

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
5782 Lawrence Rd.  
Everson, WA 98247

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

## August 2020

### 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

**Pastor Leslie Mahraun**  
[www.immanuelutheraneverson.com](http://www.immanuelutheraneverson.com)  
Church Email: [Immanuel.everson@gmail.com](mailto:Immanuel.everson@gmail.com)

**A Message from Your Temporary President:**

A daily devotional from “Jesus Calling” by Sarah Young:

*HOLD MY HAND, and walk joyously with Me through this day. Together we will savor the pleasures and endure the difficulties it brings. Be on the lookout for everything I have prepared for you: stunning scenery, bracing winds of adventure, cozy nooks for resting when you are weary, and much more. I am your Guide, as well as you constant Companion. I know every step of the journey ahead of you, all the way to heaven.*

*You don't have to choose between staying close to Me and staying on course. Since I am the Way, staying close to Me is staying on course. As you focus your thoughts on Me, I will guide you carefully along today's journey. Don't worry about what is around the next bend. Just concentrate on enjoying My Presence and staying in step with Me.*

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Who would of thought when we had our last in-person worship in March that we would still be wondering in August when this will get over.

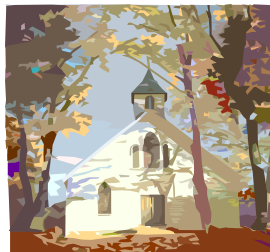
The church garden has provided a place to gather (and socially distance); Zoom allows some the ability to have a virtual church; Facebook allows others a means to connect and hear Pastor Leslie's sermons. If you have other ideas on “being Immanuel” during this time, please let Pastor Leslie or me know. Is there a way to do Bible study? Organized intentional phone calls to those that are more isolated during this time? Other ideas for being “Church”?

I had a meeting with Ron Bruland this morning to discuss the treasurer's report. I wasn't sure what to expect and was a little nervous. Thank you to everyone who has faithfully mailed your offerings to the church. (The church mailbox is checked daily). Through the end of June 2020, we are ahead about \$3500 as compared to end of June 2019. The church sign is installed and paid for.

There will be a work party later this summer to do some church grounds cleanup. The back planting areas (near Parish Hall door) need weeding and there are a few other outdoor tasks as well. We will email out a list of tasks and people can participate on their schedule.

As most of you know, the church computer tower was taken from the church office. We have since installed new door locks to the mailbox hallway and to the church office. If you need access to either of these areas, contact Ron, Kim or Pastor Leslie to schedule access.

God's Blessings to each of you – **Pam Andrews**



Pastor Leslie's E-mail: [lesliemahraun@me.com](mailto:lesliemahraun@me.com)

Pastor Leslie's phone: 360-599-0531



## Bishop's Message

### The Bishop's Article from the August 2020 edition of *The Spirit*

By Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

*Dear Beloveds of Northwest Washington Synod,*

I recently read the book *The Splendid and the Vile* by Erik Larson about Winston Churchill during the blitz. I was surprised to learn that Churchill was appointed prime minister on the day that German forces stormed into Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. He did not even have time to move into the prime minister's office. Instead, he began directing the war effort from his previous office. (And I thought that my first year had tumultuous events!)

On August 1, 2020, I will have completed my first year as your bishop. I have been excited, thrilled, sad, frustrated, energized, and challenged – perhaps you have been, too. I have been so grateful for everyone in this synod – the staff (Andy, Dianne, Susan, Traci, and David), the rostered ministers, and the members of our congregations/ministry sites. I have enjoyed working in the wider ELCA and with other faith leaders throughout the U.S. and the world. This call is truly a gift.

At the beginning of my call as Bishop, through prayer and conversation, I discerned what I believed God was calling us to emphasize as a synod during this first year:

- Leadership
- Community
- Youth and Young Adults
- Faithful Innovation

In collaboration with other individuals and groups within the synod, we began working on these emphases. And some good work is happening.

That said, I did not predict COVID-19. I did not predict churches stopping in-person worship nor did I understand how long this pandemic time would last. I did not anticipate how this pandemic would impact each person and each congregation in this synod. I am slowly realizing that it will be a long time before we shake hands, hug, sit closely, and sing together again.

I also did not expect that in these last months we would have marches in the streets, voices being raised, and laws being changed as people said, "Enough! Enough to systemic racism and brutality against people of color. Enough!" I did not anticipate that there is new possibility in this world towards true peace and justice if we all do the hard work God is calling us to do.

This is an exciting – and challenging – time to be church. But what opportunities we have! God is calling us to new ways of living, new ways of doing, and new ways of being. Truly, God is calling us to new life in Christ! As we hear in Romans 6:4, "*Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*"

So, what will come in my second year as your bishop? If it is anything like this first year, a lot will happen! I anticipate that there will be highs and lows, joys and sorrows, confession and forgiveness, surprises and wonders. Through it all, though, I trust that God will be with us - in, with, and under – as we move forward together.

Every day I give thanks for you. I am so grateful to be with you on this journey. I thank you for your trust in me as your bishop and I thank God every day for the Spirit who calls us, gathers us, and sends us out into the world. May you rest, breathe, and act in God's love, justice, and true peace.



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### **Scripture Readings**

#### **August 2- 9 Pentecost**

Isaiah 55:1-5  
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21

#### **August 9 - 10 Pentecost**

1 Kings 19:9-18  
Psalm 85:8-13  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-23

#### **August 16 - 11 Pentecost**

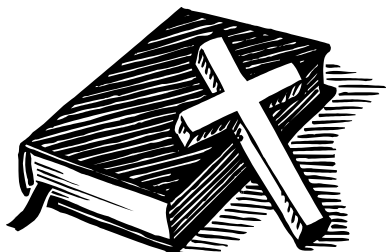
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8  
Psalm 67  
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32  
Matthew 15:10-28

#### **August 23 - 12 Pentecost**

Isaiah 51:1-6  
Psalm 138  
Romans 12:1-8  
Matthew 16:13-20

#### **August 30- 13 Pentecost**

Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28



WOI is inviting you to the drive-by celebration in the church parking lot for Sharon DeGraw who is leaving for Seminary School in Berkley, CA. The send-off celebration will be on Sunday

August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm. Just drive to the church parking lot and Jerry Hunter will guide you. We will be following social distancing by staying in our cars and driving by Sharon where we can give her our farewell wishes for her new adventure. There will be a basket at the end of the drive-by where if you wish you can also give her a card and a freewill donation that will go towards the cost of her moving. Let's show Sharon Immanuel's great spirit by wishing her a safe journey with her new endeavor!



#### **From Pastor Leslie:**

I would like to invite you to meet for a **gathering of ideas for worship and music on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. at Linda Anderson's home.** We need to get together to come up with some fresh worship ideas. All are welcome. You do not need to have been on worship and music team before to be a part of this planning group now.

On August 9 we'll have Holy Communion via Zoom. Please have wine and bread available so that when I say the words of institution you have bread and wine for yourself.

The consecration of the elements will take place just as usual and then we will all eat and drink the bread and wine together. It has been so long since we have had Holy Communion, it will be wonderful to share in our Lord's Body and Blood.

Please let me know if you have questions.

*Pastor Leslie*



***A big thank you to everyone involved in putting up the new church sign and also to everyone who donated and helped with fundraisers. (And thanks to Pastor Leslie for the photo of our hard-working volunteers!)***



### **August Birthdays**

8/4 Dennis Workman  
8/ Susie Finsrud  
8/4 Mike Brewer  
8/4 Carolyn Enzler  
8/15 Chuck McInnis  
8/8 Joan Rinard  
8/23 Jones Pattison  
8/25 Jordan Gassman  
8/0 Jim Hawley  
8/31 Jeanne Chadwick

### **August Anniversaries**

8/1 Julie & Ron Roman  
8/3 Scott & Tone Piper  
8/7 Mark & Sue Ohlswager  
8/17 Jerry & Jan Hunter  
8/21 Don & Linda Anderson  
8/21 Bob & Janine VanderYacht  
8/22 Darlene & John Bayer  
8/31 Jim & Helen Freeman

*Rejoice in the Lord always...Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:4, 9*