

# We have this **HOPE** as an anchor for the soul, **FIRM & SECURE.**

Hebrews 6:19, NIV

Doctrine and tradition, they are similar, and both are worthy of our attention. Doctrine and tradition they are not the same. Doctrine is rooted in scripture and taught by the word of God. Think of the Lord's supper and the words of Christ, Himself, commanding us to "*Do this in remembrance of Me*". The Lord's Supper and Its celebration and use is doctrine.

Tradition may have its roots in scripture, but it need not be so. Again, think of the Lord's Supper. Celebrating it and using the proper elements, grape wine and unleavened bread, what we teach and confess about it is doctrine. But many things around the Lord's Supper are tradition. Common or individual cups, large pieces of cracker-like bread or individual wafers, standing or kneeling, these all might be important, but they fall under tradition.

Look at our service and there, too, you will see a mix of tradition and doctrine. Article XV of the Augsburg Confession states that traditions that enhance our faith should be retained, but that any which lead us to lean on our own works or actions for God's favor should be abandoned and disowned.

We are free to sit, stand, or kneel for the reception of communion. We are free to gather around at the rail or to walk through in an orderly line. We are not free to change the words of Christ. We are not free to change the elements used. Soda and chips would not be acceptable and neither is grape juice.

Likewise in baptism we are free to sprinkle, pour, or fully immerse the one being baptized. Where there is water and the word there is baptism. The Small Catechism teaches us this. We are free to baptize at our font, or even in Lake Vermilion. We are free to use running, living water, or still and stagnant water, but we are not free to have a baptism without water of any sort. We are free to have an elaborate ceremony or a simple washing, but we are not free to exclude the word of God and the use of His name.

How do we know the difference between tradition and doctrine? Looking at scripture does help. We see Jesus being brought to be circumcised. This is in accord with God's Word (Genesis 17:10-12). That he was brought to the temple for his circumcision was more a matter of tradition. Later in life, we see Jesus paying the temple tax (Matthew 17:24-27) to enter the temple, His own house, and does so with the miraculous catch of a fish with a gold coin in its mouth. He teaches us both about tradition, the tax, and the authority of the leaders who collect it. Jesus also breaks traditions. He speaks and associates with Gentiles. He heals on the Sabbath. Imagine if we only spoke to other LCMS Lutherans or if our hospitals were closed on Sundays. That would not be right.

In our service we have traditions too. The liturgy is truly good, but one cannot say ONLY the LSB. We cannot say that variations are not allowed. It is good to use the LSB so that we all are on the same page, so that our members are not lost when they visit sister congregations.

Within our service we have our own traditions, and they are good. We bring the elements forward with the offering, we stand and sit at the appointed times, we have a hymn after the sermon on non-communion Sundays, and we love sharing the peace with one another. Here, I won't even mention our Steak Fry Dinner, Women's Guild Bazaar, or German Dinner.

All these are good things, but nowhere in the Bible are we mandated to do them or instructed on how we are to do them. These events are rooted in the traditions we share and passed down to one another and have a purpose. Our various dinners support our congregation and our mission. They also provide a time for fellowship and even a little outreach. When I was in Alabama, I always washed my hands with water and a towel during the service of the sacrament. It always felt odd until I learned it was done in memory of Pilate washing his Hands at Jesus's trial. Then I loved it.

In all things, whether doctrine or tradition, God's Word remains our anchor. As traditions shift and adapt over time, it is the unchanging truth of Scripture that grounds us. Hebrews 6:19 says, "*We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.*" That hope is Christ, revealed through the Word. While traditions may enrich our worship and fellowship, it is the sure and steady Word of God that holds us fast in faith, guiding us through every generation with unwavering truth.

**Rev. James Yonkers**



## IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER:

- Labor Day, **Sept. 1**
- Choir and Handbells Begins, **Sept. 3**
- LWML Mite Collection, **Sept. 7**
- LWML Zone Fall Rally, **Sept. 9**
- Patriot Day, **Sept. 11**
- ILS Fall Carnival, **Sept. 13**
- Steak Fry, **Sept. 20**
- First Day of Autumn, **Sept. 22**

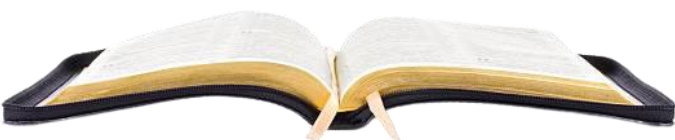


**HELP US CARE FOR YOU:** *Your well-being is important to us and we want to pray for you!* Unfortunately, we are no longer notified by the hospital; please call the church office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 7 am - 3:30 pm) when you have any medical procedure or in any time 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.

**HONORING THE GIFT OF WORK:** The Bible affirms both the value and dignity of work. From the beginning, God placed Adam in the garden “to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15, ESV). In the fourth commandment, we are reminded not only to observe the Sabbath, but also to labor diligently throughout the week: “Six days you shall labor and do all your work” (Exodus 20:9, ESV). Work is more than a routine obligation; it is an opportunity to engage our God-given abilities in meaningful ways. Whether using our hands, minds, or hearts, we reflect the image of our Creator—bringing order, care, and creativity into the world. Our labor allows us to contribute to the common good, find personal fulfillment, and practice faithful stewardship of the talents and strengths God has entrusted to us. As Paul writes, “We are God’s fellow workers” (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV). On this Labor Day, may we take time to recognize the blessing of work and celebrate those who serve, build, teach, lead, and labor with purpose and care.

*“THE BIBLE IS NOT ONLY a BOOK WHICH I CAN UNDERSTAND; IT IS ALSO a BOOK WHICH UNDERSTANDS ME.”*

—EMILE CAILLET



## WOMEN’S GUILD NEWS:

The **LWML CID Danville Zone Fall Rally** is coming up on **Sept. 9** from 8 am to 12:30 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Osman. The theme is “Precious in His Eyes”. Additional details can be found on the LWML bulletin board near the church office. Please let Diana Pratt know if you would like to attend. We will carpool to Osman.

**Monthly meetings** will resume on **Sept. 16** with an 11:30 am lunch meeting. Please bring a dish to share. Our Guild board members are our hostesses for September and will supply the dessert, drinks, and paper goods. Please consider joining us even if you have never attended before. Items in the agenda include the budget, Bazaar, and more. Looking ahead... our October meeting will be an evening meeting at 6:00 pm.

Our **ingathering** for September and October will be for Fair Hope Children’s Ministry on Voorhees Street in Danville. Their greatest needs currently are listed below. Please place your items in the tote in the coatroom.

- Infant / Toddler Socks (size 6-18 mo. & 18-36 mo.)
- Boys / Girls Underwear (size 2T-4T & 14-18)
- Lightweight Zip-up Jackets (sizes 2T-5T)
- Boys Jeans (size 6-10)

**PARISH EDUCATION:** Children’s activities at Immanuel will kick off in September with Sunday School, Children’s Church, Nursery, and Children’s Sermons. Parents, watch for a letter outlining when and where these activities will take place. We’re excited about a wonderful year ahead and can’t wait to see how your children grow in faith!

**SCRIP 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 **Sept. 8** and will be ready for pick up on **Sept. 14**. Here’s how it works: you purchase a gift card at face value (for example, a \$100 Meijer card), and the church receives a percentage back (in this case, 3%). You still get the full \$100 to spend—on groceries, gas, prescriptions, or whatever you normally buy—and the church gets a boost at no extra cost to you. Every card you purchase helps support the daily expenses of our church home. Thank you for using this simple and impactful way to give back!

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Fall Rummage and Bake Sale is scheduled for **Oct. 3 & 4!** It’s time once again to clean out your closets and support Immanuel! You may bring donations for the sale after the Steak Fry and put them on the stage in the gym. We will also be looking for volunteers to help set up, work the day of the sale, and clean up. The fall rummage sale benefits ILS, and they have chosen to donate the proceeds to the roof fund.

**BIBLE QUIZ – JEOPARDY STYLE!** Test your Bible knowledge with these ten questions. Whether you're a Bible expert or just getting started, this quiz is a great way to learn something new and challenge yourself. The answers are provided for you at the bottom of the next page. Ready? Grab a pencil and dive in!

1. This is the collective name for the first five books of the Bible.

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2. He is traditionally believed to have written the first five books of the Bible.

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3. This king wrote many of the Psalms found in the Bible.

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4. The Old Testament was originally written primarily in this language.

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5. The New Testament was written mainly in this ancient language.

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6. This book is the longest in the Bible by word count.

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7. This is the shortest book in the Bible by word count.

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8. The author of this New Testament book remains unknown, though often debated.

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9. This famous collection of ancient Bible scrolls was discovered in caves in Israel in 1948.

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10. True or False: Chapter and verse numbers were part of the original Bible manuscripts.

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## STEAK FRY

The Steak Fry is Saturday, **Sept. 20** from 4:30 pm to 6 pm. The menu includes grilled ribeye steak, baked potato, salad,

Italian bread, dessert, and drink for \$25. An extra steak costs \$10. This is a sit-down dinner with carryout meals available. **Advanced ticket sales only – tickets will not be sold at the door.** Tickets will be sold on Sundays after church from

Aug. 17 to Sept. 14 and in the church office during the week. Signup sheets for desserts and volunteers to help at the event will be available starting Aug 17. Set up is Sept. 19 at 4:30 pm. Clean up will be Sunday after church. Please consider helping since we will need lots of volunteers to make this a successful event! Thanks!



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING SUMMARY:

**Date: Aug. 19, 2025 / Next Meeting: Sept. 16, 2025**

### New Business

Phone Lines: We need to look into VOIP service. Gather quotes and discuss next month. The board looked over and discussed proposed changes to the cemetery by-laws.

### Old Business

Welcomed new board members, discussed the ongoing survey, and final Ark Encounter Trip plans and precautions.

### Christian Education

Current enrollment is 73. Christian Ed board members are Dottie Pettit, Butch Buesing, Gail Garner, Diana Pratt, and Debbie Thornsborough. Discussed teacher computers, smart boards, classroom cameras, and staff radio use.

### Finance

Reviewed reports. CDs rolled over, audits are ongoing.

### Properties

Bash Pepper Roofing came to bid on the roof project. Allen is working to replace the side lights in the sanctuary. We are waiting to hear from RC Electric about the sanctuary and outdoor lights.

### Stewardship

Pew envelopes for guests and visitors are being used. Stewardship will work with Evangelism to make sure we respond to any visitors with a nice card or note.

### Evangelism

The next upcoming event is Trunk or Treat in October.

### Worship

Church in the Park is on Sunday.

### Parish Education

All children's activities start on Sept. 7.

### Youth

Hannah will work with Mary Ellen as an adult leader with the youth group. Meetings will stay on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays for now.

### Mission and Social Ministry

Reviewed reports. We received a grant from Enterprise for \$970.30 for the food pantry.

### Elders

Welcomed new elders, Butch Buesing and Josh Schmidgall. Discussed sending cards to those who have not attended in some time as we continue to work through our membership roster.

### Vice-President

There are now 19 ILS families worshipping with us on either Wednesdays or Sundays thanks to the Church Attendance Discount.

### President

Discussed the Cemetery operations.

### Pastor

Discussion included official acts, health concerns, the Ark trip, and upcoming Bible Studies.



**CAPITAL FUND:** The current fund balance is \$206,233. We have been awarded (but will not receive it until the end of the project) a grant of \$50,000 for this project from the Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation, which is reflected in the current fund balance. Also, we have received grants from the Iroquois Federal Foundation and from the Vermilion Healthcare Foundation. 79% of OUR GOAL of \$260,000 for our current project of reroofing the school/gym wing of the building is currently funded! Stop by the display in the narthex to see the pictures of the current roof. We want to schedule the project for the spring of 2026 at the latest, so we need to raise the rest of the money (approximately \$53,767) this year. The congregation established the Capital Fund Drive in 2012, and thanks to our generous congregation, we have accomplished many needed upgrades/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, where you'll find envelopes for ongoing donations throughout the year. *"...because of my devotion to the house of my God I give my treasure for the house of my God. 1 Chronicles 29:3b.* If you have any questions, please contact Jo Van Hoveln or any of the committee members. **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped to raise this money for the project. Pray for the Capital Fund and the completion of the current project.

## JEOPARDY BIBLE QUIZ ANSWER KEY:

1. What is the Torah or Pentateuch?
2. Who is Moses?
3. Who is David?
4. What is Hebrew?
5. What is Greek?
6. What is the Book of Jeremiah? Or Psalms? Both are acceptable answers. It depends on who is doing the counting – and whether you are counting Hebrew words or English words. In the King James Version, Psalms has about 50 more words, both in the 42,700 range.
7. What is the Book of 3 John (220 words)
8. What is the Book of Hebrews
9. What are The Dead Sea Scrolls?
10. False. Those were added by translators about 800 years ago.

Interesting Fact: In the original manuscripts, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and 1 and 2 Chronicles were together as one book. Each pair would be longer than Jeremiah or Psalms if they were kept together.

## A MEMORABLE DAY AT THE ARK ENCOUNTER:

Last Saturday, a spirited group of 46 of us gathered early to board a charter bus bound for Williamstown, KY. It's a small world, our bus driver, Kevin Dixon, happens to be an Immanuel alum from the class of 1996! Does anyone remember him? What a great guy he is! And what a fantastic day it was! Together, we dove into the story of Noah and the Flood. Seeing the full-sized replica of Noah's Ark up close was truly breathtaking. You don't fully grasp its enormous scale until you're standing right beside it. Thank you to all who chose to spend the day with us. We've received so much wonderful feedback that we are discussing plans for another adventure next summer! Is there a place you've been hoping to visit? We'd love to hear your ideas!





### Join Pastor Yonkers for a Bible Study!

Pastor Yonkers will be leading one of our Sunday morning Bible studies this season, focusing on “A Walk Through the Liturgy.” This class will explore the structure of our worship service, answering the question of *why* we do what we do—and offer fresh perspectives on approaching worship with meaning and joy. Pastor Yonkers said, *“When I was a teenager, I always was a faithful Lutheran but still rebuked the Lord for being boring. He showed me the beautiful dialogue in the Liturgy and put me into my place, and in so doing led me to pursue the ministry.”* This Bible Study is great for our new members and visitors, but even long-time Lutherans will learn something new! Together, we’ll dive into our worship service, discovering it not as a relic of the past, but as a living, breathing conversation with God, the church triumphant, and the faithful community seated beside you. Come and see worship in a new light—and grow in faith with us!

### Join Josh Christensen for Sunday Bible Study!

Our church president, Josh, will continue to lead a Bible Study on Sunday mornings as well. First, they will finish up the **Bible Expedition** series from last year and then delve into an in-depth study of the Flood and Noah. This study will beautifully complement our recent trip to the Ark Encounter—but don’t worry, you don’t need to have been on the trip to join or follow along. This video study will explore the Bible, its historicity and its importance to our modern day life. Everyone is welcome!

### NEW! Wednesday Evening Family Bible Study!

By popular request, we’re excited to offer a new family-based Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM—a special time designed for all ages to learn and grow together. This study invites families to participate in engaging activities, including some designed especially for children, as we explore the biblical meaning of Marriage and Family—what it truly means to be part of both your birth family and the family of God. From the very beginning, God said it was not good for Adam to be alone and created Eve to be his partner. He blessed them and commanded them to “be fruitful and multiply.” When Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism, he addressed it to the heads of households, encouraging them to teach

God’s Word to their families. Each Wednesday evening, following our church service, we will dive into the rich blessings and meaning of family through God’s Word. We hope many of you will join us as we celebrate and grow together in faith as one family.

### Women’s Bible Study...

All women are invited to join us for our Tuesday morning Bible study, beginning **Sept. 16** at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room. This fall, we’ll be diving into *The Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream. The study explores the lives of 16 women from Scripture and the timeless lessons their stories offer for our lives today. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please add your name so we can order a book for you. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Cindy Pasquale. We hope you’ll join us for this time of study, conversation, and encouragement in God’s Word!

### Men’s Bible Study...

Gentlemen, are you interested in starting up a Men’s Bible Study? It’s been a while since our Men’s Club and Bible Study were active, but we’d love to bring it back and get a group going again. After all, why should the ladies have all the fun? We can gather around God’s Word *and* good food, too! We’re open to meeting times that fit your schedule, whether that’s early in the morning before work or an evening during the week. Got an idea for a topic, format, or location? We’d love to hear it! This group can be shaped by those who show up and share. If you’re interested, or just have a few thoughts to share, talk to Josh Christensen. Let’s build something meaningful together – faith, fellowship, and maybe even breakfast.







### A Message from Pastor Mike Burdick St. John's in Effingham

No harvest is completed without hard work. Near our cities and next door to our rural congregations, fields will soon be swarming with machinery and manpower to bring in the corn and beans. It will take work. ***"The harvest is plentiful,"*** Jesus said (Matthew 9:37). We know He was speaking not about corn and beans, but boys and girls, precious men and women. They don't come automatically. It takes work. The work of the Holy Spirit through the Word. The Word spoken by you ... after you have listened attentively. There's help available for the witnessing work you're expected to do. In your church there are probably four posters displayed that are titled "Witnessing Helps." They're also available on our District website. These four posters offer us practical help for the work done by our ears, hearts, minds, and mouths. The harvest is plentiful! The work is hard ... but not too hard. God will do His work – through you.

### 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.

Our Lord Jesus said, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest." This month, please remember in your prayers all the students, particularly those from CID, who are studying at our Synod's colleges and seminaries to become pastors, teachers, and other kinds of church workers – many of whom are supported by scholarship money from CID.

### Camp CILCA News

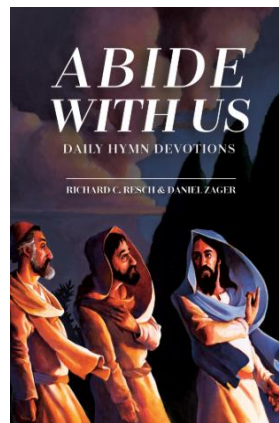
#### Men's Shooting Retreat – Sat., Sept. 20

Men, bring your sons, grandsons, nephews, or friends along with your firearms and some ammo to take aim at Camp CILCA. Shooting provides a perfect opportunity for talk to men, young and old, about responsibility, strength, and discipline. Bible study will also focus on what it means to be a man in an increasingly confused society. Lunch will be served between morning and afternoon sessions. Total cost is \$15 per person. Camp CILCA will have some safety glasses and ear protection, but feel free to bring your own. Contact the camp office for more information or to register. 217-487-7497 / [camp@cilca.org](mailto:camp@cilca.org).

**CHOIR & HANDBELLS** will resume practices on Wednesday, **Sept. 3**. Choir will meet from 6:00 – 6:45 pm, with Handbells at from 6:45 – 7:30 pm. If you've ever thought about joining — whether you're experienced or simply curious — we'd love to have you!

**ILS FALL CARNIVAL:** We are excited to host a Welcome Back Fall Carnival on Saturday, **Sept. 13** from 5-7 pm! This is a freewill donation event for both school families and the church. We are looking for volunteers to help our school staff make this an amazing event for all! We are looking for help cooking, serving, set up and tearing down, running games and activities (ideas are welcome), and baking cakes to run a cake walk! We'll also need help getting prizes to give to people who win. Contact our director, Rachel Schmidgall in the school office or by email [ils.schooldirector@gmail.com](mailto:ils.schooldirector@gmail.com) if you're interested in this fun opportunity!

### NEW DEVOTIONAL FROM CPH: Your hymnal is



more than a collection of Sunday morning songs—it's a wellspring of theology, history, comfort, and daily encouragement. A new devotional from Concordia Publishing House, titled *Abide with Us: Daily Hymn Devotions* by Richard C. Resch and Daniel Zager, invites readers to rediscover their hymnal as a daily companion in their walk of faith. Each day's devotion focuses on a hymn from the Lutheran Service Book, pairing it with a Scripture

reading and a thoughtful, Christ-centered reflection. These aren't simply musical meditations—they are theologically rich, soul-nourishing moments that connect you to centuries of Christian faith and worship. Whether you've grown up singing these hymns or are discovering them anew, this book will deepen your appreciation for their depth and beauty. A sample devotion based on the baptismal hymn "*See This Wonder in the Making*" (LSB 593) reminds us that baptism is far more than a ceremony—it's a divine miracle. In baptism, God opens heaven's door and makes us heirs of eternal life. The devotion ties Scripture and hymn text together in a powerful proclamation of the Gospel. Authored by respected Lutheran scholars and musicians, Richard C. Resch, Professor and Kantor Emeritus from Concordia Theological Seminary, and Daniel Zager, musicologist and former professor at Eastman School of Music, *Abide with Us* is both intellectually rich and spiritually accessible. This beautiful hardcover volume for just \$25 is expected to ship in November 2025. If you would like to order a copy, please see Kim in the church office to be added to the list.



# ILS Connections

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

**September 2025**

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: Mrs. Rachel Schmidgall**

Welcome Back Families to a new preschool year at Immanuel Lutheran School! We are so blessed to open our doors once again and to welcome both familiar and new faces to our school. Each year brings with it fresh opportunities for growth, joy, and the loving presence of God in all the things we do. "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14) We cherish these words of Jesus and take seriously the beautiful calling of nurturing the hearts and minds of your little ones. Every child who walks through our doors is a precious gift from God, uniquely created and deeply loved. It is our joy to help them discover God's love through learning, play and community! We are committed to partnering with you all as parents or caregivers to create this positive environment for your child(ren), whether through events, chapel, curriculum or simply drop off and pick up. Together, we are shaping the next generation of young children and encouraging them to follow Jesus.

## **YOUNG TWO'S ROOM: Mrs. Kirsten Brown**

We have had a great start to the school year! We have spent the last two weeks getting into a routine, learning how to share and making new friends. We spent the last week of August learning all about ourselves. Our eye colors, hair colors, and what makes each one of us special! We will start September off with learning our color of the month, Red, letter of the month, A, number of the month, 1 and shape of the month, circle. We will also start by learning about our five senses. I am excited to see what this school year will bring!

## **TWO'S ROOM: Miss Nicole Martin**

"We have had a great start to the new school year! We have spent the last weeks of August learning our new schedule, making new friends, and also learning all about ourselves during "All About Me!" week. September we will start with the 5 senses which will be loads of fun! We will also begin working on our focus board with a letter every week as well as a number, color, and shape each month! We are very excited to see what we can learn this year!"

## **THREE'S ROOM: Mrs. Katie Rouse**

The 3s classroom is off to a great start for the new school year! The children have done a wonderful job learning our routine and rules of the classroom. We finished August by talking "All About Me" and sharing our special About Me bags with our friends. In September we will focus on the weekly themes -Our 5 Senses, Sunflowers, Apples, Farmer's Market, and Fall as well as letters A-D and our monthly shape: square, number 1, and the color: blue.

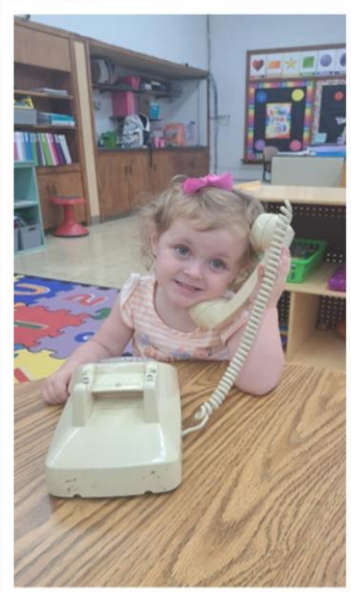
## **FOUR'S ROOM: Mrs. Tabatha Hammer**

We've had a wonderful start to the new year! The children are reconnecting with old friends, discovering new ones, and enjoying all of their favorite activities. This month we'll begin our weekly lessons on letters, as well as our monthly focus on shapes, colors, and numbers. Our class especially loves music and movement—they ask every day if we can have a dance party! During Jesus Time, we've been learning about how Jesus loves the little children and about God's Creation. It's been such a joyful beginning, and we are looking forward to a fantastic school year together!

## **FOUR'S ROOM: Ms. Michelle Wiese**

Welcome ILS families! It's great to see so many returning faces as well as new ones. Ms. Wiese's Pre-K class is off to a great start. We will be working on a shape, color, number, and site word every month. Our letters of alphabet will change weekly. We do talk and do activities with them all month long, but I do encourage you to at least review them with your children when they are in your care. The letters for August were Aa and Ss, the shape was a circle, the color was red, and the numbers were 1 and 11. Please make sure you let know me if you ever have any questions or concerns. Thank you for sending your kids to ILS. I'm looking forward to an adventure year with all our students!









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### **WEEKLY BROADCAST SCHEDULE:**

Sundays at 7:00 am – WTWO – TV2 (NBC)

Sundays at 7:30 am – WCIX Channel 3

Sundays at 10:30 am – TCT Network – Direct TV Channel 377

Nationwide Sundays: Direct TV Channel 377 (11:30 am Eastern / 10:30 am Central / 9:30 am Mountain / 8:30 am Pacific)

Tune in anytime online: [www.worshipforshutins.org](http://www.worshipforshutins.org)

## ***September 2025***



**September 7, 2025**

***“Being Totally Committed”* by Rev. Scott Zeckzer**

**Sermon Text: Luke 14:26**

Being a disciple of Jesus is more than just contributing; it is being totally committed to Jesus. How far are you willing to be committed to Jesus? How far is Jesus committed to you?



**September 14, 2025**

***“Zealous for Your Salvation”* by Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**

**Sermon Text: Ezekiel 34:11-16**

That you have been brought to faith in Jesus and have forgiveness and everlasting life is not by coincidence. No, this is because God is zealous for your salvation. God wanting you to be saved is seen in the history of Israel, in the earthly life of Christ, and in your own life. All this shows that you are precious to the Lord.



**September 21, 2025**

***“The Buck Stops Here”* by Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer**

**Sermon Text: Luke 16:10-13**

Material riches are a wonderful thing ... rightly understood and ordered. Jesus teaches us to love the right things in the right order. Understanding this, we can faithfully say, “The Buck Stops Here!”



**September 28, 2025**

***“Heaven and Hell”* by Rev. Shayne Jonker**

**Sermon Text: Luke 16:31**

So, who would you rather be? The rich man or Lazarus? We are all Lazarus: Helpless and hopeless in our poverty, sick unto death, and longing to even eat the crumbs that fall from God’s table. Lazarus is each of us, and unless we see ourselves in him, we cannot be saved. In fact, we won’t want to be saved.

## **Put love into action.**

*At Worship Anew, we understand that you never stop growing in your journey with Christ. So, we equip aging adults to go deeper with daily devotionals, Lutheran worship programs, and more. We’re here to remind you that you’re not alone. You’re not forgotten. We’re here to encourage you — and provide you with the same love and support you’ve spent years giving to others. To learn more, visit [worshipanew.org](http://worshipanew.org).*



# Serving Schedules



## September 2025

### Communion Assistants

- 7 Dwain Dixon, Dean Hull  
21 Don DeMoss, Josh Christensen

### Ushers – Team “C”

Capt. Kurt Thornsborough, Paul Pasquale, Butch Buesing, Gary West, Allen Julian, and Jim Robinson

### Lay Readers

- 7 Dwain Dixon  
14 Sue DeMoss  
21 Gail and Barb Garner  
28 Jan Mann

### Gospel Reader

- Dwain Dixon  
Butch Buesing  
Gail Garner  
Allen Julian

### Acolytes

- 7 Jamie Yonkers  
14 Carley Wright  
21 Kinley Pratt  
28 Owen Price

### Videographer

- 7 Josh Christensen  
14 Dwain Dixon  
21 Kim Davis  
28 Dwain Dixon

### Sound/Screens

- Volunteer Needed*  
Don DeMoss  
RJ Davis  
Jamie Yonkers

### Children’s Church Nursery

- 7 Diana Pratt  
21 Jan Mann  
TBD

### Children’s Sermon

- 14 Sue Heidle  
28 Marah Showers

### Altar Guild

Sharron Runyan and Kathy Christensen

### Money Counters

Team “C” Mary Powell and Holly Clem

### Check Signers

Jo Van Hoveln and Mary Powell

## October 2025

### Communion Assistants

- 5 Kurt Thornsborough, Dwain Dixon  
19 Don DeMoss, Josh Christensen

### Ushers – Team “D”

Capt. Jerry Kennett, Chuck Vollmer, Paul Teegarden, Earl Lackey, Dean and Pam Hull

### Lay Readers

- 5 Diana Pratt  
12 Nancy Purviance  
19 Janet Terry  
26 Kurt & Debbie T.

### Gospel Reader

- Kurt Thornsborough  
Josh Christensen  
Gail Garner  
Kurt Thornsborough

### Acolytes

- 5 Kendall Wright and Brooklyn Hunt  
12 Jamie Yonkers  
19 Eli Mann  
26 Kinley Pratt

### Videographer

- 5 Josh Christensen  
12 Butch Buesing  
19 Dwain Dixon  
26 Kim Davis

### Sound/Screens

- Jamie Yonkers  
Don DeMoss  
Jan Mann  
RJ Davis

### Children’s Church Nursery

- 5 Jan Mann  
19 *Christian Education / ILS Sunday*

### Children’s Sermon

- 12 Diana Pratt  
26 Jo Robinson

### Altar Guild

Juanita Rottmann and Pam Van Camp

### Money Counters

Team “A” Jerry and Charlotte Kennett

### Check Signers

Mary Powell and Mike Ferris



*For the*  
**BREAD OF GOD**  
IS HE WHO COMES DOWN FROM  
**HEAVEN**  
*and gives Life to the world.*  
JOHN 6:33, ESV





Create adorable sheep using graham crackers, marshmallows, and a little imagination!

#### What you need:

- Graham cracker squares
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Mini marshmallows
- Large marshmallows
- Candy eyes or mini chocolate chips
- Black gel icing or mini Oreo cookie

#### What you do:

1. Spread white frosting or marshmallow fluff on each graham cracker square.
2. Stick mini marshmallows all over to make the sheep's wool.
3. Cut a large marshmallow in half and stick it near the top for the head.
4. Add candy eyes and a dot of black gel for the nose. Or use a mini Oreo cookie half for a more defined face.
5. Let kids decorate their sheep however they'd like!



#### Lesson tie-in

Use this treat to remind kids that Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

John 10:11, KJV

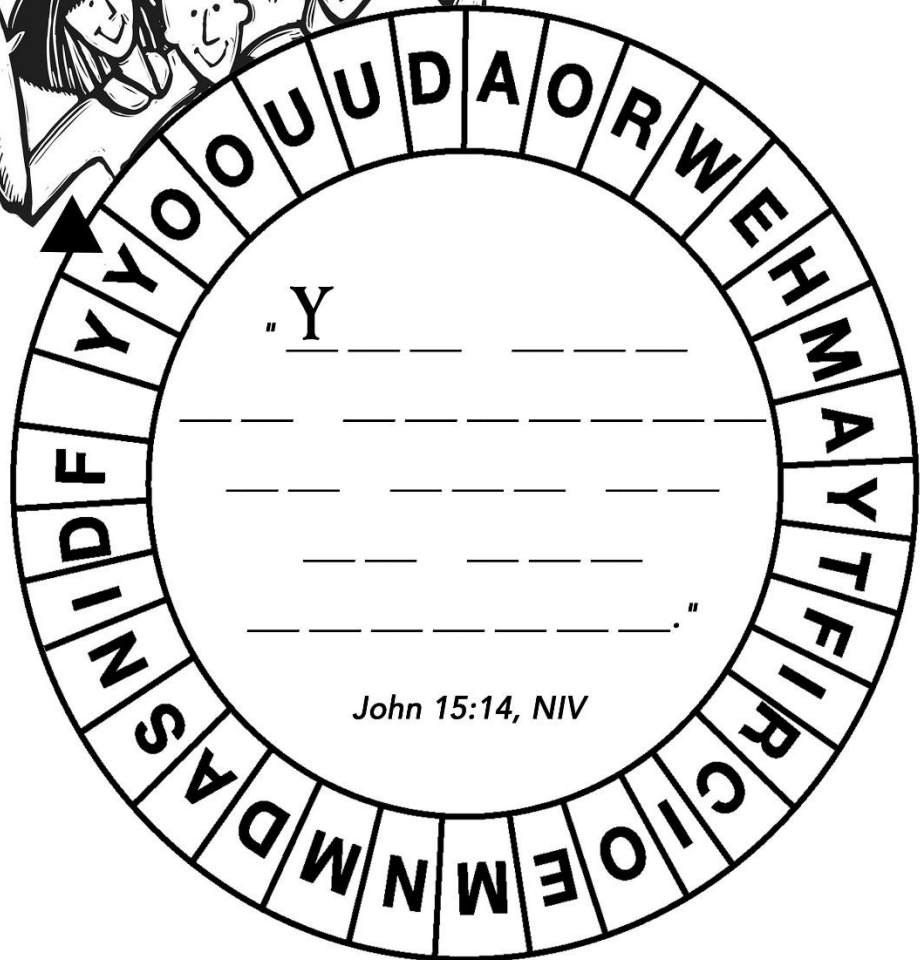


## WHO WERE JESUS' FRIENDS?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends. Whom did Jesus consider his friends?



Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below.



Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# MESSENGER

GOD WITH US

For no word  
from God will  
ever fail.

Luke 1:37

September 2025

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
1930 N. Bowman  
Danville, IL 61832  
[www.ilcdanville.com](http://www.ilcdanville.com)  
217-442-5675

**Immanuel Lutheran School**  
217-442-5036

**Worship Schedule**  
**Sundays**  
Sept. 7, 14, 21 & 28  
at 9:30 am

**Wednesdays**  
Sept. 3, 10, 17 & 24  
at 5:00 pm

**Communion Schedule**  
**Sundays**  
Sept. 7 & 21  
at 9:30 am

**Wednesday**  
Sept. 24 at 5:00 pm

Place Stamp Here

Our September 2025 newsletter prepared prayerfully for:

This newsletter also available on our website: [www.ilcdanville.com](http://www.ilcdanville.com)

**Immanuel Lutheran Church and School**  
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