

Be the light GOOD NEWS

A monthly publication of Immanuel Lutheran



Pastor's Monthly Message

Be the light

by Pastor Chad Fair

Thirty-five years ago the first “The Simpsons” cartoon short aired, Ronald Regan delivered his famous speech at the Berlin Wall, the average new house cost \$92,000, and Immanuel Lutheran Church began its ministry. The Berlin Wall has fallen, the average cost of a house today is \$428,700, and just like “The Simpsons” is still on the air, Immanuel Lutheran Church is still doing ministry, only now in two locations.

It’s safe to say the world has changed dramatically over the last 35 years and when the world changes the church must move along with it, although without compromising the gospel. Just like the ocean waves, people come and people go, but unlike sand that washes away, each person who has been a part of this place, especially those who have served in the ministry of this place, have laid a foundation on which we stand today. One of the images that sticks out from my trip to the Holy Land was how temples were built on top of temples. While not in a physical sense that is what we are doing today. Pastor Kistler, built a foundation, from which Pastor Hartley built on top of and on which we build on for today and tomorrow.

While many churches closed during the pandemic or are struggling to survive, Immanuel boldly moved forward with a capital campaign that generated over \$600,000 for capital improvements and are now doing ministry in two locations. While the success of the last 35 years is something to be proud of, I am excited to see what God has in store for the next 35 (doing the math...I hope I can attend the 70 year anniversary celebration). In order to get there, we will need

to increase our community engagement by engaging the community shoulder to shoulder. Just think what Jesus did with a handful of disciples by sending them out shoulder to shoulder. We can take that example into our community so that when the people of Martin County hear the name Immanuel they immediately think, “that’s the church that serves the community.”

With this milestone anniversary and a second location it's the perfect opportunity to rebrand ourselves with a new logo, mission and vision statement to guide us as we move forward. Our new logo featuring the cross centered in the bright Florida sun, courtesy of our very own Kathleen Wyatt, perfectly pairs with an outwardly focused mission statement, “Be the light.” The beauty of this mission statement is both in its simplicity and its flexibility. Jesus calls us

to be the light of love, the light of mercy, the light of justice, the light of grace, the light of hope among other things. Each of us is both called and capable of being the light of Christ in the world, or at least Martin County.

Ultimately this is our vision statement to guide us into the future: “Immanuel is a vibrant and inclusive community which radiates empathy, mercy and accountability. As a proactive congregation we commit ourselves to creating a community that breaks down barriers and

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Immanuel
Be the light

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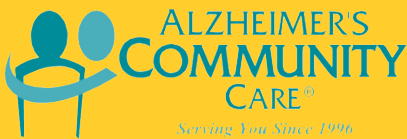
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Pastor's Message

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addresses the diverse needs of all individuals. We strive to foster an environment of love, compassion and transformation. Together we forge a path of spiritual growth, inspiring each other to live out our faith through positive actions that impact the lives of others.”

As I continue to let this vision for our future marinate, I am both inspired by it and daunted by the challenge of it. I am inspired because I believe this vision truly represents the kingdom of God and I'm daunted by it because some days it seems we have so far to go. To get there, we must be willing to listen to each other, respect our differences but most of all see each other as valuable and worthy of love and respect. It's what Jesus did. It's what we are called to do. ■



Brain Health Seminar

Thursday Evening,
June 8, 2023

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Alzheimer's Community Care
at Grace Lutheran Church
555 SW Cashmere Blvd,
Port St. Lucie 34986

Dr. David Watson, PsyD,
Certified Principal
Investigator,
Alzheimer's Research and
Treatment Center

Seating is Limited
You Must Register to Attend

To Register:

Call (561) 683-2700

or

Email: education@alzcare.org
Refreshments will be served

Sunday, June 4th Family Promise of Martin County

will be at our Palm City site to host our coffee hour in between services in order to thank our congregation for all the support we give to Family Promise. Please join us for a special message at each of the services that weekend.

Signs *of change*



Stuart Site Update: We have our temporary sign in place and are working on getting a permanent one. We're getting bids for painting and landscaping to help brighten and spruce up the property. Slowly but surely, we're seeing the signs of change.

CONGRATULATIONS!

to our Confirmation Students



Graydon Miller



Mika Paolantonio



Elena Schroeder

Be the light



PRESCHOOL UPDATE

The preschool had a very busy May! The Mother's Day Tea party was a huge success. Lot's of fun had by all. Our friends filled the room with handmade gifts, cards, flowers, plants and pictures. We enjoy the times everyone can get together and celebrate as a community under one roof. Summer camp starts on June 30th. The preschool teachers have lots of fun activities and events planned. We have themes varying from Storybook week to Rodeo week. We look forward to a relaxing and restful summer.

NOW HIRING TEACHERS!

ENROLL YOUR STUDENT TODAY

Full-time student openings for 2 year-old & 3 year-old classes

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

President

Pete Morello
shipperpete@gmail.com

Vice President

Drew High
drewhigh7@gmail.com

Secretary

Sandra Foley
fschoolmarm@aol.com

Treasurer

John Gustafson
johndgustafson@outlook.com

Finance

Ron Froehlich
rfroeh1944@gmail.com

Worship

Kim Shrum
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Stewardship

Doug Crawford
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Communication & Evangelism

Kyla Mericle
mrsmericle1112@gmail.com

Service

Marcie Balow
mbalow45@gmail.com

Learning

Michael Keese
makeese14@live.com

Property

Rex Noble, Jr.
auburn1984@bellsouth.net

Faith, Fun & Fellowship & Small Groups

Belinda Lowe
lovymille@comcast.net

Stuart Representatives

Roberta Virta
robertavirta@cs.com

Jodi Dudeney

jldportstlucie@aol.com

HURRICANE PREP TEAM

Hurricane season is just around the corner. We have many members within our community who will need assistance the next time we wind up in that dreaded "cone of uncertainty" putting up their shutters. We will also need a crew of volunteers to help put the tarps up around the church.

If you are interested in being part of our hurricane prep team that we call and mobilize in the event of an approaching hurricane, please contact Pastor Chad Fair: pastorchad@ilcpalmcity.org

We now have more ways for you to give!



Mobile

Text: IPCGIVE to 77977



Online

ilcbethelight.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. *Figures for April now include Stuart numbers

	April 2023	April 2022	YTD 2023	YTD 2022
Given	\$51,669.80	\$38,433.73	\$164,337.71	\$137,946.16
Budgeted	\$56,490.00	\$41,332.00	\$180,612.00	\$175,661.00
Difference	(\$4,820.20)	(\$2,898.27)	(\$16,274.290)	(\$37,714.84)

OPERATING FUND INCOME & EXPENSES

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

Through 04/30/2023	ILC & IELC
Income	\$372,975.45
Expenses	\$369,734.72
Difference	\$3,240.73

Mother's Day PAINTING PARTY

IMMANUEL STAFF

Lead Pastor

Chad Fair

pastorchad@ilcpalmcity.org

Pastor & Media Director

Rebecca Craig

pastorrebecca@ilcpalmcity.org

Deacon

Cheryl Gundersdorff

cherylgundersdorff@ilcpalmcity.org

Organist & Choir Director

Vacant

Contemporary Worship Leader

Brittany Lustig

brittanylustig@ilcpalmcity.org

Director of Early Learning Center

Rebecca Painter

IELCDirector@ilcpalmcity.org

Children, Youth & Family Director

Brittany Lustig

brittanylustig@ilcpalmcity.org

Office Manager

Shea Johnson

sheajohnson@ilcpalmcity.org

Administrative Assistant

Sheri Muller

sherimuller@ilcpalmcity.org

Secretary – Stuart

Karen Gumm

ImmanuelStuartLC@gmail.com

Sexton

Leeona Reid

Text: 772-444-5148



Be the

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

Adult Education

Deborah Circle

2nd Monday of the month
3 pm • Rm 201

not meeting during summer

Sisters in Spirit

3rd Tuesday of the month
7 pm • Panera

Word on Wednesdays

2nd Wednesday of the month
5:30 pm • Townies

Bible Study

Wednesdays • 5:30 pm
Stuart Fellowship Hall

Bring your own dinner.

Does not meet on the 2nd Wed of
the month due to Word on Wed.

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

MEETING AT STUART IN JUNE

Info: Marj Smith, 772.286.8974
or Belinda Lowe, 772.634.0194

Stephen Ministry

2nd Monday
6:30 pm in Room 202
no June meeting

Super 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

Ministries & Groups

Word on Wednesdays



2nd Wednesdays • 5:30 pm at *Townies*
TAVERN

Join Pr. Rebecca for our Word on Wednesday this month at
Townies Tavern in Palm City.

Next Word on Wednesday: June 14

A watercolor-style portrait of a woman's face, rendered in various colors like blue, yellow, and pink, with paint splatters around it.

HARLOTS & Heroines

of the Bible

Every Wednesday*
5:30 PM • Stuart FH
Bring your own dinner

**Does not meet June 14th due to Word on Wednesday at
Townies*

Prayer Chain Ministry

There is always a need for prayer. Our Immanuel prayer chain is always available to pray for you or those you know in need of prayer. Contact Deacon Cheryl Gundersdorff 221-8939 or 485-1954 to request prayer or to become a member of our prayer team.

(From May 20-June 13 call Jill Swartz
219-2388 with requests.)



Souper Sundays

Immanuel Lutheran volunteers serve every first, third and fifth Sunday.

To volunteer, scan the QR code or go to ilcbethelight.org/serviceopportunities



Altar Guild Meeting

The Altar Guild will meet on **Wednesday, June 14, at 10 am in Fellowship Hall of Stuart.**

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION! We welcome ALL interested volunteers to help serve communion or care for the altar.

For more information, call Marj Smith at 772-286-8974 or Belinda Lowe at 772-634-0194.

Sisters in Spirit Women's Ministry



Do you want to know Jesus more than you do now? Join the ladies of Sisters in Spirit as we get to know Jesus through the Experience the Heart of Jesus Bible study. For June we will meet **June 27th, 7 PM at Panera Bread** in Palm City. (4th instead of 3rd Tuesday) Contact Deacon Cheryl Gundersdorff 221-8939 or 485-1954 for more information and to RSVP.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

What is the mission of Stephen Ministry? To share Jesus' unconditional love by supporting and ministering to people in need and assuring them of Jesus' healing power and presence. To learn how Stephen Ministry can help you, contact Stephen Ministry Leader Deacon Cheryl Gundersdorff 221-8939 or 485-1954, ask a Stephen Minister wearing a blue name badge, or our pastors.



Music Ministries

Contemporary Worship Team
Sundays @ 8 am • Sanctuary
Contact Brittany Lustig
brittanylustig@ilcpalmcity.org

Bell Choir
Practices Tuesdays @ 6 pm
Contact Sandy Foley
772-240-6753

Chancel Choir
Suspended until further notice

Cornerstone Singers
Saturdays @ 5:15 pm
Sanctuary

Children's Choir/JAM
Wednesdays at 12:30 pm • FDC
Contact Brittany Lustig
brittanylustig@ilcpalmcity.org

Share a Shawl



Do you know someone who could use some extra love of Jesus? Shawls knitted or crocheted by members of Immanuel are in the baskets in the Palm City lobby for you to share with them. Immanuel's prayers go with the shawls that they may feel the warmth of His loving presence.



Immanuel

ilcbethelight.org

PALM CITY:

2655 SW Immanuel Drive
Palm City, FL 34990
772.287.8188

STUART

2200 NW Federal Hwy
Stuart, FL 34994
772.692.1171

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

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Worship Schedule

Palm City

Saturdays:

6:00 pm

Relaxed Traditional

Sundays:

9:30 am Contemporary

11:15 am Traditional

*watch our livestream of
all Palm City services:*

ilcbethelight.org

Stuart

Sundays:

10:00 am Traditional

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**VBS
CAMP**



JUNE 5TH-9TH

**2655 SW IMMANUEL DRIVE
PALM CITY**

SIGN UP NOW

MYVBS.ORG/ILCPALMCITY