

Come, It Is Holy Time

"Time keeps on ticking, ticking, ticking into the future..." and *"Time is on my side, yes it is..."* These lyrics echo the rhythm of our world, where time is everything—measured in hours, minutes, and seconds. Our secular world is obsessed with time. From twelve- and twenty-four-hour clocks to calendar alerts and countdowns, everything seems scheduled and structured.

Having worked in healthcare—and before that, in college and outdoor ministry—I became accustomed to operating on a 24-hour clock. Even now, I often find myself converting back and forth to the 12-hour AM/PM format. But the most challenging shift in time isn't from 24 to 12 hours—it's from *regular time* to *Holy Time*.

"This is Holy Time, gathered together to worship You, to love one another. And as we dance and as we sing, Lord, this is Holy Time."

These lyrics from a sacred song remind us of what Holy Time truly is. Holy Time is time spent in the presence of God. It is time gathered with our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is time given in honor of God—set apart, meaningful, sacred.

We gather weekly for Holy Time in God's sanctuary. We experience it in the communal worship of the liturgy. We share in it when we serve our neighbors, prepare for events like the rummage sale, play basketball in the gym, or gather for a meal at the steak fry or German Dinner. As Christians, communal Holy Time is often easy to find—when we are surrounded by our church family, engaging in the life of the congregation.

But what about personal Holy Time?

Where is your Holy Time in the quiet moments of daily life? Is it in a brief morning or evening devotion? In a Bible reading plan? In a long, peaceful walk spent in prayer with God?

Maybe your Holy Time is something entirely different—and that's okay. God does not give us rigid rules about where or how to find personal Holy Time. But He *does* teach us that these sacred moments are vital for sustaining our faith and leading us toward everlasting life.

I invite you to join us in Holy Time here at Immanuel. Come to worship. Share in the liturgy. Embrace the fellowship of the Family of God. But also, I encourage you to find your *personal* Holy Time—those quiet, reflective moments with your Heavenly Father.

Need help getting started? Try the Portals of Prayer, available for free from the congregation. Many other devotional resources are also available. If you'd like help finding your rhythm of Holy Time, Pastor is here to talk with you and help you discover what that looks like for you.

If communal Holy Time is what you seek, we have plenty of opportunities here at Immanuel, both inside and outside of worship. And if you're unsure where to begin, I would love to help guide you.

Come—it is Holy Time.

I hope to see you this summer and into the fall, sharing in our life together as the Church. And I pray your personal Holy Time is rich, meaningful, and sustaining throughout the season ahead.

Rev. James Yonkers

IMPORTANT DATES IN JULY:

- Pastor Yonkers Vacation, June 26 July 3
- Independence Day, **July 4**
- LWML Mite Collection, **July 6**
- NYG Commissioning Service, July 13
- CID Convention, July 13 15
- National Youth Gathering, July 19 23
- Schomburg & Schomburg Golf Outing, **July 19**

• Pastor Yonkers Vacation, July 19 – 25

HELP US CARE FOR YOU: Your well-being is important to us and we want to pray for you! Unfortunately, we are no longer notified by the hospital; please call the church office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 7 am - 3:30 pm) when you have any medical procedure or in any time of spiritual need at 217-442-5675. In case of emergencies after hours, please feel free to contact Pastor Yonkers on his cell at 260-413-8375. *Prayer requests:* we are certainly pleased to pray for your (non-member) family and friends alongside our Immanuel members. Please keep us informed of their needs.

COMPLETE JOY: Because Jesus came to do such serious work, we often imagine him straight-faced. Yet Jesus also enjoyed fun times, such as the wedding celebration at Cana. When the wine ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more. Jesus also warmly welcomed children. Picture him lifting an infant into the air or tickling a giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back. Summer usually allows

more time for fun and play. So use these months to teach the kids in your life — and to remind yourself that Jesus came so our "joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are part of living and loving as faithful disciples.



VBS WAS GREAT! Here are some pictures from our EPIC Australian Adventure!





STEWARDSHIP SPOT

Do you have a giving strategy? The problem is that many Christians don't really have a planned giving strategy. For many, it's a strategy by default and it may look like this:

- 1. We get bills paid first
- 2. We service our wants
- 3. We give if something is left-over

This strategy, if you call it one, is all wrong, it is not Biblical!

Let's examine our own strategy for giving. Do we give of our 1st fruits back to the Lord? This means putting our focus first on the Lord, with whatever we do. Do we trust in the Lord with all of our heart? Or do we lean more on our own thinking? If everything belongs to our God, are we being a wise, faithful steward reflecting on all that He has done for us?

Consider using a percentage strategy for giving of your **time**, **talents and treasure**. Consider doing tithing, and 10% of income should be doable. 10% of our time should be doable. 10% of our treasure should be doable. Yes, we need to take care of our family needs, but as we have been blessed, let us be generous in our giving.

When you practice generosity in your giving strategy, you can experience more joy as you grow in your faith walk. Consider the following scriptures:

Proverbs 3:9-10 – Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Malachi 3:10-12 – Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMARY:

Date: June 17, 2025/ Next Meeting: July 15, 2025

New Business

Discussed and approved the budget proposal.

Old Business

Voter's Meeting for June 22 discussed. Main items on the agenda will include elections and the budget.

Christian Education

Summer Camp going well, working on faculty contracts and the school calendar, enrollment is at 68.

Finance

Nothing new to report or discuss. Main item is the budget.

Properties

Karl is working on the floors, Ridge Plumbing replaced a faucet, parking lot lights out due to a voltage surge.

<u>Stewardship</u>

No report.

<u>Evangelism</u>

Julie would like to begin mail cards or postcards to members when they miss church for a while to welcome them back and let them know they are missed.

<u>Worship</u>

Tom reserved the pavilion at Lincoln Park on Aug. 24 for our Outdoor Service and Picnic.

Parish Education

No report.

Youth

VBS is going well. There is a parent meeting for the National Youth Gathering on Thursday. We will have a bake sale on June 29 as a final fundraiser before we go.

Mission and Social Ministry

We have a great group of volunteers. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Elders

There are some usher teams that need help. We always need new communion assistants and elders.

Vice-President

No report.

<u>President</u>

Discussed the Cemetery operations.

Pastor

Discussed his vacation schedule, membership changes, and the Ark Encounter trip.

OFFICE HOURS: The church office will be closed on Friday, **July 4.** Pastor Yonkers will be out of the office for vacation June 26 - July 3, and July 19 - 25. If you are in need of emergency spiritual care, you may call his cell phone any time at 260-413-8375, or you can contact our Head Elder, Don DeMoss, at 217-799-1035. Thanks for your patience!

CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: The current fund balance is \$191,624. We have been awarded (but will not receive it until the end of the project) a grant of \$50,000 for this project from the Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation which is reflected in the current fund balance. Also, we have received a \$1,000 grant from Iroquois Federal Foundation. 73.7% of OUR GOAL of \$260,000 for our current project of reroofing the school/gym wing of the building is currently funded! Stop by the display in the narthex to see the pictures of the current roof. We want to schedule the project for the spring of 2026 at the latest, so we need to raise the rest of the money (approximately \$68,400) this year. The congregation established the Capital Fund Drive in 2012, and thanks to our generous congregation, we have accomplished many needed upgrades and renovations. Prior generations worked and sacrificed to build the school and church building, and it is up to us to preserve and improve our church home just as we would our own household's. "...because of my devotion to the house of my God I give my treasure for the house of my God. 1 Chronicles 29:3b. All donations from large to small are equally appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Jo Van Hoveln or any of the committee members. THANK YOU to everyone who has helped to raise this money for the project. Pray for the Capital Fund and the completion of the current project.

GIFT (SCRIP) CARDS ORDERS: Looking for a thoughtful gift, or just want to make your everyday purchases work for a good cause? Scrip cards are great for

purchases work for a good cause? Scrip cards are great for birthdays, graduations, confirmations, weddings, holidays, even your weekly grocery run. The next Scrip order is due to the church office by 9 am on **July 14** and will be ready for pick up on **July 20**. Here's how it works: you purchase a gift card at face value (for example, a \$100 Meijer card), and the church receives a percentage back (in this case, 3%). You still get the full \$100 to spend—on groceries, gas, prescriptions, or whatever you normally buy—and the church gets a boost at no extra cost to you. Every card you purchase helps support the daily expenses of our church home. Thank you for using this simple and impactful way to give back!

SAVE THE DATE! The Steak Fry is Saturday, Sept. 20

from 4:30 pm to 6 pm. The menu includes grilled ribeye steak, baked potato, salad, Italian bread, dessert and drink for \$25. An extra steak costs \$10. This is a sit-down dinner with carryout meals available. Advanced ticket sales only – tickets will not be sold at the door. Tickets

will be sold on Sundays after church from Aug. 17 to Sept. 14 and in the church office during the week. Signup sheets for desserts and volunteers

to help at the event will be available starting Aug 17. Set up is Sept. 19 at 4:30 pm. Clean up will be Sunday after church. Please consider helping since we will need lots of volunteers to make this a successful event! Thanks!

Experience the Ark: A One-Day Adventure Don't Worry—No 40 Days and Nights of Rain!

We're heading to the Ark Encounter in Williamstown, KY, and you're invited! This exciting day trip is open to everyone: ILCD members, ILS families, friends, and guests of all ages. Let's come together for a special outing that promises faith, fellowship, and fun.

Trip Details:

- **Date:** Saturday, August 23
- Departure: Early morning from Immanuel
- Return: Same evening
- **Transportation:** No worries, Immanuel is providing the transportation!

During our visit, we'll explore a full-sized replica of Noah's Ark, walk through immersive exhibits, and dive deep into the Genesis account of the Great Flood (Genesis 6–8). The Ark Encounter provides a unique opportunity to experience this incredible biblical narrative and to see how Scripture speaks into history, science, and faith. As we walk through the Ark, we'll remember to view everything through the lens of Sola Scriptura—Scripture alone.

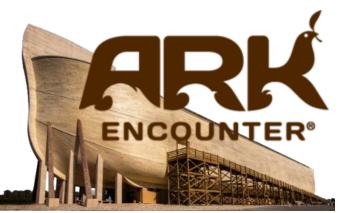
Meal Included: We'll enjoy a delicious group meal at Emzara's Buffet, located right at the Ark Encounter. This is a chance to reflect, share our thoughts, and enjoy time in community.

Cost (includes Ark admission and buffet meal):

- Adults (18–59): \$72.00
- Seniors (60+): \$64.00
- Youth (11–17): \$28.00
- Children (5–10): \$10.00
- Children (4 and under): Free

You may also wish to bring spending money for snacks, souvenirs, or the gift shop.

Our purpose in this trip is twofold: to grow in fellowship with one another and to deepen our understanding of God's Word. As we explore the exhibits—created under the leadership of Ken Ham—we encourage you to think critically, ask questions, and engage with the biblical narrative of the Flood in a thoughtful, faith-filled way. Whether you're a geologist, biologist, historian, or simply curious, you'll find something to inspire and challenge you. Don't miss this unforgettable experience, sign up today!





It is time to head to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering! Our youth are getting excited. They can expect to see and do so much in our week there. Most importantly our Immanuel youth are going to worship and learn with 30,000 other youth from all over! Being a teen is not easy. There are so many expectations, hopes, and dreams. Learning that it is ok to be a teen who believes in Jesus Christ and to allow Him to guide their footsteps and be a part of so many decisions that are coming huge!

There are so many people to thank that have helped this trip become a reality. Thank you to God for providing a means to be able to travel, be housed and grow in Christ has come from you our Immanuel Lutheran Congregation who have donated, encouraged, and supported our youth. Thank you to church leadership in supporting and encouraging this endeavor. Thank you to the youth who have worked at fund raisers for Hustle Hoops concessions, Easter Breakfasts, and other fund-raising events. Thank you to a generous donor who paid for our transportation to New Orleans and back on Amtrak. Thank you to Amtrak who saved us an amazing \$1500 on our travels.

Each day the youth and leaders will be going to learning session, and social service events. Each evening, we will be attending mass events which will be group worship and amazing presenters. We ask that you pray for the safety of all travelers and that the Word that is heard will take hold and grow through the Holy Spirit and aid give these youth the tools to be productive Christian servants.

A SPECIAL PATRIOTIC SERVICE: July 6, the Sunday after Independence Day, we will have a Sunday set aside to honor our Service men and women, as they too fulfill their holy vocations within our armed forces. We will have readings on God and His role in the two kingdoms, and we might even touch on the three estates (Church, Government, and Family). It will be a joyous service honoring those who serve now and have served in our armed forces in a way that teaches us all about vocation and serving God in all that we do.

All authority comes from God. Here on this earth God rules and He reigns. Yet, He also delegates authority to people here on earth, to the Church, government, and to the family. We will focus on service to our government and country. We will lift up petitions in prayers, sing hymns of service, and thank God for giving us the gift of peace and quietness in our land. We will thank all of those who have served and sacrificed in a most honorable vocation so that we might have these gifts of peace, quietness and freedom.



A Message from Rev. Jeff Caithamer St. John, Champaign

Sunday, June 8, was the day we celebrated Pentecost. Many wished the Christian Church a Happy Birthday on this day. However, the Church are those called on by God to be his people. The Church is made up of those who have been given faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. All those who came before Christ and believed he would come are included in the Church. They include Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, David, Elijah, Isaiah, and many more as indicated in Hebrews 11. Truly, the Christian Church, those who believe in Christ, has existed from the beginning. Thus, Christianity is the oldest world religion and we give thanks to God for Pentecost, the day when the Spirit of God was given to the apostles, empowering them to boldly proclaim Christ and him crucified, fulfilling the promise of Christ to send the Comforter (John 16:7).

Stay Connected!

<u>C</u>entral <u>I</u>llinois <u>D</u>istrict Contact Information: CID's website: *http://www.cidlcms.org/* Subscribe to the E-GatePost (digital newsletter) and monthly bulletin inserts: *http://www.cidlcms.org/* Follow the CID on Facebook and Instagram

Prayer Request

Pray for Our CID Missions supported by your church's contributions to the District. "Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored."

Please remember in your prayers our District's Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT) volunteers, who provide help in Jesus' name to churches and individuals affected by natural disasters. Pray for the hundreds of LERT workers in CID and throughout our Synod.

Items of Interest to Share...

"Reaching In" Prison Mentoring Program is coming to the Central Illinois District!

You can help with prison ministry from outside a prison! "Reaching In," a letter-writing mentoring ministry developed in southern Illinois, is now available in CID. Correspond with inmates via letters sent back and forth to a P.O. Box, thus guarding your identity and location information. For more info, you can e-mail your name and phone number to prisonministry@cidlcms.org. An exhibit on the prison/jail ministry will be at the CID convention, July 13-15.

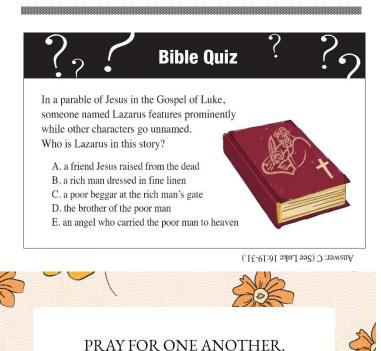
Camp CILCA News

Homecoming: Aug. 2

This will be CILCA's only fundraiser for the year (replacing the Hog Roast and Chicken Fry). There will be live music, a vendor fair, great food, swimming, square dancing, face painting, wagon rides and more. Mark your calendar to celebrate CILCA's 75th anniversary in style!

S.E.L.F. Retreat – Aug. 22 – 24

What does S.E.L.F. stand for? Singles Engaged in Lutheran Fellowship. What is our goal? Our goal is fellowship and fun. We are planning to do lots of activities and have a ton of fun with other Lutherans who also happen to be single. Anyone over the age of 18 is invited to attend.



James 5:16



Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.

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WEEKLY BROADCAST SCHEDULE:

Sundays at 7:00 am – WTWO – TV2 (NBC) Sundays at 7:30 am – WCIX Channel 3 Sundays at 10:30 am – TCT Network – Direct TV Channel 377 Nationwide Sundays: Direct TV Channel 377 (11:30 am Eastern / 10:30 am Central / 9:30 am Mountain / 8:30 am Pacific) Tune in anytime online: www.worshipforshutins.org

July 2025



July 6, 2025 "Hear Me" by Rev. Shayne Jonker Sermon Text: Luke 10:16

It's all about the sending. The Father sends Jesus. Likewise, Jesus sends disciples as His apostles. And this sending of the seventy-two is one of the foundation stones of the Office of the Holy Ministry. His words are their words. "The one who hears you, hears me" (Luke 10:16 ESV). You have Jesus' Word on it, and His Word is sure.



July 13, 2025 "What Do You See?" by Rev. William Mueller Sermon Text: Luke 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan is a well-known and much-loved parable of Jesus. But are we missing something important if we only see a message of "love your neighbor" in it? Could this parable be a sort of theological Rorschach test? Take a deeper dive into this parable to see some truly amazing grace!



July 20, 2025 "Making Good Choices" by Rev. Paul Shoemaker Sermon Text: Luke 10:38-42

Every parent admonishes their child to "make good choices." God also wants us, His children, to make good choices. Join us on Worship Anew as we answer the question, "What is a good choice in the eyes of God?"



July 27, 2025 "Lord, Teach Us to Pray" by Scott Zeckzer Sermon Text: Luke 11:1

God calls us to get to know Him. He has a big surprise of what He wants us to call Him. He also has a big surprise of what He wants us to talk about with Him.

Serving Schedules

July 2025

Communion Assistants

Dean Hull, Kurt Thornsbrough 27 Dwain Dixson, Allen Julian

Ushers - Team "A"

Capt. Don DeMoss, Pete Rudolph, RJ Davis, Charlie Crow, Zach Davis, Sue DeMoss

Lav Readers

Gospel Reader

- Sue DeMoss 6 **Carrie Farrell** 13 Sue Heidle 20 Gail & Barb Garner 27
- Josh Christensen **Butch Buesing** Dwain Dixson Gail Garner

Sound/Screens

Butch Buesing

Jamie Yonkers

Jan Mann

Josh Christensen

Acolvtes

- Jamie Yonkers 6
- Kendall Wright 13
- 20 **Kinley Pratt**
- Eli Mann 27

Videographer

Dwain Dixson 6

- Kim Davis 13
- Kim Davis 20
- 27 **Butch Buesing**

Altar Guild

Sharon Crow, Debbie Ferris, Rosemary Hilton

Money Counters

Team "A" – Jerry and Charlotte Kennett

Check Signers

Mary Powell and Mike Ferris

August 2025

Communion Assistants

- Allen Julian, Dwain Dixson 3
- Don DeMoss, Dean Hull 17
- 31 Kurt Thornsbrough, Allen Julian

Ushers – Team "B" Youth

Capt. Josh Christensen, Hannah Christensen, Jamie Yonkers, Eli Mann, Kendall and Carley Wright, and Owen Price.

Gospel Reader

Josh Christensen

Kurt Thornsbrough

Sound/Screens

Jan Mann

RJ Davis

RJ Davis

Jamie Yonkers

Don DeMoss

Allen Julian

Gail Garner

Butch Buesing

Lay Readers

- 3 Allen Julian
- Jan Mann 10
- **Diana** Pratt 17
- Nancy Purviance 24
- Kurt & Debbie T. 31

Acolytes

- Eli Mann 3
- **Kinlev Pratt** 10
- Kendall Wright and Brooklynn Hunt 17
- Hannah Christensen and Owen Price 24
- Jamie Yonkers 31

Videographer

- **Butch Buesing** 3
- Dwain Dixson 10
- Kim Davis 17
- Dwain Dixson 24
- 31 Kim Davis

Altar Guild

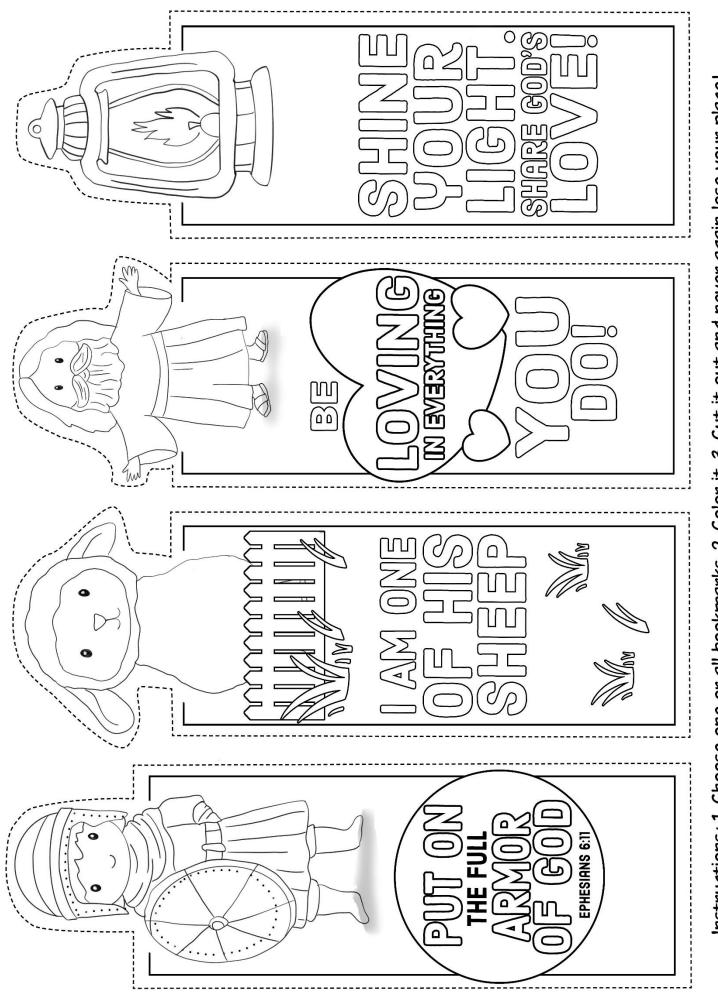
Mary Powell and Eileen Huckstadt

Money Counters Team "B" Nancy Purviance and Martha Elliott

Check Signers Mike Ferris and Jo Van Hoveln



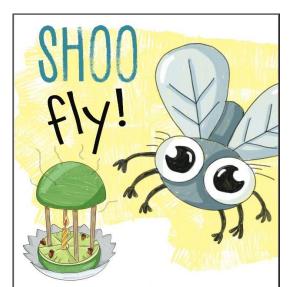




Instructions: 1. Choose one or all bookmarks. 2. Color it. 3. Cut it out and never again lose your place!

| Puzzle! |
|---|
| For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode Proverbs 3:5, NRSV. CLUES: Y = T, D = I |
| YKTPY DX YJZ |
| |
| VQKR FDYJ OVV |
| |
| CQTK JZOKY, OXR |
| ,, |
| RQ XQY KZVC QX |
| |
| CQTK QFX DXPDLJY. |
| · |

Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV



Make this candle to keep uninvited insects from your outdoor summer meals.

What you need:

- Lime
- 10-20 whole cloves
- Birthday candle
- 4 toothpicks
- Adult help

What you do:

- Have an adult slice the lime in half. Cut off the rounded end of one half so it can stand without rolling.
- 2. Insert 10 cloves into the cut sides of each half.
- 3. Stand the bottom half on a plate. Insert the candle in the center.
- 4. Insert the 4 toothpicks in the cut side of the bottom half. Then place the other half atop the toothpicks.
- 5. Before dinner, have an adult light the candle that's between the two lime halves. The flame's heat will warm the lime and create a smell that insects don't like.
- 6. Supervise the flame. Blow it out when it reaches the bottom lime.



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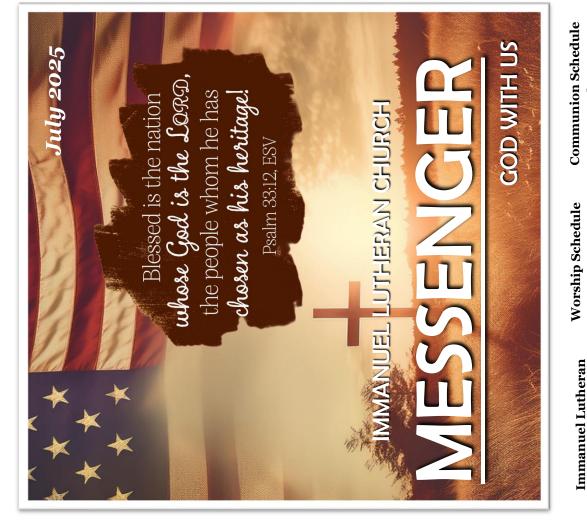
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www.ilcdanviile.com Lutheran School 217-442-5675 Immanuel

July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

at 5:00 pm

Danville, IL61832 1930 N. Bowman

Sundays

at 9:30 am

July 6, 13, 20 & 27

Wednesdays

July 30 at 5:00 pm Wednesday July 6 & 27 at 9:30 am

Sundays

