

# the immanuelite

celebrating 124 years of ministry

Pastor Molly's Sabbatical  
August 1—November 1, 2022

Pastor Rebekah Cochrane will be the half time pastor the entire time. Her office hours will be Tuesday/Thursday 10-2. She will lead Sunday worship, provide pastoral care, and respond to emergencies. The church office will be open 9 a.m.—3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

## Reflection from Pastor Rebekah

It's been hot... and dry. The mountains around Missoula have made their full transition from green to brown and the river runs slower and shallow. The land is parched and maybe you are, too. Lately I've been feeling extra thirsty. Do you know the feeling? Your mouth getting dry and your throat feeling scratchy, your mind fully distracted by the thought of where you can find water. This longing can feel like desperation, but Mary Oliver's poem, "Thirst", reminds me of the openness that such a longing can create in us.

## Thirst, by Mary Oliver

Another morning and I wake with thirst for the goodness I do not have. I walk out to the pond and all the way God has given us such beautiful lessons. Oh Lord, I was never a quick scholar but sulked and hunched over my books past the hour and the bell; grant me, in your mercy, a little more time. Love for the earth and love for you are having such a long conversation in my heart. Who knows what will finally happen or where I will be sent, yet already I have given a great many things away, expecting to be told to pack nothing, except the prayers which, with this thirst, I am slowly learning.

© 2006 Beacon Press

In this poem I hear the speaker not lamenting the thirst but embracing the way that the experience of longing for something – water, goodness, knowledge, the future – can help us assume a posture of openness and be ready to receive whatever comes. As fall events and schedules begin again, perhaps there's something that you're longing for. Familiar routines, new beginnings, reconnecting in relationships, the changes ushered in by the autumn breeze. In this time between summer and fall, when the parched landscape might reflect our own thirst, notice the openness that your longing might bring. May you find the Holy Spirit in the long awaited rain.

✝ Pastor Rebekah



# Immanuel News and Ministries

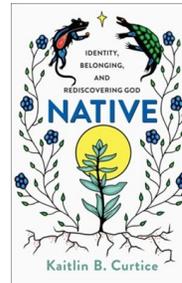
## Compelling Preaching Initiative



Immanuel was identified by the Montana Synod as a transformative community – a community that hears the Word of God through Scripture, preaching, and the Holy Spirit, and is open to being moved and changed through it. The ELCA is part of a research and resource development project called the Compelling Preaching Initiative through the Lily Foundation. This project is seeking to research what makes for a transformative community and how preaching supports that work. Baird Linke, the researcher assigned to Immanuel, learned about our community through interviews and surveys during the first few weeks of August. This research will be used to apply for a \$1M Lily Foundation grant to create resources for congregations and lay and ordained preachers. Thank you to everyone who was involved in this project, you are helping to create the church of the future!



## Autumn Book Study



Save the dates for a fall book study based on *Native: Identity, Belonging and Rediscovering God* by Kaitlin B Curtice.

This book presents a warm, personal, and occasionally challenging story of Curtice's ongoing journey of "rediscovering God." In her words, the story follows this call of "acknowledging the voice of creation, a voice that speaks whether we are listening or not." We will draw from her story and seek meaning within your own relationship with the divine.

Curtice describes herself as a white-coded indigenous person and a Christian who finds her faith challenged and informed by her engagement with her Potawatomi origins. She has collaborated with many contemporary teachers, Christian and secular, and has contributed to widely read publications and media.

Meetings will be on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 7:30pm on September 21st & 28th and October 5th & 12th, led by John Brock and Pastor Rebekah in-person at Immanuel.



# Immanuel News and Ministries



## Welcome Marshall Wassam!

Congratulations to Larry Mansch on the birth of another grandchild! Marshall Tyler Berry Wassam, born August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 8:50 pm. 7 lbs 11 oz and 22 inches long. Parents Madison (Mansch) and Mitchell Wassam are delighted.



Our first Family Faith Gathering will be on **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30** (note a slight change in time for this month only) at the yard of Ron and Nancy Marks, **3524 S. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Street W** in Missoula. We will have games, a bonfire, music, food, and fellowship. This event will be a potluck, so please bring a salad or side dish to share. Hot dogs, buns, and S'mores fixings will be provided to cook over the bonfire. Please bring your own lawn chairs and dress for weather. Pot luck sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4BA5AC2CA7FA7-family3> **Confirmation students, we will also meet with you and your parents to discuss expectations for the year.**



## Quilters Quips

Quilting will resume Wednesday, September 7 at 10:00am.

Rag Time Quilt Kits are still available and can be checked out from the office. We have more to sew to complete our Christmas Giving tree.



## Naomi's Circle

Women's Bible Study will resume Wednesday, September 14 at 10:00am. Please join us the second Wednesday of every month at Immanuel in room 104 across from the church office.



## Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study Meets Tuesdays at Noon in Room 406 (down the hall from the church office. Would you like to know the main message of the Bible and how it applies to us today in this crazy world facing huge challenges such as making a living, threats of the pesky pandemic, a warming climate and disastrous results, on-going wars and political divisions, violence in our communities, and just plain getting along from day-to-day? Please join a group of men who read passages each week, see how they may help us navigate our lives, and share from our personal experiences.



## Oktoberfest Party and Fundraiser is back on at the Fairgrounds!

**Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Home Arts Bldg.** Evening will include great food, people, live music, both silent and live auctions, and more. We are now seeking sponsorships from local businesses, donations for auction items, and volunteers for the event. Mark your calendar and come help support the Emmaus community!

# Immanuel News and Ministries

## Family Promise

of Missoula  
a program of Missoula Interfaith Collaborative

Nancy Marks, Family Promise Coordinator

Thanks to all from Immanuel and Atonement who participated in our Family Promise Week August 29- September 4<sup>th</sup>. Did you know it takes 45 volunteers providing gas cards, gift cards, salad makings, fruit, dessert as well as serving as kitchen helpers, evening hosts and doing the laundry to cover a week's rotation at the Family Housing Center. Volunteers served



approximately 75 hours during the week! That is a great commitment.

Several families thanked us for being there and serving food. I was excited to hear that one family that included a mom and 5 kids was finally moving out to go live with their grandmother in New York. The kids were so excited that they were flying on an airplane for the first time. Keep that family, including the grandmother, in your prayers as they transition to a new home.



 **Mark your calendars....** The month of October will be Family Promise Month, October 22 is  the Night Without A Bed fundraiser for Family Promise of Missoula. Watch for more information about how you can support Family Promise during the month of October! 



### Habitat for Humanity Update



Back orders and short supplies of construction materials caused Immanuel Lutheran's build day to be canceled in June. Efforts are in progress for securing a fall work day.

If fall puts you in the mood to do some clearing out of unneeded items, consider a donation to the Habitat Restore. Check out the Missoula Habitat website for a list of accepted items or arrange for free pick up from your home of your donated objects. The Restore works to ensure people have access to affordable materials for maintaining and improving their homes. Visit the Restore located in East Missoula if you are searching for home improvement items. You are sure find to something at bargain prices to complete a home project.

Tove Elvrom and Dick King are IMLU's Habitat co-captains and can be reached at (406)802-4793.

# Immanuel News and Ministries



## Immanuel Serving Groups

Please remember that our congregation has been divided into serving groups to help with coffee hour after worship. Helping where you can when called by your serving chair by providing treats, helping serve, set-up, cleanup, or donating money to purchase food items is greatly appreciated. It has been wonderful to be able to gather again to renew friendships after the two years of Covid. Thank you! Many hands make light work.

—Our hands, God's work.

## September and October Serving Groups

### September Serving Group

**Sandy Knutsen, Chair**  
**406 542-1419**

Sonja and Tim Wolsky, 460 241-3700  
Jeff Hill, 406 544-9579  
Kathy and Paul Schaller, 406 549-8620  
Nancy and Ron Marks, 406 396-5494  
Shirley Hanson, 406 251-3797  
Larry Mansch, 406 728-6945  
Nancy and Dick Solum, 406 240-7743  
Faith Ann Heinsch, 406 370-8808  
Delores Lee, 406 543-5962  
Shelley and David Morris, 406 251-2452

### October Serving Group

**Danesa Khomenko, Chair**  
**406 370-5024**

Valerie McNair: 406 214-9256  
Tom and Linda Rosenbaum: 406 781-9205  
Mark and Susannah Murphy: 406 301-1035  
Kevin and Julie Papp: 406 529-2073  
Micki Tourtelotte: 406 382-0399  
Ron and Nancy Lechelt: 208 881-9904  
Lori Neilson Kattell: 406 207-6267  
Greg and Carrol Karlsgodt: 406 546-8676

**Questions? Contact Deb Getz-406 239-6835 or**

**Carol Fleharty 406 544-4125**

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



Immanuel Lutheran will be hosting our 2nd blood drive in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday Sept 14th. Only a few volunteers are needed, but they are very important for the success of the drive. Please consider helping to set up/arrange tables prior to the drive, put tables away after the drive, or be a host during the drive (welcome donors, help check them in, ensure there are snacks set out after they donate ... and just be a friendly face representing Immanuel).

Blood drive Volunteer: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AA9AD2AA20-redcross>

Blood Donor Sign Up:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=IMMANUELLUTHERANMT>

# Council Highlights

## Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Notes for Newsletter 8/9/22

Council Members Present: Ike Marks, Marilyn Hall, Audrey Thornton, Pastor Rebekah Cochrane, Ray Smith, TJ Johnson  
Absent: Toni Johnson, Tom Thompson, Albert Melby

Guest speaker: Susannah Murphy, Jim Bendickson, Nate Sager

**Pastor's report:** Pastor Rebekah is grateful for being put in the position of Sabbatical Pastor. She reminds us all that this is a time for rest and healing. Baird Linke will be doing research in compelling preaching. Anyone interested in participating, please see the weekly newsletter. We have a lot of energy around our family and youth ministry.

**Finance:** We have hired a new Administrative assistant, Olivia White, through a temp agency. Our deficit is almost gone at \$1,815.

**Property/Grounds:** No report

**Christian education:** VBS was a success with 31 kids attending. The backpack blessing will be 8/28/22. The next Faith Family Gathering will be 9/11/22. We have room in the 4-5 year old preschool class. The school supply drive is going on now. We sent 3 kids to FLBC camp this summer.

**Service:** No report

**Worship and music:** Hybrid church will continue with many preferring to worship online with us. The declining attendance is just Covid generated.

**New/Old Business:** Reconciling in Christ report: the team will continue to do one-on-one meetings with whomever is interested in having one. EAR report: the first project will be the roof. We have a bid for the solar panels. God's work our hands Sunday is 9/18/22 with neighborhood clean up and a possible food drive.

Motion to adjourn by TJ Johnson with a second by Marilyn Hall Motion passed.  
Adjourned 8:24 PM

**Next Council Meeting is September 13, 2022 @ 7 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted by: Audrey Thornton Secretary

# This & That



## Birthdays:

### Birthdays



- 9/1 Jenny Randolph
- 9/5 Sara Donoghue  
Daniel Beaulieu  
Brittney Marcure
- 9/6 Johanna Nagy
- 9/12 Patricia Berge
- 9/15 Craig Happ
- 9/17 Mark Mohorcich  
Kinsley Long
- 9/19 Abigail Long
- 9/20 Judith Wellert
- 9/21 Helen Petroff  
Dean Ross
- 9/22 Patty Orr
- 9/25 Andrew Nagy
- 9/27 Luca Khomenko
- 9/28 Ely Selle
- 9/29 Clifford Jacobson



## Anniversaries:

- 9/1 Sharon and Mick Hanson, 54 yrs.
- 9/4 Briar and Heidi Diggs, 46 yrs.
- 9/7 Jay and Deborah Getz, 48 yrs.
- 9/9 Jason Hurd and Sara Donoghue, 5 yrs
- 9/13 Nancy and Ron Marks, 47 yrs.
- 9/16 Brenda and Steve Weber, 45 yrs.
- 9/18 Dan and Lorrie Beaulieu, 57 yrs.
- 9/27 Dick and Nancy Solum, 36 yrs.

### Anniversaries

Women of the ELCA 

*Naomi Circle*

Women's Bible Study will meet monthly at 10 am on the second Wednesday of every month.

## immanuel staff

Pastor—Molly Sasser-Goehner (on sabbatical Aug-Sept-Oct)  
Part-time Pastor—Rebekah Cochcrane (Aug- Sept -Oct)  
Director of Worship & Music—Allen Sasser-Goehner  
Director of Christian Education—Sonja Wolsky  
Administrative Assistant—Olivia White  
Choir Director—Nita Smith  
Preschool Teachers—Julie Sager, Wendy Deaton  
Custodians—Carrie & Mark Courter  
Funeral Coordinator—Nancy Marks  
Wedding Coordinator—Vacant  
Church Website: [imluchurch.org](http://imluchurch.org)  
Office Email: [office@imluchurch.org](mailto:office@imluchurch.org)

## your 2022 church council

Ike Marks, President  
TJ Johnson, Vice President  
Audrey Thornton, Secretary  
Tana Lambert, Treasurer  
Vacant, Fellowship  
Vacant, Finance  
Toni Johnson, Christian Education  
Albert Melby, Property & Grounds  
Tom Thompson, Service  
Ray Smith, Stewardship  
Marilyn Hall, Worship & Music  
Vacant, Witness  
Vacant, Youth & Family

# September Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>2</b> 5:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship - In person/ Livestream</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>5</b> 6:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>6</b> 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study (Room 406) 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>7</b> 10:00 am Quilting (Rm 405 and 406)	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>9</b> 5:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship - In person/ Livestream</b> 3:30-5:30 Family Faith Gathering 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>13</b> 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study (Rm 406) 1:00 pm Finance Meeting - Hemgren Room 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406) 7:00 pm Church Council	<b>14</b> 10:00 am <b>Red Cross Blood Drive</b> 10:00 am Naomi's Circle (Rm 406)	<b>15</b> <b>First Day of Hispanic Heritage Month</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>16</b> 5:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> God's Work, Our Hands Day 10:00 am <b>Worship - In person/ Livestream</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>19</b> <b>Immanuelite Deadline</b> 6:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>20</b> 12:00pm Men's Bible Study (Rm 406) 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>21</b> 10:00 am Quilting (Rm 405/406 )	<b>22</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>23</b> 5:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship - In person/ Livestream</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>26</b> <b>Family Promise at Meadowlark</b> 2:00 pm Service Committee Mtg 6:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	<b>27</b> <b>Family Promise at Meadowlark</b> 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study (Rm 406) 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>28</b> <b>Family Promise at Meadowlark</b> 10:00 am Quilting (Rm 405/406)	<b>29</b> <b>Family Promise at Meadowlark</b> 6:00 pm *AA (Room 406)	<b>30</b> <b>Family Promise at Meadowlark</b> 5:30 pm BW (Fellowship Hall/Rm 406)	



**imm a n u e l**  
**evangelical**  
**lutheran church**  
**pastor molly sasser-goehner**  
 830 south avenue west  
 missoula, montana 59801-7912  
 office: 406.549-0736

**email addresses:**

church: [office@imluchurch.org](mailto:office@imluchurch.org)  
 pastor: [pastormolly@imluchurch.org](mailto:pastormolly@imluchurch.org) (on sabbatical)  
 Part-time pastor: [rebekah@imluchurch.org](mailto:rebekah@imluchurch.org)  
 allen sasser-goehner: [allen@imluchurch.org](mailto:allen@imluchurch.org)  
 sonja wolsky: [sonja@imluchurch.org](mailto:sonja@imluchurch.org)

**vision and mission statement:**

**vision:**

- Immanuel is called to be a caring, compassionate,
- and diverse congregation that is spiritually
- nourished through Jesus Christ and reaches out to
- the community at large.

**mission:**

share the love of Christ with all!

The Immanuelite is the official publication of news and events at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
830 South Avenue West  
Missoula, MT 59801

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



ImmanuelLutheran  
CHURCH

Non-Profit org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Missoula, MT 59801  
Permit # 132

Join us For  
**Worship Each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

**In this issue...**

- Pastor's Reflection
- ECLA Worship Initiative
- Faith Family Gathering
- Red Cross Blood Drive
- Habitat Update
- Council Notes

