Immanuel Lutheran Church 310 N. Seguin Road / P. O. Box 168 La Vernia, TX 78121 830-253-8121 immanuellavernia@gmail.com

October 2022

Volume 45, Issue 10

Immanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter HOPE: A GREAT GIFT

Here are a couple afterthoughts on Pastor Eric's sermon about the Parable of the Lost Sheep. We know we have an awesome God, and the Word reminds us of how great He is time and time again! Yet, when we are complaining and feeling sorry for ourselves, do we forget that Jesus is our only hope? Do we, in our self-pity, let our faith fall through the cracks and take us to the lowest, darkest moments of our existence? NO! We cannot do that! The parable tells us we are not lost; we have HOPE that our Shepherd will come after us and bring us back to the flock! Hope is a trust in God, knowing that He will not disappoint us. Hope is a building block of faith, "an assurance of what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1) Hope is a gift that we receive when we accept his unfailing love.



God never gives up on us: We are all like the lost sheep when we stray or are pulled away from God. We continue to sin; He keeps searching for us. We try to go our own way again. He opens up new doors and gives us another opportunity to come to Him. No matter how far away we go or how deep we fall, God is "always with us, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:20)

God has mercy on those who ask forgiveness: In other words, He does not punish us for being sinners, He merely wants us to come to Him and believe. "There is great joy in heaven over one sinner that repents, more than over ninety-nine who need no repentance." (*Luke 15:7*) We therefore have hope and consolation that one day we will be united with Jesus.

We are saved by grace: *Ephesians 2: 8-9* tells us that we are not saved by our works, but by grace, and that this is a gift of God. Through grace we receive the undeserved favor of eternal life; we do not merit His goodness but have faith to let the Holy Spirit guide us. For Jesus Christ died on the cross for us so that we could have hope.

HOPE is the gift that we receive when we accept His unfailing love.



Sunday Worship Services 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

New Church Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday 9:00 AM—4:00 PM Closed on Thursdays

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SERVING YOUR CHURCH & THE COMMUNITY



La Vernia

Christian Food Pantry

Our next workday will be on Saturday, October 29th from 8:30 - 11:00 AM. Please pray about volunteering some of your time during the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays: consider baking a loaf or two of banana or pumpkin bread for the baskets or making a gift card donation at Christmas for the children this year.

These are the items that Immanuel provides on a reaular basis: tomato products (tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce, diced tomatoes) pasta products (spaghetti, elbow noodles. mac'n'cheese), canned meats Spam, tuna, beef stew,). Condiments, breakfast items, and snacks are always welcome.

See Karen Campbell for questions.

Our mission statement: "Immanuel Lutheran is a family of believers who worship, learn, and share Christ's love."

SEWING CIRCLE

The women work so diligently on the third Tuesday of each month and 45 quilts have been finished; they will have them blessed and send them off to the NALC Disaster Response.

Feel free to join the group on October 18th from 9 am till 12 noon in the Parish Hall if you have a knack for sewing!



OUTREACH MINISTRY / TIME AND TALENT FORMS

It's that time of year again...We want you to help us share the Word of God and what is happening here at Immanuel. You will be receiving a Time and Talent sheet in this month's newsletter. Prayerfully consider all the ways you can become involved in a ministry: Are you social and enjoy chatting with members as they arrive at church--volunteer as a greeter! Maybe you enjoy enriching the Christian education of our youngest members--become a Sunday School Assistant! Is technology your thing--help us run our multimedia programs or Facebook Live! There are so many ministries of our church that could use YOU as a volunteer. Whatever your talent is, Immanuel Lutheran will welcome you with open arms. Also, don't forget to send in ANY pictures or articles by the 20th of each month!



Many of you have already been doing your shopping at no extra cost on <u>Smile.Amazon.com</u>; we appreciate your supporting the Building Fund and hope you will continue doing your shopping on <u>Amazon Smile</u> by using this link for your purchases:

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-1464208.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Sunday School

The October calendar is posted outside of the classroom – we have a fun and busy month ahead!

Our theme this month is Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation, and we are continuing with our study of the Old Testament.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON OCTOBER 16th due to the Special-Called Congregational Meeting that day.

First Communion

Please see Renee Scull if you would like your child to attend First Communion Classes.

The next First Communion class is Wednesday October 12th, 6:00pm at the Parish Hall.

Please mark your calendar for Wednesday October 19th for us to go Art Attack. The First Communion students will be making their chalices, but you can come and paint.

Children of God (PreK3 - 5th grade)

The Children of God will be meeting once a month, typically on the first or second Friday of the month from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Parents are free to drop off and leave or stay and hang out. This is a great time for the kids to bond together and start to develop their church family relationships! We will always provide supper and will typically have games or crafts. Please watch the calendar for upcoming dates!

Our next COG Youth Group meeting will on Friday evening, October 21st from 6:00pm to 7:30pm (note that it's later in the month this time!) We will be screening "It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown", painting pumpkins and serving Frito Pie! Call Bridgett or Renee if you have any questions! See you all there!

Future dates to keep in mind:

October 19th - COG will be meeting at ART ATTACK for supper and painting. The First Communion class will be making their Communion chalice, but everyone is invited to come and paint!

November 4th - COG from 6:00 to 7:30

December 7th – (Wednesday) – youth Christmas Party and Christmas program run-through

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members: Barbara J. Cunningham, mother of Daniel Reeves; Carl F. Rivers, and Katherine A. McLean.



PEACEMAKERS' NEWS



September was an exciting time for the Peacemakers. We welcomed two more to our group making us 12 strong, celebrated Rally Day, started our study of The Apostles' Creed and enjoyed some group fun.

What's Up for October:
Sunday School (Not on the 16th)
5th & 26th—Fellowship Fun Night
19th—Art Attack
22nd—Fall Retreat
29th—Food Pantry

Are you in 6th-8th grade?

We want you to join our group! Please contract Tina Homeyer @ (210) 857-5572.

LOOK WHO JOINED US-MATTHEW & JOHN!

Matthew and his family have been members of our church since 2013. He has grown up attending Sunday School and is excited to be continuing his journey in our group. Matthew is in 6th grade and plays the trumpet.



John and his family joined our Church in 2019. He is in the 7th grade and attends La Vernia Junior High School.

FELLOWSHIP FUN NIGHT



On September 14th, we gathered for Fellowship Fun Night. We walked over to share a meal at the new restaurant, in LV, the Barbed Wire Burger Co. We then came back for a lesson and a quick game of heads up, 7 up. Two hours expired way too fast!



PEACEMAKER NEWS

Our Peacemaker's continue to excel! All are actively participating in extracurricular school activities. They are in band, football, tennis, baseball, cross country, showing and more. And, congrats to Kolby, Christopher and Kase for making their Fall select baseball teams.!!



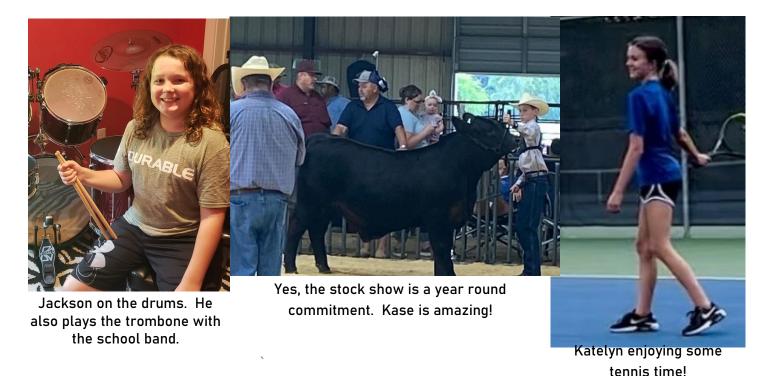




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Congratulations to Zaythan, Bryson, Christopher, Joshua and John for making their football teams. Although Bryson and Christopher are sidelined with injuries, we look forward to cheering them on the field soon.

Cross Country is in full swing. Kolby in one of his first races of the season. Let's go Kolby!



WOMEN OF FAITH

Being a Woman of Faith is just like being a pumpkin!

Autumn has arrived and a popular symbol for both autumn and harvest time is the pumpkin. Christians are really like a pumpkin. Join us at our next WoF luncheon, October 23rd at noon in the Fellowship Hall and bring your favorite fall dish. Come learn how ordinary women can be carved into a lantern of light.

2 Corinthians 4:6 "For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ."



"...that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may be able to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

Ephesians 3:17-19

CHRISTMAS MARKET & BELL CHOIR & CANTATA

It's time to start thinking about the Christmas Market – again! This year's Market that will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2022. Join us on November 7th, 6:30 PM, as we continue planning for this year's event.

If you would like one or know of someone who would like an application, it can be picked up at the church office or e-mailed to you. This year we will have booths outside as well as inside the Parish Hall!

Also, this is the time of the year to start reserving garden produce to add to our Country Store (not to be confused with, but also like the Country Store at the Church Festival in August): pickles, jams, jellies, salsas, and other yummy items. We appreciate all of your support. If you have any questions, feel free to call Darla Buccigrossi at 830-688-1810.



Practices for the Bell Choir are **Tuesdays at 6:00pm**.

The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex if you want to sing this year; it's not too late to join! Our practices are on **Tuesdays at 7:00pm**. Please contact Adrienne Kelley or Patrice Goodman at 830.391.3246 or at pl.goodman@hotmail.com

Our Annual Christmas Cantata will be presented on **Saturday**, **December 10**th **at 7:00 PM and on Sunday**, **December 11**th **during the 10:30 AM service**.



One of the highlights of our Christmas Market was the vintage red truck which the Senior Youth group had available for photos.



Setting up for the day!

Council Members & Ministry:

Jacy Reeves: President, Administration, 210-264-8051

Becca Reeves: Vice-President,

Evangelism

Dianell Recker: Secretary,

Social Concerns

Ronnie Coleman: Youth

Eric Fryer: Property

Dwight Koepp: Stewardship

Rebe Penshorn: Christian Education

Randall Richter: Fellowship

Wendie Roser: Worship & Music

Monthly Attendance:

9/4 - 74 members / 16 visitors, 54 views on FBL;

9/11 - 109 members / 9 visitors, 58 views on FBL;

9/18 - 118 members / 9 visitors, 83 views on FBL;

9/25 - 108 members / 23 visitors, 68 views on FBL.

New Office Hours:

Monday-Wednesday, Friday

9:00 am-4:00 pm

Please call Jacy Reeves on Thursdays if you have any questions: 210-264-8051

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11 , 2022 at 6:00 PM in the Parsonage

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The ILC Council met on September 20, 2022. Members present were: Pastor Eric Miletti, Jacy Reeves, Becca Reeves, Dianell Recker, Eric Fryer, Dwight Koepp, Rebe Penshorn, Randall Richter and Wendie Roser. Ronnie Coleman was absent. Guests were Chrystal Coble and Mark Buccigrossi.

Parishioners to be heard: Mark Buccigrossi regarding timeline of donations being moved from general account to sub accounts.

Correspondence: Emails from NALC thanking us for our donations, from the Children's Alliance of South Texas inviting us to their Trunk or Treat event on October 29th; donation requests from Water Mission, Wounded Warrior Project, Membership Program Solicitation to NAEIR, Cross Trails Ministry, and Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries Inc.; and an invitation from India Transformed! for a virtual vision trip to India.

Reports: Minutes and treasurer's report were reviewed and accepted; Chrystal was available to answer questions regarding the financial report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported on new member class. He was elected Vice President of the Ministerial Alliance. Thanksgiving Community Service will be on November 20th. Pastor will visit Puerto Rico to distribute Wal-Mart cards to those affected by the hurricane. He presented proposed Peacemakers' fundraiser idea. He presented a teen/young adult mental health program that Samantha Kravitz wants to host at ILC—council accepted this proposal.

President's Report: The church has been rekeyed—any member needing a key to see the office or Jacy. She is still confirming bids from external audit companies.

Ministry Reports: Becca reported that she has been in contact with Renee about looking into new youth group shirts—more research to be completed. Jacy asked about status of internet line with Frontier Communications. A motion was made and passed to accept the disbursement recommendations made by the Festival Committee.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

<u>Executive Session</u>—Council went into executive session for a brief period to discuss and vote on special called meeting.

Sanctuary Door Viewer - Two more viewers are to be installed.

Calendar Updates - Tabled until October.

<u>Update on Internal / External Audit</u> - Answered internal audit committee questions to clarify dates and scope of audit. It was decided to start on general accounts first.

<u>Security Waivers</u> - Jacy has waivers for those who have taken the class with H. Schott. Background checks still need to be done.

New Building Update—Fundraising and Building Committees will be invited to the October Council meeting.

<u>Updated Request Forms</u> - Council discussed the need to update request forms for the office. Jacy will work on and submit for council and office review.

<u>Updated Office Hours</u> - Karen requested to be off on Thursdays. Council approved—Phones will be rerouted to Jacy on Thursdays.

Meeting adjourned and closed with prayer.

MINISTRY AT IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ministers: The members of ILC
Pastor: Rev. Eric Miletti
Church Secretary: Karen Campbell
Finance Secretary: Cindy Corbin
Treasurer: Chrystal Coble
Organist: Adrienne Kelley

Custodian: Candy Stork

Office hours: Monday- Wednesday, Friday, 9:00—4:00 Church office: Call 830-253-8121 for numbers.

Email: immanuellavernia@gmail.com

Web Page: www.lvilc.org

Immanuel is a member of the NALC—North American Lutheran Church. We are part of the Texas Mission Region and Southwest Texas Mission District. The NALC is Christ-centered, mission-driven, traditionally-grounded, and congregationally-focused.

NALC Main Office

2655 Innsbruck Drive, Suite A New Brighton, MN 55112-9304 Phones: 1-888-551-7254

1-651-633-6004

Email: info@thenalc.org

NALC Financial Administration (To send donations) P. O. Box 860565 Minneapolis, MN 55486-0565

NALC Staff

Rev. Dr. Dan Selbo Bishop

Rev. Dr. Amy C. Little
Rev. Gemechis Buba
Rev. David Wendel
Rev. Andrew Fuller
Rev. Phillip Gagnon
Rev. Dr. Amy C. Little
General Secretary
Int'l Missions Director
Ministry & Ecumenism
Dir. of Communications
Dir. of Domestic

Mission

Rev. Teresa Peters Dir. of Youth & Family

Ministry

Mary Bates Disaster Response Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen President, NALS

C. Michael Johnson Treasurer

Southwest Texas Mission District of the NALC

Rev. Ralph Reitmeyer Dean

Rev. Eric Waters General Secretary

& Recording Secretary

Rev. John Conrad Mission Director

Rev. Jan Unger Treasurer

ILC News is the official news publication of Immanuel Lutheran Church, La Vernia, Texas.

For pastoral care, please call 830-253-8121

Rev. Eric Miletti, Pastor

Jacy Reeves, Council President, Admin., 210-264-8051

Rebecca (Becca) Reeves, VP, Evangelism Dianell Recker, Secretary, Social Concerns

Ronnie Coleman, Youth Eric Fryer, Property

Dwight Koepp, Stewardship

Rebecca (Rebe) Penshorn, Christian Education

Randall Richter, Fellowship Wendie Roser, Worship & Music

Immanuel Ministry Groups

Sunday School

Renee Scull, Superintendent

Lillian Kosub, Secretary / Treasurer

Men of Immanuel

David Teel, President

Women of the Church

Chrystal Coble, President

Altar Guild

Darla Buccigrossi

Acolytes

Bridgett Faglie

Sewing Circle

Carroll Dorsett

Sr. High Youth

Kelli Thompson

Peacemakers

Tina Homeyer

Children of God

Bridgett Faglie

Multimedia

Billy Bunton

Yard Work

Eric Fryer

Cemetery Committee:

Brent Recker, President

Dianell Recker, Secretary / Treasurer

Billy Bunton Cheryl Morrison Randall Richter

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

1	John Gawlik Jeff Homeyer	8th 11th	Billy & Dorothy Towns Dan & Darlene Reeves		
	Eddie Willeford		David & Gayle Teel		
2	Cheryl Morrison	12th	Cameron & Victoria Clark		
3	Toni Smith	19th	Brian & Laurie Pruski		
4	Liz Pianfetti		Marlin & Sharon Tanneberger		
5	Mason Koepp	21st	Robert & Jacy Reeves		
7	David Haass	30th	Lucas & Mackenzie Corbin		
	Charles Stork		James & Laurel Tanneberger		
9	Brandon Rose				
	Gerald Winston	Special Dates in October:			
10	Breanna Pianfetti	Shec	iat Dates III October.		
11	Patsy Mehr	Oct 16	Special-Called Meeting		
	Pat Meyer	Oct 30	Reformation Sunday —		
12	Bowen Bales	00100	First Communions		
	Deano Thayer		Al Hallows Eve Potluck		
	Taylor Witherell		At Hattows Eve Follack		
13	Mark Buccigrossi	ELOM	ERS FOR OCTOBER		
	Josephine Gawlik	FLOW	ERS FOR OCTOBER		
15	Cadence D'Arche				
	Kendall Fryer	Oct 2	Altar Brenda Willeford		
	Vernon Lambeck		Piano		
16	Darla Buccigrossi	Oct 9	Altar <i>Flowers Needed</i>		
	Donna Jefferson	OCI 7	Piano		
18	Esther DeHaven		1 18110		
	Louise Farris	Oct 16	Altar Rebecca Reeves		
	Harold Schott		Piano		
20	Chelsea Freeman				
21	Mark Kunnemann	Oct 23	Altar Shirley Stanush		
	Darryl Penshorn		Piano		
	Ashley Richter	Oct 30	Altar Jacy Reeves		
22	Cynthia D. Richter		Piano		
	Amy Wagner				
23	Shirley Stanush	V-	nd Mark Cabadula		
	Bill Towns	Yard Work Schedule			
	Shane Womack	Please note the	new teams. If you have any		
26	David Freeman	Please note the new teams. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Fryer.			
27	Jimmie Penshorn	questions, ptec	Se contact Life i i yei.		
29	Bill Dorsett	Oct 3 — 8	Pat Meyer		
	Jeffrey Witte	Oct 17-22	Mark Buccigrossi, Ronnie		
30	Robert Reeves		Haug, Joe Witherell		

OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Oct 2 8:00 AM 10:30 AM

Greeters Patsy Mehr Gloria Kipp

Ushers Ronnie Coleman, Kathy Volkmann Charles Stork, Jeanie Walpole

Readers Esther DeHaven Jeanie Walpole Acolytes Kolby Louis Maddie Schwake

Altar Guild Paige Haass, Joyce Miller Jeanette Bailey, JoElla Heinsohn

Multimedia Operator Ronnie Haug Karen Campbell

Facebook Live Operator Bill Roser

Coffee Hosts Congregational Council
Tellers Ronnie Coleman, Gloria Kipp

Oct 9

Greeters Elaine Schnitz Yvonne Beran

Ushers Chrystal Coble, Randall Richter Gary Beran, Lilia Miletti

Readers Ronnie Haug Lilia Miletti Acolytes Matthew Stanush Lilie Faglie

Altar Guild Elaine Schnitz, Lucy Schott Yvonne Beran, Sharon Poarch

Multimedia Op Karen Campbell Jackson Faglie
Facebook Live Shirley Stanush

Coffee Hosts Men of Immanuel

Tellers Becca Reeves, Mark Buccigrossi

Oct 16 9:00 AM Special-Called Meeting

Greeters Carroll Dorsett

Ushers Tim Ferguson, Darryl Penshorn

Readers Rebe Penshorn
Acolytes Christopher Homeyer

Altar Guild Rebe Penshorn, Taylor Witherell

Multimedia Operator David Haass
Facebook Live Operator Suzan Ferguson

Tellers Rebe Penshorn, Brenda Willeford

Oct 23

Greeters Kathy Volkmann Laura Baumann
Ushers Travis Mabry, Amy Wagner David & Gayle Teel
Readers Chrystal Coble Hershel Goodman
Acolytes Joshua Stanush Abigail Clarke

Altar Guild Chrystal Coble, Amy Wagner Laura Baumann, Patrice Goodman

Multimedia Operator Karen Campbell Bill Roser
Facebook Live Operator Jana Clarke

Coffee Hosts Women of Faith

Tellers Wendie Roser, Patrice Goodman

Oct 30 Reformation Sunday

Greeters Dianell Recker Candy Stork

Ushers Mark & Darla Buccigrossi Dwight Koepp, Charles Stork

Readers David Haass Charles Stork
Acolytes Katelyn Tripp Zaythan Tamez
Altar Guild Paige Haass, Joyce Miller Tony & Donna Prater
Multimedia Operator Billy Bunton Karen Campbell

Multimedia Operator Billy Bunton Karen Campbell Facebook Live Operator Shirley Stanush

Coffee Hosts Sunday School

Tellers Dwight Koepp, Darla Buccigrossi

If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please try to find a substitute and / or notify Wendie Roser, Worship & Music Ministry representative, at 210-416-0822 and the church office.

OCTOBER 2022

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		6:00p Adult Bible Study			8:30a Men
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	6:00 Bell Choir Practice	_			Immanuel
		_			Breakfast
	7.00 Cantata i factice	Night = I II			Dicariast
	11	12	13	14	15
		6:00p Adult Bible Study			
	6:00 Council Meeting	Evening - First Communion Class			
	6:00 Bell Choir Practice				
	7:00 Cantata Practice				
17		19	20		22
		6:00p Adult Bible Study		God	
	7:00 Cantata Practice	6:00p Art Attack Night		Movie Night	
		children of God / Fedechiakers			
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Schedule of Events for October— December 2022

October	10/09	Fundraiser for Willie Jean Boeck—Spaghetti Dinner to go or dine in
	10/16	Special- Called Congregational Meeting; only one service at 9:00 AM
	10/23	Women of Faith Luncheon at 12 noon
	10/30	Reformation Sunday —First Communions
November	11/06	All Saints Day
	11/20	Christ the King Sunday;
		Community Thanksgiving Service at First Baptist Church
	11/23	Thanksgiving Eve Service
	11/24-25	Thanksgiving Holiday — Church Office Closed
	11/26	Decorate the Sanctuary
	11/27	Hanging of the Greens
December	12/10	Senior Saints Luncheon at 12:00 p.m.; Cantata & Cookie Social at 7:00 PM
	12/11	Cantata at 10:30 AM service
	12/24	Christmas Eve Services —Times TBD

Immanuel Lutheran Church Time & Talent Form 2023

Each member is asked to complete a new form as last year's information will be discarded.

Name:	Email:	Email:		
Address Update:		Phone:		
Service you	normally attend:8:00 AM or _	10:30 AM		
Being on a "team" means the	nt you plan to be active in and are wi	lling to work with that ministry.		
Leadership	Property	Youth		
Serve on Council	Property Team	Youth Team		
Convocation Delegate	Yard Work Team	Help with Sr. High		
Cemetery Committee	Property Workdays	Help with Jr. High		
	Gardening	Help with Children of God		
Christian Education	Painting / Maintenance	Help with Peacemakers		
Christian Education Team	Plumbing	Event Chaperone / Driver		
Sunday School Teacher	Electrical	Fundraising		
List age:	Carpentry			
Vacation Bible School		Worship & Music		
Day Camp	Social Concerns	Greeter		
Bible Study Leader	Social Concerns Team	Usher		
	Publicity for Social Needs	Reader		
Evangelism	Food Pantry Volunteer	Altar Guild		
Evangelism Team		 Multimedia		
Contact Visitors	Stewardship	 FB Live		
Contact Inactive Members	Stewardship Team	Worship Planner		
Publicity	Temple Talks	Slide Maker		
Social Media	Teller (count offerings)	Nursery Attendant		
Fellowship	Men of Immanuel	Music:		
Fellowship Team	Attend Monthly Breakfast	Praise Band		
Help with Potluck Lunches	Cook for Monthly Breakfast	Bell Choir		
Help with Church Picnic	Men of Immanuel Projects	Provide Special Music		
Help with Community Festival	Ramp Builds	Cantata		
Bowl on Church League				
	Women of Faith	Other talents to share:		
Member Care	Serve on WoF Board			
Visit Homebound Members	Bereavement Committee			
Monthly Nursing Home Service	Women's Bible Study			
Provide for Those in Need	DayEvening			
Provide Food for Funeral	Sewing / Quilting Circle			
Email Prayer Chain	Prayer Shawl Ministry			
Phone Prayer Chain	, Banquet Planning			
	Christmas Market	Return before 11/30/2022		