

One Mission, One Ministry:

How Our School and Church Work Together in Christ

We are Immanuel Lutheran Church and Preschool. We are one congregation, one mission, one entity. Even if I set aside the spiritual aspects of our church, I can prove this unity legally—we all fall under the same tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. Financially and operationally, we share one budget, and we support one another. From a business perspective, we have a single Board of Directors that leads us. These are tangible facts and figures we can understand, analyze, and measure. These metrics matter—and they certainly have a meaningful place in the life of Immanuel.

Yet, as your pastor—even an administrative one—I also see things differently. I view Immanuel from a theological perspective. By God's grace, we are not burdened by the kinds of divisions that many congregations experience. But sometimes, we do forget just how wide and vibrant our congregational life truly is—especially when it comes to our school.

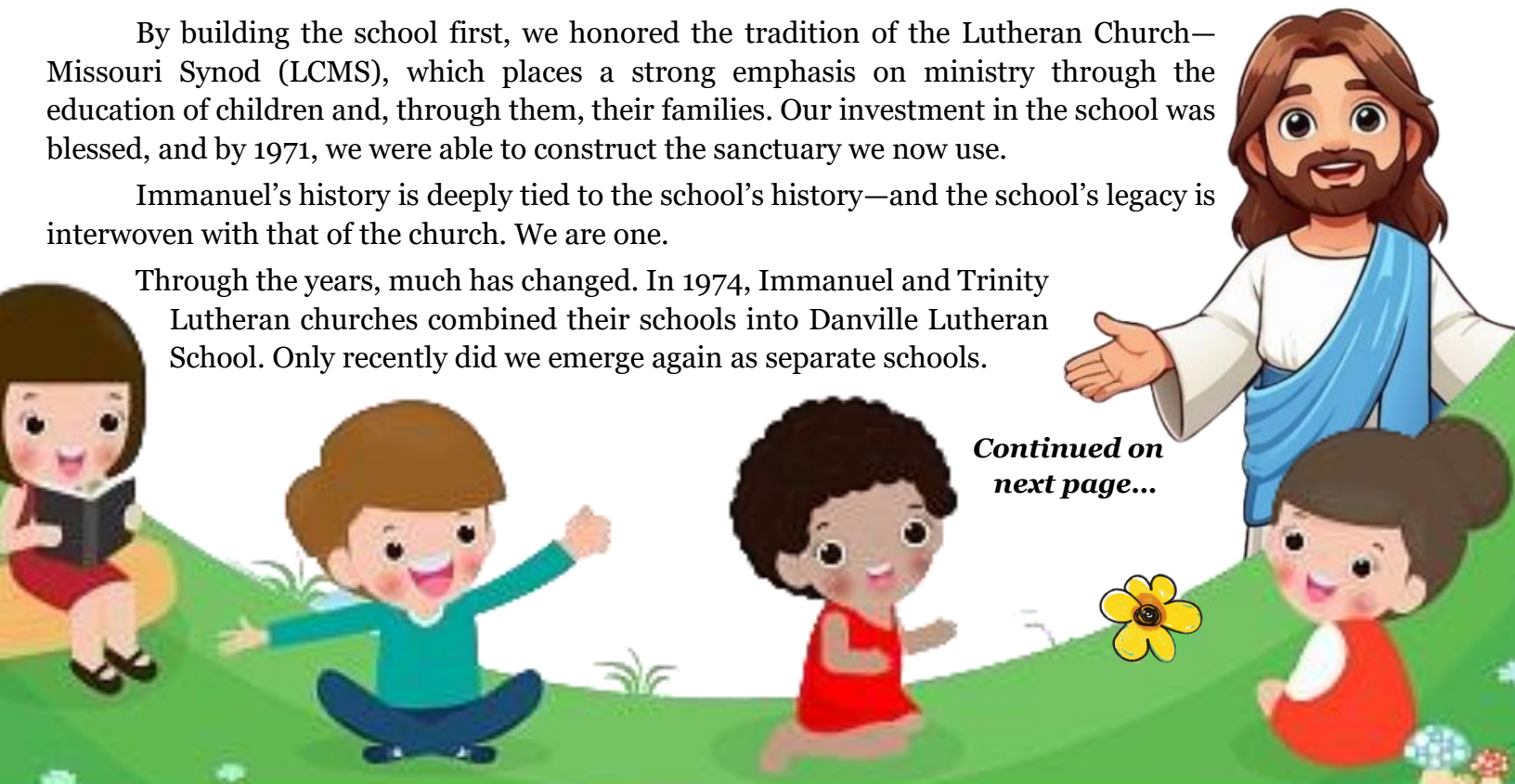
Our school has been an integral part of our ministry for most of Immanuel's history. The church was established in 1896, and by 1911, we had a school building and a fully operational educational ministry. In the mid-20th century, our congregation boldly looked to the future. We took a leap of faith—purchasing our current property on Bowman Avenue and choosing not to build a sanctuary first, but a school building. We moved from the German neighborhood to begin reaching out more broadly to our community here in Danville.

By building the school first, we honored the tradition of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), which places a strong emphasis on ministry through the education of children and, through them, their families. Our investment in the school was blessed, and by 1971, we were able to construct the sanctuary we now use.

Immanuel's history is deeply tied to the school's history—and the school's legacy is interwoven with that of the church. We are one.

Through the years, much has changed. In 1974, Immanuel and Trinity Lutheran churches combined their schools into Danville Lutheran School. Only recently did we emerge again as separate schools.

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Today, our preschool is thriving. The ministry happening through Immanuel Lutheran School (ILS) is powerful and inspiring—a model that other congregations look to. Not just because of our size, which is one of those measurable metrics, but because of the Gospel-centered ministry we do.

Our school is more than just a daycare. Yes, we teach our young students about God's creation—something public schools can also do. But more importantly, we bring them the Good News of Jesus Christ. We teach them about His birth, His life, His death, and His resurrection. We share the Bible. We nurture faith.

Things have changed, though. Today, many of our preschoolers are not members of our congregation. In fact, less than 10% of our students are. It's no longer just our own children filling the classrooms—now it is the community that sends their children to our school. And we welcome them. We teach them. We give them Jesus.

Our school is a ministry and outreach—and it is truly amazing. More than 90 students come to us to hear about Christ. Some are baptized. A few become members. Praise God!

Our attendance discount program has helped bring new faces into our worship services. Some come as visitors, some become regular attenders, and some join as members. We are grateful for every one of them.

The church supports the school in many ways: financially, through hands-on service, and in prayer. The ministry of ILS thrives because of this support. And in turn, the school brings Jesus into the lives of its students and their families. Through this ministry, we feed God's lambs and tend His sheep (John 21:15–17).

When Immanuel hears the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23), I believe that Christ will be speaking of our school. Through ILS, we offer more than just a cold cup of water (Matthew 10:42)—we offer education and faith, hope and salvation, in Jesus' name.

In Christ, and in our mission to spread the Gospel, we are one. God continues to bless this congregation by sending us the families we serve through our school.

Take a moment to thank the Lord for the long, faithful ministry of Immanuel Lutheran School—and pray for its future. May God continue to bless this ministry of education, outreach, and faith.

Pastor Yonkers

SPECIAL DATES IN MAY:

- LWML Mite Collection, **May 4**
- Cemetery Work Day, **May 10**
- ILS Sunday, **May 11**
- Mother's Day, **May 11**
- Armed Forces Day, **May 17**
- Graduate Blessing, **May 25**
- Memorial Day & Service at the Cemetery, **May 26**
- The Ascension of our Lord, **May 29** (obs. June 1)



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.

LOVING MY “ENEMIES”: In polarized times, when people view huge concepts such as justice, government policy and care for neighbors differently, how do we follow Jesus' command to love our enemies? In the Bible, “love” doesn't mean liking someone; it means caring for them, treating them kindly. I find *The Message* paraphrase of Luke 6:27-36 helpful: “Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst,” Jesus says about one's enemies. So, when I contact government leaders to express my opinions, I address them with respect, whether I agree with them or not. When I encounter a neighbor whose views oppose mine, I ask myself what I would want them to do for me, whether help with an errand or be friendly. Then, as *The Message* puts it, I “grab the initiative and do it for *them*.” And this, which might be the hardest: Amid tough times, Jesus says, “Respond with the supple moves of prayer.” It's human nature to pray that God change our enemies' or opponents' minds. But it's more Christ-like to pray for their health, their families and whatever *God* desires for them, not what *I* want. Can I do this? With God's help, yes.

VOCATIO: Are you entering grades 9 through 12 and curious about God's plan for you? *Vocatio: High School*, happening **June 21 – 27, 2025**, at Concordia Seminary, offers a week of worship, learning, and fun to help you discern your vocation. The cost is \$200, and registration closes on **May 31**. You can reserve your spot by visiting their website: www.csl.edu

MANY, MANY THANKS ARE DUE! *We are overflowing with gratitude!* First, a huge thank you to everyone who contributed nonperishable food items for our recent **Food Drive** in support of the church food pantry. Thanks to your generosity, we collected well over 150 items, which means we'll receive the full match from



Thrivent—an incredible blessing for those in need within our community. We also want to thank all who participated in the **ILS Danville Gardens Fundraiser**. Because of your support, we raised an amazing \$1,138.08!

We hope your gardens are bursting with beauty and bring you joy throughout the year. And last but certainly not least, heartfelt thanks to everyone who gave of their time and talents to enrich our **Lenten and Easter worship services**. Your contributions helped create meaningful, memorable worship experiences for all. The **Youth Easter Breakfast** raised \$1,035! Thank you again for being the hands and feet of Christ in so many wonderful ways!

CEMETERY WORK DAY: Come join us for light yard work and fellowship! We are hosting a cemetery work day on **May 10** beginning at 7:00 am. Come for an hour or the whole morning – anything you can do; it is greatly appreciated! Kids are welcome too, there are lots of sticks that need picked up. So, bring your weed eaters (gas only – there is no electricity at the cemetery) and yard work tools and join us for a little bit of work and a lot of fun and fellowship!



MEMORIAL DAY commemorates our United States Service members who have died while on active duty. We'll also remember with grateful hearts all who have served, their families and friends, and our own Immanuel and Trinity Lutheran saints departed. Once again we will gather to honor the fallen at our **Lutheran Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 26** at 9 am along with our friends from Trinity for a service of Word and Prayer. To all those

who courageously gave their lives, and to those who have fought or are still fighting today, to you, we say *thank you*. We don't know who all of you are, but we are grateful for each and every one of you. *"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."* (John 15:13).



BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMARY:

Date: Apr. 22, 2025 / Next Meeting: May 20, 2025

New Business

Mission statement discussion and update from the Strategic Planning Committee. The June Voter's Meeting is scheduled for June 22. A property use request was approved.

Old Business

Discussion regarding CID giving to remain at 3%.

Christian Education

Current enrollment is 91. Summer Camp registration is now open. 2025-2026 registration opens May 1. Working on budget and planning for next school year.

Finance

Rolled over an Organ Fund CD for 6 months at 3.5%. Sam will look into better rates as it's maturity date draws near. Capital Fund balance is at \$138,000 with a goal of \$260,000.

Properties

Remained with Republic for waste disposal. The school freezer was warm, but it was a filter issue and now resolved. Ridge Plumbing fixed both toilets in the church women's restroom. Completed our 3-year asbestos inspection. RC Electric to work on a few exterior lights and sanctuary lights.

Stewardship

The Spring Rummage raised \$3,000 for the Capital Fund.

Evangelism

Easter gift bags went home with ILS children.

Worship

Tom thanked everyone for the extra efforts during Lent and Easter.

Parish Education

Children's Church and Nursery will take a break over the summer. Sunday School will run through the end of May.

Youth

Youth Easter Breakfast raised \$1,035. Discussed possibly adding a kids Easter Egg Hunt next year to bring more families in to the breakfast. During Youth Nights, we are discussing the Lord's Prayer and recently had some great discussion on the church's mission statement.

Mission and Social Ministry

Reports reviewed. The Food Pantry Drive is going well.

Elders

Discussed what we would like to do with the old server robes. Will reach out to the District office.

Vice-President

Working on a fundraiser for ILS.

President

Discussed Josh helping out as a liturgist during services that are heavy on reading.

Pastor

Call Day for Rachel and Ethan Hart is Apr. 30. Ark trip was discussed.

STEWARDSHIP SPOT: Stewardship the Body of Christ

- Baseball season is upon us. The southern images of spring training give way to the pageantry of Opening Day. On that day, the hopes and dreams of every major league team, player and fan focus on doing whatever it takes to get to the Fall Classic, the World Series. Baseball is a secular way that so many of us confess that hope “springs” eternal. With all of this in mind, baseball can also teach us a new perspective about stewardship. Think about the game itself. Baseball is a team sport. The home team faces off against the visitors. Yet while it is a team game, there are repetitive, individual confrontations that take place within the game. The baseball game cannot start without the individual pitcher against the hitter. Once the batted ball is in play, the battle is between the ability of the fielder against the speed of the baserunner. Once there is a runner on base, an attempt to steal a base pits the runner against the catcher. A base hit into the outfield pits the outfielder against a runner trying to score. Baseball is a team game with many smaller units at play. Without all those smaller units working together and achieving their tasks, the team will lose. **Romans 12** puts our stewardship of the Gospel in a similar setting. The church is certainly described as a team, if you will. **Verse 3:** “For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.” This is where the Body of Christ is really seen as a team. No one member of the baseball team can win the game by themselves. In the same way, no one part of the Body of Christ can accomplish stewardship of the Gospel alone. The pastor cannot. The congregational chair cannot. The lead soprano in the choir cannot. But each of these individuals have been added to the local congregation to be built into a team that can win the victory with Jesus. **Verses 4-5:** “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” In baseball, the pitcher pitches. The catcher catches. The hitter hits. When a pitcher attempts to hit, the result is usually not very pretty. Catchers often do not excel at running the bases. The hitter usually does not do well when they are sent to the mound to pitch. Every member of the Body of Christ has a unique set of abilities and functions. Not everyone preaches. Not everyone leads. Not everyone sings well. Yet when the congregation assembles as a team, it can succeed in ways unattainable by the individual. **Verses 6-8:** “Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.” Each member of the team has a role to play. Abilities and opportunities are entrusted to the individual members of the Body of Christ to be used for the ultimate purpose of stewarding the Gospel for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor. The one preaching is no more or less important than the others. The one serving or the one

teaching, the leader or the merciful one — all are equally important in the faithful stewardship of all that the Lord has entrusted to the Body of Christ. All this stewardship is for the sake of the other! A baseball team can have five All-Star pitchers but cannot win if the hitters do not hit. The best lineup in the league will struggle if the pitchers cannot get anyone on the other team out. Pitchers need the defense behind them to play well. Coaches need to lead well. When they all work together, you have a winning baseball team. When the Body of Christ has all its members faithfully stewarding the unique individual talents that have been entrusted to them, the victory goes to Jesus! This is the goal of faithful stewardship! It is all about Jesus.

WOMEN’S GUILD NEWS:

- Ladies, we’d love to have you join us for our next luncheon on **Monday, May 13 at 11:30 am**—our final gathering before we break for the summer! It’s always a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, and encouragement. Just bring a dish to share, and we’ll take care of everything else. Our May hostesses are Donna and Juanita. Items on the agenda include CID Convention highlights and summer plans. Whether you’re a regular or it’s your first time, all women of Immanuel are warmly welcome!
- Thank you for the many Walmart gift cards for Safe Families! They are greatly appreciated!
- The ingathering for May and June is for the Humane Society. Most needed items at this time are dog food, cat food, dog and cat treats, and cat litter. Please place your donations in the coatroom. Thanks!



A NOTE FROM PARISH EDUCATION: A big thank you goes out to the Children’s Ministry volunteers! These awesome people led Children’s Church, assisted in the Nursery, stuffed kids’ mailboxes, and presented Children’s sermons. These programs will resume after a summer break.

✿ Faith in Progress ✿

“A Christian is never in a state of completion but always in a process of becoming.”

— Martin Luther

CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: The current bank balance is \$132,851. WE ARE JUST OVER HALFWAY TO OUR GOAL of \$260,000 for our current project of reroofing the school/gym wing of the building. 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 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/church building, and it is up to us to preserve and improve our church home just as we would our own household's. There is a Capital Fund Drive bulletin board in the hallway between the coat room and the parish mailboxes. "...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.

FUNDRAISERS: The Pie Day fundraiser earned \$337, and the rummage sale results were \$3,000. All proceeds will be used for the school/gym roofing projects. Thank you to all who helped with those fundraisers. The Steak Fry will be held early this fall. More information on this will be put in future Immanuel Lights and monthly newsletters.

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 birthdays, graduations, confirmations, weddings, holidays, even your weekly grocery run. The next Scrip order is due to the church office by 9 am on **May 12**. 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!

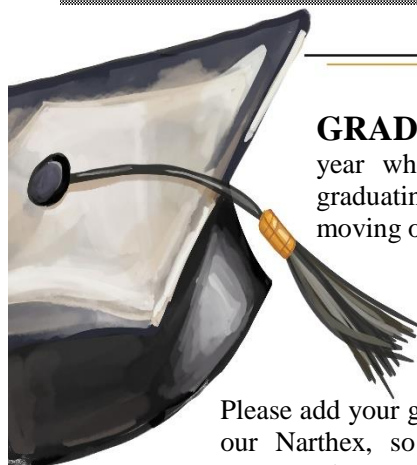
WE NEED YOU! Do you have ideas on new programs or events? Are you gifted in administration? Do you have amazing computer skills? Are you fantastic at numbers and accounting? These are services much needed in the church that serve the body of Christ by taking care of the logistical needs of the church. Positions that are up for election at our Voter's Meeting on **June 22** are Vice-President, Finance, Stewardship, Missions and Social Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Christian Education. The board *needs* a few new faces with new ideas and a new and objective view of things. Make your voice heard, and serve the Lord in a new way. If you are interested, please see Julie Buesing or Josh Christensen.

VBS IS COMING! Plan now to join us for Vacation Bible School, happening **June 16 – 20!** This year, we're heading Down Under for an **Epic Australian Adventure**



—a journey packed with excitement, discovery, and faith-filled fun. Life is an adventure, full of amazing things to see, do, learn, and explore. But we also know that along the way, we'll face challenges and tough decisions. That's why it's so important to have the right

guide. At VBS this year, kids will discover how Jesus is our Savior and faithful guide, leading us on the path of truth that brings eternal life. Don't miss out on this faith-filled adventure! Mark your calendars and get ready to explore, learn, and grow with us at VBS 2025! Watch for more details – coming soon!



GRADUATION: It's the time of year when students of all ages are graduating school and college and moving on to the next step in their lives.

We'd like to recognize all of our graduates with a special prayer and blessing during the service on **May 25**.

Please add your graduate's name to the board in our Narthex, so that we can include them. *Congratulations!*

Commencement marks the beginning of a new stage of life, with graduates heading off to discover opportunities and face challenges. *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* — a Dr. Seuss book that's now a popular graduation gift — whimsically explores life's ups and downs, twists and turns. Young adults will face excitement and slumps, fun and loneliness. They'll feel a sense of purpose as well as confusion and even fear. "There are some [things], down the road between hither and yon, that can scare you so much you won't want to go on," writes Dr. Seuss. In the storybook, the life-traveler's sheer determination propels him beyond difficulties. But God's children don't need to journey alone. Our heavenly Father walks beside us on every winding path and around every corner. Life cannot take us anywhere God hasn't been first. Graduates — and all Christians — can trust in the promise of Joshua 1:9 (NRSV): "Be strong and courageous ... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Recently, we tried something new in our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. Those services involved a lot of reading, and, while Pastor would love to do that reading himself, he knows he has some limitation with reading and was concerned about flow for the congregation, asking if I would serve as Liturgist to lead parts that can be lay-lead. We would like to know the congregation's thoughts regarding this format. We will not be doing this each Sunday. Pastor Yonkers is our pastor and should lead us in service as much as possible. That said, if desired by the congregation, we could revisit this format on occasions, at Pastor Yonkers' discretion, where the service requires a lot of reading on Pastor's part. Please let us (Pastor, me, or Kim) know your thoughts, whether liked or disliked.

Blessing from our risen Lord Jesus Christ!
Joshua Christensen

YOU ARE INVITED to St. John's in Bath for a Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast on **May 10** from 7:30 – 10:00 am. Come enjoy a menu of biscuits and gravy, corned beef and hash, ham, scrambled eggs and assorted homemade pastries all for a donation of your choice. Funds raised will go toward the support of the State Fair Booth for the Lutheran Layman's League of the Central Illinois District.

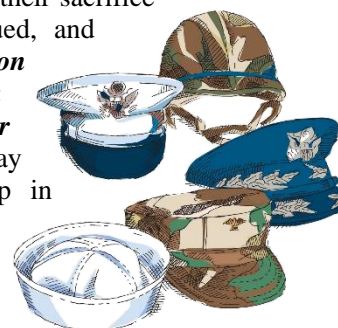
DEAF OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY: We're excited to share a wonderful opportunity happening right here in Danville! Our sister congregation, Trinity Lutheran Church, is partnering with World Lutheran Deaf Outreach and Mark732 to reach out to the Deaf and hard of hearing community with the message of Jesus. On Saturday, **May 11**, Trinity (located at 824 East Main St.) will host a special Bible Study and Worship Service that will be offered in both American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English. If you or someone you know could benefit from this inclusive worship experience, please help us spread the word! Let's work together to ensure everyone has the opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship.

DID YOU KNOW? We've made electronic church offerings *easy peasy lemon squeezy*! Now you can have donations automatically withdrawn from your bank account. **Choose the timing that's best for you!** Want to sync your giving with your pay check? No problem. Or maybe you'd like to give smaller, more regular amounts. No problem. **Enjoy convenience and safety.** Payments are made to support our church whether you miss worship for a week or if you are hibernating in Florida for the winter. Grab an enrollment form from the table in the hallway. Fill it out and return it to the office. Then forget about it, knowing you're supporting your church in an *easy peasy lemon squeezy* way! Questions? Talk to Kim in the church office.



On this special day, we extend our heartfelt love and gratitude to all mothers, especially all of our Immanuel moms! To every mom, grandma, stepmom, foster mom, and mother figure: thank you. Thank you for your selfless love, quiet strength, and tireless devotion. Whether you're nurturing little ones, supporting grown children, or pouring your heart into the lives of others, your care reflects the deep, abiding love of God. We celebrate and honor you, and we pray that you feel surrounded by love, joy, and appreciation, not just on Mother's Day, but every day.

A TIME OF GRATITUDE: Armed Forces Day, observed on the third Saturday of May, is a special time to honor and give thanks for the brave men and women who have served—or are currently serving—in our nation's military. These individuals willingly step away from their families, homes, and comforts to serve as protectors, defenders, and faithful stewards of our country's freedoms. Their service often places them in harm's way, demanding not only physical strength but also mental and emotional resilience. This Armed Forces Day, we encourage you to take a moment to recognize and thank those in military service. Whether through a prayer, a kind word, or a gesture of appreciation, let them know their sacrifice and dedication are seen, valued, and never taken for granted. **Join us on Sunday, May 18 as we take a moment to lift them in prayer during our church service.** May we continuously lift them up in prayer, speak words of encouragement, and show our unwavering support—not just on this one day, but always.



JUST FOR FUN: One Sunday, a pastor stepped up to the pulpit, tapped the microphone, and said, "*Something seems to be wrong with this mic.*" The congregation, well-trained and without missing a beat, responded, "*And also with you.*"



A Message from Rev. Kent Umbarger St. John's, East Moline

As we celebrate our Lord's resurrection, let us turn our attention to Mary of Magdala. John records that she was weeping in sadness outside the garden tomb until she heard the voice of Jesus call her by name, talk to her, and send her to share the good news with the others. It is a touching scene and one that captures the Easter joy that overcomes all sadness. The popular hymn, *In the Garden*, was written to express Mary's unique experience of literally speaking face-to-face with her risen Savior. It would be wrong to use this hymn out of context to apply it to our perceived spiritual experiences. Rather, our Easter experience takes us to our baptism, where Christ called us by name to belong to Him. That is when we were united with Christ's resurrection to live new and everlasting lives. In our weekly Divine Service, we continue to experience a mini Easter as Jesus comes to us, not alone in a garden or on a golf course but gathered together in His house. There, He walks and talks with us through His Word and Sacrament, turning our weeping into a joy that can never be taken away. Then, like Mary, He sends us to share all that He has said and declare to them, "Christ is risen! He is risen, Indeed! Alleluia!"

Stay Connected!

Central Illinois District 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 Central Illinois District 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 Immanuel Lutheran Chapel, a new church started by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Springfield. Pastor Adam Rouse serves both Immanuel Church on Springfield's northeast side and the chapel on the northwest side at the CID office.

Camp CILCA News

Young Adult Night – May 3 at 3:00 pm

21 or older? Come join us for an afternoon and evening of fellowship and pizza!

CID Campout – May 23 – 26

Spend your Memorial Day Weekend at Camp CILCA. Bring a tent, camper, or RV. Swimming is open on Saturday and Sunday from 1 – 4 pm.

Homecoming: Aug. 2

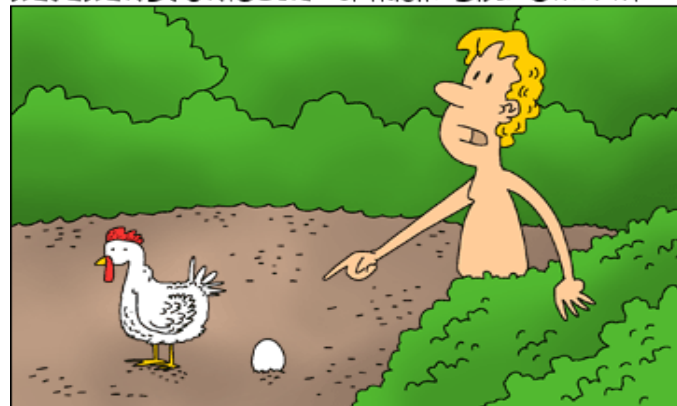
This will be CILCA's only fundraiser for the year (replacing the Hog Roast and Chicken Fry). There will be live music, a vendor fair, great food, swimming, square dancing, face painting, wagon rides and more. Mark your calendar to celebrate CILCA's 75th anniversary in style!

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.

Camp CILCA exists to strengthen and foster faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 1:1-2:3)

07-06-2015

I MISSED IT ... WHICH ONE CAME FIRST?

?? ?
Bible Quiz
? ??

What was the name of the wealthy merchant of purple cloth who met Paul and his companions, was baptized and became a leader in the Philippian church?

- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Dorcas
- D. Joanna

Answer: B (See Acts 16:11-15, 40.)

WEEKLY BROADCAST SCHEDULE:

Sundays at 7:00 am – WTWO – TV2 (NBC)

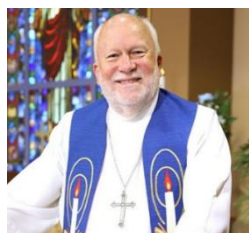
Sundays at 7:30 am – WCIX Channel 3

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**May 2025****May 4, 2025****“The Conversion of Paul” by Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III****Sermon Text: Acts 9:1-9, 17-20**

Paul was a fierce enemy of Christianity, so his conversion to faith in Jesus was an amazing event. This was totally unexpected. But God can do anything because of His almighty power and because of His awesome grace, mercy, and love.

**May 11, 2025****“Compassionate Pursuit” by Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer****Sermon Text: Psalm 23:6**

The Bible identifies Jesus Christ as both “The Lamb” and “The Good Shepherd.” Jesus Christ, The Lamb, has endured every pain inflicted by a sin-broken world. Jesus Christ, The Good Shepherd, pursues us with goodness and mercy “all the days of my life” (Psalm 23:6).

**May 18, 2025****“Hearts Will Rejoice!” by Rev. Shayne Jonker****Sermon Text: John 16:20**

“You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy” (John 16:20 ESV). You will have sorrow because this is a fallen world. But your sorrow will turn into joy because Jesus has taken your sorrow upon Himself WorshipAnew.org on the cross and to the grave. He is risen, victorious over sin death and the devil and yes, even your sorrow.

**May 25, 2025****“Here She Comes!” by Rev. William Mueller****Sermon Text: Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27**

Toward the end of the great revelation, the Lord Jesus gave His Apostle John a glimpse of the church (the totality of all who have believed in Jesus) after the return of Christ. What a glorious picture it is -- a picture that gives hope and comfort to worn and worried Christians ... like you and me!

“Worship Anew has been wonderful for us when we couldn't go to church because of my husband's cancer. We were so lost not being able to go to church. Worship Anew gave us the fulfillment that we needed. Thank you so very much!

“I watch Worship Anew each Sunday morning. I enjoy the familiar music. God bless you all at Worship Anew. I thank you for being such a blessing to those of us who can no longer attend church.



Serving Schedules



May 2025

Communion Assistants

- 4 Kurt Thornsborough, Dwain Dixon
18 Dean Hull, Allen Julian

Ushers – Team “E” Capt. Denny Hilton

Dave Creek, Glen Natschke, and Mike Ferris

Lay Readers

- 4 Sue DeMoss
11 Gail & Barb Garner
18 Carrie Farrell
25 Diana Pratt

Gospel Reader

- Allen Julian
Gail Garner
Kurt Thornsborough
Josh Christensen

Acolytes

- 4 Jamie Yonkers
11 Kinley Pratt
18 Kendall Wright
25 Eli Mann

Videographer

- 4 Josh Christensen
11 Kim Davis
18 Dwain Dixon
25 Butch Buesing

Sound/Screens

- Don DeMoss
RJ Davis
Josh Christensen
Jamie Yonkers

Children’s Church

- 4 Jan Mann
18 Jan Mann

Nursery

- Chelsea Pratt, Kirsten T.
Chelsea Pratt, Kirsten T.

Children’s Sermon

- 25 Jo Robinson

Altar Guild

Eileen Huckstadt and Carrie Farrell

Money Counters

Team “B” – Nancy Purviance, Martha Elliott

Check Signers – Mike Ferris, Jo Van Hovel

June 2025

Communion Assistants

- 1 Josh Christensen, Dean Hull
8 Allen Julian, Dean Hull
15 Allen Julian, Kurt Thornsborough
29 Don DeMoss, Dwain Dixon

Ushers – Team “F”

Capt. Ray Wittmann, Scott Huckstadt, Larry Fredericks,
and Jim Osterbur

Lay Readers

- 1 Nancy Purviance
8 Janet Terry
15 Kurt & Debbie T.
22 Josh Christensen
29 Butch & Julie Buesing

Gospel Reader

- Gail Garner
Allen Julian
Kurt Thornsborough
Josh Christensen
Butch Buesing

Acolytes

- 1 Kendall Wright
8 Kinley Pratt
15 Jamie Yonkers
22 Eli Mann
29 Carley Wright

Videographer

- 1 Butch Buesing
8 Josh Christensen
15 Dwain Dixon
22 Butch Buesing
29 Kim Davis

Sound/Screens

- Don DeMoss
Dwain Dixon
Jamie Yonkers
Jan Mann
RJ Davis

Altar Guild

Sharon Crow, Katie Yonkers

Money Counters

Team “C” – Mary Powell and Holly Clem

Check Signers

Jo Van Hovel, Mary Powell

Let the fields be jubilant,
and everything in them;

let all the trees
of the forest

sing for
JOY.

Psalm 96: 12, NIV



ILS Connections

A place to keep families, staff, and the church congregation connected!

May 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: Mrs. Rachel Schmidgall

Our final God's Time themes for this month at ILS are focused on the Ascension and the First Pentecost! Let's explore why these events are pivotal in the LCMS faith. The Ascension marks the beginning of Christ's full exaltation! After his humiliation on earth, the Ascension shows His followers that He now reigns in glory and power, seated at the right hand of God the Father! It ultimately says that Christ is Lord of all. Even in heaven, he is a prophet (still speaks through the Word), priest (He intercedes for us), and king (He rules the church and over all creation). The Pentecost represents the Holy Spirit's outpouring and presence upon believers! The Holy Spirit plays a central role in our faith, sanctification and even understanding of Scriptures. It also represents the birth of the church, where the apostles were empowered to preach the Gospel to all of the nations!

YOUNG TWO'S ROOM: Miss Kirsten Brown

I cannot believe we are in our last month of school! We have watched the students in the Young Two's go from "babies" to toddlers and it's been so much fun! We finished up our school year by learning about our last two colors white and black then also reviewing all of our colors. We continued to work on our ABC's and numbers. These kids have gotten so smart! I'm going to miss my students but can't wait to watch them continue to grow in the Two's room! Hope everyone has a great summer!

TWO'S ROOM: Mrs. Katie Rouse

Hello May! How can it already be the last month of the 24-25 school year? It has been a joy to see how each child has grown and their excitement as they have learned new concepts. We have mastered the five vowels of the alphabet, six shapes and the colors of the rainbow! As well as learning the months of the year and days of the week with fun songs! In May, we will continue to focus on our numbers 1-10 and begin to identify each number. We have an exciting month ahead talking about Animals-- on the farm, in the ocean, and in the zoo! We will continue to learn in our Jesus time, about all the great things Jesus has done for us. It has been a joy and blessing to be your children's teacher!

THREE'S ROOM: Mrs. Marah Showers

It's hard to believe this school year has come to an end! Comparing our class from the first day of school to the last is so heartwarming. We studied letters, numbers, colors, and shapes all year long and most of our friends have perfected identifying them. These students have mastered the ability to be kind to their friends, use their manners, pray before meals, sit during circle time, walk quietly in a line down the hallway, and beautifully perform in front of a crowd. They have grown taller, grown more independent, and grown in their ability to communicate, and I am so proud I got to witness all of these changes as their teacher this year. I hope everyone enjoys their summer!

THREE'S & FOUR'S COMBO ROOM: Mrs. Tabatha Hammer

Where did the school year go?! We have had a great year in the 3/4 combo class. The children came in as strangers but we are leaving as family. The class has improved in so many areas this year and it makes my teacher heart so happy and proud. I want to give a BIG THANK YOU to all of my parents for allowing me to teach your children this year. Have a great summer!!

FOUR'S ROOM: Ms. Michelle Wiese

Get ready, get set, graduation here we come! We are reviewing all letters, numbers, shapes, & colors while we work on spelling our last color word black. Our last official lunch on the lawn is May 8th. We hope you can join us! While the year is coming to an end I can't help but think of how much they have all grown this year. I am so proud of them all and have enjoyed getting to know each and every one of their unique personalities.

ILS DATES TO REMEMBER...

- **May 1** – Early Registration Opens
- **May 8** – ILS Lunch on the Lawn
- **May 9** – PreK Graduation
- **May 11** – ILS Sunday with PreK Recognition
- **May 16** – ILS Last Day of School
- **June 2 to July 31** – Summer Camp

SUMMER CAMP: Hey church families! Do you know a child between the ages of 3 and 6 who is potty trained and ready for a summer full of fun? We're excited to invite Pre-K age-eligible children to our ILS Summer Camp, running from **June 2 to July 31**. Camp is open Monday through Friday, with flexible hours from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM to fit your family's schedule. Our summer program is packed with exciting activities like water days, bike days, arts and crafts, and so much more! And the best part? You can choose which weeks to attend—you only pay for the weeks your child is here. Spots fill quickly, so don't wait! To learn more or register, please contact the school office at 217-442-5036 or email Mrs. S., our ILS Director, at ils.schooldirector@gmail.com. We can't wait to spend a joyful summer with your little ones!

SILVERWARE NEEDED: Do you have a few extra forks or spoons hiding in the back of your kitchen drawer? Our preschool could really use them! We're currently running low on forks and spoons, and we would greatly appreciate your help. The children are still learning responsibility during lunchtime, and sometimes our silverware ends up in the trash when trays are being cleaned off. While our teachers do their best to catch these mix-ups, a few always slip through. We're not looking for matching sets—any clean, gently used forks or spoons are welcome, especially those odds and ends you no longer need. This small gesture would be a big help to our lunchroom! Thank you for supporting our preschoolers in the little things that make a big difference!

ILS REGISTRATION OPEN SOON! Do you know anyone with young children? A coworker, or neighbor? Tell them about ILS and share these wonderful things families have said about us:

- ❖ *I love the smaller classes and convenient drop-off, pick-up times!*
- ❖ *ILS teachers are passionate about teaching children!*
- ❖ *This school has helped teach my son about social interactions, boundaries, manners, respect, and all the regular educational aspects. The teacher has been so patient with my son. He comes home singing songs he learned in school and is always looking forward to going back to school the next day!*
- ❖ *I love that our child has learned so much about God and made such great friends at school!*

ILS SUNDAY: The last day of school is **May 16**. We would like to thank all of our teachers and staff for a job well done all year long! We would also like to thank the Board of Christian Education for your time and efforts, and all of you, the congregation, for your support of ILS all year long! On **May 11**, ILS children will be here to sing and we'll recognize our PreK grads with a special gift and presentation! Plan now to attend!



MY PRAYER JOURNAL

TODAYS DATE

MONTH: J F M A M J J A S O N D

DAY OF THE WEEK: S M T W T H F S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

GOD, I ASK YOU FOR:



SOMETHING GOOD THAT
HAPPENED TODAY WAS:

I'M THANKFUL FOR:

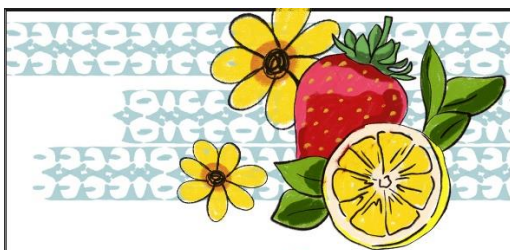
I'M SORRY FOR:

SOMETHING NOT SO GREAT
HAPPENED TODAY,
AND I NEED PRAYERS:



A SPECIAL NOTE OR
PICTURE FOR GOD:

I AM PRAYING FOR:



Teatime treat



Make these sweet sandwiches
for a Mother's Day tea party.

What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!



Puzzle!

Unscramble the names of these biblical mothers. Look up the verse if you need help. Then use the letters on the numbered blanks to complete the message below.

VEE (Genesis 3:20)

6 11

NNAHAH (1 Samuel 1:20)

14

RBAHEOD (Judges 5:7)

18 3

KREEHAB (Genesis 27:5)

16 5

EHLA (Genesis 30:14)

1

CLEHRA (Genesis 30:22)

7 12

MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)

10 17 13

RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)

8

AMYR (Matthew 2:11)

2

ZEBLEHATI (Luke 1:13)

9 15 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 8 14 G F F G !
15 4 16 10 17 3 18

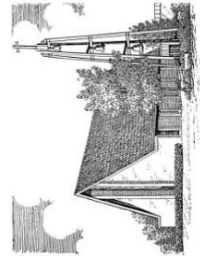
Place
Stamp
Here

Our May 2025 newsletter
prepared prayerfully for:

This newsletter also available on our
website: www.ilcdanville.com

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Worship Schedule	Communion Schedule
Sundays May 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 9:30 am	Sundays May 4 & 18 at 9:30 am
Wednesdays May 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 5:00 pm	Wednesday May 28 at 5:00 pm
Monday May 26 at 9:00 am at The Lutheran Cemetery	

GOD WITH US

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MESSENGER

May
2025

Put your
HOPE

in the LORD,
for with the LORD
is unfailing love
and with
him is full
redemption.

Psalms 130:7, NIV