

One of the most important parts of being a Christian is becoming more aware of what the Bible has to say and how to better understand it. That is part of what we call discipleship, or the act of growing in knowledge and understanding of how to be more like Christ. It is essential that we each take personal responsibility for our continued growth as Christians. There are more resources than ever to help with this, but finding the right ones that are trustworthy can be difficult. It is not just finding people with a similar theology as ours, but learning how to process what we hear and finding others to talk with about it. John Wesley reminds us that we can use our experience, tradition, and reasoning, along with scripture to help us with this.

I often ask people who they are reading and listening to and others ask me the same question. In other words, who is inspiring us and who are we learning from? I am going to share a list of several of the resources that have been important to me recently in my discipleship growth and I hope that some of them may be helpful to you. They come with an offer to sit and talk about them as that is one of my favorite things to do. Over time, I will try to use this space to add additional resources as well.

-Books to help with understanding how to read the Bible:

Rob Bell - *What is the Bible? How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters and Stories, Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything*

Adam Hamilton - *Making Sense of the Bible*

Brian McLaren - *Finding Faith*

-Podcasts to help in understanding how to read the Bible:

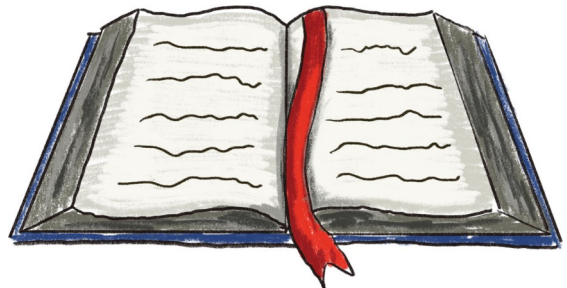
My current favorite podcast is hosted by Pete Enns and Jared Byas
thebiblefornormalpeople.com/podcast

Rob Bell
robbell.com/podcast

-For informative and encouraging daily meditations, you cannot do better than Fr. Richard Rohr
cac.org/daily-meditations

-If you are interested in a book on homosexuality and the Bible, one of the best and easiest to understand is *Unclobbered* by Colby Martin

- *Pastor David*





VBS Volunteers Needed - July 24 to 28

We need many volunteers to help make VBS a success! Needed are:

Crew Leaders, who guide kids to each activity
Station Leaders for...
Bible Adventures
Crafts
KidVid Cinema
Games

Kitchen help to prepare and serve dinner
Volunteers to prepare and serve snacks

A volunteer sign-up sheet is available in the Hospitality Area. If you have questions about any of the volunteer positions, please contact Kiffon Lewis at 618-210-9628 or Jill Winte at 314-422-6734.

Serving Area Kids

Immanuel will be in charge of handing out lunches to school-aged kids at the Glen-Ed Pantry on Monday, June 12. We will need a total of 6 volunteers. If you can help, please call Laurie Frey at 618-799-8445.

Parents—you can receive free lunches for your school-aged children this summer. Lunches will be distributed each Monday from the Glen-Ed Pantry, between the hours of 10 am and noon. Children should accompany you.

Monetary donations to the S.A.K. program can be sent to Glen-Ed Pantry, 125 5th Avenue, Edwardsville, IL 62025.

Graduate Sunday—June 4

We will honor those who have graduated from high school or college this Spring on Sunday, June 4th:

Madison Kane from Triad High School

Sydney Grammer from Murray State University

Katharine Housewright from Colgate University

We hope you can join us on Sunday, June 4 as we celebrate all of the accomplishments of these grads!



Goshen Market

Immanuel is having a presence at the Land of Goshen Market again this summer, representing both our church, and the Rainbow Ministry. You have an opportunity to volunteer to speak to our community about the opportunities at Immanuel:

Representing *Immanuel UMC*
June 17, July 8, August 5

Representing *Rainbow House*
June 10, July 22, August 12

Shifts are from 7:15 am to 9:45 am, and from 9:45 am until 12:15 pm. We now have one link to volunteer. This link takes you to a page on our website, where you can click on the Rainbow House icon, or on the Immanuel UMC icon to sign up as a volunteer:

<https://immanuelonmain.org/volunteer-signup/>

We will have handouts and share information about our church and the ways that God is reaching others through our ministry.

Peace with Justice Sunday June 4, 2023

United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.

Donations for this special Sunday support programs and ministries to educate, equip and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities. Each Annual Conference has a Peace with Justice Coordinator developing local social justice ministries. Fifty percent of the offering remains in our annual conference to support this ministry.

Special offering envelopes will be included with the June 4th bulletins so you can help support Peace with Justice Sunday.

2023 Annual Conference

The 2023 Annual Conference will be held on Thursday, June 8 to Saturday, June 10 at the Peoria Civic Center.

The theme is *A Time of Love, A Time of Peace*, taken from Ecclesiastes 3:8.

The purpose of the annual conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church. The annual conference consists of clergy and lay members. Representing Immanuel will be Pastor David Roderick, and Lay Person Penny May. Please keep these people, and this event in your prayers in the coming weeks.





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

- + David Frey, nephew of Sharon & Jerry Prott, healing from injuries received in automobile accident
Gary Fate, brother-in-law of Sharon & Jerry Prott, health issues
- ++ The family of Eileen Kreutzberg, who passed away on her 98th birthday
Jerry Prott, health issues
Gary Ramey, step-father of Emily Spitze, cancer has recurred
- +++ Janice Schoonover, friend of Gary & Sharon Koenig, for comfort while on hospice care
Tammy Ripshoff, friend of Gary & Sharon Koenig, for strength and healing

April Stewardship

Receipts:

Sunday Offerings:

4/02	\$4,533.16
4/09	2,305.13
4/16	1,275.00
4/23	1,453.00
4/30	<u>5,965.16</u>
Total	\$15,531.45

<i>Online Giving:</i>	\$ 3,758.55
<i>Transfer/Memorial</i>	<u>\$ 4,500.00*</u>
Total Receipts	\$23,790.00

Expense:	\$16,724.35
Difference:	\$ 7,065.36

*Bills and payroll were due before the April 30th offering for the month.

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



Juneteenth, America's newest federal holiday, marks the official end of slavery in the nation. President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Applying only to the states in the Confederacy, it declared "that all persons held as slaves are, and henceforward shall be free." But news of freedom didn't reach Galveston, Texas, until June 19, 1865, when 2,000 Union troops arrived to enforce the decree. The U.S. Constitution's 13th Amendment, which bans slavery, was ratified a few months later. Just as freedom and justice came in fits and starts to the Israelites, so it comes to our own country and around the world, where the pursuit for justice continues.



Pride Month

June is Pride month and here is a short prayer in recognition of it.

God, who made me in Your image,
teach me to love myself as You love me.

God, who made me in Your image,
allow me to show that image to the world.

God who made me in Your image,
help me to see Your image in all those I meet.

God, who made me in Your image,
teach me to conserve and protect all Your creation.

God, who made me in Your image,
bless, protect, and keep me and all Your children safe.

Yoga Classes at Immanuel

A new five-week session of Yoga classes begins on June 4 and will meet weekly downstairs in Immanuel's Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to drop in and sample a class. Currently, the drop in rate is \$10 per session. Questions? Contact instructor Louise Hamilin-Laird by email at lairdyoga@gmail.com.

Thursday 6—7 pm
Beginner/Intermediate

Friday 6—7 pm
Restorative

If you plan to try out this class, please send Louise an email, so she has enough supplies ready

Saturday 8—9 am
Rise & Shine



6/01 Elisa Huffer
6/02 Michelle Woods
6/05 Norman Schoettle
6/11 Eloise Allen
Kim Poteet
6/12 Andrea Emshousen
Diane Moore
Andrew Taylor
6/13 Mark Piper
6/14 Aubrey Smith
6/17 Ella Lancaster
6/18 Matt Lewis
6/19 Alan Grammer
Jim Paul
6/23 Kathy Hatton

6/07 Bill & Nancy Phillipe
6/10 Matt & Kiffon Lewis
6/12 Joshua & Savanah Newman
6/22 Darrin & Kristine Lancaster
6/24 Doug & Linda Potter
6/25 Adam Jones & Grace Havis
6/27 Norman & Judy Schoettle

If we have not listed your special day, please contact the church office with that information.

Immanuel's Welcoming Inclusion Statement

As we recognize the value in each other, we recognize God. We embrace God's good gift of diversity and believe all persons are of sacred worth. Therefore, we welcome people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, social-economic background, family structure, and physical or mental ability into the full participation of this congregation. We are called by God to raise the level of hope for those who have been marginalized and singled out for exclusion, including our LGBTQIA+ siblings. Our passion for a wide welcome of all God's children moves us to participate in reconciling and justice ministries so that we might truly be open minds, open hearts, and open doors.

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 Praise Team Leader



"Those
who
love me
will keep
my word,
and
my Father
will love
them."

John 14:23, NRSV

Worship Schedule

In-Person Worship &
Livestream on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/immanuelonmain.org/>

10:00 am
Each Sunday

Children's Sunday School
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