

Immanuel's Word

Immanuel Lutheran Church-LCMS Bossier City, Louisiana

Red River Reflections #3

In 2002, after spending the summer in Füssen, Germany with family, we settled in to begin our time in Fort Wayne, Indiana as I began learning how to be a pastor. One of the things I knew pastors needed to do was write monthly newsletter articles. I decided to start practicing this by producing monthly progress reports. The reports covered the things that going on with the Portier household as we lived the seminary life, in order to keep informed all of those who were supporting and praying for us. Portier Progress Reports known as PPR were produced from 2002 to 2006. When we arrived in Sevierville, Tennessee they became the "Vicar's Note" which was produced for one year until my ordination in August of 2007. Shortly after I was ordained, the new Pastor's Note became Smoky Mountain Reflections. After almost 15 years of SMRs, now we press on together with RRRs.

*Dedicated to sharing the
gospel of Jesus Christ
with the people whose
lives we touch*

June Readings

June 5 Pentecost

Gen. 11:1-9
Acts 2:1-13
John 14:23-31

June 12

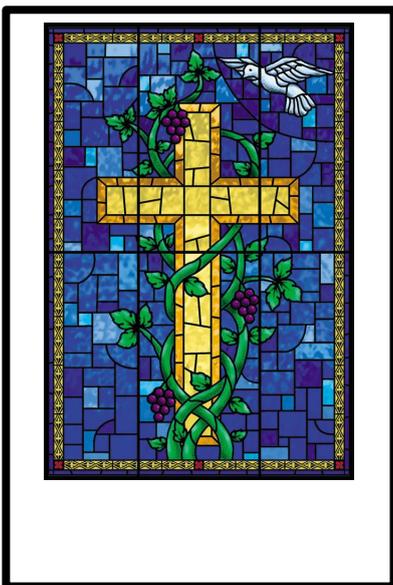
Isaiah 6:1-7
Rom. 11:33-36
John 3:1-15

June 19

Gen. 15:1-6
1 John 4:16-21
Luke 16:19-31

June 26

Prov. 9:1-10
1 John 3:13-18
Luke 14:16-24



As I get settled into my new routine, I would like to share a few things I plan on doing as your pastor in the coming months. Besides the regular preaching, teaching, meetings, etc. I hope to visit with y'all. Of course, it will take a while to visit over 200 households. You will receive a letter from me sometime this month for you to fill out and give to Mr. McKim (who we all know as Mike). This will be a short letter asking you if you would like to be visited in your home, someplace in town, or if you would prefer not to be visited at all.

Why does your pastor want to visit with you? Well, for a few good pastoral reasons. First, if I have visited with you at your home, it will be easier for me to find it again, should there be a need for a pastoral visit in the future. Second, I like to visit people in their homes so that I better know the people I have been called to serve. It also helps me improve my poor memory regarding names.

This is not a formal affair, and you need not worry about impressing your pastor. In these visits I will ask you to share with me your life story, and I will also have a few other questions as I seek to better understand the demographics of our church family. I will also ask you for ideas you may have about how you and we might better serve the community we have all been called to live in together.

I plan on making these visits on Thursday and Friday afternoons or evenings, but even if I manage to visit about 2 homes each week, it will probably take a little over 2 years to visit with everyone. I look forward to loving and serving this community together, and of course I look forward to visiting with y'all.

In Christ,
Pastor Portier

Pastor Yeager's Message

A Time for Rest and Reflection

Pastor Yeager

I always liked the season of summer, especially during my high school and college years. I liked having that break between one school year and the next. Summer was a season of relaxation. It was a season to take time for myself, a season where I could enjoy the sunny weather and play outside with my family and friends. Summer continues to be a much-needed time for students and teachers to transition from the old school year to the new. It is a time of rest, and a time for students and teachers to reflect on the year to come. How many of us find time to take a rest? How many of us make time to take a break from the busyness of the world and of our lives?

Mark writes this in chapter 6 of his Gospel, **“immediately, [Jesus] made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray.”**

Even Jesus needs a time of rest, a time away from the craziness of the world. He needs a time for reflection, and a time for restoration. At this point in Mark's Gospel, Jesus recently accomplished a miracle of feeding the five-thousand. John was beheaded. Jesus spent the bulk of His ministry healing the sick, giving sight to the blind, and preaching the good news to the poor in spirit. That sounds like a lot of work and a lot of time. Considering all this, it makes sense why Jesus needed the rest. In fact, there are many occasions in the Gospels where Jesus would go off on His own to pray. The same could be true for you, as well.

The world can cause us a great deal of burden. Our jobs can bring us stress and take a chunk of our time away our family and personal lives. Our finances can bring us anxiety as we continue to pay for bills, mortgages, or rent. Our own physical age can cause a burden to our minds as we continue to grow older. Our sins continue to haunt us and cause tribulation within our hearts. The more we continue to sojourn this world, the more our souls become exhausted from the struggles we face in our everyday lives. Like Christ, we too need a time of rest, a time for reflection, and restoration.

That rest comes on Sunday morning, here at church. Church is our much-needed rest from the tribulations of the world. Here you can unload your burdens, confess your sins, and receive the joy of God's forgiveness. Here, in church, we pray together. We take a pause from the world and our lives. Finally, we give thanks to God for the good gifts that He gives, namely, eternal life and forgiveness of our sins. Here, in the church, we are strengthened and fed by gifts of His own Body and Blood. God brings us true rest through His Son Jesus Christ. As we take time to reflect on the works of Jesus, let us receive the only rest that He can give, a rest that frees us from the burdens of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. Again, Jesus says in Matthew chapter 11, **“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”**

In the name of Jesus+
Amen.

FYI

Sunday Service Bulletins are printed Thursday mornings. If you have an item for inclusion, please have into the office by Wednesday afternoon. Thanks!



Prayer Ministry

You are invited to join our group for intercessory prayer for others. Prayer Ministry is an opportunity to serve Jesus and our congregation by lifting others in prayer when they have a need. If this appeals to you, or if you have any questions, please contact Shirley Fortune at 318-402-8940.

ReNesting News

The Renesting Project in Bossier City is now serving six families a week. They use gently used house hold items to furnish homes for those transitioning from homelessness to having a home of their own. Many of these families have several children.

They need our help. If you are downsizing, moving, redecorating having children graduate and move, can you help provide some of the most needed items? Most needed are;

Dining room tables; Dressers; Night stands; sofas; twin and Full size beds along with bed linens; dining room chairs; chairs. Always needed are toasters, coffee pots, crock pots, irons and alarm clocks.

The ware house is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am to 6pm; 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 10am to 2pm. Ware house is located at 1331 Driftwood off of Shed Road in Bossier. They can also schedule pick up of 2 or more larger items. There is often a 2-3 week wait for pick up. There is a \$35 charge for pick up to cover cost of gas. Items must be on ground floor. Call 318-747-5520

June Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Evening Prayer Service 7:00 PM	2	3 Rummage Sale	4 Rummage Sale
5 MITES Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:30 AM	6	7 Moms in Prayer 9:30 AM Boards of Education, Stewardship 5:30 PM	8 Evening Prayer Service 7:00 PM	9 Board of Elders 6:00 PM	10 Mission Outreach	11 Mission Outreach
12 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:30 AM	13	14 Moms in Prayer 9:30 AM Finance Board 5:30 PM	15 Evening Prayer Service 7:00 PM	16 NEWS- LETTER DEAD LINE	17	18
19 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:30 AM	20	21 Moms in Prayer 9:30 AM Church Council 6:00 PM	22 Evening Prayer Service 7:00 PM	23	24	25
26 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:30 AM	27	28 Moms in Prayer 9:30 AM	29	30		



June Birthdays and Anniversaries

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 <i>Ryan Hutchison</i>	3	4 <i>Marianne & David Mosteler</i>
5 <i>Liam Hutchison Meagan & Josh Hendricks</i>	6 <i>Scott Broberg Karen & J.D. Varilek</i>	7 <i>Mary Vandiver Elisa & Scott Broberg</i>	8 <i>Greg Brownsberger</i>	9	10 <i>Gavin Sisemore Stephanie & Matt Burlison</i>	11
12	13	14	15 <i>Carlie Morris</i>	16 <i>Gayle Broyles</i>	17 <i>Lisa Kimball</i>	18 <i>Karin Glenn</i>
19	20 <i>Ross Broberg</i>	21 <i>David Mosteller</i>	22 <i>Joanne Davis Harlie O'Neal</i>	23	24	25 <i>Shelia & Henry Robison</i>
26	27 <i>Phillip Moorehead Amelia Weiss Mary Lou & Earl Tonjes</i>	28	29	30 <i>Justin Lacy Elizabeth Yeager Monica & Jeff Lacy</i>		

Fellowship Report

A huge THANK YOU to all that helped with the dinner following the installation of Pastor Portier!

In Our Prayers

Mary Ahrens · Delane Ahrens · Joanne Davis · Addison Gould
 Charlie Johnson · Todd Willis · Mary Jo Minks · Roger Davis
 Jack Derbonne · Gerry Meche · Robert Frederickson
 Norma Langston · Sophia Borghardt · Casey Redman · Glenda Juneau
 Pastor Kunz · Pat Stevenson · Duane Kimball · Cheryl Carroll
 Lisa Kimball · Mary Lou Tonjes
 Laura Leshner · Jack Russell · Hannah Frobel · Earl Tonjes
 Edwin Coyner · Peggy Young · Carol Buther · Kathy Sorenson

RENESTING NEEDS

Shower curtain liner
 shaving cream
 razors (men's & women's)
 irons
 Band-Aids
 shower curtain rings



Ministering Among Us In May

ALTAR GUILD	<i>Diane Derbonne, Cathy Ward, Tammy Szekacs, Christie Walters</i>	
USHERS	Lawson Deblieux, Scott Deblieux	
GREETERS	<i>Cathy Ward</i>	
ACOLYTES		
<i>June 5</i>		HELP! We need Acolyte volunteers for summer duty! If you can help, please call the office
June 12		
<i>June 19</i>		
June 26		
POWERPOINT		
<i>June 5, 19</i>	<i>Charlie Johnson</i>	
June 12, 26	Tammy Deblieux	
Sound		
<i>June 5, 12, 19, 26</i>	Lee Anderson	
ELDERS		
<i>June 5</i>	<i>Scott Broberg</i>	
July 12	Zolly Kirsch	
<i>July 19</i>	<i>Robert Gernand</i>	
July 26	J. D. Varilek	

Financial Report For June 2022 Newsletter

Budget status as of 30 April 2022.

Actual Income \$161,103

Actual Expenditures \$111,005

Budgeted income and expenditures \$151,757

Net Income (Actual Income minus Actual Expenditures) +\$50,098

2022 Budget- The Voters agreed on a budget of \$454,766 for 2022. The Finance Committee believes we have a realistic and achievable budget for 2022. A copy of the 2022 budget is hanging on the bulletin board by the kitchen. If you have any questions or suggestions about a budget item, please see someone in the responsible board or a Finance Committee member.

Maintenance Update- The flood repair work, new carpeting, and new narthex rugs has been completed/installed and paid for by the insurance company. If you would like to help defray future campus repair and update costs, you may contribute to the Building Fund. The Building Fund is always a good place to contribute anything extra you would like to offer. Thank you in advance.

Financial Secretary Position- Tammy Szekacs was appointed by the Church Council as the new Treasurer. She has been training for the last year as assistant and is doing a great job. A great big *THANK YOU* Tammy! Again, Welcome Bill Turnage, Ken Krueger and David Mosteller to the Finance Committee. Charlie Johnson will be the BOF Chairperson and secretary. Thank you all for showing your interest in the financial affairs of the church. If you have any questions or concerns about church finances, please talk to a committee member. Now, we are looking for a person, or team, to train with our Financial Secretaries, Glenda and Earl Kroll, to aide them and to possibly assume the position in the future. Their position receives the weekly donations, deposits funds in our bank, and reports to the congregation. Pray for congregational solidarity, our pastors and all church workers, for the missions of the church, world peace, government agreement, for those involved with and suffering from the Covid, other world disasters, and for those in need.

Copies of the 2022 Immanuel Phone Directory are available in the church office!



Vacation Bible School Sign-up

Registration is now open on-line,

vbsmate.com/immanuelbossier

July 5-8, 9AM until Noon

Our VBS is free!

