

IMMANUEL SPEAKS

2023

August

Dear friends in Christ,

I think we've all seen those MasterCard commercials, which list off the price of several things: gas for the car, \$80, airline tickets, \$1,200, spending a tropical weekend vacation with the family – priceless! And of course there is the tag line that goes with the MasterCard commercials, "Some things in life are priceless, for everything else, there is MasterCard". It's not a bad series of commercials, I think, because it makes us think about what is truly valuable in life.

This past month (July) we have journeyed through Matthew 13 and have heard Jesus describe the kingdom of heaven using different parables. In two of the final parables Jesus says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and then hid; then in his joy he goes and sells everything he has and buys the field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

These two parables I believe teach us an important lesson about what God truly values or desires. These two parables reveal God's great love for you and for me. Think about it, like the persons in both parables who seek to gain a treasure, God loves and desires to be in relationship with you forever. And to do that God goes to the extreme. Just as the person in the first parable, and the merchant in the second parable sell all they have to obtain the field and the pearl; God gives us the gift of our savior Jesus Christ. Through his death and his resurrection our sin is forgiven, we are claimed as children of God, and given the gift of eternal life. What is priceless for God? What is truly valuable to God? To steal another quote from MasterCard, "What's in God's wallet?"

The answer my friends, is each one of you!!! The apostle Paul sums it up nicely, "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life." My friends, rejoice and be glad for in God's sight you are priceless, you are truly valued, you are what's in God's wallet?"

In Christ,

Pastor Joel

Manasseh Tribe Up For September

Below we have printed the Tribe Membership for September 2023. The Chairperson will be calling you, in the near future, asking you to help serve Immanuel in some way. Start thinking today what you can volunteer to help with ...please, say yes! If everyone takes one job the "needs" list will be filled. Thank you!

Manasseh Tribe

- Michael and Char Pankratz
- Joe and Sandy Scanlon
- Rod and Barb Miller
- Adela Fuls
- Kathy Speiser
- Duane and Michele Shubert
- Loren and Nancy Gosseling
- Ken and Joyce Klaassen
- Myron Bluhm

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Worship Assistants for August

Sunday, August 6 PowerPoint/Acolyte: Andy Rand
 Lay Reader: Carissa Pederson
 Altar Guild: LuAnn Kruger

Sunday, August 13 PowerPoint/Acolyte: Leia Colby
 Lay Reader: Daryl Niemeyer
 Altar Guild: Nancy Gosseling

Sunday, August 20 PowerPoint/Acolyte: Kailani Hansen
 Lay Reader: Gary Meyer
 Altar Guild: Sara Sabe

Sunday, August 27 PowerPoint/Acolyte: Logan Jaenisch
 Lay Reader: Laine Rieger
 Altar Guild: Michele Shubert

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Open Radio Broadcasts for 2023

We still have a few open radio broadcasts for 2023. If you would like to sponsor one, the cost is \$100. You can reserve your date by talking to Kathy or Pastor Joel or calling the church office at 847-2138. The following dates are open:

October 8, 15, 22, 29
November 5, 19

December 3, 31



Summer Bean Bag Games

The Congregational for Life Committee of Immanuel will be hosting another Bean Bag Game night, August 2nd at 6:30 p.m. It will be at the park by the Clara city Care Center and Prairie Park Place. Everyone is welcome! Cheerleaders are needed too! Please bring your own lawn chairs.

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God’s Work, Our Hands
Saturday, September 16

GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS, is Saturday, September 16. We will once again be packing meals in partnership with Food for Kidz. Last year we packed 41,904 meals with 71 volunteers! Can we top those numbers? Yes we can...with your help. Please mark your calendars, and plan to join us for a great day of doing good together!

Ingredient costs continue to rise. Would you consider “Adopting a Box”? Each carton contains 216 meals and the food cost is \$36.72. Your check (any donation amount is greatly appreciated) may be made out to Immanuel. Please include a note that your donation is for God’s Work, Our Hands. Thank you!



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Free Community Meal
Sunday, August 6

Our next Community Meal is Sunday, August 6th from 5:00-6:00 p.m. We will be serving to go meals thru the alley way and also serving in the Fellowship Hall. Please comment on our Facebook page or call the church office at 847-2138 with the number of meals you are wanting. The menu is: hot turkey sandwiches, pasta salad, sweet corn and a cookie. Everyone is welcome!!

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Mark Your Calendar for Fall Classes Starting at Immanuel

Rally Sunday (Sunday School): Starts on Sunday, September 10th at 10:10 a.m. Plans are being made for a fun kick-off! Watch for all the details in the bulletin and the September newsletter!!

Confirmation: Starts on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30 p.m. for Grades 7-9!

August

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7: 00 NA Meeting	2 6:30 Bean Bag Games	3	4	5
6 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Fellowship Hour 5:00-6:00 p.m. Community Meal	7	8 7:00 NA Meeting 7:00. Church Council Meeting	9	10	11	12
13 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Fellowship Hour	14	15 7:00 NA Meeting	16	17	18	19
20 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Fellowship Hour	21	22 7:00 NA Meeting	23 2:00-3:30 Coffee for Gals	24	25	26 10:30 Baby Shower
27 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Fellowship Hour	28	29 7:00 NA Meeting	30	31		