



Immanuel Lutheran Church

# IMMANUEL LIGHTS

Vol. LXVII No. 52 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Danville, Illinois

Web Site: [www.ilcdanville.com](http://www.ilcdanville.com) Email: [ilcd.churchsec@gmail.com](mailto:ilcd.churchsec@gmail.com) Phone: 217.442-5675

GOD WITH US

December 28, 2025

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## Serving in Worship Today

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**Pastor:** Rev. James Yonkers

**Music Director / Organist:** Tom Fricke

**Elders:** Don D., Dean H., Butch B., Josh S.

**Ushers:** Team F: Capt. Ray Wittmann

**Communion:** Kurt Thornsborough, Al Julian

**Lay Reader:** Josh Christensen

**Gospel Reader:** Josh Christensen

**Children's Message:** Mary Ellen Fricke

**Videographer:** Kim Davis

**Screens/Audio:** RJ Davis

**Acolyte:** Brooklynn Hunt

**Altar Guild:** Rosemary H., Debbie F., Carrie F.

**Counters:** Mary Powell and Holly Clem

**SPIRITUAL CARE:** *Your well-being is important to us, and we want to pray for you!* Please contact the church office during regular business hours (Monday – Friday from 7 am – 3:30 pm). In case of emergencies after hours, contact Pastor Yonkers on his cell: 260-413-8375.

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE:** The Old Testament is 1 Kings 3:4-15 (Solomon asks for wisdom to rule his people); the Epistle is Ephesians 1:3-14 (He has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.); the Gospel is Luke 2:40-52 (Jesus remains behind at the temple.)

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by to the glory of God are given to the glory of God by Mary Powell in honor of her past wedding anniversaries; and by all who gave poinsettias in honor of the Christ child or in memory of loved ones. *May all your remembrances be blessed!*

**HOSPITALIZED:** We pray for those hospitalized this week: **Walter Harbison.**

**HOMEBOUND / HEALTH CONCERNS:** We pray for **Mike Borgwald, Ruth Burress, Dawn Campbell, Heather Christensen, Nancy Clark, Darlene Collins, Sandra Courson, Kyla Culotti, and Rosalie Finet.**

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** next Sunday (01/04) "Knowing and Being Known in a New Year" by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. God invites us to speak with Him in prayer and hear from Him in the Bible, to know Him and to love as we are loved. (John 17:3) Tune in to hear this and other great sermons: [www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org).

**WELCOME VISITORS!** If you're new to Immanuel, we pray you feel the love of Christ and are blessed by our time of worship together. Please fill out the visitor information form located in the red folder at the end of your pew; we'd love to get to know you better! If you have any questions or need assistance, our friendly ushers (you'll find them just outside the sanctuary) are happy to help. *We're glad you're here!*

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets on Sundays at 8:30 am – *with coffee and donuts!* Please note that there is no Bible Study or Sunday School today. Classes will return next Sunday. Join us as we continue with the Bible Expedition series. In Sunday School, children (age 3+) and our youth Bible Study (Jr./Sr. high) will begin new topics after finishing up the Sunday School Christmas Program. Our tradition of sharing this program each year is truly a blessing and a special treat during the Christmas season. A heartfelt thank you to all the children and parents for your time, enthusiasm, and participation!

*May the joy* of this special season bless you



and yours with peace, hope, joy, and love in Christ! We extend a heartfelt thanks to all who helped with our special Advent and Christmas services and activities! From the choir and hand bells, who gave their time

and talents; to the Parish Ed volunteers with the Children's Christmas Program to all who helped decorate the church, baked cookies to give away, and contributed to and attended the Advent Suppers and services. **Thank you and Merry Christmas!!**

**CALL COMMITTEE:** ILS is beginning the process of considering a call for a teacher. If you are interested in serving on the Call Committee, please speak with Kurt Thornsborough. Thank you for your willingness to support this important work.

**SCHEDULE CHANGES:** Please take note of a few adjustments to our regular calendar. The church office will be closed on **Jan. 1**. Also, there is no Wednesday Evening Service on **Dec. 31**. Wednesday services will resume on **Jan. 7** at 5 pm in the Chapel.

**CAPITAL FUND CHRISTMAS TREE:** A Christmas tree is set up in the narthex for year-end gifts to our Capital Fund Drive. Please place your donation in one of the envelopes provided next to the tree, then drop the completed envelope in the offering plate. You are welcome to take an ornament home as a keepsake to commemorate your gift. Every donation, large or small, is gratefully appreciated!

**INGATHERING:** Our **ingathering** for November and December is for the VA. Items requested: gift cards (\$5 - \$10 ea.) from DQ, Walmart, Meijer, Starbucks, and Applebee's, Little Debbie Christmas cakes, paintable ceramics, belts in sizes 32 – 42, car or sport t-shirts in sizes XL – 2XL, sports hats, and 2 liters of soda.

#### ALTAR FLOWERS / BULLETIN SPONSORS:

The 2026 Altar Flowers and Bulletin sponsor signup posters are up! Both are great ways to celebrate special occasions and remember loved ones. The cost for altar flowers is just \$40.00 per Sunday. You can take your flowers home to enjoy following the service. Checks should be made payable to the Women's Guild and envelopes for this purpose are next to the signup sheet. The cost to sponsor bulletins is just \$30 per week and helps cover the cost of printing. In the bulletin, we'll include personalized art and a note to commemorate your special occasion or honor your loved one. There are typically very few sponsors for either one in January or February, so consider signing up soon!

**HONORING A LEGACY OF ATHLETICS:** Trinity Lutheran and the former Danville Lutheran Athletic Program invite you to join us as we honor and recognize all former athletes and coaches of Trinity Lutheran and Danville Lutheran School at the boys' varsity basketball game on **Jan. 13**. The game begins at 6:00 pm with recognition taking place at halftime. All former student-athletes who participated in basketball, volleyball, track and field, cross country, baseball, or cheerleading are invited to attend and will receive special recognition. If you are unable to attend the Alumni Recognition, please send the following information to Dan Yagow. His email address is [dan.yagow@trinityadvancedlearning.org](mailto:dan.yagow@trinityadvancedlearning.org). If you are able to attend, you can share this information at the registration table, or you may still email it in advance, just please indicate that you are attending in person.

- Name
- School name and team(s)
- Dates of participation
- A great moment or memory
- Current occupation

**2026 ENVELOPES** are available now. Please do not use your new envelopes until 2026 as your envelope number may have changed; likewise, do not use leftover 2025 envelopes after Jan. 1. This will help us accurately acknowledge your contributions. If you currently do not have envelopes, but would like to begin using them, please call Kim in the church office. Thanks!

**ALTAR POINSETTIAS:** Thank you to all who placed poinsettias at our altar for the celebration of our Lord's Nativity! We know that many of you place these in memory of loved ones; thank you and may all your remembrances be blessed! We appreciate you lending them to beautify our altar for Christmas and we now encourage you to take them home to enjoy!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** "*A Taste of Deutschland*" German Dinner, co-hosted by the Capital Fund Committee and Men's Club is set to return on **Feb. 21!**



#### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

Attendance Last Sunday (12/21) **53**

#### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE:

Giving Last Week	<b>\$9,487.<sup>00</sup></b>
Needed Weekly	<b>\$7,570.<sup>00</sup></b>
Checking Account Balance	<b>\$3,280.<sup>00</sup></b>
Bills Due This Week	<b>\$12,537.<sup>00</sup></b>

#### BIRTHDAYS:

Dec. 30	Katelyn Crawley	1	Tina Ammermann
30	Michael Van Hoveln	1	Bonnie Lazzell
31	Rick Beck	2	Daniel Rull
31	Kurt Thornsborough	3	Charlotte Schendel
		3	Tiffany Walters

#### ANNIVERSARIES:

Dec. 29	Daniel and Joanna Van Hoveln	57
Jan. 1	Denny and Rosemary Hilton	61
Jan. 3	Bill and Joyce Martin	34

#### CALENDAR EVENTS THIS WEEK ...

Sunday (28)	9:30 am	Worship with Communion
Monday (29)	10:00 am	Manor Bible Study
Wednesday (31)	8:30 am	Food Pantry
Next Sunday (4)	8:30 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	9:30 am	Worship with Communion

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- New Year's Eve, Dec. 31
- ILS Classes Resume, Jan. 5
- Epiphany, Jan. 6
- The Baptism of our Lord, Jan. 11
- Trinity / DLS Athletics Alumni Recognition, Jan. 13
- MLK, Jr. Day (ILS Closed), Jan. 19
- ILS Sunday, Jan. 25
- National Lutheran Schools Week, Jan. 26 – 30