

I have become more aware lately than ever of the number of avenues that bring people into our church. We have had several visitors recently who we first met at community events last year. We have new members who came through Rainbow House. We have others who came because they found us online when looking for an inclusive church in the area. Others have been invited by those who already attend. Those are just the ones who we have seen in worship. We have had many others visit our church through Kids Night Out, our Monthly Manna meals, Sistahs, etc. In addition to those who have come in person, we have a number of people who are connected with us primarily through our online worship. Immanuel is an amazing congregation and I believe that people are going to continue to find us as we continue to open multiple doors of entry.

With spring upon us and summer coming quickly, we have renewed opportunities to be present in our community and open those doors. A part of our hope is that some of the people we meet will visit and become a part of our congregation. But we need to remember that our greater purpose is to meet their needs, whatever they are. Many people just want to have a conversation and be heard. That could be because they are lonely, they feel misunderstood or that they feel rejected by others. Some have lost their faith or have never been introduced to the Christian faith. Others have deep wounds caused by religious people who practice judgment over love. And many people just love to get free things, laugh and have fun. Whatever the needs, we have a variety of opportunities ahead of us to meet these needs.

The invitation is open to everyone to join us in our outreach events in the coming months. Look for opportunities to sign up to help at Vacation Bible School, the Goshen Market, pride events, Rainbow House events and more. Be a part of bringing God's love to our community.

David



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Kid's Night Out

The final Kid's Night Out for the 2022-2023 school year will be held on Saturday, May 20, from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Kid's Night Out is open to all children between the ages of 4 through 5th graders. The evening begins with eating supper, and then they have fun playing games, doing crafts and other fun activities. Please make a reservation by calling the church office: 618-656-4648 or by signing up on the sheet in the Hospitality Room.



Graduating?

If you or a family member will be graduating from high school or college this Spring, we want to hear about it! We will be honoring all graduates on Graduate Sunday, June 4. Please let us know what school you will be graduating from, any honors or awards received, the degree you received and what your future plans are. We also ask that you send us a photo to use on Graduate Sunday. Thanks!

Monthly Manna

The United Women in Faith will serve their May community luncheon on Friday, May 19, from 11:00 am until 1:30 pm. Please note that extra half hour of serving time!



Serving Area Kids

S. A. K. (Serving Area Kids) will begin soon! The program has undergone some changes for the summer of 2023. Lunch distribution begins on Monday, June 5 *from the Glen-Ed Food Pantry*, 125 5th Avenue in Edwardsville. *Lunches will not be distributed from Immanuel.* School aged children will receive five lunches each Monday. The program will be headed up by Lynette Watson. If you would like to volunteer to help, you may call Lynette at 618-972-3082. Be sure to help spread the word to all of our kids!

Sistahs

What is Sistahs? One gathering per month for women of a certain age or an uncertain age. Time spent in food and fellowship with a bit of a purpose. Come as you are. Bring food to share – finger food, grocery store food, something healthy – whatever you feel like. Bring a friend, if you want. We'll chat, brainstorm and do a small service project. We are open to all - members - non-members - and all genders!

Sistahs will meet on Thursday, May 18, 6:00 pm for potluck, and 6:30 pm for Fellowship. We hope you will join us!



Ways to Give

We appreciate your financial support! Checks/Cash may be mailed to Immanuel, or placed into one of the Offering Boxes. You may give online at venmo@immanuel-UnitedMethodistChurch, or by PayPal using the button on our website. You can also sign up to have a draw taken from your checking or savings account either monthly or bi-weekly. Contact the church office for more information.

Mother's Day Diaper Drive

State Senator Erica Harriss is sponsoring a Mother's Day Diaper Drive from April 17—May 11. She is asking for donations of baby wipes, baby wash, diapers (sizes 4, 5, & 6), baby lotion, pacifiers and baby bottles. Items can be dropped off at Senator Harriss' district office at 120 North Main Street, Suite B, Edwardsville. Items will be delivered to Safe Families for Children Metro East Chapter the week of Mother's Day. This Mother's Day, we are asking for everyone's participation to help ensure that all mothers are supported. Please consider encouraging others to participate. If you have any questions or if you are interested in participating, please contact Senator Harriss' office at 618-205-3242.

St. John's Community Care

- Stress Busting for Family Caregivers
- Savvy Caregiver Series
- Alzheimer's Support Group
- Memory Café
- Family Caregiver Support Group
- Caregiver Information & Assistance Program
- Medical Equipment Loan Program

222 Goethe Avenue
Collinsville, IL 62234
618-344-5008

Community Event

Our friends at New Song have invited us once again to participate in a local race/walk May 20 at SIUE at 9 am to support vulnerable populations without access to clean water.



*Every step you take is
one they won't have to.*

Over 750 million people walk an average of 6 kilometers every day to find their nearest water source. The walk can be dangerous and often-times the water itself is disease-ridden, causing nearly 1,000 children under 5 to die every single day. When you register for the Global 6K for Water, your registration fee will provide clean, safe, life-giving water to one person for life! Your race bib will feature a photo of a child receiving water.

Register at Edwardsville6kforwater.com before May 15 to receive your t-shirt, unique race bib, and finisher's medal delivered directly to your doorstep before race day.





MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries

5/03 Shelby Grammer
5/05 Kathy Coady
Andre Doss
Linda Emshousen
5/04 Eileen Kreutzberg
5/15 Jessica Hendriex
Molly Robbins
5/17 Rhonda Schaaake
5/19 Althea Burdick
Dawn McCormick
5/20 Tiffany Schwalb
5/24 Dan Carter
5/25 Janet Hardbeck
5/27 Shellie Franke
5/28 Larry Worthey
5/30 Matthew Firsching

5/10 Gary & Sharon Koenig
5/15 Dave & Trish Rader
5/16 Jordan & Shelby Grammer
5/22 Billy & Michelle Woods
5/31 Jacob & Breck Newman
Mike & Ruth Portell

Cleaning Volunteers for May

May 1– 6 Tom & Penny May
May 7–13 Teresa & Christal Helle-Akers
May 14–20 Emily Spitze & Sarah Wood
May 21–27 Gary & Sharon Koenig
May 28–June 3 Amber Larson & Nancy Darnell



Safe Zone Training

May 21, 2023
11:30-1:30
Rainbow House

Safe Zone training is an event designed to help us think through how to create safe spaces within our homes, community, and our church. The reality is that people, especially in the LGBTQ+ community, are often hesitant to risk attending church because of their past experiences. It is essential that we create a safe space for everyone who visits our church community.

Many of us struggle with an understanding of what all the letters mean, with using the variety of pronouns that people prefer, and understanding what safe space looks like. It can feel overwhelming, yet these letters and words represent real people and when understood and used correctly, they can create a feeling of acceptance.

Our next Safe Zone training will be offered on Sunday, May 21 at 11:30 am. Lunch will be provided for all who attend. The training will be held at the Rainbow House (808 N Main St) and will last for approximately 2 hours. You can register by emailing or calling the church office.



Land of Goshen Market Dates

As a community organization, we can have a presence at the Land of Goshen Farmers Market once a month. We try to be there at least 4 times a year as a church. We are also going to be there 4 times this year representing Rainbow House. Below are the dates for 2023. The market runs from 8 am - Noon each Saturday and we divide the work between 2 shifts:

First shift - 7:15-9:45

Second shift 9:45-12:15

You can sign up by calling the church office or going to signup genius. The links will be available soon.

Immanuel

May 13

June 17

July 8

August 5

Rainbow House

May 20

June 10

July 22

August 12



A Mother's Day Hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God "mothers" each new child into
This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God's comfort, grace and love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who "mothers" us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.

"The gift of service leads to a life of love."

~Mary White



Thank You!

We want to thank everyone who volunteers to help in some way at Immanuel. We know how much time, energy and love you put into the ministry here, and it's such a blessing to know that we can rely on you. Thank you for the hours you've spent assisting our church. You are truly appreciated.

**Prayer/Praise Ministry** (+ Indicates weeks—call office to continue another 4 weeks)

- + Family of Dale Bruggemann, father of Joanie Green, was called home to eternal life on Monday, April 24
Paige Brase who will be undergoing weight loss surgery on May 1
- ++ Family of Bruce Blythe, son of Marge May, upon his passing
Ron Jones, father of Rhonda Grammer, healing for broken ankle
- +++ The Coleman family on the sudden death of their 18-year old daughter
Pat Davis, recovering from knee replacement
Mary Lou Grigg, for strength and healing
Kenneth Glasscock, throat cancer—recurred
- ++++ Sherry Buhrmester, for strength and healing
James Maxness for strength and healing
Max Hazell for strength and healing
Sharon for surgery and treatment for gum cancer
Johnny Usher, 19-year old nephew of Jerry & Sharon Prott, radiation

Address Correction

We have learned that the zip code that was published for Marge May in Eden Prairie, Minnesota was not correct. Here is the correct address:

Marge May
16389 Glory Lane, Unit 206
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

From the Board of Trustees

You are asked to consider making a contribution to our Property Improvement Account to go towards resealing our parking lot. This is needed to keep the lots from cracking and breaking. The cost will be \$6,300.00 range. Be sure to mark your check "Parking Lot." Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

March Finances**Receipts:***Sunday Offerings:*

3/05	\$1,500.16
3/12	2,750.00
3/19	1,575.03
3/26	<u>2,565.00</u>
Total	\$12,507.12

<i>Online Giving:</i>	\$ 4,116.93
<i>Transfer/Memorial</i>	<u>\$ 1,700.00</u>

Total Receipts \$14,207.12

Expense: \$14,927.27

Shortage: (\$ -720.00)

Budget reports are available to be picked up each month from the table near the stairs in the narthex.



Immanuel United Methodist Church
800 North Main Street
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Contact Us!

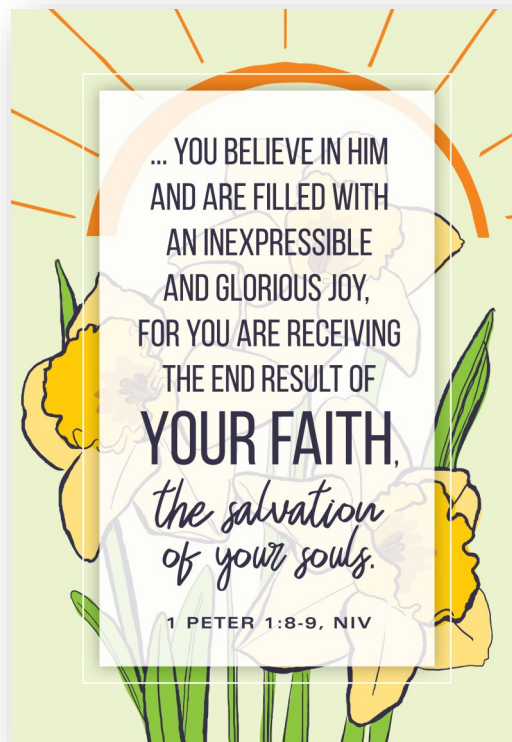
Office: (618) 656-4648

Web Site:
www.immanuelonmain.org

Office e-mail:
anita@immanuelonmain.org

Pastor David Roderick
(618) 530-4679
david@immanuelonmain.org
droderick@charter.net

Caleb Kelahan
Interim Song Leader



Worship Schedule

Child & Adult Sunday School
9:00 am each
Sunday

In-Person & Livestream
Worship
10:00 am each
Sunday

Thank You for your
continued support of our
ministries.

Immanuel United Methodist Church
800 North Main Street • Edwardsville, IL 62025