Gifts of Gratitude

Eucharistō is Greek for thanksgiving. Eucharistō is also the term used in the Bible in connection with the celebration of the Sacrament of the Altar. This is fitting, as we indeed give thanks to God for all His gifts, most especially for the gift of Christ's suffering and death upon the cross. With this in mind, as we approach Thanksgiving, it seems only right and appropriate to take time to ponder the ways we can give thanks to God for all His benefits to us.

When we speak of giving thanks, our thoughts often turn immediately to physical or financial gifts. Yes, the Bible speaks of giving to God in terms of TIME, TALENT, and TREASURE. As a whole, Immanuel is blessed in its gifts of treasure. We are not a wealthy congregation, but it is rare that a need arises that cannot be met. The recent replacement of our church and school roofs is one example. THANK YOU to everyone who helped make these projects, along with the many other physical needs of Immanuel, possible.

We are also thankful for everyone who goes beyond financial giving to share their time and talents. Our congregation has many gifts, and all of them can be used in some way to further the Kingdom of God and support Immanuel's mission here in this place.

As a pastor, I have come to appreciate the value of giving our time. I have often found that simply being present at Immanuel's congregational events and spending time with one another is enough. Immanuel is not a social or country club. We are a family of God. Families do things together. We pray, work, and serve together.

Families also use their talents to help one another. Growing up, my mother managed the finances while my father worked. My siblings and I helped with chores, childcare, and other responsibilities. All in all, the household ran well. My siblings and I grew into adulthood and established our own homes and families, much as the founders of Immanuel did when they departed from Trinity, sent to form a new congregation here in Danville.

The gifts our founders brought together made it possible to build our first sanctuary and school. Our members also used their skills and talents as we moved to our current campus. Now we are here, and our gifts of TIME, TALENT, and TREASURE are needed so that we can continue to educate children, bring families to Jesus, and keep them in the one true faith here at Immanuel.

Immanuel gives thanks to all of you for your gifts of every kind, and we continue to seek ways to serve you and all of God's people here. Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Yonkers



IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER:

- Daylight Savings Time Ends, **Nov. 1**
- All Saints' Day, **Nov. 1**
- LWML Muffins for Mites, **Nov. 1**
- Veteran's Day Program, **Nov. 4**
- Lutheran Cemetery Door Offering, **Nov. 8**
- Leaf and Holly Holiday Bazaar, **Nov. 10**
- Veterans' Day, **Nov. 11**
- Monical's Day, **Nov. 17**
- Christ the King Sunday, **Nov. 11**
- Thanksgiving Potluck, **Nov. 22**
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship, **Nov. 25**
- ILS Thanksgiving Break, **Nov. 25 – 27**
- Thanksgiving Day, **Nov. 26**
- Advent Begins, **Nov. 29**

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.

A REASON TO GIVE THANKS: After Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions were rescued after more than three weeks adrift in life rafts in the Pacific, he was asked what lesson he had learned from the ordeal. He answered that anyone with plenty of fresh water to drink and enough food to eat should never complain. His words still speak clearly today. Many blessings can become so familiar that we barely notice them. This Thanksgiving, pause to give thanks for clean water, nourishing food, a safe place to rest and the people God has placed in your life. Let gratitude continue long after the holiday table is cleared.

MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED: We are looking for one more volunteer to join our money-counting team! With just one more person, we will have enough volunteers to form four teams, which is fantastic! This would allow each team to serve only three times per year instead of four. No experience is necessary, and it should take no more than 30 minutes after an average Sunday service. Please consider helping with this important ministry and see Kim in the church office if you would like to learn more!



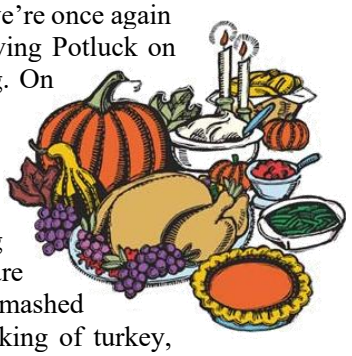
Sharing our Blessings from God

We will once again have the opportunity share our blessings in a *food offering*. On **Nov. 15**, please bring items such as canned yams, mashed potatoes, gravy (jars or packets), boxed stuffing mix, jellied cranberry, canned green beans or corn, cookies, or other non-perishable donations. Monetary donations are also appreciated! These items, along with ham and rolls, will be distributed through our Food Pantry in thanksgiving to God for the blessings we so richly receive!

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Plan to join us on Wednesday, **November 25** at **6:30 pm** for our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Communion. We have so much to be thankful for, and it's good to come together with one another to praise our Lord and thank Him for all His blessings. Take a break from those Thanksgiving dinner preparations to come to church to say, *"Now Thank We All Our God."*

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble!



Thanksgiving is a time to spend with family… with our church family, too. That's why we're once again having our Immanuel Thanksgiving Potluck on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. On **Nov. 22** at 5:00 pm, show up at the gym with a side dish and/or dessert and be ready to gobble, gobble, gobble! But please come even if you're not able to bring anything to the dinner, all are welcome! The turkey, ham and mashed potatoes will be provided. Speaking of turkey, we're looking for some. Please consider donating a turkey or money to buy one (we only need three turkeys). Volunteers to set up would be welcome after church that Sunday. For details or to offer up volunteer time or a turkey, please contact:

Tom Fricke:
phone: 217-474-2457
email: tomfricke@hotmail.com

Mary Ellen Fricke:
phone: 217-497-7196
email: maryellenfricke@gmail.com

Leaf and Holly Holiday Bazaar

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Bazaar: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Luncheon: 11:00 am – 1:30 pm

Pulled Pork Luncheon

The menu features a delicious BBQ pulled pork sandwich, cheesy potato casserole, cranberry salad, and your choice of dessert and beverage. Tickets are available now for just $14! You can purchase your tickets before and after church through **Nov. 8** and in the church office throughout the week. Tickets will be sold at the door. We encourage you to pick up an extra ticket or two and invite a friend!

Group Carry-Out Orders

If you're scheduled to work that day and can't join us in person, you don't have to miss out on this great meal! We're happy to deliver five or more meals directly to your workplace. Carry-out Order Forms are available on the table in the hallway – pick one up, invite your coworkers to order, and return the completed form with payment to the church office by Monday, **Nov. 9**.

Shopping

It's time to start gathering and creating!

The ***Country Store*** is looking for your favorite Christmas and fall baked goods—cookies, breads, candies, jams, and other seasonal treats are always a big hit.

The ***Woodworking*** area can always use additional pieces, large or small, every handcrafted item is appreciated.

The ***Christmas Shoppe*** needs all things festive and merry!

New in 2026! A ***Vintage Family Heirlooms*** booth will sell treasured pieces from the past, lovingly passed down through generations.

And don't forget ***Attic Treasures***, where gently used items in good condition find new homes and bring joy to someone else.

Help Needed

Signup sheets are coming soon. Much help is needed to set up on the day of the event (in the kitchen, working the booths, pie room, wait staff, etc.) and afterwards cleaning up. And, of course, our bakers are once again needed to help with the meal! Your delicious pies, bars, and desserts make our lunch extra special and are always one of the highlights of the day.

Publicity

Please pick up a publicity yard sign if you have access to a high traffic location. Please bring in your craft samples and items for the Silent Auction and put them in the Women's Lounge. We'll take a photo to use for publicity purposes soon. Thank you!

Silent Auction

Our Silent Auction will feature a wonderful variety of items – unique, handcrafted pieces, holiday decorations, gift baskets, and more. Donations are needed. Please contact Sharon Crow with any Silent Auction questions.

Sneak Peek!

Here is just a small piece of what you have to look forward to on Bazaar Day!





Silent Auction Feature: "Star Crossed"

Don't miss your chance to bid on "Star Crossed," a beautiful hand-quilted, queen-sized quilt featured in this year's Silent Auction at the Leaf and Holly Holiday Bazaar!

MONICAL'S DAY IS NOV. 17!

Eat pizza and support Parish Education !



WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS:

- Our regular meeting is one week earlier than usual on **Nov. 3** at 11:30 am. We hope to see you there as we make final Bazaar plans.
- Our Leaf and Holly Bazaar is coming up quickly on Tuesday, **Nov. 10**! This beloved tradition is made special year after year by the time, talents, and generosity of so many people. Thank you to everyone who helps, donates, and gives of themselves to make this day possible. Your kindness and support mean so much!
- Our Christmas Party is Tuesday, **Dec. 1** at 11:30 am at Turtle Run. Please sign up on the bulletin board in by **Nov. 24** if you will be attending.
- Our November and December ingathering is for the VA. We are collecting the following items:
  - Little Debbie Christmas Cakes
  - Individual snacks like cookies, chips, pudding. Sugar free options are appreciated as well.
  - Body care products such as lotion, liquid soap, deodorant, and shaving cream. (no bar soap or hotel toiletries).
  - New winter hats and baseball caps
  - Reading glasses
  - 2 liter bottles of diet soda (cola, lemon-lime, root beer, and orange flavors)
  - New socks
- **Mite Bytes:** ***November and December 2026 LWML CID Mission Grant #4 – Hands that Serve, Hearts that See - $12,000*** Lutheran Braille Workers requests these funds to produce and freely distribute approximately 3,000 volumes of Scripture and Christ-centered materials in Braille, Specialized Large Print, and Prison Large Print formats. These materials would be produced through LBW's Ministry Production Centers in Effingham, Peoria, and Decatur and distributed at no cost to recipients. The project is ready to be implemented immediately upon funding, with current requests in queue from individuals, congregations, schools, and prison chaplaincies.



ADVENT *IS* COMING! This year, the first Sunday in Advent is **November 29**. Our worship series is *"The Everlasting Light"* from Concordia Publishing House. The theme is based on Isaiah 60 and employs Phillips Brooks's cherished hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (*LSB* 361). Isaiah famously promises that "the glory of the LORD shall be revealed" (Isaiah 40:5). In chapter 60, this glory explodes with radiant color. Divine glory rises upon Zion, who is addressed as a woman throughout chapter 60. She is quite the lady to behold! Brooks's masterpiece beautifully describes Bethlehem on a December night. The hymn moves back and forth from a description of Christmas to the meaning of Christmas. It ends with the prayer, "O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!" (st. 4). When you connect Isaiah 60 to "O Little Town of Bethlehem," what happens? A wonderful weaving together of biblical hope and Christian hymnody!

Midweek Advent 1 – A Street Called Light
Our series begins with the promise, "Arise, shine, for your light has come" (Isaiah 60:1). In a world filled with darkness, despair, and death, Jesus comes as the light that overcomes it all. Through His death and resurrection, Christ brings us out of darkness and into His glorious light, giving us hope that even the darkest streets cannot extinguish.

Midweek Advent 2 – A Street Called Beautiful
Sin brings ugliness and brokenness into our world and our hearts. Yet, through Jesus, God transforms what is broken into something beautiful. Christ entered our sinful world and endured the ugliness of the cross so that He might redeem us and make us His own. Through faith, we welcome Him into our hearts and receive the beauty of His saving grace.

Midweek Advent 3 – A Street Called Impossible
Sometimes life places us on streets that seem to lead nowhere, leaving us wondering how our most difficult circumstances could ever change. Through the prophet Isaiah, God promised restoration when all seemed lost. Jesus fulfills that promise, accomplishing what seemed impossible through His death and resurrection. Because of Him, we have peace, hope, and the assurance that even when we cannot see a way forward, God is at work.

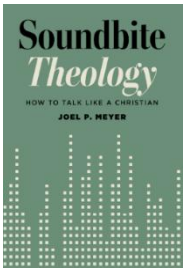
The Nativity of Our Lord – A Street Called Forever
At Christmas, we celebrate the coming of Jesus, the everlasting light who took on human flesh to dwell among us. He entered our darkness, experienced our suffering, and went to the cross for our salvation. But death did not have the final word. Christ rose and lives forever, promising a day when sin, sorrow, and darkness will be no more. As we celebrate His birth, we pray that our Lord Immanuel will come to us, abide with us, and fill our lives with His everlasting light.

FROM THE CPH SHELF…

Soundbite Theology

Your comfort phrases vs. what God actually says.

Price: $17.99



What are you really saying when life falls apart?

When crisis strikes, it's easy to reach for familiar phrases: "God won't give you more than you can handle" or "You just need enough faith." But what if the words meant to comfort are quietly doing damage?

In *Soundbite Theology*, pastor and theologian Joel P. Meyer takes you on a journey through the phrases that shape your everyday Christian life — examining which ones anchor you in truth and which ones slowly erode your trust in God.

Five phrases or ideas you will discuss:

- God won't give you more than you can handle.
- The power of prayer.
- You just have to have enough faith.
- You have to invite Jesus into your heart.
- God has a plan.

Drawing on Scripture, *Martin Luther's Small Catechism*, and the Lutheran Confessions, Meyer replaces hollow religious clichés with theologically grounded language that genuinely sustains faith through life's hardest moments. Accessible and theologically rich, *Soundbite Theology* equips you to think clearly about God — His character, His promises, and His unfailing provision.

Because the words you reach for in the dark matter more than you think.

If you would like to order a copy of this book, please see Kim in the church office.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS: As we look ahead to the Christmas season, we invite you to help decorate our sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias!



These familiar Christmas flowers add a special touch to our worship space as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Poinsettias may be ordered for the altar in remembrance of a loved one or in honor of the Christ Child. You may also order them for your own Christmas celebrations or to give as a thoughtful gift to someone special. Order forms will be available beginning Sunday, November 8. Watch for more details in the coming weeks, including additional ordering information. We look forward to sharing this Christmas tradition with you as we prepare to celebrate the greatest gift of all—the birth of Jesus Christ!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING SUMMARY:

Date: Oct. 20, 2026 / Next Meeting: Oct. 20, 2026

New Business
The Adams Voice Concert was discussed. Advertising with the district and on community calendars. Invite special groups like the VA or nursing homes. Ask members to distribute fliers at their workplace.

Decreased participation of fellowship events was discussed.

Immanuel will enter a float in Danville's Night of Lights Parade. Two Facility Use Requests were approved.

Old Business
Discussed taking an annual withdrawal from our endowment funds of 5%.

Christian Education
The board is working in updating the policies and procedures for Summer Camp. Katie Rouse was approved as Assistant Director, pending approval from DCFS. Dottie Pettit accepted the vice chair position for the Christian Ed board. Staff evals are planned. The next Christian Education Meeting was moved from it regular schedule on second Thursdays to the third Thursday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 pm.

Finance
Thrivent Giving Tuesday was discussed. The church roof is complete. The final payment of $49,773.33 was made with $41,224.09 from insurance and $8,549.24 from Capital Fund. Reports reviewed.

Properties
We are still waiting on parts to replace the cafeteria doors. Need to find an electrician to work on parking lot lights.

Evangelism
Trunk or Treat is Oct. 31 from 3 – 5 pm.

Stewardship
Children's message on giving planned for Reformation Sunday. Working on children's offering envelopes and Grateful Giving envelopes.

Worship
Planning for Advent. Will use The Everlasting Light series.

Youth
Discussed participation, wide age gaps, and the National Youth Gathering.

Mission and Social Ministry
Discussed new mission of working with Safe Families to provide diapers and clothing. Purchasing formula was an added idea. Thanksgiving Food Offering is coming up.

Elders
More cards have been mailed. So far, no responses.

Pastor's Report
Pastor reviewed his written report.

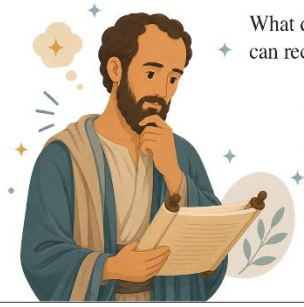
President
The next Cemetery Board Meeting is Nov. 19.

LCMS Foundation
TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

November 2026

Frank lamented to his buddy Zach that he fears his estate may owe taxes when the Lord calls him home. That could include Federal Estate Tax (if his estate is over $15 Million), state estate or inheritance tax (depending on the state) and income tax related to annuities and tax- deferred retirement assets (like IRA's, 401(k)'s, and 403(b's). Taxes can be a real issue. Zach advised his friend to gift $19,000 each year to each of his four children (the Federal limit for gifts before taxes begin to happen), reducing his estate by almost $80,000 per year. "After 10 years, that could be a big deal," Zach shared. Zach is not completely wrong. But what he failed to do before offering personal advice was to find out what Frank really wants to do. Frank loves his Church. He knows that his Church is about to expand their school building and he wants to supply a sizable gift for that campaign. In addition, all four of Frank's children are highly paid professionals, making "seven figures" each year. Frank will provide some inheritance, to reflect the grace of God. But he is much more motivated by expanding the impact of ministry sharing Jesus. Frank spoke with his LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor. Together they discovered that Frank has a large portfolio of highly appreciated stock that would make a perfect asset to use for the building campaign at Church, eliminating capital gains tax, receiving charitable deductions which he will be able to use for five years to offset his current income tax. In addition, they talk about Frank using some of his retirement assets to endow his offerings until the Lord returns, so that there are funds to support the ministry taking place in the new building. Frank also learned that he still will be able to provide support for his grandchildren by funding a sizable Charitable Remainder Trust when the Lord calls him home, using the remainder of his retirement assets, so that family is not hit with a lump sum income tax bill on these assets. Frank was ecstatic. This fit his plan perfectly. (Zach called him silly for not following his advice.) Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you to begin discovering your plan. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

Bible Quiz



What did St. Paul teach about how people can recognize the existence of God?

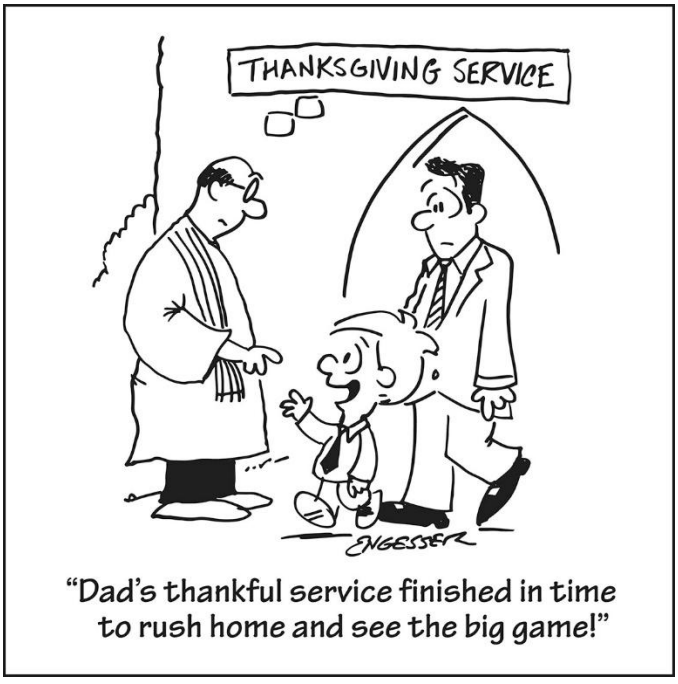
A. They would have no understanding of God unless someone told them.
B. They could see evidence of God by observing creation.
C. God cannot be known in any way except through Jesus.

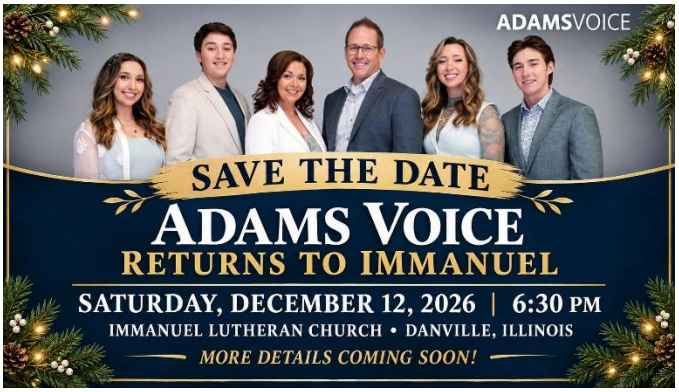
Answer: B (Romans 1:19-21)

CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: The current bank balance is $43,281. The roofing portion of our project ($214,200) has been paid to Bash Pepper since the reroofing portion of this project has been completed. The 11 skylights ($24,090) have been installed. We are not sure of the final bill for the project yet since there might have been some additional time and material work done. $8,549 has been paid towards the church flat roof that was damaged by hail this spring; this is the amount that the insurance did not cover. Research is going on into future projects; if you have any suggestions, please let any of the committee members know.

STEAK FRY: The Steak Fry event served 107 people and with the Sunday leftovers along with donations we raised $3,102 for the Capital Fund. The food was delicious. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and/or volunteered at this event. You made this another successful event.

SCRIP ORDERS: Are you looking for a thoughtful gift, or just want to make your everyday purchases work for a good cause? The next Scrip order is due to the church office by 9 am on **Nov. 9** and will be ready for pick up on **Nov. 15**. 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. Order blanks have been revised, so please be sure to use a new one from the table in the hall. Thank you for using this simple and impactful way to give back! ***Note: December Scrip orders will be due once week earlier than usual, Dec. 7. This will allow more time for Christmas gift cards.***





ADAMS VOICE CONCERT: We are excited to welcome Adams Voice back to Immanuel Lutheran Church for a special evening of Christian music! Adams Voice is a Nashville Christian recording family made up of David and Charlene Adams and their four children. For more than 30 years, they have shared God's love through music across the United States. Their ministry blends familiar favorites with original songs rooted in Scripture and personal testimony, with a heart for sharing the message of Jesus Christ and encouraging believers in their faith. Learn more at https://www.adamsvoice.net/

VETERAN'S DAY AT IMMANUEL: Join us on **Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 6:30 p.m.** as our ILS children and staff honor our veterans with songs and a display of their patriotic artwork. Members and guests are warmly invited to come show their support for our students and thank those who have served our country!

Then, on **Sunday, Nov. 8**, we'll recognize Veterans Day during worship with a special prayer and blessing for our veterans. A door offering will also be collected to benefit our Lutheran Cemetery Fund.

A Prayer for Veteran's Day…

God of all nations, you are our Strength and Shield. We give you thanks today for the devotion and courage of all those who have offered military service for this country. We ask today that you would lift up by your Spirit those who are now at war; encourage and heal those in hospitals or mending their wounds at home; guard those in any need or trouble; hold safely in Your hands all military families and bring the returning troops to joyful reunion and tranquil life at home. Give to us, Your people, grateful hearts, and a united will to honor these men and women and hold them always in our love and our prayers until Your world is perfected in peace and all wars cease. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.



"I have a great need for Christ; I have a great Christ for my need."

—Attributed to Count Zinzendorf

GOING TO CHAMPAIGN? We still have some leftover books that need a ride to Orphan's Treasure Box Bookstore in Champaign, just off the Prospect exit. If you're heading that way and would be willing to help, please stop by the boys' locker room in the gym to pick up some books to take along. Dropping them off is easy! The books can be placed in the shed behind the building at any time. Just pull up, open the shed door, and leave the books inside. That's it! Thank you for helping us find a new home for these books!

ILS CHRISTMAS SHOPPE FUNDRAISER: ILS is looking for donations of inexpensive, new, or gently used items for their Christmas Shoppe Fundraiser. Parents let us know who the gifts are for and pay just $2 per item. The children love shopping, beaming with smiles while they learn a valuable lesson in generosity. They often shop for mom, dad, grandparents, and siblings. Gift ideas include socks, stationery, votive candles, toys, pens, coffee cups, hair accessories, tools, or ornaments. Gift bags and tissue paper would also be appreciated! Place your donations in the red tote in the coatroom.

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT! The Parade Is Back! After several years away, we're excited to bring back a favorite tradition! Join us Friday, December 4, for Danville's Night of Lights Parade! We want to make this a celebration of our entire Immanuel family, bringing our congregation, school staff, and school families together to share some Christmas cheer with our community. We especially hope our youth will get involved, and children and families of the congregation are invited to ride on our float! Whether you'd like to help prepare for the parade or join in the fun on parade night, we'd love to have you be part of it. More details are coming soon, but for now, save the date and get ready to light up the night with Immanuel!

MAKE YOUR YEAR-END GIFT GO EVEN FURTHER! Tuesday, **Dec. 1**, is Giving Tuesday, and Thrivent is offering a special opportunity to make your generosity go even further! Through Thrivent's Giving Tuesday program, donations made through its online giving platform will receive matching funds, helping your gift make an even greater impact. Thrivent will match donations dollar for dollar until the first $3 million in donations has been reached. If total donations exceed $3 million, the matching rate will adjust, but every donation will still receive a match! This is a wonderful opportunity to support Immanuel and help our ministry continue to make a difference. We are working on a link that will connect you directly to Thrivent's giving page for Immanuel. Watch for more information as Giving Tuesday approaches! In the meantime, if you have questions, please see Kim in the church office.

A Message from Rev. Aaron Uphoff
Calvary Lutheran Church, Watseka

"The life I live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."
Galatians 2:20

There are many things that define our lives in this world. From small things like tastes and personal affinities — what sort of ice cream you like and which teams you cheer for — all the way to your familial vocations — that you're a son, daughter, wife, husband, parent, and so on. We base our self-understanding off of these things and so do the people around us. But the most important defining reality for the Christian is that he belongs to Jesus Christ. By faith, the sacrifice of Jesus for the world's sins becomes personal for us as individuals, and it is the foundational reality of who we are — both in this life, and into eternity.

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 CID Missions supported by your church's contributions to the district.
Please remember in your prayers Central Illinois Lutheran Deaf Outreach, CID's District-wide parish conducting Word and Sacrament ministry in American Sign Language to bring the Good News about Jesus to the deaf and hearing-impaired. Most deaf people are non-churched. They need Christ!

NEW THIS YEAR! You can now support Dollars for Mission through online giving. Many people no longer carry cash but still want to support the Central Illinois District's mission work. One-time and recurring donations are now available online. Use this QR Code, or visit:

https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/LCMSCentralIllinoisDistrict/D4M

CID Board of Directors Review

Pastor Tibben led an opening devotion on Matthew 9:9-13 in observance of the Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle, and Evangelist. Pastor Rev. Philip Krupski gave a presentation for the LCMS Foundation. Mr. Matthew Fricke was elected District Reconciler. Disbursements for Dollars for Mission Disbursements were approved for:

- Beardstown Hispanic Ministry Travel - $1,800
- Immanuel Student Center (EIU) Kitchen Remodel – $10,000
- Central IL Deaf Ministry – Community Workshops - $10,000
- University Lutheran Masonry and Roof – $75,000

The district ratified scholarship amounts for CID students pursuing Church Work. A committee was formed to discuss combining Education Executive positions with SID. The Board approved masonry and roof repair work for UniLu for an estimated $750,000. The Board appointed a committee to work with the contracting firm and oversee the repair work for UniLu. Next CID Board of Directors Meeting scheduled for Nov. 24, 2026 at 9 a.m.

Have you read the Gatepost?



Did you know that our Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod publishes its own newsletter? *The GatePost* is filled with news, stories, and information about what is happening throughout our district. Each issue includes updates from district leadership, ministry and mission news, opportunities for Christian service, upcoming events, and stories highlighting the work God is doing through our Lutheran congregations, schools, and ministries.

Published several times a year, *The GatePost* is a great way to stay connected with our wider church family and learn about the many ways we are sharing the Gospel and serving others throughout Central Illinois.

You can read current and past issues online at www.cidlcms.org/news-gatepost-newsletter.html. You can also sign up on the Central Illinois District website to receive *The GatePost* and other district news by email, so you won't miss an issue. Why not take a few minutes to check it out and see what's happening beyond our own congregation?

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.
5 Martin Luther Drive, Ft Wayne, IN 46825-4996
Toll free: 888-286-8002
Email: ***info@worshipanew.org***
Website: ***www.worshipanew.org***

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.***

November 2026

November 1, 2026
"The Saint on the Sycamore" **by Rev. Daniel Eggold**
Sermon Text: Luke 19:1-10
Zacchaeus, the wealthy tax collector, climbed a sycamore tree just hoping to catch a glimpse of Jesus. But Jesus saw him first — calling him down, staying at his house, and bringing salvation to a sinner. On this All Saints' Day, rejoice that Jesus spots you too, wherever you are, and makes sinners His saints.

November 8, 2026
"Does Jesus Know You?" **by Rev. Scott Zeckzer**
Sermon Text: Matthew 25:13
Jesus is coming. Are you ready for His coming again? While it is important to know Jesus, it is more important that Jesus knows you.

November 15, 2026
"The Breastplate and Helmet" **by Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**
Sermon Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:8
Our spiritual enemies - the devil, the unbelieving world, and our own sinful nature - are constantly trying to put fear, worry, discouragement, and sinful anger into our hearts, and falsehood and deception into our minds. Thus, the apostle Paul urges us to put on the breastplate and helmet - equipment from God. With these we will be protected from our enemies.

November 22, 2026
"We Are What We See" **by Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer**
Sermon Text: Matthew 25:37, 44
What are your eyes fixed upon? In Jesus' parable of the sheep and the goats, two groups stand before the king equally surprised; yet their lives were shaped by entirely different visions. Discover how focusing on yourself blinds you to Christ, while focusing on Jesus opens your eyes to the people and needs He places before you. Truly, we are what we see!

November 29, 2026
"Come Lord, Come" **by Rev. Scott Zeckzer**
Sermon Text: Isaiah 64:1
Are you ready for the Lord's coming? He is coming on the Last Day in power and might, but until that time, He comes in humbleness and mercy.


Rev. Eggold


Rev. Zeckzer


Rev. Maier


Rev. Ahlersmeyer

ILS Connections

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

November 2026

Hello Mrs. Kirsten!

Immanuel Lutheran has been a part of my life for many years. I attended DLS from preschool through fourth grade, and my mom has been a teacher here for 26 years. I began working summer camp during high school, became an aide in 2019, and have been teaching full-time since 2024. Having the opportunity to return to a school that played such an important role in my childhood has made my experience at ILS especially meaningful. It is a privilege to now be part of the same community that helped shape my own childhood and to play a role in the lives of the children growing up here today. Some of my favorite school events are Lunch on the Lawn, the Fall Carnival, and Christmas Fun Night. I love seeing families come together, build relationships, and make memories as part of our school community. Beyond special events, some of my favorite memories come from everyday moments in the classroom. Whether it is seeing a child's excitement when learning something new, watching friendships develop, or celebrating the little milestones that make preschool so special, there is always something to smile about. Those moments are a big part of what makes teaching so rewarding. I am from Westville and graduated from Westville High School in 2019. I also earned my associate degree from Danville Area Community College through the Dual Enrollment program that same year, and I plan to continue furthering my education here soon. I am married to my high school sweetheart, and together we have two beautiful daughters who have both attended Immanuel, with one still attending. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family. Being a mom has given me an even greater appreciation for the importance of creating a welcoming, nurturing, and engaging environment for every child. One of my favorite things about ILS is the strong sense of community. Having grown up here, I understand how meaningful the relationships built within our school can be. I love getting to know each child and family, watching children grow throughout their preschool years, and seeing former students continue to learn and thrive as they move through the school. Preschool is such a special time because children are learning and discovering so much about the world around them. Being able to celebrate those milestones, encourage their curiosity, and help them build confidence is one of the most rewarding parts of my job. My personal walk with God began when I was 20, and my faith continues to be an important part of my life. My family and I have attended Second Church of Christ since 2021, where we are involved in several ministries, including Celebrate Recovery, Serve Together, and the church nursery. I am grateful for the ways God continues to work in our lives and for His love, grace, and forgiveness. In the classroom, I incorporate faith into our daily routines through Bible stories, prayer, songs, and age-appropriate activities. We also connect biblical lessons to everyday experiences by practicing kindness, helping our friends, showing compassion, and caring for others. One of my favorite parts of my job is being able to openly share my faith and love for Jesus with the children each day. I love seeing their excitement as they learn Bible stories, join in prayer and songs, and begin to understand just how much Jesus loves them. Watching their understanding and love for Jesus grow throughout the school year is truly a highlight for me. My hope is that every child leaves our classroom knowing they are loved by Jesus and learning how to share that love with everyone.

TWO'S ROOM: Mrs. Kirsten Brown and Ms. Nicole Martin

Don't we just love the month of October? We took walks and spent time noticing how our trees were changing every day. We collected pinecones and acorns and used them to create some fun fall crafts. We talked about how leaves change colors and eventually fall off the trees, and we even used leaves to make crafts and decorate our classroom! We also spent some time learning about the letter A, and our acorn craft was the perfect way to kick off our learning! As we moved toward the end of the month, we turned our attention to pumpkins. We started by creating our very own pumpkin patch art, then washed pumpkins and even carved one together as a class! We explored the pumpkin's shape, color, and texture while learning all about this fun fall favorite. We wrapped up our month with our Halloween parade and classroom Halloween party! It was such a fun way to celebrate all the learning and excitement October brought our way! As we look ahead to November, we will spend some time learning about our veterans and getting ready for our Veterans Day concert. We will continue exploring the fall season before ending the month by talking about Thanksgiving and all the wonderful things we must be thankful for. We will spend time remembering that even in the little things, we have so many blessings to thank God for! Our Bible verse for this season is, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." — Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV) Just as God created the beautiful changing seasons, He gives us so many things to enjoy and be thankful for.

THREE'S ROOM: Mrs. Katie Rouse

WOW! What an exciting, fun-filled month in the Preschool 3's classroom. We explored various themes with our weekly letters: E is for Emotions, F is for Family, G is for Gourds, and H is for Halloween. We made colorful emotion monsters, family trees, painted with gourds and did a spooky Halloween science experiment! We took a class field trip to Hog Wallow Farm. A few of our favorites from the pumpkin patch were the wagon ride, the farm animals, and the BIG slides! We had a special visit from the police station, and we were able to explore the inside of a police car and an emergency response unit vehicle. A few friends even got to try out the loud sirens. We wrapped up the month with our Halloween costume parade for our families followed by a Halloween party. We enjoyed silly games and spooky spider treats!

FOUR'S ROOM: Mrs. Tabatha Hammer

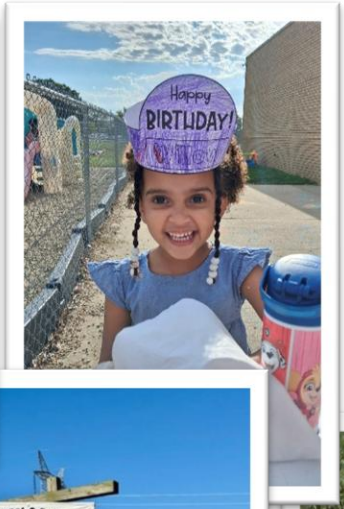
October was a busy and exciting month in Pre-K! We started the month with our field trip to Hog Wallow Farm. We enjoyed the beautiful weather while playing on the tall slides, feeding the animals, and riding the wagon out to the pumpkin field. We also had a special visit from our local police department! The officers talked to us about their important jobs and showed us their police vehicles. We even had the opportunity to use the siren and lights, which was so exciting! We wrapped up the month with our Halloween parade and party. The children had a wonderful time celebrating with their friends and enjoying all the Halloween fun! During Jesus Time, we learned about several exciting Bible stories, including the Israelites crossing the Red Sea, the Ten Commandments, the Battle of Jericho, and David and Goliath. We continue to learn about God's love and the wonderful things He has done for His people.

FOUR'S ROOM: Mrs. Cathy Huff

God blessed us with beautiful outdoor weather in October. We started the month jumping in puddles and playing in the mud after a rainy night. We visited the pumpkin patch with Mrs. Hammer's class where we explored pumpkins and other farm animals. We loved the big slide and the tractor ride! We are beginning to get highly creative in our classroom. It may look like a mess, but we are building our fine motor skills that we will use to hold pencils and crayons in kindergarten as well as learning to work and play together. In our Jesus time we heard accounts of Moses and the children of Israel as they escaped Egypt and settled in the Promised Land. What a blessing to know that God is faithful to his people even when they disobey and turn away from Him. Counting and patterns have been our focus this month as we learned about changing seasons. We watched a squirrel outside of the window and made patterns with fall shapes and colors.















With Grateful Hearts, We Serve

November 2026

Note: The Thanksgiving Eve service is Nov. 25 at 6:30 pm.

Communion Assistants
1 Josh Christensen, Dean Hull
15 Don DeMoss, Kurt Thornsbrough
25 Allen Julian, Don DeMoss
29 Dean Hull, Josh Christensen

Ushers – Team "E" Capt. Denny Hilton
Dave Creek, Glen Natschke, and Mike Ferris.

	Lay Readers	Gospel Reader
1	Jan Mann	Josh Christensen
8	Diana Pratt	Butch Buesing
15	Nancy Purviance	Kurt Thornsbrough
22	Janet Terry	Allen Julian
25	Kurt & Debbie T.	Kurt Thornsbrough
29	Gail and Barb Garner	Gail Garner

Acolytes
1 Carley Wright
8 Kinley Pratt
15 Jamie Yonkers
22 Brooklynn Hunt
25 Owen Price
29 Eli Mann

	Videographer	Sound/Screens
1	Dwain Dixson	Jamie Yonkers
8	Josh Christensen	Don DeMoss
15	Dwain Dixson	Butch Buesing
22	Kim Davis	RJ Davis
25	No Streaming	Jamie Yonkers
29	Butch Buesing	Jan Mann

Children's Church
1 Jan Mann
15 Jan Mann

Children's Message
8 Kathy Christensen
22 Kurt Thornsbrough

Immanuel Cares
Pam Hull and Pam Van Camp

Altar Guild
Mary Powell, Tina Ammermann, and Juanita Rottmann

Money Counters
Martha Elliott and Nancy Purviance

Check Signers
Mary Powell and Jo Van Hoveln

December 2026

Note: *All special services, the Advent Midweek Services, and the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, are at 6:30 pm. Communion was moved from the 20th to the 27th because the Children's Christmas Program is on the 20th.*

Communion Assistants
6 Don DeMoss and Kurt Thornsbrough
24 Dean Hull and Allen Julian
27 Josh Christensen and Dwain Dixson

Ushers – Team "F" Capt. Ray Wittmann
Scott Huckstadt, Larry Fredericks, Jim Osterbur

Special Services
2 Team "A" Capt. Don DeMoss
9 Team "B" Youth Team
16 Team "C" Capt. Kurt Thornsbrough
24 Team "D" Capt. Jerry Kennett

	Lay Readers	Gospel Reader
6	Sue DeMoss	Kurt Thornsbrough
13	Julie Buesing	Butch Buesing
20	*Children's Program (TBD)*	
27	Diana Pratt	Allen Julian

Special Services

2	Carrie Farrell	Allen Julian
9	Janet Terry	Josh Christensen
16	Barb Garner	Gail Garner
24	Debbie Thornsbrough	Kurt Thornsbrough

	Acolytes	***Special Services***
6	Kendall Wright	2 Owen Price
13	Carley Wright	9 Brooklynn Hunt
20	Kinley Pratt	16 Eli Mann
27	Jamie Yonkers	24 Jamie Yonkers

	Videographer	Sound/Screens
6	Dwain Dixson	Josh Christensen
13	Kim Davis	RJ Davis
20	Butch Buesing	Jan Mann
27	Kim Davis	RJ Davis

Special Services

2	*Service not streamed*	Josh Christensen
9	*Service not streamed*	Jamie Yonkers
16	*Service not streamed*	Don DeMoss
24	*Service not streamed*	Dwain Dixson

	Children's Church	Children's Sermon
6	Jan Mann	13 Mary Ellen Fricke
20	*Children's Program*	27 Jo Robinson

Altar Guild
Rosemary Hilton, Debbie Ferris, and Carrie Farrell

Money Counters
Mary Powell and Holly Clem

Check Signers
Mike Ferris and Jo Van Hoveln

O Taste and See that the Lord is good!

Bread Painting



When you eat this fun snack, be thankful for Jesus, who is our Bread of Life.

What you need:

- Small cups
- Milk
- Food coloring
- Clean, food-safe brush
- Slice of bread
- Toaster or toaster oven
- Butter, optional



What you do:

1. Set out one small cup for each color you want to use.
2. Pour 1 to 2 tablespoons of milk into each cup.
3. Add a few drops of food coloring to each cup and stir until the color is bright.
4. Using a clean, food-safe brush, gently paint a picture or design on the bread. Be careful not to soak the bread.
5. When you're finished painting, toast the bread. Add a little butter, if desired, and enjoy!



Reminder:
Ask an adult for help when using a toaster or toaster oven.

"I am the bread of life."
John 6:35, NIV

PUZZLE

Counting Our Blessings

Thanksgiving is a great opportunity to "count our blessings." God blesses each of us daily in so many ways. Solve the following math problems. Then write the words on the numbered lines below to complete Ephesians 1:3, NIV.

14 - 7 = ____ Father	10 + 15 = ____ in
10 + 9 = ____ heavenly	6 - 3 = ____ to
10 + 5 = ____ blessed	12 - 6 = ____ and
2 - 1 = ____ Praise	6 + 6 = ____ Christ
7 + 7 = ____ has	18 - 9 = ____ our
11 + 11 = ____ every	22 - 11 = ____ Jesus
12 + 12 = ____ blessing	1 + 1 = ____ be
10 + 10 = ____ realms	7 + 6 = ____ who
13 + 13 = ____ Christ	2 + 2 = ____ the
8 + 8 = ____ us	10 - 5 = ____ God
8 + 9 = ____ in	4 + 4 = ____ of
5 + 5 = ____ Lord	9 + 9 = ____ the
10 + 11 = ____ with	10 + 13 = ____ spiritual

"_____ ____ ____ ____ _____ ____
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

Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Answer: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."

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ils.preschooloffice@gmail.com

Place Stamp Here



Our November 2026 newsletter prepared prayerfully for:

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MESSENGER

GOD WITH US



NOVEMBER 2026

Worship Schedule

Sundays
Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
at 9:30 am

Wednesdays
Nov. 4, 11 & 18
at 5:00 pm

Wednesday
Nov. 25 at 6:30 pm

Communion Schedule

Sundays
Nov. 1, 15 & 29
at 9:30 am

Wednesday
Nov. 25 at 6:30 pm



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