

July/August 2022



First Lutheran Church  
240 W. Hardanger Gate  
Lee, IL 60530  
815.824.2356

# The Parish Voice

A NEWSLETTER OF HEART OF ILLINOIS LUTHERAN

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
398 Church Road  
Compton, IL 61318  
815.539.6567

## HOILP Graduates – 2021-2022

Four young people from HOILP graduated from area high schools this spring. Please congratulate them as you see them and keep them in your prayers as they move to their next chapter in life.

**Shayne Prodzski** went through elementary school in Paw Paw and graduated from Indian Creek High School. He attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, was confirmed in 2019 with his mom and sister and has been active in leading our music during the pandemic. He plans on attending Kishwaukee College in the fall.

**Olivia Ross** graduated from Mendota High School. She was confirmed in 2018, attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, and has been active in leading music both for HOILP videos and outdoor worship at Immanuel. She will be attending University of Illinois in the fall.

**Bethany Simpson** attended Indian Creek Schools from kindergarten until her graduation this last spring. She was confirmed in 2018 and has been active as a reader both in person and on the videos. She will be attending Kishwaukee College in the fall.

**Aiden Znaniecki** attended Paw Paw grade schools and graduated from Indian Creek High School. He was confirmed in 2018, attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, and has been active as a reader during the pandemic. He plans on moving to Iowa and pursuing a career in welding.

HOILP Graduates

High School:

**Shayne Prodzski**  
*Indian Creek High School*

**Olivia Ross**  
*Mendota High School*

**Bethany Simpson**  
*Indian Creek High School*

**Aiden Znaniecki**  
*Indian Creek High School*

Post High School:

**Marie Barnickel**  
*UW Platteville*

**Caytlin Prodzenski**  
*Hobart School of Welding*

The Immanuel quilters, as per their tradition, have created a quilt for each of the Immanuel graduates. We will present them to the graduates at a service of their choice. Immanuel graduates are asked to contact PJ to arrange which Sunday you'd like to receive your quilt.

In addition to high school graduations, the following people have graduated from institutions of higher education: Marie Barnickel (University of Wisconsin Platteville), Caytlin Prodzenski (Hobart School of Welding). Congratulations to them and we pray for them as they forge their career path.

We aren't always aware of post high school graduations. If we have missed any, please let us know so we can include them in future newsletters.

## NIS Synod Elects New Bishop

The big news from the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly that took place in June was the election of a new bishop. The Rev. Stacie Fidar of Rock Island, IL, was elected to serve a six-year term as bishop.

The bishop-elect has served as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Rock Island since 1999, as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran, Seneca from 1995-1999 and as interim pastor of St. James Lutheran, Forresteron in 1995.

Fidar will take office on September 1, and her installation is scheduled for October 8 at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Rockford, IL. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will officiate the installation.

Retiring Bishop Jeffrey Clements has served as bishop of the Northern Illinois Synod since 2016.

Further details from the assembly are included in this newsletter. Thanks to HOILP assembly voting members Jim Johnson and Deb Poterek (First Lutheran) as well as Greta Bates and Randy Schlesinger (Immanuel Lutheran).



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# Worship

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## Outdoor Worship - 2022

The last Sunday of May, June, July, and August have been designated as outdoor worship days.

Like last year, we will be utilizing the Paw Paw Lion's Club tent and asking worshipers to bring their own chairs if possible. And should the weather be inclement on one of those days, we will simply change gears and hold worship inside.

### 2022 Outdoor Worship

May 29 ✓

June 26 ✓

July 31

August 28

Additional outdoor services may be added during Season of Creation in September and October.

## A Look Ahead in Worship

Pastor Jeff just returned from the workshop for pastors and other leaders of the synod to develop resources for Season of Creation. He can't wait for its arrival, even though it won't be until September and October. But prior to that, two ways which you can help:

### Volunteer for Season of Creation Task Force

PJ is putting together a task force to plan and make Season of Creation even better. Please let him know if you're willing to volunteer.

### Start Taking Pictures

As always, we'll have slide shows for the Sunday themes. Here's the topics for you to start capturing pictures:

- Oceans and Lakes
- Animals
- Cosmos
- Storms and Weather

## Bell Choir

Did you enjoy the bell choir on Easter Sunday and at the Pentecost service? We're planning on doing occasional pieces to enhance our worship services. Everyone is welcome to participate. If you'd like to be part of the bell choir please let Ron Duval or Sarah Goetz know.

## Wanted: Ushers at Immanuel

Soon, we will be reviving and redefining ushers at Immanuel. Volunteers are needed. Ushers can range in age from 12 to 100. It's a great thing to do as a couple or family. Please sign up on the table in the overflow.

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# WELCA

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## JUSTICE (Mission Action) – Charlene Zimmerman

What does the Lord require of you but to do *justice*, love kindness and walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

We are continuing to collect for **Personal Care Kits**: *light or medium weight, dark color bath towels, sturdy combs (no fine tooth combs or picks), 4-5 oz. bath size bars of soap in individual wrappers, nail clippers, toothbrushes.*

We are also collecting school supplies for the **School Back Packs**: For each School Kit we need:

- 4 – 70 page spiral bound notebooks
- 1 – 30 centimeter ruler or ruler with centimeters on one edge and inches on the other
- 1 – pencil sharpener
- 5 – unsharpened pencils with eraser secured with a rubber band
- 1 – blunt scissors
- 5 – black or blue ballpoint pens secured with a rubber band
- 1 – box of 16 or 24 crayons
- (no business advertising on them).
- 1 – 2-1/2" eraser

All these items will be going on sale now, so let's really support this project. Put these items in the LWR totes in the room next to the office. THANK YOU.

## WELCA President's Desk – Sarah Pfeifer

**Quilt Raffle winners: Arlene's Quilt – Holly Phalen, June's Quilt – Jill Hoelzer.**

# This and That

## **N.I.C.E. Center Update**

- Food/Miscellaneous Items Needed – condiments and salad dressings, canned spaghetti's/ravioli, pie filling (fruit, no pumpkin), cake mixes, frosting, boxed potatoes.
- N.I.C.E. is currently accepting plastic bags.
- New opportunity to help on Friday mornings at N.I.C.E. Food pickups in DeKalb on Friday mornings (leave N.I.C.E. at 7:20 a.m.) and/or help sort produce and other food items at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call Dave Koroscik at 815-751-0401.

Thank you for your continued support for the N.I.C.E. Center.

## **First Lutheran Council Highlights** **May 22, 2022**

- Joint worship services for 2022 are on 6/5 at Immanuel; 11/20 at First Lutheran
- Tip Top Roofing has not started work yet on the new church roof, due to poor weather conditions
- New lock on back door requires a numeric code
- Jim J. will miss final day of Synod Assembly due to family funeral; cannot replace him on the voting roster
- Nurture Kitchen will be dissolving
- Benevolence for July/August – Grace Place
- Benevolence for September/October – Opportunity House

## **Benevolence Offerings**

**Immanuel:** July – Northern Illinois Synod, August – LOMC. Please use the envelopes found in this newsletter.

**First:** July/August – Grace Place. Please use the benevolence box at church or designate it on the memo line of your check.

**THANK YOU** to everyone – friends, relatives, neighbors – for your prayers, phone calls, visits, etc. upon Allan's passing and my health issues. Everything you have done and continue to do is greatly appreciated. –Charlene Zimmerman

## **Immanuel Council Highlights** **May 12, 2022**

- General Treasury ending balance April 30, 2022 is \$5,538.43
- Worship Committee, videos will be limited to liturgy and fewer songs. No bulletin, but a ½ sheet announcement page will be at service
- Communion instruction will begin on June 4
- A joint service with First will be held at Immanuel on Sunday, June 5 followed by a Cook-out. Third graders will receive Bibles
- Outdoor worship services will be held on the last Sunday of May, June, July and August

## **June 16, 2022**

- General Treasury ending balance May 31, 2022 is \$3,734.96
- Sabbatical policy/plan presented to joint council in Fall by Parish Team
- Donation from Ag View FS, Inc. to go to Back Pack Blessings
- Thank you letter received from Mendota Food Pantry for donation of \$369.94
- Thank you from Charlene Zimmerman for flowers while hospitalized
- Repairs on Emergency lighting and west main door to be done
- Roof bids and a fundraiser campaign discussed for 2023
- A \$3,000 donation made to Mendota Area Senior Services in danger of closing

## **Immanuel Church Office Hours**

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Church office: 815-539-6567

*Debbie will be available from home in the afternoons. If you need anything, call or text: 815-866-6690 or email: [immanuelutherancompton@live.com](mailto:immanuelutherancompton@live.com).*

## **HOILP on the Internet**

### Websites & Facebook

First – [www.flcinlee.com](http://www.flcinlee.com)

[www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee](https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee)

Immanuel – [www.ilccompton.org](http://www.ilccompton.org)

[www.facebook.com/ilccompton](https://www.facebook.com/ilccompton)



[www.youtube.com/channel/UChxbzUM EeE1C2SIsP-YI65A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChxbzUM EeE1C2SIsP-YI65A)

## 2022 Assembly Highlights

The 2022 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly was held via Zoom on two Sunday evenings, June 5 and 12, and then in person at Augustana College, Friday, June 17, and Saturday, June 18 under the theme, “For the Sake of the World” from our synod’s mission statement, Walking Together, loving Christ, loving all, for the sake of the world. In addition to the plenary sessions being held on those dates, there were also three related forums held via Zoom on June 13 and June 16 that were important for those who are either serving as synod assembly voting members or who are planning on viewing the live-stream of the plenary sessions and forums.

The election of a new bishop was a high point of this year’s assembly. The Rev. Stacie Fidler of St. John's Lutheran Church, Rock Island, IL was elected on the 5th ballot and will begin her 6-year term on September 1, 2022. A question-and-answer forum with the final seven nominees for bishop was livestreamed on the synod website Thursday, June 16, giving voting members a chance to hear from nominees before voting on the third ballot. The final three candidates had the opportunity to answer questions and speak to the assembly on Saturday morning before the 4th ballot.

Three-hundred-thirty-eight voting members participated in the assembly through the Zoom platform, 359 voting members attended the in-person portion of the assembly, and countless visitors watched the live stream on the synod website.

We centered our assembly in worship together. We heard reports from our officers, and learned about our synod committees, agencies, and institutions as well as our role in churchwide ministries. We engaged in elections, and adopted the FY 2023 budget and salary guidelines. We considered four resolutions. The resolutions included:

- 1) Support for Campus Ministry in the Northern Illinois Synod
- 2) Study and Initiation of Change in the Call Status of Interim Pastors
- 3) Support for Action by the Synod and Congregations to Reduce Greenhouse Gasses, and
- 4) Repudiation for the Doctrine of Discovery

We celebrated retirements and special anniversaries of rostered ministers and congregations. We remembered those rostered ministers who have died since our last assembly in prayers of remembrance.

Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish was represented by Pr, Jeff Schlesinger, Jim Johnson and Deb Ptorek of First, and Greta Bates and Randy Schlesinger of Immanuel.

Special guests included The Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla, Executive Director for the Service and Justice Home Area (formerly the Global Mission Unit) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, (ELCA); Ms. Victoria Flood, Director for Mission Support, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who both served as our churchwide representatives; and the Rev. Yehiel Curry, Bishop of Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA.

Additional details can be found at: [www.nisynod.org/programs/assembly](http://www.nisynod.org/programs/assembly)

## Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish Food Swap

A new event where members of our [local worship community](#) meet up to share [homemade](#), [homegrown](#), and foraged foods with each other. Swap (bring to get) for yourself or to share and give to a neighbor in need.

**WHEN:** July 24, August 21, September 25, November 20, December 18.  
(Subject to change)

**WHAT:** garden fruits & vegetables, baked goods, store and home-canned goods, frozen food. (Please package for portability and label any allergens.)

**HOW:** Bring your food to swap Sunday morning after the service. Swap for yourself or to give to a neighbor in need. Anything un-swapped will be donated locally.

**WHERE:** Place on tables(Immanuel), pews(Lea) prior to service; pick up after service.

# Whitley's Warriors Bake Sale

*Date: July 24th, 2022*

*Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm*

*Place: Paw Paw Community Building*



*Come join us to help raise money for the Whitley's  
Warrior team for the St Jude Walk!*

**Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
398 Church Rd. - Compton, IL 61318**

(First Lutheran - 240 W. Hardanger Gate - Lee, IL 60530)

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Compton, Illinois  
Permit No. 1

**Return Service Requested**

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

July 3 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
July 10 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
July 17 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
July 24 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
July 31 – Outdoor Worship Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)

August 7 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
August 14 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
August 21 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)  
August 28 – Outdoor Worship Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)

## **Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish**

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Pastor Jeff Schlesinger  
(Cell) 815/878-4503  
E-mail: [photo.pastor1965@gmail.com](mailto:photo.pastor1965@gmail.com)

You can also check us out on Facebook!