

Immanuel Lutheran Church
5782 Lawrence Rd.
Everson, WA 98247

Immanuel Lutheran Church

August 2021

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
Church Email: Immanuel.everson@gmail.com

From Pastor Leslie:

Beginning August 1, 2021, we will be going back to wearing masks for worship due to the Delta variant. This is advised for vaccinated and unvaccinated folks, and comes as a recommendation from our beloved bishop. Nancy and I agree that it is wise to follow the suggestion and we will continue to wear masks in worship until the threat of the variant diminishes. This will not change our ability to meet for in person worship, at least for the time being. If that changes we will cope with that just as we have done in the past. My fervent hope is that folks will mask up and continue to come to worship with joy in their hearts for the love of Jesus who is with us and carries us at all times.

I would like to thank the Women of Immanuel for the beautiful celebratory luncheon for Bill Vander Yacht's Celebration of Life. It could not have been more beautiful. For our first public event coming after COVID, it was wonderful to gather in such a delightful way. You served us all with great hospitality and love, the food was beautiful, and it made the fellowship that much more enjoyable. I hope you feel the appreciation of all who attended and know how much it meant to Carol and the family. Thank you!

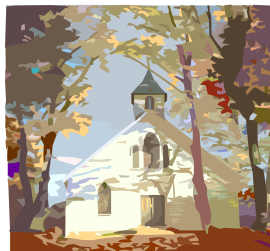
I am beginning preparations for the Adult Forum in the fall. I would love to hear your ideas of topics you would like to study. Please share your ideas with me either via email, or give me a call. I look forward to the ways we can participate in Adult Forum together. All topics will be considered, and I encourage you to think broadly about what you would like to do this fall and winter. We will begin after Labor Day in September.

On August 22, 2021, Laura Singletary from Whatcom Community College will be with us for worship and fellowship to share some of the offerings available through WCC. All are welcome to attend her presentation. It will be wonderful to have her with us and to find out what sorts of offerings WCC has for adult learning.

The church garden is full to overflowing with vegetables right now, be sure to stop over during the week to harvest for your family. Thank you to everyone for working so faithfully, especially in the dry heat. We have a beautiful garden because of your tender care for God's creation.

Slowly but surely we are getting back to visitations. I would love to visit you all and I look forward to doing just that. Give me a call or an email to set up a time when we can visit and pray together. We can meet for coffee at Xtreme Bean in the neighborhood or for lunch in Everson or Bellingham, or? I look forward to hearing from you to set up a time for fellowship.

May the peace of Christ sustain you as we enter the last month of summer. God's peace, Pastor Leslie



Pastor Leslie's E-mail: lesliemahraun@me.com

Pastor Leslie's phone: 360-599-0531

August Messenger Article from Church Council

“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” Gal. 5:6b

Dear Immanuel Family,

As I write this note, we have just come from the celebration of life of our dear friend, Bill VanderYacht. Once again, we are reminded of the sacredness of living and the holiness of dying. We rejoice that Bill now lives with our Savior and are ever grateful for the influence he had on each of our lives.

Our congregational meeting was held on July 18, primarily to approve our budget for the last 6 months of 2021. Because of COVID and not meeting in person for so many months, we had chosen to accept a budget for 6 months at the beginning of the year. Other items that were discussed included a recommendation for a “Thrift Store” in the Monsen Center. The plan is that the building will be cleaned and small appliances and clothing will be collected and then offered on Wednesday afternoons for a donation. The Helping Hands group of after-school kids will be working on this servant project. If you have items to donate, please contact Nancy Workman or Shelley Culver.

Several Church Council positions will be open for 2022. Please pray that those positions will be filled and maybe, just maybe, by **you!** Now that we are back to in-person worship, there are many ways you can serve our church family. We can use help cleaning the kitchen, putting up banners and filling candles with oil at the altar, bringing flowers for the altar vases, just to name a few areas that need attention.

The church/community garden is ripe and ready. Please come and harvest. There are beets, carrots, yellow and green zucchini, lettuce and the corn, tomatoes and beans are not far behind. Thank you to all who are keeping our church grounds looking so beautiful.

If you want prayer from your Immanuel Family, or know someone who does, please let Pastor Leslie, Kim or Nancy know. We will be adding a prayer list to our weekly bulletins so that all can lift those concerns to our loving God.

Thank you to each of you for your faithful witness to the loving nature of our God. It is so good to be together again!

Love,

Nancy Workman (Council President)



From the Bishop:

My dining room table has been my office for sixteen months. Right now, as I look at the surface I see my computer, a picture of my kids, my phone, a coffee cup, two glasses filled halfway with water, my notebook, gum, sticky notes, my Bible, The Management of Policies and Procedures for Management of the Roster of the ELCA, The ELCA Constitution, various stacks of paper, some books I want to read, the ELW, my devotion book, and pushed way out of the way, at the very edge of the table, my lovely quilted table runner and candles that used to sit in the middle of the dining room table (when it wasn't being used to eat on).

If my dining room table could speak, it would say, "I am tired. I am tired of you sitting here day after day. I am tired of you making a mess on me. I am tired of not being used for what I'm supposed to be used for. I am tired." Or maybe ... I'm projecting. When this pandemic first hit, the synod staff and I went into emergency mode. We made plans. We sent out emails. We revised (and revised and revised) COVID-19 guidelines. Like you, we kept going and going. And we have survived. And you have survived. Together, we have survived. And together ... we are tired.

As you might recall, Jesus also got tired. There are many verses throughout the Gospels where we read: "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." ... "Jesus was sleeping." ... "He didn't want anyone to know which house he was staying in." And it didn't start in the Gospels. Truly, from the beginning of time, we hear how God rested. In Genesis, God rested on the seventh day. And God understood rest not only for Godself but also for the very creatures that God created. The only thing that God calls holy in the creation account is the Sabbath. When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments God specifically declared, "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." And this commandment was for everyone – including outsiders and animals. Fully fifteen percent of life was to be Sabbath. In this commandment we hear how the Sabbath is sacred for those who live in relationship with a living God – this God who rescued people from slavery in a land where no rest was allowed.

I think somewhere we forgot the rhythms that God placed on this earth. The rhythm that is in the very way that trees grow and lay dormant; how tides ebb and flow; how spring moves into summer and into fall and into winter and back to spring. While it is true that Jesus did say, "The Sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the Sabbath," he also said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Sabbath is a time of rest, a time of renewal, and a time to listen for what God is up to in our lives, in our communities, and in our world. Sabbath is a time to reflect on the world without rushing to "fix it." Sabbath is not "guilt-ridden stolen time." Instead, Sabbath is holy. Sabbath is sacred. Sabbath is commanded and modeled by God.

Beloveds, we are called to Sabbath. We are called to Sabbath even when it seems the needs of all are pressing in on us. While you – and your vocations, your desires, your gifts, your responsibilities – are important, so is understanding that the world does not revolve around your work. And, in taking Sabbath, you become a better leader and servant. Enjoy August. Take Sabbath. Let others take Sabbath. The world is in good hands. In the best hands. In God's hands. (And yes, I am going to clean off my dining room table. Soon.)

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee bishop@lutheransnw.org



Scripture Readings

August 1- 10 Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalm 78:23-29

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

August 8 - 11 Pentecost

1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalm 34:1-8

Ephesians 4:25—5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

August 15 - 12 Pentecost

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalm 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

August 22 - 13 Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

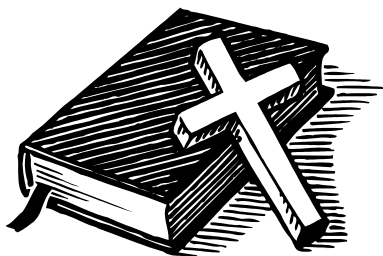
August 29 - 14 Pentecost

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalm 15

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **WOI Walk & Talk** will be meeting at Lake Padden on Monday, August 2nd, at 10 am. Directions to Lake Padden: Take I-5 South to exit 252 Samish Way. Left at light at off ramp then take a right once over the bridge onto Samish Way. Drive 2-3 miles and take the **SECOND EXIT**, which is the **EAST ENTRANCE** into the park (do not take the first West Entrance) and drive all the way to the end and park at the Dog Park. The Dog Park is located by the bathrooms at the lower lake level. Please bring water and if you plan on staying for more visiting time after our walk bring a snack. Let's hope for good weather! Call Sue Ohlswager @ 360-325-2313 if you have any questions or are running late.



WOI Walk and Talk Group enjoying Boulevard Park and Woods Coffee

- The Cancer Support Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 at Immanuel (August 5 and 19).
- August 22 after worship – WCC representative discusses opportunities for adult learning.



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
8/25 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

August Worship Assistant Schedule

August 1, 2021

Ass't. Minister: Laura Hookham
Greeter/Ushers: Ron & Judy Bruland
Reader: Ron Bruland/Salvador Estrada
Flowers: Workmans

August 8

Ass't. Minister: Ben Workman Smith
Greeter/Ushers: Jan & Jerry Hunter
Readers: Dennis Workman/Salvador Estrada

August 15

Ass't. Min: Bob Jacobson
Greeter/Ushers: Mike & Karen Brewer
Reader: Kim Roe/Salvador Estrada
Flowers:

August 22

Ass't Min. Kelsey Mordecai
Greeter/Usher: ?
Reader: Dawn Durand/Salvador Estrada
Flowers:

August 29

Ass't. Minister: Laura Hookham
Greeter/Usher: Ron & Judy Bruland
Reader: ? Salvador Estrada
Flowers:

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." Philipians 4:4, 9

Please let Kim know if you are willing to assist during our worship services as a communion assistant, usher/greeter, or reader. Your contribution would be most appreciated!

Do you have flowers in your garden? Are you good at arranging? Please consider bringing flowers for the altar as a way to glorify God and bless our worship space. Please sign up on the flower chart in the parish hall.

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! Email address for Pastor Leslie: lmahraun@hotmail.com
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Church email address: immanuel.everson@gmail.com
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Church website: immanuellutheraneverson.com/