



The Immanuel Echo

The Newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church
Manitowoc, WI
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

August 2023

I'D LIKE MORE HAPPINESS!

A child's definition of happiness might be getting Christmas presents every morning and cake and ice cream for every meal. But, after a few days it wouldn't feel quite as special. Adults often think money can make them happy. But we each know people with plenty of money who are pretty unhappy or even depressed. Some think that a drink or a hit will help their mood or situation. But the "high" eventually fades and they're still stuck with reality.



Finding LASTING happiness in other people or things is an exercise in futility.

Do you know God's word for happy people? It's the word "blessed." Only the gifts God gives offer true happiness. You already know the most important one – the blessing of his Son. Jesus took the blame for everything we've ever done wrong. It's why he died on the cross—not because HE did anything wrong, but because WE did. And Jesus paid for our sins, which means we are saved from God's judgment of eternal death. That's happiness – we're rescued!!!

No matter how long we live, even though we are all destined to die, Jesus rose from the dead on Easter morning and broke Death's hold on us. So, even though we will still die, by trusting in Jesus, we have the sure hope that we will also come back to life and live forever in heaven. That's happiness too – eternal victory!!!

Get this - God even uses the most difficult circumstances in our lives for our good. We learn the depth of his love. Our trust in him can be strengthened. No matter how hard life is for us, no matter how much pain we've endured, and no matter how poor we seem to be, no one and nothing can take away what Jesus did for us. That's happiness too – smiling through the tears of this life!!!

Want more happiness? God has already given it to you through Jesus!

~ Pastor Matt Zimpelmann

Sunday Family Bible Study

Join us for Family Bible Study on Sunday mornings between worship services to dig deeper into God's truths for us in our lives. During challenging times and joyful times, we learn to fix our eyes on Jesus, His truths, how vital He is in our lives, and our eternal future. Each week we explore a different topic so join us anytime. God has so much to tell us, to help us, at all times!

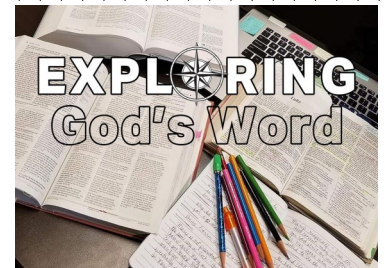


Our study is taught in a relaxed, family atmosphere. All ages are welcome! There are activity pages for the children that correlate with the lesson being studied, and they participate in the beginning of Bible study with their parents. At 9:50am, children are welcome to go with a teacher to the room across the hall. There they learn and explore the same portion of God's Word through felt board, video, crafts, etc. and sing praises to Jesus. At 10:10am the children are brought back to their parents in Bible study. Parents have the option of their children staying with them for all of Bible study; in this case parents with little ones may wish to bring along a snack or coloring book for them.

Our Bible study is held in the Fellowship Hall (church basement) from 9:20 AM to 10:15 AM.

God + Me Course

As the summer heats up, we hope you can cool off and be refreshed as you make a resolution to be closer to God this year with our upcoming God + Me Course which **begins on Monday, August 21st**. This class explores the basic truths of the Bible and briefly compares some single differences between religions and various Christian denominations. Most importantly, it answers the questions every person needs to know in life...*who am I?... what's my purpose in life?... how can I get to heaven?... how can I be certain I am loved and forgiven?... how does the Bible apply to me?*



This class can serve as a membership class or simply a good spiritual refresher and a further step to understanding God and self. Either way, you will enjoy this course because here is our guarantee: There are no strings attached and there is not cost—all materials and childcare provided. "Try it before you buy it!" If, after 2-3 weeks you decide to step away, you won't be made to defend your decision to do so.

As the kids return to their learning this fall, you won't regret pushing yourself to learn this fall either. To learn more or to register, please go to: ilutheran.org/intro-class.

Opportunities for Men

Here are several opportunities for all the men to grow in God's Word!

† **Men's Prayer Group** meets on **Tuesdays, August 1st and 15th at 7:30 AM** in the Gathering Room.

† **Men's Bible Study**— **Saturday, August 5th—8:00 AM** at Grace Lutheran and on **Saturdays, August 12th and 26th—8:00 AM** at 1st German Lutheran



Our college students will soon be starting their semesters. Immanuel's College Ministry program is ready to offer support and contact for our members who are away at college, while helping to connect them to their local WELS campus ministry or church. Therefore, it's time to update contact info for all our members who are in college or technical school. Parents or Students, even if we had your info last year, please fill out this form -

[Immanuel College Student Contact Form](#). Or email the student's name, address at school, phone number, email address, start date of classes, as well as name of school, major, and expected graduation date to: CollegeConnect@ilutheran.org. Thank you!

Womens Bible Study—Ephesians

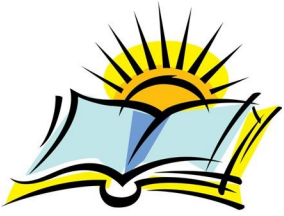
Our Bible Study exists to nurture, encourage, and equip women to faithfully and fully use their God-given gifts to glorify God. **Mark your calendars to join us on Saturday, August 12th at 9:00 AM.** Women of all ages are invited to join us for Women's Bible Study. We meet in the Conference Room in the church office.

We are currently enjoying a study of Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Paul wrote his letter to the Ephesians while he was a prisoner and in it he reminded them of what God's great power and grace has done for believers. That means you too!

Bring your Bible, if you don't have one, please let me know and we will supply you with one. There is a study guide and we will also be using The People's Bible Galatians / Ephesians book for reference as well. We have copies of both available. If you are planning to join us or have any questions, please contact Judy Fuerbringer at 920-973-3355 or judynglenn@ameritech.net.

Join us to be refreshed & strengthened by the words of our Savior!!





CHURCH LIBRARY *News*

You may stop in at the Immanuel church library at any time. It is located in our church basement. You will find books, music, & videos. Check out is self-service. ~Laura Rozoff, Church Librarian

We received a donation of the three books in Colleen Coble's *Aloha Reef Series*, along with a review. "The series include stories about three grown children whose mother left them when they were young. They take place in Hawaii. Each one has a mystery in it and a romance. Some of the people are Christians and are not afraid to share their faith. And some are eventually brought to faith through them. They are a good read!"

Thank you so much for the kind donation. The name of the books are: *Distant Echoes* (book 1), *Black Sands* (book 2), and *Dangerous Depths* (book 3). You can find them in the adult fiction area of the library.

FAMILY FUN Fest



**Sunday,
August 20th
10:30 AM
Outdoor Worship
Celebration &
Picnic**

**Fun & Games for All Ages
Invite your friends!**

New this year...Balde Farms Petting Zoo

**Music
Bounce House
Face Painting
Cotton Candy
Snow Cones
Bean Bag Games**

**Everyone is Welcome!
Immanuel Church
Corner of Waldo
Boulevard &
North 9th Street
Manitowoc**

Following the
worship service there
will be food available
at no cost...

hamburgers, brats,
hotdogs, chicken
breasts, chips, beans,
applesauce, carrots,
side dishes, beverages

- Desserts available
- Bring your own
lawn chairs if you
would like

GRIEF SHARE SESSION



GriefShare is a support ministry to help people who are grieving the loss of a loved one whether recent or in the past. Each session is about 2 hours long. There is a short video on various topics presented by mental health experts who have also gone through the grieving process. This is followed by group discussion time. Between each weekly session there is a workbook that has daily exercises that point you to God's Word and help you work through your grief.

GriefShare is **starting in new session beginning Wednesday, August 30th, and will continue meeting Wednesdays thru November 22nd.** We will be meeting at Immanuel **from 5:30 to 7:30 PM** in the church Conference Room. If you are interested in getting more information or know someone who we should personally invite, please contact Larry Verlinden at 920-323-2297 or verlinden@comcast.net. More information and registration is available online at the GriefShare website, griefshare.org. There is a charge of \$20 per person which is to cover the cost of workbooks. Please register by August 21st so we can ensure that we have a sufficient number of workbooks. Anyone is welcome to join the group at any time during the new session. Please share this information with a family member and/or friend who is grieving the loss of a loved one.

HELP WITH FAMILY FUN FEST!

The Immanuel Family Fun Fest and Immanuel Back to School event will be on **Sunday, August 20th** at Immanuel in the lower parking lot and gym.

This is a **FREE** event is open to all Immanuel families **AND the community.** So...Bring your whole family **and** invite your friends to attend worship and the picnic and fun afterwards! Outdoor worship will feature special worship music. Afterwards from Noon to 3:00 PM, there will be lunch, various games for all ages and activities, cotton candy, and snow cones to enjoy along with musical entertainment. Food being served includes burgers, brats, hotdogs, chicken breasts, and more.



We are looking for monetary donations, food items, and side dishes to assist in deferring the cost. **Volunteers are also needed** to make this event a success for all. Monetary donations can be dropped off at the Church Office and marked for a specific item listed, or for a general picnic offering. **Online signup is available at SignUp.com.** Here is how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. See our SignUp on SignUp.com—<https://signup.com/go/OcjYdRu>
2. Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
3. Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Signup sheets will also be made available in the back of Church in the coming weeks. Any questions can be directed to Nate Hochmuth at 920-860-9591.



**Church Picnic
2023**
signup.com

Our mission is to **assist** the families of our **congregation** and **community** in **training** their children, both **spiritually** and **academically**, through **excellence** in **Christ-centered** education.

BACK TO SCHOOL KICK OFF MEETING/PICNIC Sunday, August 20th

This year we have again combined our annual back-to-school meeting with our Family Fun Fest. The meeting/picnic not only provides our school families the chance to get to know each other better, but also provides them the chance to get to know the members of our congregation as they attend this fun, fellowship event together.

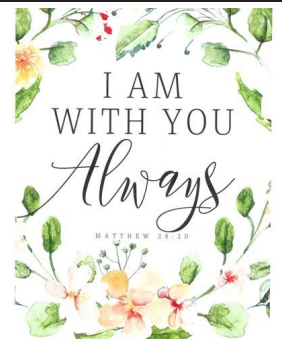


The back-to-school meeting/Family Fun Fest is scheduled for Sunday, August 20th. The back-to-school meeting with all K thru 8th grade parents will be held in the church from **9:15 AM-10:15 AM**. As in the past, your children are welcome to be in their classrooms during the meeting to bring in their supplies, organize their desks, and interact with their teachers while you are at the meeting. At **10:30 AM**, there will be a worship service held outside in the parking lot. A picnic with food and games will follow the worship service.

We hope and pray that all of our school families will be able to attend.

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR ~

Our theme for the upcoming school year is ***“I Am with You”*** based on words Jesus spoke to his disciples right before his ascension into heaven. He said, “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20). Jesus had perfectly accomplished the purpose for which his heavenly Father sent him. He lived the perfect life that none of us could live, he suffered the death that we all deserved, and he rose victoriously to show that he had defeated sin, death, and the devil once and for all. Because he lives, all of his people will also live. Now it was time for the disciples to get work spreading that good news, that Gospel message, to the ends of the earth. Jesus knew that the task would not be easy. They would face hardships and persecutions. They would feel alone and afraid in a world that would hate them because they followed the Christ. Knowing all of that, Jesus gave them this promise: ***“I AM WITH YOU.”***



Even though they would no longer be able to see him with their eyes, He would be right by their side, guiding and protecting them. And He gives each and everyone of us that same comforting promise. In good times and in bad, our Savior promises to be with us through it all. He will be with us until he comes to bring us to be with Him forever in our heavenly home. It is this sweet Gospel message that we will, once again, have the privilege of sharing in our classrooms this school year. We pray that God would continue to bless the preaching and teaching of his Word here at Immanuel!

NEW 1ST GRADE TEACHER

This year we welcome Ms. Alexandria Conrad as our new first grade teacher. Ms. Conrad graduated from Martin Luther College in May and was assigned to our school through our Synod's Assignment Committee. We are excited to have her join our ministry team. Please look for details coming soon on Ms. Conrad's installation and welcome celebration and join us in welcoming her to the Immanuel family.



ENROLLMENT

It appears as if our enrollment for next year will be up slightly from last year. That being said, we still have some openings in our preschool and lower grade classrooms. If you know of a family with a child who is not currently part of our church or school family, but might be interested in learning more about Immanuel, we would love to get in touch with them. If you could forward their names to either Mr. Wilson or Mrs. Lemke, our secretary, we will be sure to contact them. You are our best promoters! Thanks for your help!



- ▶ **August 23rd**—First Day of School—K thru 8th grades
- ▶ **August 28th**—Preschool Open House—5:00 PM
- ▶ **August 29th**—Preschool Open House—5:00 PM

IMMANUEL SPIRIT STORE

Immanuel has a spirit store that runs all year long. This is a great time to get your Soccer or Volleyball apparel before the season starts. There is also general Immanuel merchandise available with just our Cross or Hornet logo. Items ship directly to your home. Check it out by clicking on the link. <https://foxcitiesembroidery.chipply.com/hornets>



Immanuel Hornets Lutheran School
foxcitiesembroidery.chipply.com

Malachi 3:10 - "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse..."

As we have entered a new financial year, I am reminded of Malachi 3:10. The verse says, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." This verse emphasizes the importance of giving to God, as it is a way to show our trust and obedience to Him. When we give generously to God's work, we can expect Him to bless us abundantly in return. Giving is not only a way to support God's work, but it is also an act of worship that brings glory to God. As believers, let us give generously and trust in God's promises to bless us beyond measure.



May God bless you today and always,
~ Tom Wurm, Financial Secretary

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund (ILEF) founded in 2003

**"Honor the Lord with your wealth,
with the first fruits of all your crops." Proverbs 3:9**



Q. What is an endowment fund? Why do we need one?

During His public ministry, Jesus talked frequently about the potential power of seemingly small things. For example, a seed planted in the ground can grow into something large and provide many benefits. Endowment funds are like planted seeds—they start small and they grow with a little nurturing. When endowments are planted and grown, they can provide opportunities to expand the horizons of work in God's kingdom. An endowment fund is focused on accomplishing the current and long-term financial goals of the Congregation. An endowment fund receives gifts and funds of various types, invests those gifts and funds for long-term growth and distributes income from those investments to current projects in support of the Congregations mission.

Q. What is planned giving?

"Planned giving" means creating a specific plan for future gifts to benefit our church and other charities. These gifts may be made during lifetime or at death. Many people first consider planned giving when preparing a will or along with other estate planning, but planned giving can be made part of your financial plans at any time in your life. Donors who make planned giving arrangements are usually motivated by a strong commitment to a particular project or mission of the church. Their planned gifts allow them to acknowledge their gratefulness to God and fulfill their goal of supporting charitable work important to them—work that reflects their values and commitments. In addition, donors may receive tax benefits and lifetime income through several types of tax-favored plans. Planned gifts to our church endowment fund will ensure that the mission of the church will continue into the future.

If you have questions about the Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund (ILEF), please contact someone from the Endowment Committee or email us at endowment@ilutheran.org. Endowment Fund brochures, contribution envelopes, and bookmarks are available at the Welcome/Information Center in the Gathering Room at church.

Committee Members:

Greg Schmill, Chairperson

Tony Dick, Secretary

Dave Nickels, ECHO articles

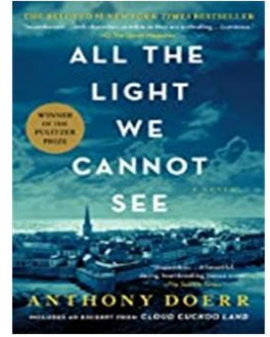
Scott Stuckmann, Treasurer

Judy Gueldner, Grant Request Coordinator

BOOK CLUB

Our Book Club is meeting is on **Friday, September 8th at 1:15 PM** in the Gathering Room. The book for this month is *All The Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. “The beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller is about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.”

For those who are wanting a book, please call Ardis Haag at 682-1002 or Ellie Waege at 920-629-0598.



Lakeshore OWLS Picnic

The Lakeshore OWLS groups is an organization promoting fellowship and service for those 60 years old and up. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. The meeting on **Tuesday, August 8th**, will be at the Manitowoc Aquatic Center. Those attending this meeting are encouraged to bring their grandchildren, great grandchildren or other young friends. **The meeting will begin at noon** with a picnic near the playground area. Hamburgers, brats and plenty of hot dogs for our young guests will be furnished. You are to bring other food to compliment the lunch. Following the meal you have an opportunity to use the pool or play miniature golf. There is a charge for admission to the pool or miniature golf. Those of us who didn't bring young people and do not care to use the pool or miniature golf are welcome to stay and socialize near the picnic area. In case of rain an alternate site will be chosen.



60TH ANNUAL LWMS CONVENTION REPORT

The LWMS Convention was in LaCrosse, WI, June 22-25, 2023. There were 1,219 registered attendees. The Lord is using technology to spread God's Word in Latin America and throughout the world. Highlights of the convention were:



1. \$46,688 was given to home and world mission projects
2. \$39,781 went to kids c.a.r.e.
3. Academia Cristo App had 1 million downloads and 21 churches were planted in Latin America.
4. The TELL APP has had 150,00 downloads using the WhatsApp. 130 people worldwide take Bible study courses in English weekly.
5. Upcycling Evangelism worked for WELS Richland Center, WI. They bought an old public school education building and turned it into a WELS Early Childhood Preschool and Daycare.
6. The Vietnam Theological Building is built and are training 57 Hmong pastors. There are 145,00 people being educated in God's word in rural Vietnam.

It was very uplifting to learn how God is using technology via phone apps to spread the Gospel. The next LWMS Convention will be June 27-30, 2024, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Please consider attending. Find out more information at lwms.org.

Member News



PLEASE **PRAY** FOR:

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

- † **Our Called Workers**—for blessings on them as they continue to serve us and our children the Bread of Life
- † **Students, Parents, & Teachers**—for blessings on the upcoming school year

Pastoral Acts

Weddings

Jeffrey Schnell/Maggie Hassmer (6-14-23)

Baptisms

Lincoln Michael Salm (6-1-23) son of Jonah & Megan Salm

Gifts and Memorials

♥ Many thanks for the gifts of love for our Savior Jesus Christ for Immanuel.



Serving Our Lord

2023 Church Council

God has richly blessed our family of faith with so many gifted people. One of the ways in which God's people have been gifted to serve is in the area of servant-leadership. So that your leaders are available for you to contact with ideas, encouragements, or concerns, we've listed the names of your Church Council here. Feel free to also use the following e-mail address to contact the entire Council: council@lutheran.org. (One e-mail sent to that address reaches all the Council members with e-mail.)

- Tom Winter**, President
- Reed Kabelowsky**, Secretary
- Bob Seal**, Treasurer
- Dave Ramseur**, Board of Elders
- Tom Wurm**, Financial Secretary
- Nate Hochmuth**, Family Ministry
- Ron Nicklaus**, Evangelism
- Dan Smith**, Property
- Jason Sweney**, Board of Education

AUGUST GREETERS

08/06/2023

8:00 AM— Julie Denfeld
10:30 AM— Larry & Linda Verlinden



08/13/2023

8:00 AM— Greg & Renee Schmill
10:30 AM— Gina Zimpelmann

08/20/2023

8:00 AM— Bob & Amanda Seal Family
10:30 AM— Gerome & Germaine Krueger

08/27/2023

8:00 AM— Chuck & Linda Kauth
10:30 AM— Ann & Karen Winter

THIS MONTH **USHERS**

08/24/23

08/03/23 6:30 PM—Team 12

6:30 PM—Team 12

08/06/23 Early—Team 4

08/27/23 Early—Team 2

08/06/23 Late—Team 7

08/27/23 Late—Team 6

08/10/23 6:30 PM—Team 10

08/31/23 6:30 PM—Team 13

08/13/23 Early—Team 5

08/13/23 Late—Team 8

08/17/23 6:30 PM—Team 11

08/20/23 Early—Team 1

08/20/23 Late—Team 9





IMMANUEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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AUGUST 2023

The Newsletter Staff

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Assembly: Shirley Schmill
Bea Buss
Karen Elm

Worship & Contact Information

Worship Schedule

Thursdays: 6:30 PM

Sundays: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM



Pastoral Staff

- † **Pastor Matt Zimpelmann—208-861-3623**
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- † **Pastor Paul Bowe—262-853-2398**
pastorbowe@ilutheran.org
- † **Church Office—684-3404**
church@ilutheran.org

Immanuel Lutheran School

Preschool to Grade 8

- † **David Wilson, Principal - 684-3404**
dwilson@ilutheran.org