

# Immanuel Messenger July 2024



Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church Mission:

*We gather as people of Christ, serving with love, hope and faith.*

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Join in Celebrating and  
Supporting LOMC  
*“Connecting the Word of God  
with the World of God”*



Tri Church (St. John's and St. Paul, Sterling and Immanuel, Rock Falls) is hosting a special event for LOMC (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center) to celebrate and support their outdoor ministries.

**We invite you to join us** for this celebration on Saturday, August 17th from 5 to 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sterling, located at 1701 16th Ave. A picnic style meal featuring ribeye steak sandwiches will be provided. In addition, outdoor games will be available.

**We invite you to support LOMC** as 2024 marks their 50th Anniversary! A 50th Anniversary Campaign appeal focused on “Generosity to the past and gifts for the future” is underway, “hoping to raise \$100,000 to honor and uplift God’s ministry of the outdoors at LOMC.”

**We invite you to make a gift** or pledge at this event. Staff and board members from LOMC will be available to share their joy for the camp and answer any questions.

**To RSVP, please scan the QR code by August 5, 2024.** Your RSVP is your “ticket” to this celebration. You may also RSVP on the sign-up sheet outside the church office.

*The Tri Church congregations are most grateful for your support of LOMC in funding the future!*





This month nearly 20,000 youth and young adults from all over the United States will be gathering for the ELCA National Youth Gathering (NYG) and the Young Adult Gathering. Throughout the NYG, youth will be growing in faith, knowledge and experience through worship, Bible study, cultural experiences, service, fellowship, team building and more. The ELCA NYG is held every three years in a different city. The 2021 NYG was cancelled due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. **The theme for this year is Created to Be!** The daily themes are:

- ◆ We are **CREATED TO BE BRAVE**—to show up with an open mind and heart, willing to be challenged.
- ◆ We are **CREATED TO BE AUTHENTIC**—to bring our whole selves and know that we are loved by our Creator.
- ◆ We are **CREATED TO BE FREE**—to be transformed by the gospel.
- ◆ We are **CREATED TO BE FREE**—to work for justice for all.
- ◆ We are **CREATED TO BE DISCIPLES**—to be sent into the world to love our neighbor, just as we are loved by God.



PLEASE keep the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering and Young Adult Gathering in your prayers! You can learn more about our team and ways you can support them on page 9 of the Messenger. THANKS!

—Pastor Bree Truax, [pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com](mailto:pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com), 360-989-4906

*Let us pray: O God, thank you for all who are leading and participating in the 2024 National Youth Gathering and Young Adult Gathering. Protect, guide, and sustain all. Move and shape lives, O God of love. Amen.*

**Council Meeting Highlights from Mtg.  
on June 17, 2024**



1. Council unanimously voted to use a gift of \$500 made from Steve Krutz & Val Jones to go towards the repair of the sanctuary clavinova.
2. Council unanimously voted to approve the lowest bid for the seal coating, crack filing, patchwork and striping of the 3 parking lots.
3. Next meeting is July 15, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Stacey Hackbarth, Council Secretary

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You are most welcome to worship with us over the phone or in person each week! You can call into worship toll free ANYTIME at **1-888-975-5536**. Immanuel's **in person worship**, is offered each **Sunday at 9 a.m. & Wednesday at 4 p.m.**

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**The July noisy offering** will support Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). Last year, LSSI provided whole-person care to over 42,000 children, adults, and seniors—that's **one in every 297 people in Illinois**. Caring for the whole person goes beyond providing safety, shelter, food, and clothing. LSSI strives to view the whole person, just as God does, to surround people with the necessary supports to build and enhance their lives. . Thank you for giving and serving as you are able! Your change literally changes lives!



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When being admitted to the hospital or nursing home, you are welcome to let the admitting clerk know that you are a member of Immanuel Lutheran, Rock Falls. **If you would like a visit or to be included in congregational prayers, please call the Church office (815-625-3575).**



Please contact the church office if you have a prayer request for the congregational prayer list. **Prayer requests will remain on the list for a month and can be renewed as many times as needed.** Thank you!

*We thank God for all of you, and for all who have birthdays in July! We specifically honor members who are 80 years or older.*

**Birthdays:**

Clark Smith 7/23

Vera Stutzke (102) 7/30

**Anniversary:**

Rod & Janice Attig 7/28/1963

*If you don't see your name on this list or there is a correction to be made, please contact the church office at 815-625-3575.*



**WELCA Bible Study** will be held on Tuesday, July 23, (**note date change**) at 9:00 a.m. at Immanuel. Please bring your Bible and "Gather" magazine. All women of Immanuel are members of WELCA and welcome to join WELCA for a time of fellowship and Bible Study!

**Please join us for BBT in July!** Breaking Bread Together or BBT is a time of sharing life, God's love and a meal together! These are no host gatherings for all interested parties. People of St. Paul, St. John's and friends are welcome!

**Join us for BBT in July on Wednesday, July 10 at 11:30 a.m.**

**at Pizza Ranch** (3900 E Lincolnway, Sterling). and on

**Wednesday, July 24 at 11:30 a.m. at Whiskey Barrel**

(305 W. 2nd St., Rock Falls)

**Come and share life with God and each other at BBT!**

**Breaking  
Bread  
Together  
BBT**

**Updates for Directory:** If you have changed your phone number, canceled a land line number, changed your email, or moved, please let us know. Please email Jill at [office@immanuelrockfalls.org](mailto:office@immanuelrockfalls.org) or by calling (815) 625-3575. Communication is an important part of maintaining healthy relationships, but is difficult to do if we don't have accurate contact information. Thank you!

**Please remember our Homebound Members with a prayer, visit or card:**

***Gerry Trieloff***

Morningside of Sterling  
2705 Avenue E, Apt. 233  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Emma Bailey***

Citadel  
105 E. 23rd Street  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Vera Stutzke***

1801 Avenue G  
Apt. 145  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Shirley Boyer***

1102 E. 13th Street  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Delores Kuhlemier***

1011 6th Avenue  
Rock Falls, IL 61071

***Swede Knapp***

Morningside of Sterling  
2705 Avenue E,  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Nancy Maxwell***

710 W. LeFevre  
Apt. 204  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Virgil Rhodes***

Allure  
308 S. 2nd Street  
Walnut, IL 61376

***Lois Deetz***

28286 Woodside Drive  
Rock Falls, IL 61071

***Deb Gonzalez***

812 W. 5th Street  
Rock Falls, IL 61071

***Shirley Downey***

Morningside of Sterling  
2705 Avenue E, Apt. 110  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Betty Harms***

1801 Avenue G  
Apt. 305  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Patricia Mintun***

Allure  
612 W. St. Mary's Rd.  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Ruth Ann Metzen***

2705 Avenue E, Apt. 107  
Sterling, IL 61081

***Joyce Greenwalt***

P.O. Box 144  
Polo, IL 61064

**Special THANKS to all who continue to remember our home bound through prayers, cards and visits! We are church together!**



**WORSHIP  
at Parkway Ctr  
& Morningside**

**Immanuel is offering worship at two area care facilities. We are leading worship on Sunday, July 14 at 3 p.m. at Parkway Center, (1801 Ave. G in Sterling) and Tuesday, July 9 at 9:30 a.m. at Morningside of Sterling (2705 Avenue E). If you would like to assist with either of these services, please contact Pastor Bree at 815-625-3575. Thank you for support of these worship opportunities! Your prayers and fiscal support makes these opportunities possible!**

**Menz Group** will meet on **Monday, July 1st** at **6:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sterling**. This opportunity is open to all men.

A hearty welcome and invitation is extended! Please contact Gerald Foskitt at 815-499-6566 with questions.



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**2024 YSJ Open Golf Outing – July 14<sup>th</sup> at Lost Nation Golf Course**

Do you like to golf? Plan to golf and support St. Jude! All proceeds go to St Jude Children's Hospital through Jessie's Mile. Last year with the help of big hearted sponsors, Jessie's Mile was able to give a record \$10,000 to St Jude. There are 8 levels of sponsorship this year. Hole in one package - \$600. \$100 donation to Jessie's Mile. \$500 payout to anyone who hits a hole in one anywhere on the course (donated to Jessie's Mile if no hole in one is hit in the event). This QR code



will take you directly to the YSJ web site or you can go to <https://yousuckjackass.com> to sign up there. If you would rather sign up by paper or have questions please call Dan Gordon, office – 815-626-5752. The QR code and website is where people can sponsor a hole, sign up to volunteer or sign up to play. Spots fill up fast for players! Thanks for your support!

**Music Bingo Fundraiser** benefitting St. Jude Jessie's Mile will be held on **Saturday, July 27, 1 - 5 p.m. at Bartini's (205 W. 2nd Street, Rock Falls)**. Music Bingo is bingo with songs instead of numbers! Jam out to an all-ages playlist of music from 60's - today! No dobbers needed.

Two bingo cards and bingo chips provided. Tickets \$25, two for \$40  
If you have questions please call Dan Gordon, office – 815-626-5752.



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**Judy Beveroth**, 85, passed way May 22, 2024 in Arizona. She was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church for many years. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, July 6, 2024, 10:00 a.m. at Immanuel. There will be a luncheon following the memorial service. Thank God for Judy!

**THANKS to all** who planted and have been watering the geraniums! They look great!!

**THANK YOU!**  
*THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!*

**Immense thanks to Nim & Sally Scanlan** who continues to mow the church grounds! Thanks to Nim Scanlan and others spraying and pulling the weeds. We thank and praise God for you and your generous service!



**Immense THANKS** to all who donated items, help set-up, help shoppers and cleanup for the Rummage Sale! The Rummage Sale proceeds of over \$1,968 support Immanuel Lutheran Youth activities. Thank you for your support!

## **Update about Pastor Bree's Schedule in July**

As requested by the Faith Formation Team, Pastor Bree will be with our youth at the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, July 15-20. While she is away she will have limited access to phone, text, social media or email. For emergency pastoral care July 15-20, please call Pastor Kathy Burkheimer at 815-590-0974 or the office at 815-625-3575.

As you may recall, Immanuel was chosen to be a part of the Nourishing Vocation Project with an emphasis worship & prayer experiences for people of all ages, especially children. As a part of this Project, they pay for a couple of people to participate in Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts and share about our experiences and learn from others. Pastor Bree & Ronda Borgmann are representing Immanuel at the Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN the afternoon of July 28-31. They will have a day off with relatives and friends on August 1 and travel back on August 2.

For emergency pastoral care the afternoon of July 28-August 2, please call Pr. Kathy Burkheimer at 815-590-0974 or the church office at 815-625-3575. Thank you!



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

## 2024 Synod Assembly Highlights

Many thanks to Immanuel's Synod Assembly delegates; Bill Wescott, Mary Foskitt and Pastor Bree with Ronda Borgmann (visitor). The 2024 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly was held via Zoom for the Budget Forum & Resolution Forum on Tuesday evening, June 11 and in person at Augustana College, Friday, June 14, and Saturday, June 15 under the theme, "Open God's Story". We focused on God's stories - both in scripture and in our lives - and how these stories change us. The Assembly was joined by The Rev. Miguel Gomez-Acosta, the Senior Director for New Ministry Development and Evangelism at the Churchwide Office of the ELCA. Outside of doing the business of the Synod, like passing the budget and electing people to various committees, we had a Ministry Fair. This was a time - with dessert - that is focused on celebrating ministry in and around our synod.

Three resolutions were proposed, discussed and passed: R-1: Resolution for Celebrating and Supporting the 50th Anniversary of ELCA World Hunger and R-2: Resolution for the Northern Illinois Synod to Consider Becoming Reconciling in Christ and R-3: Resolution to Reject Christian Nationalism You can watch several of the Synod Assembly sessions and worship at <https://nisynod.org/programs/2024-synod-assembly>. We are the church together!

**We are participating with Tri-Church serving LSSI group homes this coming year in a new program to make birthdays a special day for some people in our community!** "Birthday Buddies" is a program that will give some differently-abled people an opportunity to feel God's love through a gift on their special day. Each of the Tri Church Congregations will take turns providing a gift and cupcakes for residents monthly. **Our second resident to celebrate is Daniel C.** whose birthday is on July 6. You are welcome to make or purchase a birthday greeting for Daniel and leave it unsealed at the church office by July 2 for it to be included in the Birthday delivery. We also have a congregational card you could sign in the Narthex. Please keep Daniel and all who are in LSSI Group Homes in your prayers. Thanks in advance for sharing God's love through the Birthday Buddies program!

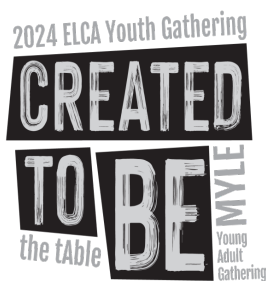
**Birthday  
BUDDIES**



***Immanuel Scholarship Applications are now available!***

The Immanuel Scholarship Fund offers two kinds of scholarships. One application is for a scholarship grant of \$200 per semester. Applicants need to be active confirmed members of Immanuel who are attending a college or university affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successor body or a full communion partner. The **second application** is for those who are preparing for full time ministry. These special grants are based upon financial need, availability of funds, and the approval of a special grant by the Immanuel Congregation Council. Please contact the Church Office to obtain scholarship applications.

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**2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be July 15-20, 2024 in New Orleans. The theme is, “Created to Be.”** We are created to be brave, to be authentic, to bring our whole selves and know that we are loved by our Creator. We are created to be disciples and so much more! The official website of the ELCA Youth Gathering is [www.elca.org/gathering](http://www.elca.org/gathering). The Immanuel’s National Youth Gathering (NYG) Team are: Kayla & Stacey Hackbarth, Alex & Eli Attig, Autumn, Andrew & April Roth, Kat Scott and Pastor Bree. Meg Morgan and Taylor Johnson are attending the Young Adult Gathering that runs simultaneously. Please keep us in your prayers! **Join in a special commissioning service during worship on July 14! In addition, the NYG Team will lead worship on July 28!** Come and worship and hear about God at work in our lives in New Orleans! **THANKS YOU for supporting our young people and making this opportunity possible!**

**Do you like to drive? We are looking for drivers** to drop us off at Midway Airport on July 15, leaving from Immanuel at roughly 10 am. We also need drivers to pick us up from Midway at roughly 8:40 pm on July 20. If this is your gift area and you are willing to serve in this way, please contact Pastor Bree at 360-989-4906 or email [pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com](mailto:pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com). THANKS!

## You are an important part of the body of Christ!

Each of you matter to God, to our congregation and community! Pastor Bree and the Church Council are here to serve alongside you. You are welcome to contact Pastor Bree and Church Council members as needed.

<b>Council Contact Information</b>				
<b>Pastor</b>	Pastor Bree Truax 360-989-4906 <a href="mailto:pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com">pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com</a>			
<b>Executive Board</b>	President Ronda Borgmann 815-622-9306 <a href="mailto:Rondaborgmann@gmail.com">Rondaborgmann@gmail.com</a>	Vice President Kevin Arnold 309-434-8638 <a href="mailto:Karnold@growmark.com">Karnold@growmark.com</a>	Secretary Stacey Hackbarth 815-303-3386 <a href="mailto:shackbarth1@icloud.com">shackbarth1@icloud.com</a>	Treasurer Bill Wescott 815-590-6270 <a href="mailto:paramedic61071@yahoo.com">paramedic61071@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Congregational Life Ministry</b>	Terry Andersen 815-303-6580 <a href="mailto:vtterry@yahoo.com">vtterry@yahoo.com</a>	Luke Sandrock 815-499-0293 <a href="mailto:lsandrock@2cornerstone.com">lsandrock@2cornerstone.com</a>		
<b>Faith Formation Ministry</b>	Stacey Hackbarth 815-303-3386 <a href="mailto:shackbarth1@icloud.com">shackbarth1@icloud.com</a>	<i>Please keep our Council Members and Pastor Bree in your prayers.</i>		
<b>Service Ministry</b>	Pam Shoffner 815-716-0190 <a href="mailto:mccrash2007@hotmail.com">mccrash2007@hotmail.com</a>	Kevin Arnold 309-434-8638 <a href="mailto:Karnold@growmark.com">Karnold@growmark.com</a>		
<b>Support Ministry</b>	Scott Attig 815-303-9642 <a href="mailto:attig80@yahoo.com">attig80@yahoo.com</a>	Terry Andersen 815-303-6580 <a href="mailto:vtterry@yahoo.com">vtterry@yahoo.com</a>		
<b>Hospitality Ministry</b>	Sheryl Wagner 815-252-7923 <a href="mailto:dashwagner@gmail.com">dashwagner@gmail.com</a>	Shannon Schutz 815-590-6150 <a href="mailto:sschutz2000@gmail.com">sschutz2000@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Worship Ministry</b>	Bonnie Cassens 815-535-8323 <a href="mailto:BJCassens@yahoo.com">BJCassens@yahoo.com</a>	Ronda Borgmann 815-622-9306 <a href="mailto:Rondaborgmann@gmail.com">Rondaborgmann@gmail.com</a>		

***On Thurs., July 4th, the office will be closed in observance of Independence Day; and reopen Friday, July 5th at 8:00 a.m. with a volunteer. Jill will be on vacation July 5th. Have a safe and happy holiday!***

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**Thanks**  
for your  
participation

**Thank you everybody else** for all the aluminum cans you brought to us. Thanks to Gerald Foskitt for taking them to be recycled! *You are most welcome to save and bring your bagged aluminum beverage cans by Immanuel and place them in the entryway. Money raised from these donations support Immanuel Lutheran Youth ministries.*

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**THANK YOU for supporting the mission and ministry of Immanuel through your prayers, service and giving! You make a difference!**

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**Stewardship is how we...  
Live, Give and Serve!**

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**A HUGE THANK YOU**  
to the local businesses below who are supporting the Messenger!

Thanks be to God for your generosity! If you own a local business and would like to be a part of the team of businesses that help make the Messenger possible, please contact the church office.

***Moeller, Myers***  
& ASSOCIATES PC  
Counseling & Consulting

3917 E. Lincolnway, Suite C

Sterling, IL 61081

[mmaccil.com](http://mmaccil.com)

815.626.8760



**CHERYL A. STUTZKE**  
Event Coordinator  
[castutzke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:castutzke@sbcglobal.net)

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Sterling, Illinois. 61081-9164  
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Marc Schutz (815) 716-0310  
Shane Schutz (815) 716-0320  
Chad Wetzell (815) 716-3837

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Rock Falls IL 61071

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DATED MATERIAL--  
PLEASE DO NOT HOLD.

**MINISTERS: MEMBERS OF IMMANUEL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Immanuel Office Phone: 815-625-3575 Fax: 815-625-3702

Office Administrator - Jill Leesman [office@immanuelrockfalls.org](mailto:office@immanuelrockfalls.org)

Custodian - Jerry Adams

Organists & Music Directors - Virginia Schumaker & Lori Attig

Sunday School Superintendent - Jennifer Morgan

Pastor Bree Truax Cell: 360-989-4906 [pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com](mailto:pastorimmanuelrf@gmail.com)

**Church Office Hours**

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Website: [immanuelrockfalls.org](http://immanuelrockfalls.org)  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

In-Person Worship - Sundays at 9 a.m. & Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

Facebook: Immanuel Ev. Lutheran, [www.facebook.com/ImmanuelRockFalls/](http://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelRockFalls/)

Phone-in worship - available toll free anytime **1-888-975-5536**