IMMANUEL
Lutheran Church of Rosenthal

Newsletter

Sunday Service 10:15

Sunday School 10:30

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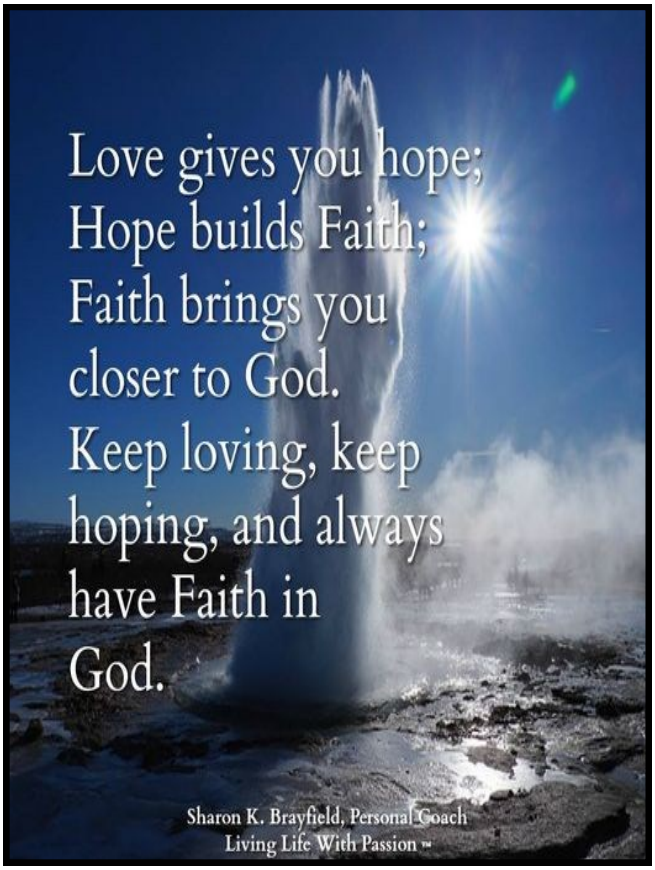
BRIDGES
DECEMBER, 2025



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our ELDERS

Our Church Elders are:

Russ Graff: 780 963 1553
John Nieman: 780 399 4664

Please call on them in
Pastor Boyd's absence.

From the Pastor's Desk

Christmas is almost here. Plans are underway, celebrations are in the works and presents are being prepared. These preparations brought to mind one of my favourite verses, one usually reserved for Christmas, that was written about Jesus the Messiah hundreds of years prior to his birth.

Isaiah 9:6-7a KJV

> *"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end"*

Many will be familiar with the beginning lines "and the government shall be upon his shoulder" meaning Jesus will be and is the Lord of Lords and King of Kings that Isaiah foretold. The Kingdom of God has indeed come and Jesus rules on his throne. Jesus will be called "Wonderful" and "Mighty God". These prophecies let us know that Jesus will be Lord of all and He will rule everlasting, as the prophecy states, in peace and in might.

One part of the Isaiah prophecy I do wish to emphasize, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end". Without a doubt we believe and cling to with a sure faith that Jesus will reign forever, that He is the "Mighty God", the "Everlasting Father". With that same assurance we can also trust that his rule will never diminish and that it will always grow. Of the increase there shall be no end.

That child was born, born in a lowly state in a backwater province of the mighty Roman Empire. His ministry lasted only two and a half years where he personally trained and equipped twelve ordinary men for ministry. He then died a brutal agonizing death, executed as a criminal. But he didn't stay dead. He rose again and ascended into Heaven and in doing so saved us from our own deserved eternal death.

From such lowly beginnings and with only a small group of followers the message of Jesus has grown to an estimated two and a half billion believers today. The victorious Kingdom of God is alive and well and growing as Isaiah foretold. Today, the Christian church continues to advance, one soul at a time, have faith, no matter what the world tries to tell you the best is yet to come.

We too, like the original twelve, have been given a role in helping to build the Kingdom. This Christmas please greet each other confidently with a "Merry Christmas" but let's also go further and share the saving message of Jesus, Immanuel.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given".

Submitted by John Neiman

Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed am Bible study:
Nov 27 & Dec 3 are going to be a study on Advent. Dec.10 will be a social.

We will start up again on January 14, 9:30-11:30 am, with a new study "In the Spirits Power" about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Council Up date

We are excited to welcome Julie as "Church Administrator." In her role, she is responsible for the operation of the church office and is the direct contact for all communications. Please contact her at the church office Monday-Friday via phone, text or email.

We are truly grateful to Florence for her dedication and ongoing support! She keeps us "in the know" with weekly bulletins, monthly newsletters and reminder emails. You will usually find her in the church office Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Submitted by Tracey Bartholomew

Potluck

No Potluck in December

Next Potluck will be January 25, 2026

Daily Bread MINISTRIES

Bread and pasties are brought to Immanuel on the second and forth Sunday of the month. The Good Will offering jar has covered the kitchen expenses so far, but the coffee and other expenses have increased making it more difficult to continue this way.
A regular supply of coffee pods would be beneficial as we go forward. God Bless.

Join the guys on **December 13** at 9:00 am for breakfast. They are great cooks. The fellowship and speaker will round up your day.

There will be no Service on Christmas Day

SPOKEN WORD MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION

We are here in Nyeri, Kenya. The photo below is David Nelson and Bishop Wilson holding copies of the newly printed teaching manuals. We have begun our first finding freedom through forgiveness seminar. I was talking with a Bishop who received this teaching last year. He has taught the teaching to the people in his churches, using the manuals that we give out to each attendee. His people are implementing the practice of forgiving each other when offenses happen instead of just moving on to a new church like they used to. It has made the church noticeably stronger and has deepen the intimacy and connection among the members. A stronger church means healthier outreach to the lost. Praise God for this.

Thank you all for praying for me. God has answered your prayers. I woke up much better this morning. I'm ready to preach. Last night, I wasn't sure I'd be able to stand on my feet. But I told the Lord, "I trust you." I give you my weakness. He has been faithful. I look forward to what he will do today in the time of ministry that we have.

We finished our third seminar of the trip today. This was the seminar "Dealing with Temptation". It's an amazing teaching, pretty much straight out of scripture. And yet it is something that I have rarely heard taught in church. Anyway, it was a powerful time. God opened hearts, and the prayer ministry at the end was wonderful. People came to receive the blessing and empowerment of the Spirit of Jesus. Thank you again for praying. Your prayers are being answered.

We are getting ready to begin our second conference of the trip to Kenya. Today we located in kitale, north of Nairobi. keep us in your prayers. It's gonna be good.

We have had an amazing forgiveness seminar come to completion in Kitale, north of Nairobi. I will give more on that later. Today we transition from lush jungle to desert country as we head to Lodwar, Turkana. We will do our first "Dealing with Temptation" seminar there tomorrow. It is going to be great! Please pray for us. The power and protection of God pours through your prayers. Boyd

Great first day to our "dealing with temptation" seminar in Lodwar, Turkana. Tomorrow's going to be amazing. God is moving. He is touching lives. He's convicting people of where they live in in their own strength, and they are surrendering to him and his strength. This will strengthen the ministry of the church in this area. Looking forward to more. Thank you for praying for us. God is answering your prayers.

Here's What's Happening!

Confirmation Sunday

November 2, the confirmands Owen Crowell, Jaxxon Koshief, Henry Villadsen gave their testimonies of their love for the Lord with their instructor John Neiman standing by. God bless them for the courage to stand in front of the congregation professing their faith.

The families of the confirmands made a beautiful lunch for everyone to enjoy.

Operation Christmas Child

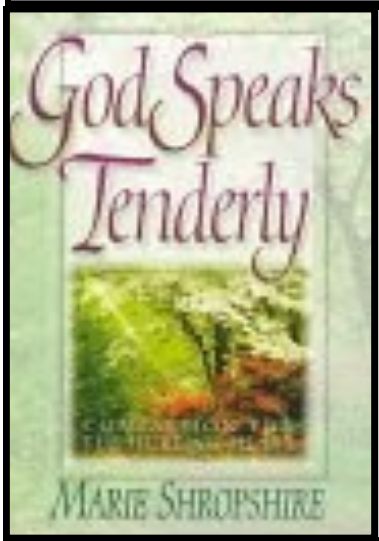
Send good news & great joy!

More than fifty boxes were collected from our church, with more on line. They will be sent off shortly to many countries. The children who will receive them have never received gifts before, will also hear about Jesus

Thanks Lorri for your dedication to this project.

Beth's Book Store

BOOK OF THE MONTH



Marie Shropshire portrays with insightful accuracy the deepest feelings that penetrate our hearts in times of trouble. Through the Spirit of renewal, she says, God will help you in your time of need.

You can pick up this book at Beth's Book Store in the foyer in our church.

What's Been Happening...

Baptism Celebration

November 16
Jaxon Troy Snell ,son of Zac and Madison Snell was baptised and welcomed into Immanu-el's fold

Because We Care

Neighbourlink Parkland just celebrated 25 years serving the Tri-Region with a fund raiser. Just under 200 friends, volunteers, and community supporters joined us to honour this milestone. Together, we reflected on the many ways God's love has flowed through our work over the years.

Over $21,000 was raised at the event, to continue to support ongoing programs and initiatives.

We stand on the threshold of an exciting future so please pray for your Directors and Staff for wisdom as we plan and present who we are as people who care for our neighbours.

NeighbourLink Parkland
compassion in action

25 Years

Jodi Sammer
Communications & Program Administrator
neighbourlinkparkland.ca
780-960-9669

EST. 1932 CLBI

Twenty young men and women plus an instructor from Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute spent three days camping at Immanuel, making their own lunches and sleeping on the pews.

Pastor Boyd was the presenter during their stay.

Potluck Nov.23

A large crowd enjoyed our Sunday Potluck with a generous selection of food. As always a time to meet and get to know the people we worship with. The dessert table was filled with a variety of tempting sweets.

VOLUNTEER SHEDULE

HowardDATE	07-Dec-25	14-Dec-25	21-Dec-25	28-Dec-25
Speaker	Howard	Boyd	Boyd	Boyd
Leader	Russ	Donna	Len	Duane
Reader	Rylee		Dee	Chris
Greeter	Tracey/Dee	Lorne/Linda	Caroline/Nina	Mitch/Lorie
Sunday School	Michelle /Randel	Michelle/Randel	Michelle/Randel	Michelle /Randel
Music	Al	Caroline/Jacqueline	Al	Hymns
Prayer Team	Jane/Karen	Kathy/Kelly	Dave/Kathy	Chris/Coreena
Ushers	Tony	Tony/Frank	Tony	Tony/Frank
Communion	Dietrich		Strand	
Sound	Adam	Henry	Neil	Adam
Mediashout	Connie	Lorie	Lillian	Julie
Counters	Theresa/Florence	Colleen/Chris	Gloria/Len	Nina/Sandy
Coffee	Jean	Florence	Gill	Colleen

Candle-light Service Christmas Eve at 7:00 pm

Please remember if you are unavailable, find someone who is willing to trade with you or cover for you.

Council Highlights November 2025

- CLBI used our facility for a retreat this month.
- All funds for the Kenya trip have been raised. Pastor Boyd, Dave and Jonas will be leaving November 17and returning December 7. Seminar books have been translated into Swahili for the events.
- Live Nativity is coming up December 14. Looking for volunteers for characters, as well as volunteers.
- We are currently renting the facility to a Corn Hole league on Thursday evenings as well as some day use.
- Three more Niches in the Columbarium have been sold.
- Len is working on getting a speaker from World Serve to speak about their ministry.
- Fall work bee went great-Thank you to all who came out
- Julie Villadsen has been hired to become the new Administrator for Immanuel. Tony will continue as the facility administrator.
- Immanuel's 135th Anniversary will be coming up in 2026. Council will be looking at ideas on how to celebrate.

OUR CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

October Financial Report:

Average attendance 99

Average General Offerings: $21,419.54

Average Offering Per Sunday: $5,354.89

Remember December is the final month to maximize your Charitable Donations for the 2025 Taxation Year. We are Blessed with your generosity!

Submitted by Angela St Pierre

To continue giving your offering or donations to Immanuel

Our e-transfer address is: **donations@ilcor.ca**

Pennies for Pastors.

Loose change is collected on the first Sunday of the month for Pastors in the Mission field. In Nov. $375.00 was collected.

THE KIDZ PAGE

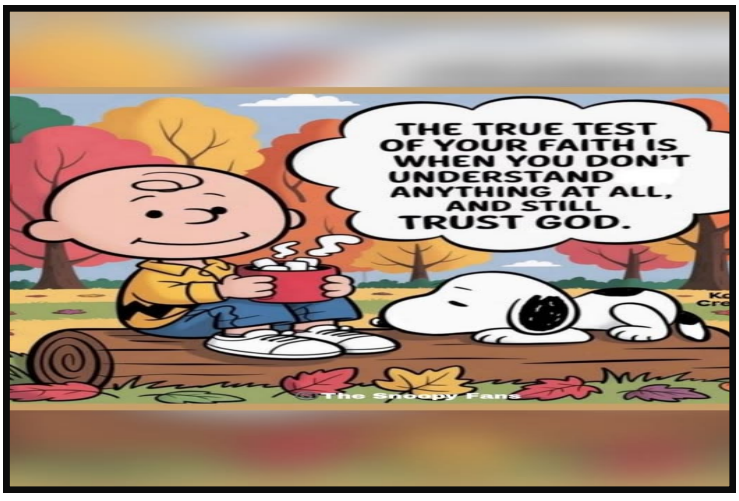
Our Sunday school is continuing to be well attended. It is always wonderful to see new smiling faces in amongst familiar smiling faces! Our prayers go out to all these children as they bless our congregation with their joy and enthusiasm.

During the month of November the children learnt more about praying. During September and October as you recall they were taught the Lord's Prayer and what this "most important" prayer means. This month's teachers taught the children on how to pray and when they should pray. I believe that this will be such a blessing to the children as they include God in their everyday living. It will also bless our congregation as the prayers of children are answered by our Loving God.

Once again we would like to thank all of November's teachers for taking the time and energy to teach the children these important lessons. We would also like to thank Randal McLeod for being a part of the Sunday school, (thank you Randal for setting up a TV monitor so the children can sign along with your song). Randal has also found a Christmas program for the children, so for the month of December, Michelle and Randal will be working on teaching the children the program. Children do radiate the true joy and love of the Christmas season.

Once again we are asking for your prayerful consideration for volunteering to teach Sunday school.

May the true joy of our Savior's birth bring you peace and blessings this Christmas season.



Sunday School children singing accompanied by Randell.

From The Mouths Of Babes!

- A number of years ago when our children were young, my single brother came for a few days. As it happens my husband and I, who are both pastors, each had a meeting. Uncle David agreed to baby-sit his two nieces. When we arrived home I inquired how the evening had gone. "Fine" he replied. "What did you do?" I asked. "We played "Church." Was the reply. How nice, I thought. "What did you do?" I inquired. (thinking they had song hymns or prayed) " Well," he replied. "I was the congregation, they were the ushers and they took up an offering."

hello December!

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1. Pastor in Kenya	2. 11:00 **Prayer Group** 7:00pm **Ladies Bible Study**	3. 9:30 **Ladies Bible Study** 7:00pm **Prayer Meeting**	4.	5. 10:00 am **Pastor's Bible Study**	6.
7. 10:15 Sunday Service Sunday School 	8. Pastor home from Kenya	9. 11:00 am **Prayer Group** 7:00pm **Ladies Bible study**	10. 9:30 **Ladies Bible Study** 7:00pm **Prayer meeting**	11.	12. 10:00am **Pastor's Bible Study**	13. 9:00am **Men's Breakfast** **Set up for Nativity Drive Thru**
14. 10:15 Sunday Service Sunday School 5:00 pm **Nativity Drive Thru** 	15. Pastor's Day Off	16. 11:00am **Prayer Group** 7:00pm **Ladies Bible Study**	17. 7:00 **Prayer Meeting**	18.	19. 10:00am **Pastor's Bible Study**	20.
21. 10:15 Sunday Service Sunday School 	22.. Pastor's Day Off	23. 11:00 am **Prayer Group**		25. **No Service** n 	26.	27.
28. 10:15 Sunday Service Sunday School 	29. Pastor's Day off	30. 11:00 am **Prayer Group**	31.			

NEWS from the MISSION FIELD

WorldServe Ministries

Hurricane *Melissa* has destroyed and devastated many communities across the Caribbean, including our brothers and sisters in Cuba. But, thanks to the support of our partners, emergency food warehouses were opened ahead of the storm. Our Cuban team has been able to provide food and shelter for over 100 evacuees every day. Additional aid is being mobilized, and we are working on sending medical supplies, trucks of food for 750,000 people, as well as 48,000 tarps for those whose homes have been destroyed. We currently have 56 church-run community kitchens now providing protein-rich soup. As food is shared, so is the love of Christ. Through this faithful witness, eighty people have recently accepted Christ, and were given a Bible

The Cuban government has estimated that over 700,000 people have lost everything or more than 50% of everything they own. If you are interested in partnering with us to support our brothers and sisters in Cuba, you can visit www.worldserve.ws and give to *Compassionate Aid – Cuba.*

Please Join Us in Praying for:

- Protection for families and church leaders
- Safe access to isolated communities
- Strength and resources for community kitchens
- Healing for those who are ill or afraid
- The ongoing work of the Holy Spirit
- Provision of funds so we can continue sending support and supplies

In 2024 Immanuel contributed 10% of our total offerings to missions. In 2024 the following received:

- World Serve ministries 1% ($2,603)
- Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute 2% ($5,206)
- Nehemiah Construction 2% ($5,206)
- Rock Solid Refuge 1% ($2,603)
- Light For All Nations 2% ($5,206)
- Spoken Word Ministries 1% ($2,603)
- MOMS Canada 1% ($2,603)

In addition to the 1%, WorldServe also received $3,235 from our Pennies For Pastors donations, designated for pastor's salaries.

When we think of Samaritan Purse, we think of Operation Christmas Child, but they are so much more.

Samaritan's Purse has deployed our Emergency Field Hospital to Jamaica. A large Disaster Assistance Response Team is already on the ground. We continue to airlift tons of critical relief to the island in the wake of Hurricane Melissa.

Hurricane Melissa hammered a path of destruction across Jamaica, severely damaging homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses. Please pray for those who have lost so much and for our teams as we go in Jesus' Name."

Franklin Graham
President, Samaritan's Purse

Chocolate Lasagna (no bake dessert)

Ingredients:

14.3oz pack of Oreos (405grams)
6 Tbsp unsalted butter, melted

Cheesecake Layer:

12oz cream cheese, room temp
1 tsp vanilla
1/4 cup powdered sugar
8oz cool whip,

Chocolate Pudding Layer:

Two 3.9 oz packages instant chocolate pudding
3 1/4 cup cold milk

Top Layer:

8oz cool whip

Instructions

1. In food processor or blender, crush the whole pack of Oreos with their cream filling until fine crumbs form. Set aside 3 tbsp crushed Oreos for the topping. Transfer to a bowl and combine with melted butter. Place in a 9x13 pan. Refrigerate.
2. In large bowl, beat cream cheese with vanilla and powdered sugar. Fold in Cool whip. Spread over crust. Refrigerate
3. In a bowl, beat together the pudding mix and milk until pudding thickens. Spread over the cheesecake layer. Refrigerate until pudding sets.
4. Top with cool whip. Sprinkle with saved crushed Oreos. Cover and chill for at least 2 hours and ready to serve.