



Sermon: "The Unseen Ending" Matthew 3:13-17  
Saturday, January 10 and Sunday, January 11, 2026  
Immanuel Lutheran Church & School  
Okawville, Illinois 62271  
*The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod*

## **WELCOME TO IMMANUEL**

*We gather on the Lord's Day knowing that "Christ being raised from the dead will never die again" (Romans 6:9). Welcome, visitors who have joined us today. If we can help in any way, please call: Church 618-243-6216 or School 618-243-6142.*

Pastor Eric Wood  
Phone: 618-243-2846

Email: [myhomeontherange@juno.com](mailto:myhomeontherange@juno.com)

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Immanuel Website: [Immanuelokawville.org](http://Immanuelokawville.org)  
Saturday: 12 Communed: 10 Sunday: 94 Communed: 66  
Bible Class: 11 Sunday School: 13

## **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

*Prayer concerns to be included in our public prayers may be shared with Pastor Wood and/or the church office. Prayers may be for particular individuals or concerning wider issues. Let us pray!*

- All members of Immanuel including:

At home -Bill Durham, Norbert Hasheider, Kellee Helbig, Janet Lange, Martha Schneider, Linda Schuetz, Jackie Schwankhaus, Stanley Schwankhaus, Crystal Strasburg, Mike Strasburg

At Washington County Hospital -Adeline Blumhorst and Nancy Weeke

At Brightly in Mascoutah - Leonard Hemminghaus

At Bethesda Gardens in Loveland, Colorado - Carol Wennemann

- Non-members: Lisa Arbogast-Eilers, an ILS graduate; Crystal Hasheider, wife of Matt Hasheider; Deborah Hasheider, cousin-in-law of several of our members; Tim Schnitker, son-in-law of Sharon Storck.
- That the Lord would continue to provide for his work in this place through generous giving, willing workers, and wise stewardship.
- The staff, faculty, and students of Immanuel Lutheran School
- The educational mission of Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School
- All who work or study in West Washington County Schools
- John Trinklein, second-year student at Concordia Seminary
- Reverend Rafael & Deaconess Jamielynn Flores, serving in Chile
- The mission work of the Southern Illinois District, including...

...all congregations, schools, and district leaders

...rural and small-town congregational support

...urban ministry (neighborhood renewal and Unity school) in East St. Louis

...campus ministry and international student outreach at SIU-C and SIU-E

...prison and jail ministry in many locations

...partnership with seminary in Dominican Republic

...disaster response ministry (LERT)

...Advocates for Life

# THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

## Order of Service - Prayer and Preaching

### 346 When All the World Was Cursed (Sunday)

*Stand*

#### Opening Versicles

**L** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

**C** Teach me Your paths.

**L** Sanctify us in Your truth.

**C** Your Word is truth.

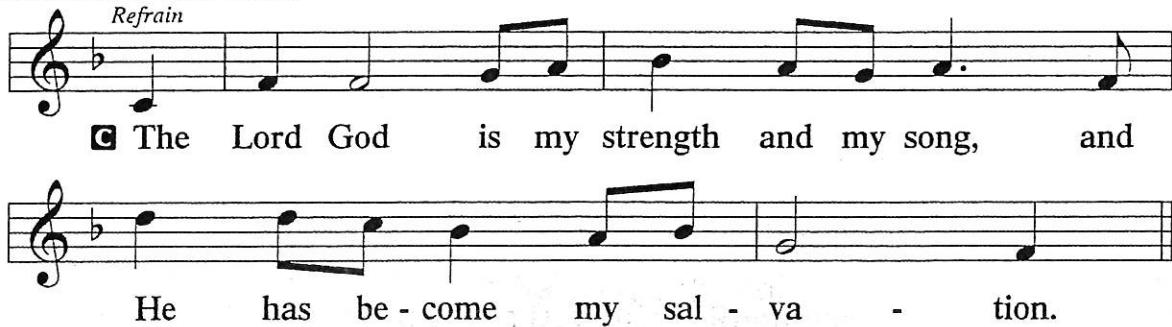
**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### Old Testament Canticle

*Refrain*



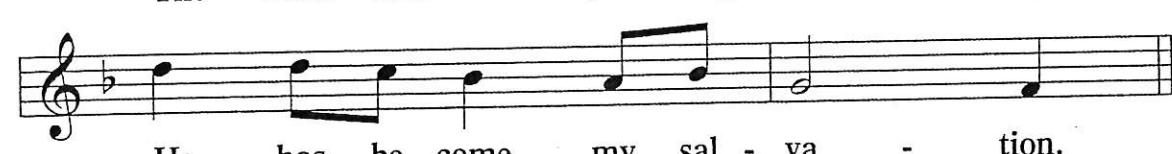
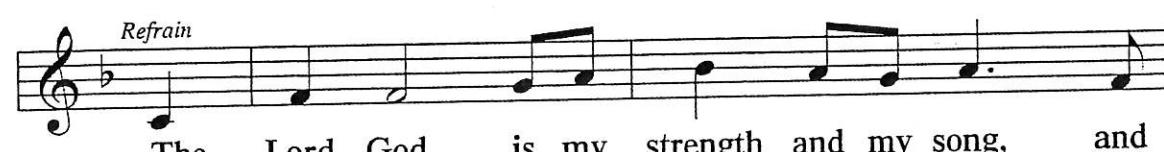
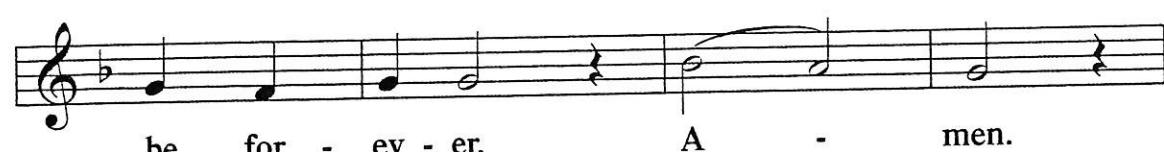
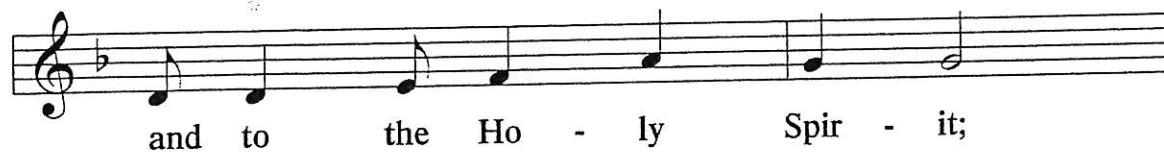
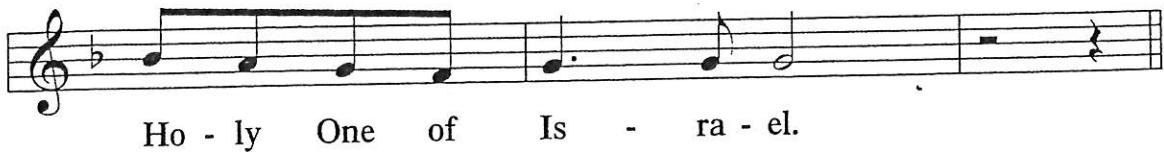
**C** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

With joy will you draw wa - ter from the wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name, make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro - claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done glo - rious-ly; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in - hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



## Readings From Holy Scripture

*To Concordia Seminary Chorus, St. Louis, MO  
on the centennial of its founding*

## Psalm 29

NIV

Henry V. Gerike

Cantor/Choir: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness.

Congregation: **REFRAIN**



As - cbe to the Lord the glo - ry due His name;



wor - ship the Lord in the splendor of His ho - li - ness.

Cantor/Choir: Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness.

Congregation: **REFRAIN**

Cantor/Choir: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is majestic. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

Congregation: **REFRAIN**

Cantor/Choir: He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord strikes with flashes of lightning. The voice of the Lord shakes the desert; the Lord shakes the Desert of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in His temple all cry, "Glory."

Congregation: **REFRAIN**

Cantor/Choir: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever. The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace.

Congregation: **REFRAIN**

Cantor/Choir: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Congregation: **REFRAIN**

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## Old Testament

Isaiah 42:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Behold my servant, whom I uphold,  
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
 I have put my Spirit upon him;  
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,  
 or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
 and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;  
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged  
 till he has established justice in the earth;  
 and the coastlands wait for his law.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD,  
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
 who gives breath to the people on it  
 and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup>“I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
 I will take you by the hand and keep you;  
 I will give you as a covenant for the people,  
 a light for the nations,

<sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind,  
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>I am the LORD; that is my name;  
 my glory I give to no other,  
 nor my praise to carved idols.

<sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass,  
 and new things I now declare;  
 before they spring forth  
 I tell you of them.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

Romans 6:1-11

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who

have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Gospel**

**Matthew 3:13–17**

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Catechism Review (Holy Baptism)**

**LSB p. 325**

**Apostles' Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\ddagger$  everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**Children's Message (Sunday)**

**Sermon "The Unseen Ending"**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

**407 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord**

**Offering**

*Stand*

**Prayer**

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Lord's Prayer

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,**  
    **hallowed be Thy name,**  
    **Thy kingdom come,**  
    **Thy will be done on earth**  
        **as it is in heaven;**  
    **give us this day our daily bread;**  
    **and forgive us our trespasses**  
        **as we forgive those**  
            **who trespass against us;**  
        **and lead us not into temptation,**  
            **but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom**  
    **and the power and the glory**  
        **forever and ever. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

**L** Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Evening Prayer (Saturday)

**C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that**  
    **You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all**  
    **my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into**  
    **Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy**  
    **angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## Morning Prayer (Sunday)

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## New Testament Canticle

*Refrain*



**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - - le -  
lu - ia. Al - - le - lu - - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - - le -  
lu - ia. Al - - le - lu - - ia.

Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He

lives to God. Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Blessing

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
  
- L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** **Amen.**

## 600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering (Sunday)

### Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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Pastor:

Eric Wood

Pianist: (Saturday)

Sophia Wood

Organist: (Sunday)

Sharon Krueger

Acolytes: (Saturday)

Hudson Schneider

(Sunday)

Devin Hundelt

Readers: (Saturday)

Laney Hundelt

(Sunday)

Birthdays: 12<sup>th</sup> Tatum Andrews, Jack Gass, Jayme Stevenson, 15<sup>th</sup> Tim Traub

**January Ushers** – Saturday – Jason Obermeier

Sunday – Brent Schneider and Cameron Obermeier

**Saturday service** at 5:30 p.m.

**Bible Class** at 9:00 a.m. Bible class topic is “Ask, Seek, Knock”.

**Sunday Service** at 10:00 a.m.

Public Catechesis this Monday at 6:45 a.m.

**Community Bible Study** at Bunkers this Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

**Chapel** this Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. with Pastor Wood

**Congregational Fund Meeting** this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

**Church Council Meeting** this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

**LWML Meeting** this Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

**A vote will take place at the annual voters meeting on January 25 pertaining to the Saturday Evening service.** There will be 3 options to vote on listed below:

- 1) Keep the service schedule the same with weekly Saturday evening services.
- 2) No longer hold Saturday evening services with services on Sunday only.
- 3) Saturday service once a month to coincide with the 1st communion Sunday of the month."

LWML will meet on Thursday, January 15 at 7pm in the church basement. Mary Ann Niedens will have the opening devotion, and Pat Quinlan will have the topic, a study of the Beatitudes. We will be discussing hosting the zone spring prayer service. Please join us!

**Visitation from Our District President:** On Sunday, February 15, the President of the Southern Illinois district of the LCMS, Rev. Heath R. Curtis, will be preaching at our worship service. There will be a meal after the service during which President Curtis will also be making a presentation about cultural and demographic change, the four problems this raises for every Christian church in America, and how to faithfully respond in our congregation. Everyone in the church is encouraged to come and hear this engaging and informative presentation!

Extra copies of the January newsletter are available on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself or someone else.

## SCHOOL NEWS

Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup> Early dismissal at 12:20 p.m.

Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> No school

Immanuel Wee Care is looking for a daycare worker to help a few days or more per week. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Cheri Kurtz at 618-243-6161.

You can help the school financially by doing the following: Shop With Raiseright – For complete information visit [www.shopwithraiseright.com](http://www.shopwithraiseright.com) Checks payable to ILS PTL. Go to [smile.amazon.com/ch37-0916756](http://smile.amazon.com/ch37-0916756) and Amazon donates to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Okawville. Participate in the Kroger Community Rewards program. Join Casey's Rewards today and donate to our school. This is for instore, online or at the pump purchases.

## GENERAL NOTES

**Life Thoughts in the Church Year:** Jesus was baptized to “fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15), that all whom God created and gave breath to (Isaiah 42:5) might be baptized into His death and resurrection and have everlasting life (Romans 6:4-5). Living in that new life in Christ and dying to sin (Romans 6:7-8) means that we are to cherish all life the way God does, caring about our neighbor’s physical life and wellbeing, as well as their everlasting life in Christ.

**Life Quotes:** “A baby is God’s opinion that the world should go on.” *Carl Sandburg* – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Stewardship:** Matthew 3:15 – “But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.’” The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. Here, Jesus plunges Himself into our sins and soaks them up in His Baptism, so that in our Baptism we might be cleansed and renewed. The whole of Jesus’ life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us.

**Lutheran programs on Radio & TV on Sundays** – 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. 850 AM Radio KFUO Lutheran Worship from a Lutheran church; 9:00 a.m. 104.7 FM Rev. Mueller, New Minden Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. TV Station “TCT” “Lutheran Worship.” These are not a replacement for being in church and Bible class. These are for times when we are unable to attend in person.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**Lay Leader Training:** send your lay leaders to gain skills and expertise at our Lay Leader Training! These workshops will cover areas that assist youth leaders, school boards, Sunday school teachers/superintendents, trustees, treasurers, evangelism committee members, and congregational presidents in carrying out their assigned duties. The day begins with Matins at 9am and wraps up at 2pm. Lunch is provided as part of registration. Find more information and registration at [sdlcms.org/events](http://sdlcms.org/events) Save the date today: Saturday, January 17th, 2026 (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1300 Beltline Rd. Collinsville, IL 62234) and Saturday, February 7th, 2026 (Trinity Lutheran Church 201 S. Pleasant Ave Centralia, IL 62801). *Immanuel lay leaders are encouraged to attend February 7<sup>th</sup> in Centralia, after new leaders are elected and installed.*

**Bethlehem Lutheran to Hold Its Winter Workshop on Necessary Masculinity:** The world says all sorts of things about masculinity, even that it's toxic. Yet, Holy Scripture says otherwise. What does true masculinity look like? What are the responsibilities that God gives to men? How do we raise our boys to be godly men? On Sunday, January 25th, Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Ferrin, IL) will host Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer for its annual winter workshop, where he will present on “Necessary Masculinity.” Rev. Hemmer is the pastor at Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church (Fairview Heights, IL) and is the author of *Man Up: The Quest for Masculinity*. He has presented on this topic throughout the synod, which has been well-received. The workshop will be held at the church from 2pm to 5pm, and is open to men in 6th grade and up. Refreshments will be served as well. For those interested in attending, please RSVP to [bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com)

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The offerings for Saturday, January 10, and Sunday, January 11, were not counted.

Expenses for the week: \$401.02

Loan Balance: \$45,000.00

### Thrivent Choice

Thank you to everyone who directed their "Thrivent Choice Dollars" to Immanuel. If you have not contacted Thrivent Choice Recently, please call 800-847-4836 to see if Thrivent has money set aside for you to designate to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran School or another designation of your choice. Money is available through the Thrivent Choice Program. This is not a donation coming out of your investment.

Reminder: Bunker's Restaurant (Golf Course) will give 10% to Immanuel Lutheran Church if you show your bulletin from church when eating on Sundays. Thank you for your support!! RBM Golf Course