share my discomfort and we will enter into what it is that Sabbath is by studying it together during the Adult Forum. We will be using the book *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal and Delight in Our Busy Lives* by Wayne Muller. I used this book during a few classes in seminary. One was a very serious class about health, both spiritual health and physical health, and then the book was used again in a Pastoral Care class, and later at a church working on keeping the environment green.

Each time I have read this book I have been convicted. I invite you to borrow the book from the public library, buy it used from a bookstore or Amazon, or purchase it new. It would be lovely to read all at once and be ready to discuss it, but then we would be undoing the whole point of what it means to be still.

From poet Mark Nepo:

What Ties Me to the Earth is Unseen

My heart was beating like a heron in the awakened
in the weeds, no room to move. Tangled
and surprised by the noise of my mind,
I fluttered without grace to the center
of the lake which humans call silence.

I guess, if you should ask, peace
is no more than the underside
of tired wings resting on the lake
while the heart in its feathers
pounds softer and softer.





Scripture Readings

October 7- 20 Pentecost

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

October 14 - 21 Pentecost

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalm 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

October 21- 22 Pentecost

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalm 91:9-16

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

October 28 - Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

UPCOMING EVENTS and IMPORTANT DATES AT IMMANUEL:

- **October 14** – Church council meets at after Adult Forum.
- **October 20** – Pinochle at 7:00
- **October 21** – Music Fest at 3:00 p.m.
- **October 28** – Pastor Leslie's Installation 3:30 p.m.



Advent Devotional

Some years ago Immanuel members wrote a daily devotional for the Season of Advent. It's time to do so again, so if you would like to write, please let Linda Anderson know. Once we have the names, we will arrange with you what your Scripture will be. Linda Anderson's email is: lmanderson946@gmail.com or you can give her a call, or speak with her personally. The deadline for letting Linda know is October 21, and Advent begins on Sunday, November 25. We would like to complete the devotional book by Wednesday, November 21, 2018. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to write, and if you would like to write but are not sure, our pastor will be happy to help you get started.

"Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? -Matthew 16:24-26

Pastor Leslie's Installation

On October 28, 2018 at 3:30 p.m. Bishop Kerbi Unti will celebrate the installation of Reverend Leslie Ann Mahraun to the office of Word and Sacrament at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

At that time Dan and Leslie will officially join the membership and family of Immanuel Lutheran Church and Leslie will officially become our pastor.

At 3:00 everyone is welcome to come to the parsonage at 3737 Hatley Road, Everson, for a House Blessing, a rite of welcoming for Leslie and Dan and an opportunity to see all the beautiful work that has been done to make the Immanuel parsonage such a place of home for our pastor and her husband.

The Worship service of Installation will begin at 3:30, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. If you would like to come to the House Blessing but are not comfortable walking please call upon a friend to drive you. Rides will begin at 2:45, and we will begin the blessing at 3:00.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

God's Work. Our Hands.

The parsonage will be ready any day and Dan and Leslie are so grateful for everyone who has been there for all the hard work! We especially honor and thank Don and Linda Anderson for sharing their home with us and with 7-month-old Walter, our Border Collie-Corgi mix puppy who brought exuberance to their dog Nutmeg.

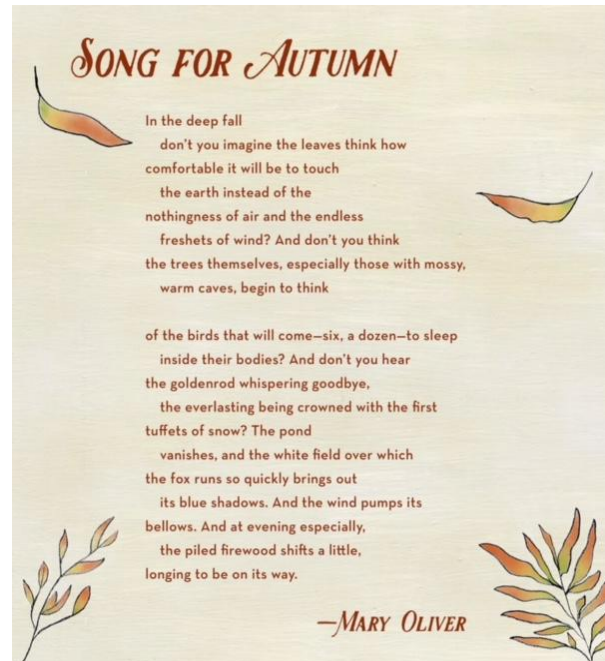
Thanks to Tyler Andrews for all the gifts of time, talent and care, signs of God's gracious love, poured out for all, and shared by a generous son of our congregation. For all who came and spent hours and hours of (back breaking) work, we are ever grateful and appreciate all your time and talent. Mike Brewer, Dennis Workman, Mike and Candace McCormic, Don Anderson, and to those who offered talents and provided the gifts of food and coffee, Lois Patterson, Susie Finsrud, CarolynENZler, and the Thursday Quilting group. The Parsonage is as good as new, if not better!

Adult Forum

Following worship, Adult Forum will meet in the Fellowship Hall for about 40 minutes each Sunday. All are welcome and encouraged to drink coffee or tea, or water etc. and get a treat of Fellowship at 9:00 prior to worship at 9:30.

October Adult Forum: What is Sabbath? Taught by Pastor Leslie. We will use the book: Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in Our Busy Lives by Wayne Mueller. It's not necessary to buy the book, but it is available used or new on Amazon, as you probably already know. There will be no Adult Forum on Reformation Sunday, October 28, 2018.

November Adult Forum: *By Heart, The 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.*



October Birthdays

- 10/5 Aleks Toivola
- 10/11 Kyla Swanson
- 10/11 Julie Douglas
- 10/12 Mark Ohlswager
- 10/18 Ernst Hirt
- 10/19 Tone Piper
- 10/22 Zan Roman
- 10/22 Harry Williams
- 10/23 Carol Allison
- 10/25 Rena Guerin
- 10/26 Judy Bruland
- 10/27 Pat Hawley
- 10/28 Laura Hookham
- 10/29 Wes Murdock
- 10/31 Steve Hoidal

October Anniversaries

- 10/12 James & Jackie Bailey
- 10/16 Dave & Vickie Wagner

October 7 9:30 a.m.

Ass't. Min: Laura Hookham
Greeter: Brulands
Ushers: Brulands
Readers: Ron Bruland/Salvador Estrada
Com. Asst': Linda Anderson
Communion Set-up: Linda Anderson
Flowers: Salvador Estrada
Prayer Team: Kim & Mike

October 14 9:30 a.m.

Ass't Min: Don Anderson
Greeter: Pam Andrews
Usher: Pam Andrews
Com. Ass't: Karen Harkness
Communion Set Up: Karen Harkness
Readers: Dennis Workman/Salvador Estrada
Flowers:
Prayer Team: Lois & Linda

October 21 9:30 a.m.

Ass't. Min: Ben Workman Smith
Ushers: Hunters/Brewers
Reader: ?/Salvador Estrada
Com. Ass't: Linda Anderson
Communion Set Up: Valerie & Linda
Flowers:
Prayer Team: Jim & Karen

October 28 9:30 a.m.

Ass't Min. Sara Murdock
Greeters: Freemans
Ushers: Freemans
Com. Ass't: Linda Anderson
Communion Set-up: Linda Anderson
Reader: Dawn Durand/Salvador Estrada
Flowers: Bill & Carol VanderYacht in Memory of Josh
Prayer Team: Helen & Dennis

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please call someone that you can either switch an assigned Sunday with or sub for you.

A big thank-you to all the helpers; you are greatly appreciated and needed!

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Pastor's Email address: lmahraun@hotmail.com
Office phone: (360) 592-5876
Pastor Leslie's Cell Phone: **360-599-0531**
Pastor's Study phone: 360-592-0216

Pastor Leslie's Office Hours:
Mondays 9:00-4:00 (Except first Monday of month)
Wednesdays 4:00-9:00



Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. *Proverbs 3:5-6*

Women of Immanuel News

WOI Board meets Thursday, October 4 at 12:15 in the church library. We will be making up the Calendar of Events for 2019. Any suggestions of programs you would like to see us have please let a board member know.

WOI Bible Study meets at Carol VanderYacht's home on Tuesday, October 9 at 7 pm.

WOI Gather Magazine study tentatively set at Judy Bruland's on Tuesday October 23 at 1PM.

On Sunday, October 28th we will have the **Blessings of the Quilts**. The quilts will be shipped later in the week.

Muriel Monsen

Our sister in Christ, Muriel, passed away peacefully on Sept. 2, 2018 at the age of 93, at Whatcom Hospice House. She was born Nov. 16, 1924 in Tofield, Alberta to Alice and Monrad Finseth. Muriel was a school teacher in Alberta, starting at the age of 17. She moved to Everson, WA and married Loren Monsen in 1951. They built a home and farm together, living in the same house for 57 years, having three children: Terrie, Pam, and Jeff. Preceding her in death was Loren in 2007 and daughter Terrie (Miller) in 2012. Surviving her are daughter Pam Andrews and son Jeff Monsen (wife Diane), son-in-law Steve Miller, 7 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 2 sisters, and numerous other loved family members. Memorials can be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Whatcom Hospice House, or any cancer research program.



Interfaith's Annual Winter Warmth Drive

Interfaith Coalition's Winter Warmth Drive provides gently-used coats, hats, gloves and scarves to children and adults at four locations in Whatcom County. If you have warm outerwear to donate, please bring your clean items to any Banner Bank location in Bellingham and Ferndale, Interfaith Coalition's office, or many congregations throughout Whatcom County. For many of our neighbors, this program means they won't need to spend limited income on a winter coat, or do without. Thank you for sharing the warmth!

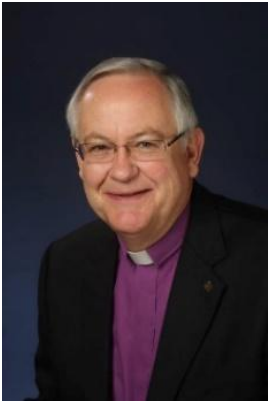
Do you need a coat? Coats will be distributed on these dates and locations:

Ferndale: United Church of Ferndale, 2034 Washington Street in Ferndale on Wednesday, October 10 and Saturday, October 13, 10am to 1pm

Bellingham: Assumption Church Gym, 2116 Cornwall Avenue in Bellingham on Saturday, October 20 from 11am to 1:30pm, and Saturday, October 27 from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

Blaine: Unit 280 Cost Cutter Shopping Center, 1733 H Street in Blaine on Tuesday, October 16 and Friday, October 19 from 10am to 2pm, and Wednesday, October 17 from 5pm to 8pm

Deming: Foothills Food Bank, located in St. Peter's Catholic Church, 6210 Mt. Baker Hwy Tuesday, October 30 from 9am to 11:30am



Come, Lord Jesus

Bishop Kirby Unti
NW Washington Synod /
ELCA

From the October 2018
edition of *The Spirit*

The Unti family continues to meet at least once a week for a family meal. It is the rare occasion when we are not all in attendance. The meal always begins with the prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus." We know not to move a fork until the prayer has been shared. I must confess that we do not always do the prayer with the reverence that it deserves but we always do the prayer.

It would be so easy, and maybe even more pleasant, if we suspended this practice - but the truth is it is nonnegotiable. Not because of guilt or shame. Not because of our personal piety. The prayer is essential because it helps us as a family to know our rightful place in the world. We are, as Luther might say, beggars. We are dependent upon God. God is the provider. We are grateful receivers.

Many of you know that Kim finds great delight in preparing meals. It is not only about the culinary challenge - it is about the gift that comes in gathering people around the meal. Kim knows how to turn a meal into an entire evening.

Kim is also the first to sign up to provide meals for others whether it is a friend recovering from surgery or helping at any one of several feeding programs. We often prepare and serve these meals as a family.

Our household has been shaped by meals because we have been shaped by the Biblical narrative.

Meals play such a critical role in the story of God's people whether it is the cry for manna in the wilderness or breaking bread at home with Zacchaeus. Not to mention how central the meals of Passover and The Eucharist are.

Meals are how God is known, faith is formed, forgiveness is experienced and remembrance of what matters most happens.

Meals are also what the ELCA is about. We not only gather often as the people of God around meal but we believe deep in our bones the importance of seeing that all people have access to the means of providing and receiving meal. We call this expression of the ELCA – WORLD HUNGER.

"Working with and through our congregations in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas, and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty." (ELCA Website: www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger)

Our Synod Hunger Team is ready for some new members to lead us in our local efforts. If you are interested in helping to shape this group, please contact the synod office. Additionally, on the flipside of this edition of *The Spirit*, you will find hunger facts and resources. COME, LORD JESUS!