

*Our mission is to introduce all people to  
Jesus Christ and the exhilarating power and  
undefeatable joy He brings to life!*

OCTOBER 2021

# GOOD NEWS

A monthly publication of Immanuel Lutheran

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## The Reforming Church

*by Pastor Chad Fair*

**H**ere we sit with the days ticking by barreling toward October and, as Lutherans, another Reformation Day on the horizon. Author Phyllis Tickle, in her book *The Great Awakening*, wrote about the reforms the church has taken over the years in approximately 500-year increments. Well, it's the year 2021, approximately 500 years after the Lutheran reformation, (if we're using 2017 then 504 years). Either way we are in the range Phyllis Tickle talked about in her book and I can't help but wonder if it is staring us in the face right now.

I believe the last year and a half has exposed some weaknesses in The

Church. We can point a finger at Covid if we want but I think Covid is more of an eye opener than a cause. Regardless of the reason why, the question we really need to be asking ourselves is what will The Church look like moving forward? What needs to be re-formed? I, along, with many church scholars don't believe Church will return to the way it used to be. Does anything really? Maybe the better question is should it return to the way it was?

My answer, and some of you may not like this answer, is no. That's not to say that what we had was bad. That's not to say that what will come will be better or worse. Time and God will be

*(continued on page 2...)*

*God with us*  
**Immanuel**

LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& EARLY LEARNING CENTER

2655 SW Immanuel Drive  
Palm City, FL 34990  
772.287.8188  
immanuelpalmcity.org



**Pastor Chad's**

# MONTHLY MESSAGE

*(...continued from page 1)*

the ultimate judge of that. Think about how church has evolved over time. Look at Paul's ministry. Those underground churches met in people's homes. They studied, prayed and built relationships in small groups. Worship evolved into large worship spaces and in some cases arenas. What's next is hard to say but I can't help but wonder if the answer is both. The church gathered in larger groups for worship, then more intimate spaces for deeper study, conversation and relationship building in small groups.

I truly believe the future of the church is focused on scripture, really digging into scripture to understand the historical context and the arch of scripture. Then taking what we learn and acting on it. Letting scripture inform our actions in the world, in every aspect of our lives. Letting scripture infect our being to the point our lives are transformed. When we know who Jesus is, what Jesus did, why he did it and how he loved, then and only then can we truly spread the gospel in our community. And who could say no to the lived out, life giving,

*(continued on page 3...)*

# IMMANUEL UPDATE



*by John McCluskey  
Council President*

We continue to make progress on the LIFTT Campaign key projects. Pete Morello, Vice President, and the Administration Committee have engaged an engineering firm to develop plans for the parking lot. Developing the plans requires a current property survey so they are close to engaging a Land Surveyor to update our property boundaries. This will be a long process but we are making progress each month. The Admin Committee has also reviewed playground experts and have selected a firm to develop the final plans for the playground. Our space is tight so we may need the completed survey to locate the equipment safely within our property boundaries. It is amazing what our team has learned about spacing around swings, jungle gyms etc.

Pastor Chad mentioned that we are having/had a New Member class at the end of September. It is encouraging that we are adding new members in this very difficult environment. Please say "Hello" to the new members and welcome them to Immanuel.

The Nominating Committee is working on the Council Members for next year and have filled the President, Service and Treasurer positions. They are meeting with our members to fill the Stewardship, Learning, Worship and Property positions. Also, Pete Morello has accepted the President's role so the Nominating Committee must now fill the Vice President position. These are all very important roles contributing to Immanuel's growth and ability to expand its ministry. Please prayerfully consider your participation if one of the members contacts you. Participating on the Council does take some time but the rewards and growth in your personal faith far offset the time requirements.

Family Promise is having their annual Bed Race to raise funds to continue their ministry. We are proud to be one of the founding members and it has been very uplifting to see the progress families in this program make. Please join us on October 23rd to support this ministry and have some fun while doing so.

Have a Blessed October. ■



# WHEN THE DEVIL CALLS



by Cheryl Gundersdorff  
Deacon

The telephone rings and we are eager to answer it. Until we see a number we don't recognize with no identifying name. But the number is from a city where we know someone. Maybe we should answer it. Or not. We are all familiar with scam callers pedaling their schemes. Which one will it

be this time: auto warranty, college loan, grandchild in jail, or the I.R.S. ready to arrest? We have been warned to be alert, recognize the signs, and not to engage with these callers. Therefore, we make the wise choice to ignore the call.

Are we as alert and prepared to recognize the schemes of the devil? Let's face it, he calls us multiple times every day and is relentless. While he knows he can't keep God's children out of heaven, he aims to tempt us to be unrighteous and doubtful of God in all ways possible. Pastor John McArthur said, "When a person becomes a Christian, he declares war on hell and hell fights back."

Even Jesus had to face the devil's temptation. While we don't have Jesus' almighty power, he does give us power to be alert, recognize the signs, and be diligent about not engaging. I Peter 5:8 tells us, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings."

In James 4: 7-8 we read, "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you". And in Ephesians 6:10-11 we are further equipped, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes". Read verses 12-18 on your own for more details concerning the armor of God.

Stay alert to the devil's conniving, recognize that anything that goes against God's standards are of the devil, and don't engage with him other than to tell him to go back to where he belongs, in hell. We know in the end that is his final destiny as it says in Revelation 20:10, "And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever."

Ring, ring, this is the devil calling. DON'T ANSWER IT! ■

## MONTHLY GOOD NEWS DEADLINE

The deadline to submit items for the monthly newsletter is the 15th of each month. Items received after the 15th may or may not make it into the newsletter. To submit items, send an email to: [ilcmedia2655@gmail.com](mailto:ilcmedia2655@gmail.com)

(...continued from page 2)

love giving, grace giving body of Christ. Yes, we have work to do, but it's holy work. Some days will be hard (I'll never forget how hard the first year of seminary was) but just because it's hard and challenging doesn't mean it's not worth it. Introducing people to the love and grace of Jesus is transformative.

Change can be hard...but reformation is in our Lutheran heritage. We need only tap into it. ■



**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

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Faith, Fun & Fellowship/Small Groups  
Amber Castro  
ambercastro@yahoo.com



**Family Promise  
2nd Annual**

**BED RACES  
October 23rd 2021**

**Ending Childhood Homelessness  
One Family at a Time**

**Doc Myers Park**  
10000 Old Dixie Hwy  
Hobe Sound  
11 am - 1 pm

If you are interested in joining the Immanuel team for this year's Family Promise Bed Races, please contact Pastor Chad at [pastorchad@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:pastorchad@ilcpalmcity.org)

We need bed decorators and runners!

**We now have more ways for you to give!**



**Mobile**  
Text: IPCGIVE  
to 77977



**Online**  
[immanuelpalmcity.org](http://immanuelpalmcity.org)



**Envelopes**

**MONTHLY GIVING REPORT**

A report of our giving compared to the approved budget the congregation agreed to at the annual meeting. We're including last year as a comparison as well

	Aug 2021	Aug 2020	YTD 2021	YTD 2020
Given	<b>\$35,624.37</b>	\$38,799.28	<b>\$293,124.79</b>	\$332,540.03
Needed	<b>\$55,300.00</b>	\$55,865.00	<b>\$387,100.00</b>	\$391,055.00
Difference	<b>(\$19,675.63)</b>	(\$17,065.72)	<b>(\$93,975.21)</b>	(\$58,514.97)

**OPERATING FUND INCOME & EXPENSES**

Our year-to-date operating income and expenses using the latest report of the treasurer.

Through 08/31/2021	ILC & IELC
Income	\$604,440.54
Expenses	\$632,255.15
Difference	<b>(\$27,814.61)*</b>

\*Does not include PPP Loan. PPP: \$91,290.00, Difference: \$63,475.39



## FROM THE CHOIR LOFT AND ORGAN BENCH

by *Jim Peppers*

*Cantor/Organist/Choir Director*

A new church was created in Germany called the evangelical Church, because it claimed a revival of the gospel. The new doctrine was summed up in Luther's two catechisms dated 1529 and in the Augsburg confession.

Mass was deeply changed. It was performed in German instead of Latin, preaching the gospel, singing hymns, Luther composed quite a few of them. And the Eucharist served, as our Lord did, both bread and wine.

The Virgin Mary, the saints and the dead were no longer worshipped.

The Mass grew throughout the development of the Church to include many forms of music because of Luther's influence through music. The composers of the time expanded the hymnody. Alongside music, the preaching was in the vernacular of the people and reading from the Bible became the heart of the Liturgy. Believers read the Bible in their own language and within their families. Luther, also, influenced this change.

So, let us lift our voices, read at home from the Bible, celebrate our Lutheranism and its reforming, evangelical ideals brought to light by Martin Luther. ■

## IMMANUEL STAFF

Lead Pastor

Chad Fair

[pastorchad@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:pastorchad@ilcpalmcity.org)

Pastor

Rebecca Craig

[pastorrebecca@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:pastorrebecca@ilcpalmcity.org)

Deacon

Cheryl Gundersdorff

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Organist & Choir Director

Jim Peppers, Cantor

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Contemporary Worship Leader

Brittany Lustig

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Director of Early Learning Center

Beth Tatem

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Children, Youth & Family Director

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Office Manager

Dawne Laval

[dawnelaval@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:dawnelaval@ilcpalmcity.org)

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Leeona Reid

Text: 772-444-5148

Zacary Tatem

[zacary84848@gmail.com](mailto:zacary84848@gmail.com)

## The **BALANCE** Box



I think we all agree that Covid threw us all a little out of balance in a variety of different ways. From not being able to socialize the way we are accustomed, to working, eating and worship habits. You may be feeling OK one day, finding yourself saying "I can handle this" only to feel "off" or more anxious or out of sync the next. Here are a few tips to try and restore some balance in your life:

- What do I absolutely need to accomplish today, this week?
- What do I need to schedule to take care of myself today/this week? Take a walk outside if you can.
- If you have a partner in your house, let your partner know your needs. Ask them what their needs are as well.
- Choose one goal to meet. Do the best you can to meet it. If you don't – then meet it the next day.
- Set aside a few minutes each day to pray or do a Bible devotional.
- Come up with 3-5 ways that you usually recharge your battery. Now, cross off the ones you cannot possibly do right now and come up with one that can work for now.
- Delegate household responsibilities among people in your house. If you live alone, let something on your list go for now. You can come back to it.

## *Prayer Requests*

To add someone to the prayer list contact:

Sheri at [sherimuller@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:sherimuller@ilcpalmcity.org)

To add someone to the prayer chain contact:

Cheryl Gundersdorff: 772-221-8939

[cherylgundersdorff@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:cherylgundersdorff@ilcpalmcity.org)





Brittany Lustig

# YOUTH & FAMILY UPDATE

Is it Fall yet?! I can't wait! The spaghetti dinner was awesome. Our youth worked so very hard to cook, greet, serve, and clean for the dinner. We raised a good chunk of money for the ELCA Youth Gathering, but we have a ton more to raise. Thank you all who bought tickets or donated to the dinner. We are truly blessed! This month, we will be hosting our Fall Festival. It will have so many fun activities for the whole family! As the Fall Fest starts, the Rummage sale will be off and running as well. This is our biggest fundraiser for the youth yet! If you have things you'd like to donate, please bring what you have the week of the 10th. That Sunday on the 10th, we'll collect the belongings you'd like to donate in the FDC. Please see myself or Pastor Chad/Rebecca for any questions you might have. We're also selling Christmas wreaths! Please see Jennifer Trent if you'd like to buy some beautiful greenery for the youth fundraiser! Your home will thank you for it. We kicked off our first Confirmation meeting on

*(continued on page 7...)*



# CHILDREN, Y

## Christmas Evergreen Fundraiser



Support the Immanuel Lutheran Church Youth Group and their goal to attend the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering by purchasing and/or gifting these beautiful evergreen items!

Visit [sherwoodfundraiser.com/immanuel Lutheran palmcity](http://sherwoodfundraiser.com/immanuel Lutheran palmcity) to order or send your evergreen today!

Items can be shipped directly to Immanuel Lutheran Church for pickup OR you can have them direct delivered to anywhere in the country!  
Orders due by November 1, 2021 for delivery the week after Thanksgiving 2021.  
Contact Jennifer Trent at [jenniferDtrent@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferDtrent@gmail.com) or 772-215-0993 for questions.



# YOUTH & FAMILY

## Spaghetti Dinner

(...continued from page 6)

the 19th of September. We learned about the 10 commandments and made some pretty cool things! If your child is interested in attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2022, the clock is ticking! Please see me or Pastor Chad to talk about this wonderful opportunity for your child. They're eligible to go if they're in 8th-12th grade. The registration deadline is November 1st. Have a wonderful Fall "Y'all"! ■

### Upcoming Events

- Fall Festival Oct. 15
- Rummage Sale Oct. 15-16
- Confirmation Class, Oct. 17, 10:45 am, Rm 203
- Youth Gathering Registration Deadline November 1st



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



**Dawne Laval**  
Office Manager

Dawne is the newest member of the Immanuel Staff who will be starting as our new Office Manager on October 4th.

Dawne was born in New Jersey and grew up in South Florida before relocating to Port Saint Lucie in 2005. She is a single mom of two teenagers, 13 and 18. She and her fiancé, Michael, are planning to be married in 2022.

In 2009, she joined St. Andrews in Port Saint Lucie and has served on church council, the finance committee, and assisted with the youth group.

Dawne brings a background in the financial, administrative and service industries.

She is excited to meet the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and become part of our church family. Please offer her a warm welcome when you see her around the church campus.

A graphic for 'The Cracked Pots' podcast. It features a cracked, brown ceramic pot on the left, with a bright light shining through a crack. To the right, the title 'The Cracked Pots' is written in a white, cracked, serif font. Below the title, a white text box contains the following text:

**Pastors Chad & Rebecca are back with their weekly podcast. Each week they will delve more in-depth with the previous weekend's scripture and sermon. Join us online or via the app.**

# Reformation

## Sunday

### Sunday, Oct. 31st

#### 10 am

*We will have a special single Reformation service on Sunday, October 31st at 10 am. No 9:30 or 11:15. 6:00 pm service will be as usual.*

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Join us after the service for

## BRATS AND BEVERAGES

\*Donations will go toward the ELCA Youth Gathering

# EARLY LEARNING CENTER



by Director Beth Tatem

October is the time of year, where all the children have a chance to dress up and enjoy parties and candy with their friends.

Just a reminder for Pizza Day, please make out a check for the whole month. The month of Oct is \$15.00

October 5th & 6th is PICTURE DAY. The children will be taking pictures on Oct. 5th unless they do not come on Tuesday, then they will be taking pictures on Oct. 6th which is a Wednesday.

The Church will be having a Fall Festival on October 15th. Please come and join all the festivities.

On Friday, Oct. 29th we will be having our Harvest Party. If your child does not come on Friday, they may come for the Parade and class party ONLY.

I pray everyone has a super month and may God keep you safe. God Bless.

## IELC Employment Opportunities!

**Needed:**  
**Teacher and Aide**  
**for our pre-school.**  
**If interested please**  
**contact Beth Tatem**  
**at 772- 219-2279.**




## Prayer Bear Report



Where have the prayer bears been this past year? They've been in lock down for safety against Covid-19. Now they are back and ready to work for the congregation once again. Please take one to show your love and kindness and God's love to someone who is ill, hospitalized or just needs to know you care. Of course, they are great for happy occasions as well!



**TOGETHER**  
we can **LIFT**  
Immanuel for Tomorrow

**Total pledged: \$674,930**  
**Total raised to date: \$344,944**

As you know the roof on the FDC has been replaced. We are hoping to have the new playground for the preschool installed by the end of the year. We are currently moving forward with the parking lot, jumping through the appropriate hoops with the county as the project progresses. Thank you for your extreme generosity.

## Watch our Livestream Services Every Weekend!

### Livestreaming Worship Times:

- Sat. 6 pm - Casual Traditional Worship
- Sun. 9:30 am - Contemporary Worship
- Sun. 11:15 am - Traditional Worship

Visit our website at [immanuelpalmcity.org](http://immanuelpalmcity.org) or download our app to watch. All services are now both online & in-person. Please remember we are requesting people wear masks for our in-person worship once again for the health & safety of all.

## ADULT EDUCATION

### Deborah Circle

2nd Monday of the month  
3 pm • Choir Room

### Sisters in Spirit

3rd Tuesday of the month  
7 pm • Choir Room

## FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE MINISTRIES

### Quilts of Valor

Weds 6:00 pm • Room 202  
Info: Jackie Koch, 772.834.8058

### Altar Guild

2nd Wednesday of the month  
10 am • Room 202  
Info: Marj Smith, 772.286.8974  
or Alice Windle, 772.220.1590  
\*Starts October 13\*

### Stephen Ministry

2nd Monday  
6:30 pm in Room 202

### Wednesday Bridge Group

Wednesdays at 1 pm  
Choir Room

### Souper Sundays

Every Sunday @ 4:30 pm • FDC  
Immanuel's Weeks to help are  
the 3rd and 5th Sundays  
Contact: Marcie Balow  
772.283.0982 or  
mbalow45@gmail.com

\*Carry-Out only until further  
notice\*



## Bible Study & Adult Ed

### Deborah Circle Women's Ministry

Are you looking to expand your Biblical knowledge and draw closer to Jesus? Come to the Deborah Circle Bible study Monday, October 11th at 3PM in the choir room. Contact Deacon Cheryl 221-8939 for more information.



### Sisters in Spirit Women's Ministry

Have you ever wondered what the heart of Jesus is like? Come explore the magnitude of His love through the Bible study, *Experiencing the Heart of Jesus*, with the ladies of Sisters in Spirit. Tuesday, October 19 at 7PM in the choir room.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Sometimes life gets hard and stressful, but God doesn't abandon us during those times. He is always there for us and He sends help through other people. Stephen Ministers are God's helpers and are here for you. Don't bear your burdens alone. Contact your Stephen Leader, Deacon Cheryl Gundersdorff, 221-8939 to arrange for a Stephen Minister.



## Prayer Chain Ministry

Are you looking for a ministry involvement from the comfort of your home? Consider being a part of Immanuel's prayer chain and include the prayer requests in your daily prayer with God. Contact Deacon Cheryl Gundersdorff 221-8939 for more information or to request prayers.





## Souper Sundays

Every Sunday we partner with other local religious and non-profit organizations to help feed the hungry with our Souper Sundays Soup Kitchen. Anyone needing

a well balanced, healthy meal for dinner is welcome. Immanuel Lutheran volunteers serve every third and fifth Sunday.

To volunteer, contact Marcie Balow at 283-0982 or [mbalow45@gmail.com](mailto:mbalow45@gmail.com)



## Altar Guild Meeting

Welcome back! The Altar Guild will meet on **Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 10 am in Room 202** of the FDC. Wearing masks and social distancing are recommended. We welcome ALL volunteers who are interested in helping serve communion or in caring for the altar.

For more information, call Marj Smith at 772-286-8974

## FOOD & TOILETRY BAG DONATIONS FOR SOUPER SUNDAYS



We are continuing to distribute food & toiletry bags at Souper Sunday. We will be accepting donations of the following (NEW, not used) items:

**Food Bags:** Tuna salad (boxes or foil bags), Chicken salad (boxes or foil bags), Jif to Go, Filled snack crackers (peanut butter or cheese filled), Breakfast bars, Fruit cups,

Keebler/Ritz Crackers (Snack packs).

**Toiletry Bags:** (Travel size preferred) Soap (bar or liquid), Shampoo/Conditioner, Toothpaste/brushes, Hand lotion, Small combs, Wet wipes, Hand sanitizer.

Contact Karen Coombs at 772-600-7272

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

### Contemporary Worship Team

Sundays @ 8 am • Sanctuary  
Contact Brittany Lustig  
[brittanylustig@ilcpalmcity.org](mailto:brittanylustig@ilcpalmcity.org)

### Bell Choir

Saturdays at 4:30 pm • Sanctuary

### Chancel Choir

Sundays at 10 am • Choir Room  
\*Suspended until further notice\*

### Cornerstone Singers

Saturdays @ 5:15 pm • Sanctuary  
[pdcjimmy@hotmail.com](mailto:pdcjimmy@hotmail.com)  
\*Will resume Oct. 30th\*

### Children's Choir/JAM

Wednesdays at 12:30 pm • FDC



The Salvation Army still desperately needs your donations! Immanuel is a drop-off location for non-perishable foods weekdays from 9 am - 3 pm

## BRIDGE GROUP

If you're fully vaccinated, join us Wednesdays in the choir room at 1:00 pm to play bridge. Anyone who would like to play is welcome.





LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& EARLY LEARNING CENTER

2655 SW Immanuel Drive  
Palm City, FL 34990  
772.287.8188  
immanuelpalmcity.org

### Regular Worship Schedule

Saturdays:

6:00 pm

Relaxed Traditional

Sundays:

9:30 am Contemporary

11:15 am Traditional

Nonprofit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Stuart, FL  
Permit No. 144

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



**October 15th • 4 - 8 pm**

**Trunk-or-Treat • Fairy Hair • Tattoos • Bounce House  
Games • Food • Bake Sale • Haunted House**

**RUMMAGE SALE/CRAFTS/OTHER VENDORS • FRI 4-8, SAT 8-2**

*Please bring items for the rummage sale to the FDC starting Oct. 10th. If you are a vendor and would like to rent a table, please contact Brittany Lustig in the church office.*