



"Faith That Feeds"

[www.immanuelevanston.org](http://www.immanuelevanston.org)

We believe that faith should feed and nurture our spirits.  
We believe also that faith should lead us to feed people  
in the many different ways they hunger,  
both physically and spiritually.

## God's Hands—June 2024

### Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

June is Pride month in which we advocate for and celebrate LGBTQIA+ folks as God's beloved children in ways as diverse as the colors of a rainbow. As a straight cis-gender male, I can't speak for folks under the LGBTQIA+ umbrella, but I would like to share what I believe we can learn from them and celebrate with them this month. Within a world that is often not only exclusive, but also dangerous for LGBTQIA+ folks, I applaud their courage to be and become as fully as possible who it is that God has created them to be. This is a lesson we all need to learn and follow. How can we develop the courage to be the unique child of God that we've been created to be, especially if that goes against external expectations that have been placed upon us?

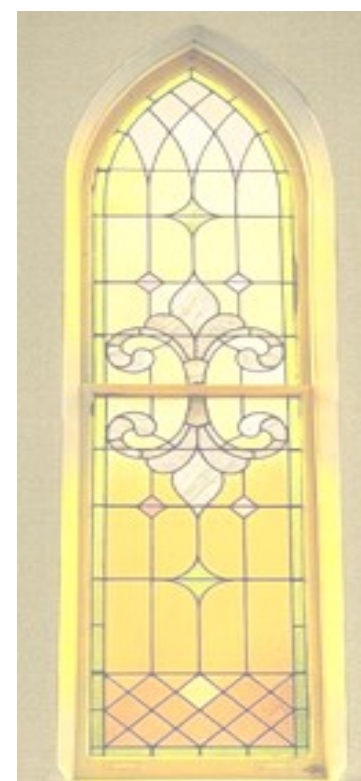
Pride month exemplifies the courage needed, not only to be oneself, but to advocate for justice, equity, and fullness of life for all, and especially those who are oppressed because of being different. As the first letter of John reminds us, our courage for this work of justice stems from our being loved. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. (1 John 4:18)

As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation we commit ourselves to not only welcome all, but also repent of the devastating history of hurt that has been inflicted on LGBTQIA+ folks by the Church, and still happens in some parts of Christianity today. May love cast out our fear and empower our welcome, our advocacy, and our celebration of God's diversity in how we human beings have been created. Sexuality is something that we share with a wide swath of creation. Pride month gives us an opportunity to celebrate sexuality as an incarnational goodness. It's an opportunity to celebrate who we truly are and be freed from any shame we harbor because of our sexuality. Whatever the makeup of our sexuality or asexuality, it is an integral part of how God knit each of us together in our mother's womb (Psalm 139). The psalmist goes on to declare, we are marvelously and wondrously made. God loves the complex diversity of creation including the complex diversity of humanity. So, fall back on God's love this whole month long, let it cast out all your fear and guide your advocacy and your being all that God has created you to be. Recall that we are all created in God's image, and God saw that it was very good.

Our Pride Sunday worship will be June 2nd and I'm looking forward to some special music from a portion of the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus. Also, that Sunday, 2PM - 5 PM there will be an Interfaith Family Pride Festival in Raymond Park to continue this day of celebration that will last the whole month long. I hope to see you there.

Deep Blessings,

*Pastor Mark*



#### Inside this issue

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- Joint Pentecost Service
- Evanston Family Pride Fest Details

## Immanuel Calendar



June 1		First Day LGBTQ+ Pride Month
June 2		Pride Sunday
	2:00 pm	Interfaith Family Pride Fest
June 5	10:00 am	Group Spiritual Direction
June 6, 20	9:00 am	Daytime Quilters
June 8	10:00 am	Trombone Choir Rehearsal
June 11, 20	7:00 pm	Group Spiritual Direction
June 16		Father's Day
	12:30 pm	Council Meeting
June 19		Juneteenth

Be sure to check the Church Calendar online at [www.immanuelevanston.org/Calendar7](http://www.immanuelevanston.org/Calendar7) for the latest info on church events and building usage.

## June Scripture Readings

### June 2, Pentecost 2

Deuteronomy 5:12-15  
 Psalm 81:1-10  
 2 Corinthians 4:5-12  
 Mark 2:23—3:6

### June 9, Pentecost 3

Genesis 3:8-15  
 Psalm 130  
 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1  
 Mark 3:30-25

### June 16, Pentecost 4

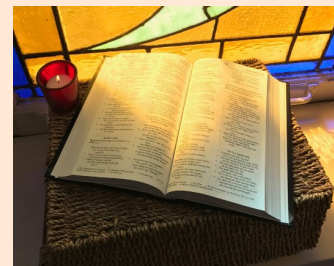
Ezekiel 17:22-24  
 Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15  
 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-1u7  
 Mark 4:26-34

### June 23, Pentecost 5

Job 38:1-11  
 Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32  
 2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
 Mark 4:35-41

### June 30, Pentecost 6

Lamentations 3:22-23  
 Psalm 30  
 2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
 Mark 5:21-43



Revised Common Lectionary daily readings can be found at <https://www.dailylectio.net/calendar>

## Music at Immanuel

### June Music

We kick off music in June with a lovely Pride celebration at Immanuel. Jimmy and Christine will dazzle the keys with some duets by John Innes before the service. Some pride-focused texts lead us through the hymnody for the day. Members of the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus will join us for a musical offering at offertory and at the postlude. It will be a joyous kickoff to the summer and Pride month. As the choir takes a respite over the summer months, please enjoy all the fine talents and treasures by Christine at the organ. The choir resumes on "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday in September.

—Jimmy Morehead

## Feeding Our Faith

Is taking the summer off.

Have a great summer and see you in September!

## New Member Sunday

On Sunday, May 12, 2024, we were pleased to welcome four new members into our congregation— Barbara and Mark Huffman and James and Nova Moore. Please introduce yourself when you see them!



## Pentecost Sunday

On Sunday, May 19, 2024, St. John's Lutheran in Wilmette hosted a joint worship service for Pentecost. Members from Immanuel, Grace Lutheran, and St. Timothy's also attended. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a potluck lunch.



Photos by Joe Simchak





## JUNE

### BIRTHDAYS

Jane Kaihatsu 6/2

Erik Shearer 6/4

Keith Knohl 6/5

Anna Lamberg 6/7

Elora Kloster 6/14

Mark Huffman 6/17

Benjamin Mauk-O'Connor  
6/17

Tyler Knohl 6/22

Theodore Otto 6/26

Merel Shearer 6/30

## Justice & Equity Ministry News...

On June 30th at Coffee Hour, Laurice Bell, Executive Director of Shorefront Leagacy Center, will be a special guest speaker.

—Audrey Moy



## We need help at the Hospitality Center for June!



Please sign up below if possible!

We really need volunteers at these times. If we don't have a volunteer, we can't open the area where our guests can sleep. Thank you for checking!

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ySup-faBkYRsorZspmSlg-uFmUdmbi\\_2Z3fLrBc20/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ySup-faBkYRsorZspmSlg-uFmUdmbi_2Z3fLrBc20/edit?usp=sharing)

Thank You,  
Interfaith Action of Evanston

## Donations for Immigrants

Chi Welcome, our partner in the distribution network, is requesting that donors compile Kitchen Starter Packs. Please see the list and assemble a pack with only the items specified. Donation Packs will be collected on Thursdays only, 9 am—Noon.

Every week, Volunteers Chris, Kit, Keziah, Roxanne and others work hard in Fellowship Hall assembling the kits and getting them ready for pick up by Chi Welcome. If you have a couple of hours to spare on Thursday mornings, come join the group! *Thank you for your support of this ministry*

### KITCHEN STARTER PACK

- 4 Place Settings
- 4 Mugs
- 2 Dish Towels
- 1 Pot with Lid
- 1 Pan
- 1 Set Cooking Utensils
- 1 Cutting Board and Knife
- 1 Can Opener
- 1 Mixing Size Bowl
- 1 Dish Soap and Sponge

Pack everything into a bag, box, or sturdy container like a laundry basket. Drop off at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Thursdays from 9-12.





# INTERFAITH FAMILY PRIDE FEST

FEATURING  
**FLAMY GRANT**

ARTEMIS SINGERS,  
CHICAGO GAY MENS' CHORUS,  
& ACTOR'S GYMNASIUM

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



SCAN TO STAY CONNECTED

**MUSIC  
GAMES  
FOOD  
FAMILY FUN  
FOR ALL**

**SUNDAY  
2 JUNE 2024  
2-5PM**

RAYMOND PARK  
1445 HINMAN AVE.  
EVANSTON, IL

## Interfaith Family Pride Festival General Info

We are so excited to welcome you to Raymond Park on Sunday, June 2, 2024. The festival kicks off at 2 p.m. and will be chock-full of music, community, and fun! Help us spread the word before Sunday by clicking the link below to RSVP.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1397329710916714/>

### Getting to the Festival

The festival takes place at Raymond Park in Evanston. Raymond Park is a grassy square between Lake, Grove, Hinman, and Chicago Ave. We strongly suggest taking public transportation. Find directions here. Street parking may be difficult to find around the park. There are parking garages located at 1501 Sherman Ave. and 500 Davis St. These garages are not affiliated with the festival and are provided for information only.

If you can, plan to arrive in the area a little early and cheer on the [Evanston Pride Youth Car parade](#) as it passes by Raymond Park on Chicago Ave. We are also walking distance from one of the official gathering places, in Fountain Square.

### When you arrive

**Visit the information booth at Lake and Hinman to pick up a schedule and your ticket for free ice cream from the C & W Ice Cream truck!** Volunteers at the information booth can also connect you to everything else the festival has to offer!

ASL interpretation will be provided for all mainstage acts and is also available as needed throughout the festival. If you need an interpreter, please check in at the information booth!

### Safety and Security at the Festival

The Interfaith Family Pride Festival aims to be a welcoming, safe place for all, but especially LGBTQIA people and youth. Volunteer Marshalls wearing purple vests will be present to assist you with any concerns. A first aid station and mental health volunteers will also be available.

### Food and Drink at the Festival

We are so excited to have the C & W Ice Cream Truck on hand! We have a limited number of tickets for free ice cream available to attendees -- be sure to stop by the information booth to get yours! Free popcorn and cotton candy are also available, and the City of Evanston water truck will be on hand. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own water bottle!

Raymond Park is conveniently located near the Main-Dempster Mile and Downtown Evanston. We encourage you to check out one of the dozens of nearby eateries before or after the festival!

## Notes from the Parish Administrator....

Church officers, Committee and Ministry Chairs: Please check your mail slots. If you need access to the office, please contact me at [parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org](mailto:parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org).

If you'd like to use a space, first please check the church calendar at [www.immanuelevanston.org](http://www.immanuelevanston.org) or contact the church office at 847-864-4464 or [parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org](mailto:parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org) for availability. When leaving the building, please practice good stewardship by **turning off all lights**, dumping trash properly, and **making sure doors are locked and secure**.

### 2024-25 ILC Leadership

Michael Kloster, Congregation President

Terri Simchak, Congregation Vice President

Dana Barron, Congregation Secretary

Susan Ross, Treasurer

Greg Hummel, Diane Keely, Jerry Larson, Kit McCarthy,  
Steve Warner, Congregation Council Members

Laurie Stivers, Financial Secretary



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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Immanuel Lutheran Church is a  
Reconciling in Christ congregation.

We welcome people of every age and size,  
color and culture, every sexual orientation  
and gender identity, socio-economic  
status and marital status, every ability and  
challenge. We welcome believers and  
questioners, and questioning believers.