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BRIDGES

JUNE. 2026

Newsletter



Sunday Service 10:15
Sunday School 10:30
Youth Classes 10:30



- INSIDE THIS ISSUE
- ◆ Pastor Boyd message
 - ◆ Announcements
 - ◆ Upcoming events
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Who will do the ministry while the pastor is on Sabbatical?

The same people who do it now!

Communication. All communications within the congregation will go through Julie Villadsen at (780)963-4048. *Even when you communicate directly with another leader, make sure Julie is cc'd. She should know everything that is going on so we can avoid confusion.*

The elders. The authority for spiritual/ministry decision making and special needs rests with these men. John Neiman is head elder. Julie has his contact information.

The council. The authority for anything to do with the facility or business side of the Church rests here. Rentals, etc. Contact the council through Tracey or Julie at (780)963-4048. Run everything by Tracey Bartholomew. Julie has her contact information.

Funerals.

Julie for admin.

Tracey for facility booking. This can be done through Julie as well.

Russ as the on-call funeral Pastor. (780)690-0154

Lucretia Van Ommerman as the alternative on-call funeral pastor. (780)616-8621

The preachers. Our own people. Our preachers are Russ Graff, John Neiman, Howard Gitzel, Len Lewin, Shawn Roberts, Jacqueline Hopkins (Jacqueline will not be available). Call Julie with any questions.

Counseling. Lucretia Van Ommerman (This is pending as we develop our organization).

Worship and service leaders: choir, worship teams, and sound people.

Julie organizes and books this. Bring any questions to her.

Prayer people. We all need to be praying for God's grace and favor on our community of faith. I encourage people to be praying for our Church and community.

Continued:

Members. Let us remind each other to be welcoming and friendly to new people and to old. Let us stay committed to attending regularly through the summer as it helps with our sense of community, both for familiar faces and for new people looking for a Church community. On top of that, we are called to meet together to worship our Lord. There is power in the gathering of the saints!

Greeters. All of us. Keep an eye out for new people and be with them. Sit with them. Talk with them. Continue to reach out and get to know others.

Special note: If anything comes up that requires pastoral guidance, talk to John Neiman. Or, if necessary, hold onto it until I get back.

Remember that in all things as a community, our role is:

To deliberately love and worship God together with seeking hearts. Also, to nurture our own walk with God individually.

To deliberately love one another and not neglect each other. To build our relationships together. To be deliberate in investing time and effort into our community.

For the fall:

Sunday School. Shuts down for summer and restarts in September.

Leaders: Donna McKean and Lucretia van Ommerman.

Men's Ministry shuts down for Summer. It starts up in mid-September.

Women's Bible studies shuts down for the summer. It starts up in mid-September.

Pastor's Friday Bible study shuts down for the summer on May 29. It starts up in mid-September.

Be blessed!

Pastor Boyd



Mark Your Calendars

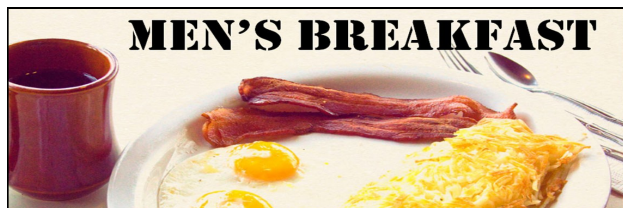
UPCOMING EVENTS



Join us **June 14** after service as we close Sunday School for the summer.

We will be providing a **BBO of hamburgers and hot dogs**. We are asking for salads and deserts. Come and wish the children a fun filled summer.

We will be providing a cake for the celebration of the **135th anniversary of Immanuel**. Please join us .



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join the guys on **June 13, at 9:00am** for breakfast. They are excellent cooks.



June 6, Farmers day parade, Immanuel will be joining a number of churches in a **Walk for Jesus** in the parade. Please cheer them on.

St. John Lutheran Church of Golden Spike, our sister church, will be celebrating their **100 anniversary on June 28**.
God is Good



Tents will be erected for this event. **Lunch is \$20.00**.
For tickets please contact Lorie Sprokkreef.

Church service 11:00am-12:00pm

Catered luncheon 12:30pm-1:30pm
Provided by Sandyview Farms - to include roast beef/roast turkey, garlic mashed potatoes, perogies, cabbage rolls, stuffing and gravy, vegetables, salads and desserts

Entertainment by Fritz Family Group 2:00-3:00pm
Blessing of the Cemetery 4:00-4:30pm

There will be a bouncy castle for the children in attendance, along with a slurpee machine and a popcorn machine. The entertainment group will provide music after the luncheon, and there will be some short speeches pertaining to welcome and the church history.

We will also have opened the time capsule from 1988 prior to the celebration. We plan to have these displays of artifacts, documents, photos and memorabilia laid out for viewing throughout the afternoon, with a plan to install a new time capsule after this celebration has been held, to be opened sometime in the future.



YOUTH SESSIONS FOR JUNE

June 14 we will be rapping up the youth sessions for the summer.
Will reconvene in the fall.

Here's What's Happening!



MEN'S BREAKFAST



We enjoyed another great breakfast with 17 men. Charles and crew cooked and served the breakfast in the old kitchen. We talked a bit about how God created each man as unique, with different talents and gifts. Then Graeme talked about serving and the work day at the church coming soon.

Photos by Duane Spooner, report by Howard Gitzel



Potluck



May 24, potluck beautiful meal with lots of salads, was brought together by everyone.

The dessert table was filled with delectable items to tempt even the most dedicated dieter.



The kitchen committee purchase 81 more chairs matching the ones they purchased earlier for Rose Hall for a total of 240 chairs, enough for any large function.

What's Been Happening...

RAISING THE ROOF!!



Started on the roof of the church.
Completion is happening now.



Cleaning up behind the church.
Shredding branches and twigs.

Jacqueline reaching new heights,
trimming branches



Taking a break

Straightening things out in the foyer



Getting some painting done



Some more workers



Getting the BBQ going for lunch.

Beyond Immanuel's Walls

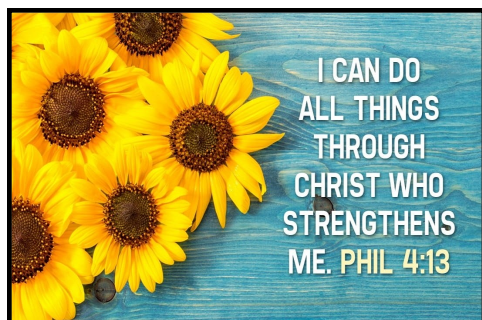
Members sharing the gospel in our community and beyond



Cowboy Randy

Every Monday Randall is at Westview Long Term Care to share the gospel with the residents there. The care givers and family members bring out the residents to the room where Randall has set up his guitar and chair for worship music. Fifteen to twenty residents come out every Monday, each with different mobility and mental capacities and stages of end of life. I watched as the residents who appeared to be sleeping begin to tap their toes in time to the music.

He is giving the message that God is love and He will never leave you.



Having polio at a young age, Randall McLeod was raised mainly by his Grandmother. When his grandmother passed while he was still in high school, he felt a lot of abandonment issues. His only contact with religion had been Sunday School as a child and then confirmation. After confirmation he left the church.

Subsequently he followed his families direction by becoming a Chiropractor, 1972-1976.

With two failed marriages under his belt, he was frustrated and feeling alone. One day in 1980, discouraged, he called out, "**God, I need to Know.**" That was all he asked. (God knows what is in the heart) He received a message, "When you see this you will get your answer." A few days later he had a vision. In the vision he saw himself standing on a Stage playing music. 'What was that all about? I can't even play an instrument, let alone sing,' he questioned.

Taking that as a call from God, he began studying and practicing to play the banjo and the guitar and tried singing. The singing sounded disappointing at first. After two years he began to sing and play in public. His song writing had come easily and thought of it as a three minute sermon. His faith began to bloom.

In 1998 he took his Chiropractic practice to an office at Immanuel of Rosenthal. His greatest passion was seeing people being rehabilitated through his practice. People who could not walk up stairs are now doing two steps at a time. He found this was very gratifying.

Later, Pastor Ed approached Randall and told him, he needed to go into pastoral service, something he never thought of doing. (When God calls you to his office, you better listen.) He began his studies from LTI, which were on line and not a problem during COVID. Before he even finished the course he got a call to preach in Sask. as a half time minister. He served there for two and one half years.

God called him back to Immanuel of Rosenthal, where he is doing worship ministry with the children and working with the youth.

In 1981 he married Pat, the love of his life. They have five children plus Igor from Owessa, and 10 grandchildren.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

DATE	June 7, 2026	June 14, 2026	June 21, 2026	June 28, 2026
Speaker	Shawn	Len	Howard	John
Leader	Donna	Len	Chris	John
Reader	Rylee	Dee	Donna	Tracey
Greeter	Steve/Laurie	Frank/Jean	Tracey/Dee	Lorne/Linda
Music	Al	Caroline/Jacqueline	Al	Mark/Team
Prayer Team	Jane/Karen	Kathy/Kelly	Dave/Kathy	Chris/Coreena
Ushers	Frank/Jean	Tony	Tony	Frank/Jean
Communion	Dietrich	-	Strand	-
Sound	Henry	Shawn	Neil	Graeme
Mediashout	Lorie	Jen	Kris	Connie
Counters	Theresa/Florence	Colleen/Chris	Gloria/Len	Nina/Sandi
Coffee	Jean	Florence	Gill	Colleen

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



Highlights from the May Council Meeting

- ◆ Pastor Boyd and Jacqueline will be on Sabbatical June 8 – September 8. Immanuel will continue to pay Pastor Boyd and Jacqueline during their sabbatical, and bless them as they take time to refresh.
- ◆ Average attendance is up – 104 people per Sunday.
- ◆ Cornhole is taking a break for the Summer.
- ◆ Windows in the Suite have been repaired as needed.
- ◆ Spring cleanup is on Saturday, currently 30 people attending.
- ◆ Clean up has been done in the cemetery.
- ◆ Sunday School is reviewing a new curriculum for the 2026/2027 year.
- ◆ 135th Anniversary will be celebrated with a cake at the Sunday School Picnic.



April Treasurer Report:

Average weekly Offering: \$6,062.32

Average Attendance Per Sunday: 104

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 May, \$325.00 was collected.

THE KIDZ PAGE



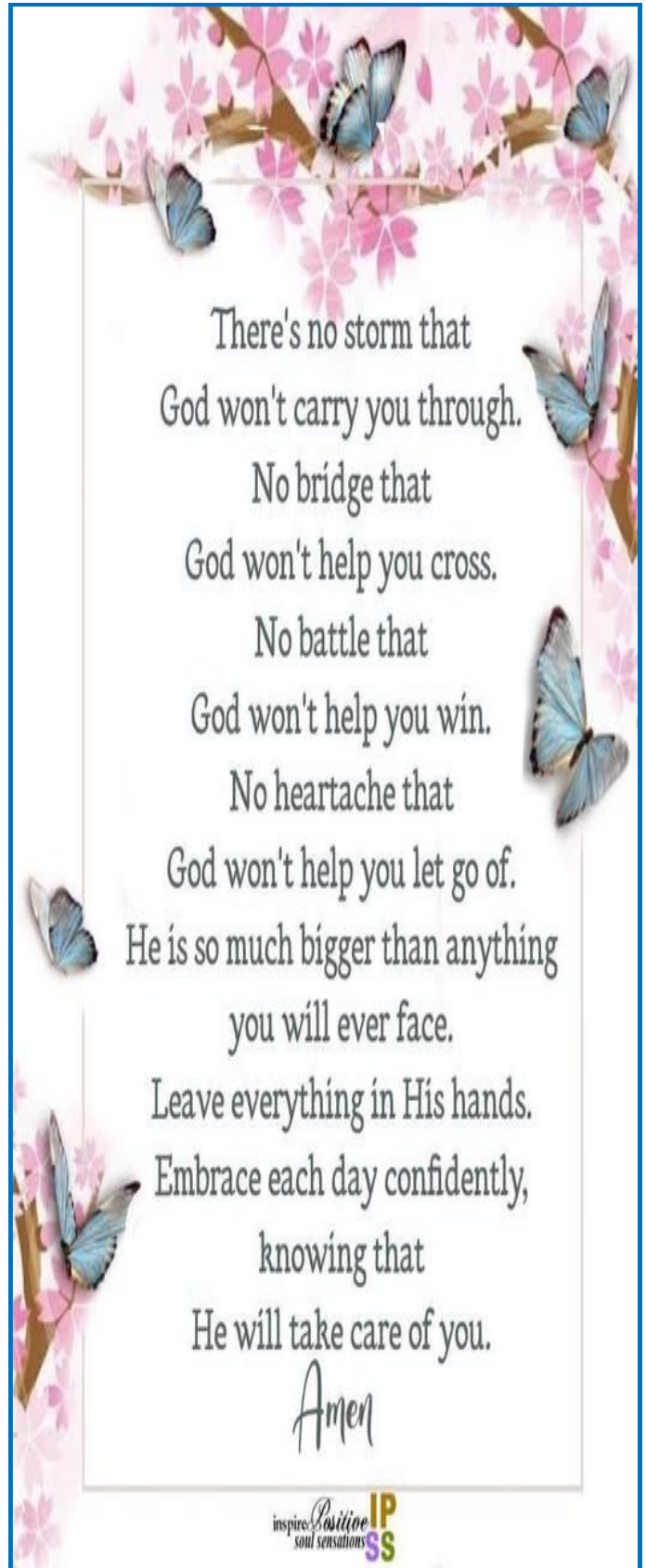
Sunday school wrap up will be on June 14, after the church service and school lesson, with free hamburgers, hotdogs and sundaes. The last Sunday school lesson will be on this day, with start up date (in September) to be announced. Thank you, Donna and Lucretia for stepping in to the position of Sunday school leaders for the next session.

May lessons were all about the Holy Spirit, which included the fruits of the Spirit and Pentecost. (I did see a few amazing crafts that the children were very pleased with thanks to Michelle)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers that helped with Sunday school this year. Your time and effort is notice by the congregation and is defiantly blessed by God. The Holy Spirit will use your words in the children's lives, guiding them "in the way they should go."

Randy, the children will always have your songs in their minds (just like the past generations do!) Michelle, your leadership has not gone unnoticed either, thank you so much for your guidance.






God bless.

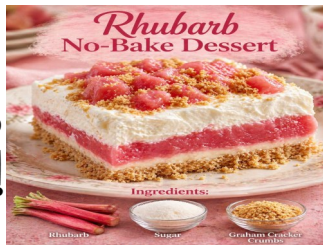




Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
7. 10:15 Sunday Service Sunday School Youth classes 	8. Pastor's Day Off	9. 11:00 Prayer Group	10. 7:00pm Prayer meeting	11.	12.	13. 9:00am Men's Breakfast 
14.  10:15 Sunday Service Sunday School Youth Classes Sunday School Picnic 135 anniversary	15. Pastor's Day Off	16. 11:00am Prayer Group	17. 9:30 7:00 Prayer Meeting	18.	19.	20.
21. 10:15 Sunday Service 	22. Pastor's Day Off	23. 11:00 am Prayer Group	24. 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	25.	26.	27.
28. 10:15 Sunday Service 	29. Pastor's Day Off	30. 11:00 am Prayer Group				



Rhubarb No-Bake Dessert

Ingredients:

- 4 cups fresh rhubarb, chopped
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- (8oz) cream cheese
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 container (8oz) whipped topping
- 1 Package (3oz) strawberry gelatin
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup milk

Directions:

1. In saucepan, combine the chopped rhubarb and sugar. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until rhubarb is soft and the sugar is dissolved, about 10 minutes. Set aside to cool
2. In medium bowl, mix the graham crumbs and melted butter until combined. Press into the bottom of a 9x13 pan to form the crust.
3. In a large bowl, beat the softened cream and powdered sugar until smooth. Gradually add the milk and continue to beat until well combined. Fold 1 half of the whipped topping.
4. Spread the cream cheese mixture over the graham crust.
5. In separate bowl, dissolve the strawberry gelatin in 1 cup boiling water. Stir in the cold water and let cool slightly. Once cooled, pour the gelatin mixture over cooked rhubarb and mix well.
6. Pour the rhubarb and gelatin mixture over the cream cheese layer in the pan. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours, or until set.
7. Once set, spread the remaining whipped topping over the rhubarb layer.
8. Slice into squares and serve chilled

*Whenever a child's in trouble,
close your mouth and open your
arms*

Through the years I often heard my mother say, "When a kid's in trouble, close your mouth and open your arms." I tried to follow that advice while my own were growing up but with five children in six years I didn't always succeed.

When my children were teens, they gave me many more opportunities to practice Mom's wisdom, but I'll confess that advice wasn't the first thing that came to mind when a teacher or principal called.

Yet on occasions when I remembered Mom's technique, I didn't have to retract biting sarcasm or apologize for false assumptions or rescind unrealistic punishments. When I held my tongue, I also heard about their fears, anger, guilt and repentance. They didn't get defensive because I wasn't accusing.

One of my grown children came to me a few months back. "Mom, I did a stupid thing."

I listened for nearly an hour while she shifted through the dilemma. When we stood up, I got a bear hug and heard, "Thanks Mom, I know you'd help me solve this."

It's amazing how smart I sound when I close my mouth and open my arms.

