



The Immanuel Echo

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

September 2023

SURE & CERTAIN OF THE UNSEEN

Hebrews 11:1 - “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

It is amazing that with only a few clicks on a computer, we can dramatically alter photos. Such capabilities have led us to be a bit more wary. We find ourselves saying, “Unless I see it with my own eyes, how can I believe that it hasn’t been touched up? I’ll believe it when I see it.”

Often this cynical attitude can touch our spiritual life. How can I believe that God loves me and knows what is going on in my life considering all troubles and disappointments I have to deal with?

The Bible tells us, “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” How can we be sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see?

Think of a father and child playing the game where the father stands behind the child and tells him to fall backwards. The child, unable to see his father, still trusts that he is there and is certain that his father won’t let him hit the ground. The child leans back and falls, fully convinced that his father will keep his word and catch him, because his father has always proved trustworthy.

This is the kind of trust we can have in our heavenly Father. Though we did not see the creation or the crucifixion, though we were not present to witness Jesus rising from the Easter tomb, though we have not heard his actual voice forgiving our sins and promising his return, we believe.

How can we be so sure and certain? Because God’s Word is true and trustworthy. Our forgiveness is certain because Jesus did die and rise from the dead. God’s love for us today and every day is sure. Every promise our Father has made about our eternal future, he will keep.

Faith is sure and certain of unseen things because it takes God at his word.

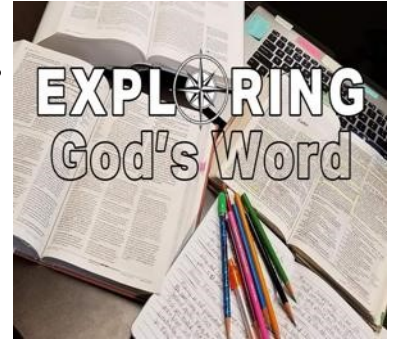
God bless your month in the sure and certain words and promises of our unseen God!

~ Pastor Paul Bowe



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 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM.

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 Saturdays, September 9th and 30th 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 all believers...that means you too! Paul also helps us to understand what our response should be to God's amazing grace.

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!!!***





On **Sunday, September 17th**, following the late worship service, there will be an **Open Forum** followed by the **Voters' Meeting**. The members of the Church Council and other committees will be reporting on their respective areas of ministry. Reports will be made available prior to the Open Forum. Check the Information Center in the coming weeks.

Opportunities for Men

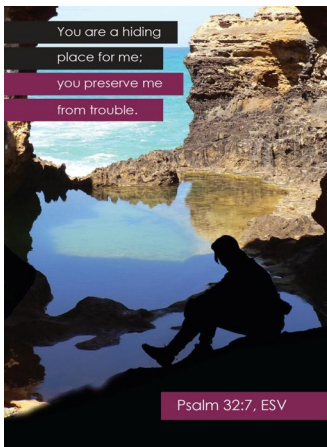
Here are several opportunities for all the men to grow in God's Word!

† **Men's Prayer Group** meets on **Tuesdays, September 5th and 19th at 7:30 AM** in the Gathering Room.

† **Men's Bible Study**— **Saturday, September 2nd—8:00 AM** at Grace Lutheran and on **Saturdays, September 9th and 23rd—8:00 AM** at 1st German Lutheran



"For where two or three gather in My name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20



IMMANUEL'S MEN'S GROUP

Starting this Fall, the Immanuel Men's Group is launching again. The purpose of the group is to help men develop into Godly leaders in their home and church. On **Sunday, September 10th, following the 10:30 AM worship service**, there will be an informational meeting to discuss more details about what we plan to do and to answer your questions. (The Packers play the late afternoon game that day! ☺) After the meeting you can decide if you would like to participate.

There will be a **Men's Retreat on Friday evening, September 29th, until Saturday afternoon, September 30th.**

We will then continue meeting for two hours each month **from October thru April**, where we will discuss a book we have read.

Hope to see you on September 10th!

Mark 12:41-44 - "The Widow's Offering"

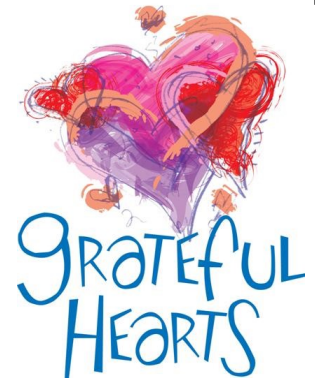
Mark 12:41-44 tells the story of Jesus observing people giving money at the temple. Many rich people were putting in large sums, but a poor widow came and put in two small coins, worth only a few cents. Jesus then said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

This passage reminds us that giving is not about the amount of money we give, but about the heart behind the giving. The poor widow gave sacrificially, giving all that she had to live on, while the rich people only gave out of their abundance. Jesus recognized the widow's heart and her act of faith and generosity.

Giving is an important aspect of our faith and a way to express our gratitude for all that God has given us. However, it is important to remember that giving should not be done to receive recognition or praise from others. We should give with a humble and grateful heart, knowing that everything we have comes from God.

As we give, let us remember the example of the poor widow in Mark 12 and give sacrificially, trusting in God's provision for our needs. Let us also give with a grateful heart, recognizing all that God has done for us and the blessings we have received.

Blessings on your month,
~ Tom Wurm, Financial Secretary



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.



A new session of GriefShare has just begun and **will continue meeting Wednesdays thru November 22nd**. We meet 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. 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.

Participate in Immanuel's **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Professional family portraits at our church!

To sign up & more info:
[infocusphotography.org/
immanuel-lutheran-church](http://infocusphotography.org/immanuel-lutheran-church)



Or Scan Here!

Presented by



Schedule your appointment.

Appointments will be held at Immanuel Lutheran
weekdays from 2-7 PM, and Saturday 10 AM—2 PM

October 19th—21st, 23rd-24th, 2023

Please allow for a minimum of 40 minutes for your
appointment to view and select your photo(s)

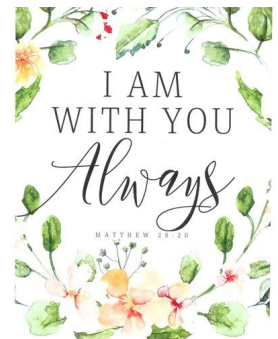
Any questions, please contact Judy Fuerbringer—920-973-3355

School News

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.

READY... SET... LEARN!

It's back to school and we are thankful for the opportunity to partner with parents in providing an excellent Christian education. This school year we welcome, Miss Alexandria Conrad, our new 1st grade teacher. We also look forward to having Jennifer Lemke serve as our church and school Administrative Assistant.



Once again, we are blessed with a growing student body. This year our 3K & 4K Preschool program offers 4-day or 5-day a week options in the morning or afternoon. The floors in each classroom and hallways have all been resurfaced with fresh epoxy this summer. They really shine! Fixes have been made to address a water issue on the lower level of the school. We encourage you to visit the school and view all the improvements.

Through all these changes, the “one thing” remains the same. We continually share the good news of salvation with the children of God. *“Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you, surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* (Matthew 28:20)



- ▶ **September 1st-4th**—Labor Day—No School
- ▶ **September 5th**—First day of PreSchool—4 and 5 day programs
- ▶ **September 27th-28th**—Parent-Teacher Consultations
- ▶ **September 29th**—Parent-Teacher Consultations—No School

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

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION—PIE

Partners in Education (PIE) is a parent organization that plans social events and fundraising for Immanuel School. Serving this school year as contact person is Jaimie Carlson.

This year, our fundraiser is for LED lighting in the north classrooms. The cost is \$18,000. Please consider donating by contributing at the church office or attending our Trivia Night fundraiser on Saturday, November 4th.

UPCOMING EVENTS—2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR—Mark your calendars!

SEPTEMBER

- ◆ **10th—Sunday—Our free family fun night at Strand Adventures—5:00 to 7:00 PM**

OCTOBER

- ◆ **4th—Wednesday—Pastries with Parents—Kindergarten thru 2nd grade**
- ◆ **29th—Sunday—Trunk or Treat**

NOVEMBER

- ◆ **4th—Saturday—Trivia Night at Harrigan's Gathering Center—6:30 PM**

Thank you for your support!

Please contact Jaimie Carlson at 920-242-4286 to see how you can assist with our events. We are looking for parent volunteers for the many events we have planned. Our events help give back to the school, create social events for students and parents and support the staff.

We are looking forward to a great year!!!

HEY MOMS...

**MORNINGS WITH
MOMMY IS BACK!**

Join **Mornings with Mommy—Manitowoc** for some fun with your little ones and fellowship with other moms and caregivers. On **Thursday, September 14th from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM**. This month our theme is **FUN AT THE ZOO!**. Join

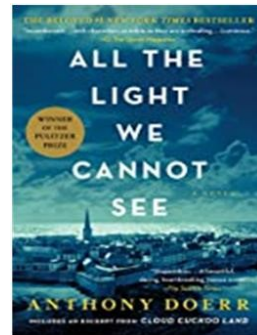
us for a fun and interactive play date—a place where moms and caregivers can mingle with each other and enjoy activities with their children. Activities, geared towards birth to 5 year olds and their caregivers include: hands-on activities, engaging crafts, sensory play, story time, songs, and snacks. Meet new friends and Moms in a welcoming environment!

We meet in the Fellowship Hall, located in the lower level of Immanuel church. Please contact Andrea at 715-220-1439 or aldolan@gmail.com with any questions and to secure your spot. Feel free to invite a friend too! You can also fill out the form on our **Facebook page—Mornings with Mommy-Manitowoc**.

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.



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**



HOW MAY GIFTS BE MADE DURING YOUR LIFETIME?

† **Gifts of cash.** A gift of cash during a person’s lifetime is the simplest type of gift. This can be made in person or anonymously, directly or on behalf of another person.

† **Gifts of marketable securities.** Gifts of securities are often more beneficial to the donor than gifts of cash. When a security is donated, the donor receives a contribution deduction equal to the current market value of the security, and generally, the excess of the market value over the original cost is not taxed to the donor. Often, it can be more beneficial for you to donate substantially appreciated securities than to sell them and pay the capital gains tax.

† **Gifts of life insurance.** A gift of the full ownership rights in a life insurance policy will qualify a donor for a charitable contribution for the amount of the fair value of the policy. Additionally, subsequent payments of premiums by the donor will qualify as charitable deductions.

† **Gifts of real estate.** Under present law, you are entitled to a deduction for the full appreciated value of real estate which is given to the church and which qualifies as long term capital gain property. Such property includes most appreciated real estate held for investment for longer than one year.

† **Gifts through wills.** Remembering your church in your will is another method of giving. Such a gift is deductible in calculating estate taxes. Provision for the gift may be included in the body of the will or by adding a simple codicil. If you desire to establish a separate memorial fund within the Endowment Fund, or to specify the purpose for which income from the gift is to be used, this may be done by so stating in the provisions of the will.

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

Scott Stuckmann, Treasurer

Tony Dick, Secretary

Judy Gueldner, Grant Request Coordinator

Dave Nickels, ECHO articles

Help Needed for Immanuel Family Pictorial Directory

The dates for the Immanuel Family Pictorial Directory are **October 19th thru 21st and October 23rd-24th**. Times start at 2:00 PM during the weekdays and at 10:00 AM on Saturday.



In order to make this project a success, we need people to greet our members and to help fill out a simple form for the photographers. We would like to have people work in teams of two per shift. **The shifts would be from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM, and 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM during the weekdays and from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Saturday, the 21st.**

If this is something that you are interested in helping with, please call or text Judy Fuerbringer at 920-973-3355. This is a wonderful way to get to know your Immanuel family better!

HANDBELL RINGERS NEEDED

Ring your praises to the Lord! Seeking ringers to join Handbell Choir. Don't know how? We will gladly teach you. If you are unsure come and try it out. Practice is starting up again **Sunday, October 1st, after second service at 11:45 AM** for about an hour. Please speak with Kathy Gast or send an email to gkgast@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us!



♥ A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped in anyway to make this year's Immanuel Family Fun Fest and Back To School Event a wonderful success! Whether you gave of your time and helping hands and/or the many donations, we are grateful to each and every one of you! We also thank Cher-Make's for their generosity as well as Jake's Jumpers! A great time was had by all and this was made possible by the many helpful hands and donations!

~ The Immanuel Family Picnic Committee



♥ The VBS Planning Committee also says **THANK YOU** to everyone who, through donations and/or helping hands, were a part of making this year's VBS a success. Because of all that you did to help, over 100 children heard the truths of God's forgiveness, faithfulness, and love, including several families who have no church! To God be the praise and glory for bringing these children and their families to hear of His great love!

Member News



The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

PLEASE **PRAY** FOR:

- † **Those in school this year**—that they may also continue in the wisdom of Jesus.
- † **Our School & Staff**—that they may grow academically and spiritually.
- † **Manitowoc Lutheran High School**—that it may continue to train youth in a Christ-centered atmosphere.

Pastoral Acts

None at this time

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

SEPTEMBER GREETERS

09/03/2023

- 8:00 AM— Bob & Sue Kempfert
- 10:30 AM— Sandy Stadelman & Helen Demsien

09/10/2023

- 8:00 AM— Jason & Amy Muench
- 10:30 AM— Ron & Toni Nicklaus

09/17/2023

- 8:00 AM— Bob & Shirley Blattler
- 10:30 AM— Gary & Lynn Markowski

09/24/2023

- 8:00 AM— Shirley Schmill & Virginia Temme
- 10:30 AM— Cody & Danielle Freemyer Family



THIS MONTH USHERS

09/24/23

- 09/03/23 Early—Team 3
- 09/03/23 Late—Team 7

- Early—Team 1
- 09/24/23 Late—Team 6

09/07/23 6:30 PM—Team 10

09/28/23 6:30 PM—Team 13

- 09/10/23 Early—Team 4
- 09/10/23 Late—Team 8

09/14/23 6:30 PM—Team 11

- 09/17/23 Early—Team 5
- 09/17/23 Late—Team 9

09/21/23 6:30 PM—Team 12





IMMANUEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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SEPTEMBER 2023

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Assembly: Barb Nitka
Sue Schroeder
Mary Ann Raduenz

Worship & Contact Information

Worship Schedule

Thursdays: 6:30 PM

Sundays: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM



Pastoral Staff

- † **Pastor Matt Zimpelmann—209-861-3623**
pastorzimpelmann@ilutheran.org
- † **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