Immanuel Lutheran Church October 2025 Newsletter

After I had tallied up the results of the recent Bible study survey, I found two surveys in the otherwise empty offering plates. One had this response to the second question (*Which book of the Bible would you like to study more?*): "The bible for dummies. An outline an overview of the bible in general beginning to end in relation to times & dates in the world." I don't know many of you by your handwriting, but I'd like to help, so I'll list a few resources here. This request for help recognizes that the biblical narrative is set in geographical locations at chronological moments.

In the book I'm using with the 7th & 8th graders (ILS & public school), each lesson includes a timeline with seven points spaced at 500-year intervals, except the first one is undated: Creation, Abraham (2000 BC), Moses (1500 BC), David (1000 BC), Daniel (500 BC), Jesus (AD 1), the Church (AD 33). Each lesson orients the students chronologically by gradually moving a circle along the timeline from left to right throughout the book. This basic approach works well for a 30-lesson Bible Overview text aimed at junior high students, but adults might benefit from having more.

Going deeper, *The Lutheran Study Bible (English Standard Version)*, published by our own Concordia Publishing House in 2009, has many helpful resources between its covers, including an 18-page spread near the front called "Biblical Chronology and World History." The first section of this is "Events from Creation to the Flood" and is laid out in just two columns: "Biblical Record" and "Records of Other Civilizations." After that, each page has five columns, one for dates and four others for adjacent geographical regions: Anatolia, Greece, & Rome; Egypt & Africa; Syria, Canaan, & Israel; Mesopotamia & Persia. As you turn the pages, you discover these headings:

Dateable, Recorded History; The Patriarchs of Israel; Israel in Egypt;

The Exodus and the Conquest; The Judges of Israel; The Kingdom of Israel;

The Divided Kingdoms (Israel and Judah); Israel in Exile; Judah in Exile;

Judeans Return from Exile; The Time between the Testaments; The New Testament

It's helpful to remember that it took about a thousand years to write the entire OT (from Moses and Job to the final prophets). Then four centuries of silence followed between OT & NT. The entire NT was written between the 50s AD and the 90s AD – a much tighter timeframe.

Finally, I have a 32-page booklet whose title is a challenge to any Bible student: "Read through the Bible in a Year in Chronological Order." The 66 books of the Bible are organized in genres or categories, much like books in a library, not precisely in chronological order or in the order in which they were written. This booklet guides a reader through historical happenings, pairing them with prophetic messages or apostolic epistles addressed to those contexts, as often as we can determine how those match up. This booklet was published in 1986 by Moody Press of Chicago. I'm not sure if it's still in print. Another approach would be to use the Daily Lectionary in *Lutheran Service Book* (pp. 299-304) to read most of the Bible in a year, with both OT & NT daily.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 1st	10:00 a.m. – Community Bible Class at the Original 12:15 p.m. – Chapel – Pastor Wood
October 2 nd – 4 th	LEA Conference(Joe Kirby and Brianna Recker)
Saturday, October 4th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
Sunday, October 5	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday, October 6th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
October 6 th – 7 th	SID Pastors Conference in Carbondale
	8:15 a.m. – Chapel – Pastor d'Entremont
Wednesday, October 8th	
October 9th – 10th	10:00 a.m. – Community Bible Class at the Original Pastor Wood at 25 th seminary class reunion
Thursday, October 9th	3 yr old pre-k Field Trip to Country Kids Pumpkin Patch
E 11 O 1 1 10th	6:30 p.m. – Board for Parochial Education Meeting
Friday, October 10th	12:20 p.m. ILS early dismissal
Saturday, October 11th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service
a lath	5 th – 8 th grade booth at Chili Cook Off
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
Monday, October 13th	No School
	4:00 p.m. – Beginner Catechesis
T.	8:00 p.m. – Elders Meeting
Tuesday, October 14th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
Wednesday, October 15th	Pastor Wood leads chapel at CORLHS
	10:00 a.m. – Community Bible Class at the Original
	12:15 p.m. – Chapel – Pastor Wood
	7:00 p.m. – Congregational Fund
	7:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting
Thursday, October 16th	7:00 p.m. – LWML Meeting
Saturday, October 18th	5:30 p.m Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, October 19th	9:00 a.m Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday, October 20th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
	7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Meeting
Wednesday, October 22 nd	8:15 a.m. – Chapel – 3 rd /4 th Grade
	10:00 a.m. – Community Bible Class at the Original
	7:30 p.m Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 23rd	6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Immanuel Night at ILS
Friday, October 24th	K-2 nd Field Trip to Eckerts in Millstadt
Saturday, October 25th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service guest Pastor Art Eichhorn
Sunday, October 26th	9:00 a.m Sunday School and Bible Class
• -	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
	- Quarterly Voters' Meeting after worship service
Monday, October 27th	6:45 a.m Public Catechesis
Wednesday, October 29th	10:00 a.m Community Bible Class at the Original
The second district the second	12:15 p.m Chapel - Pastor d'Entremont
	7:30 p.m Choir Rehearsal
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The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – 1cms.org/stewardship

Newsletter Article – October 2025

Harmonious Stewardship

"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:4-5).

One of the most forgotten concepts in stewardship is the interdependent nature that makes up the Body of Christ and the way that body supports the shared work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is experienced in the local congregation, as well as in broader mission and ministry efforts at the district and Synod levels. Yet in these words, St. Paul reminds the Romans and us that we are indeed members of one another. This is true in our worship. It is also true in our stewardship of the Gospel. Stewards of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities, affluence and influence are all assembled around Word and Sacrament in the local congregation with no one being more important than the other.

Part of this forgetting lies in what the eyes see and how our human mind operates. Our eyes and our minds are quick to come to the erroneous conclusion that the person who writes the biggest check is the more important steward. Human logic, flawed by sin as it is, could make a claim that the youngest child or the most infirm, aged member of the congregation would certainly be considered something less than important when it comes to the stewardship of the Gospel.

Paul makes it clear in these words that this is not how stewardship of the Gospel is measured in the Body of Christ. Rather, it would be better to view local stewardship like the lost art of harmony in congregational singing. This has been lost not only due to the performative nature of the lead singers of the local praise team, but also because modern hymnals are written to almost force the novice hymn-singer into unison voice. Creative harmonization by talented organists is beautiful to listen to, but does not always support the people in the pews in singing in parts. This is a loss in demonstrating a very practical aspect of whole-body stewardship.

The sound that builds when choral and congregational singers settle into their voice parts is nothing short of heavenly! Yet when altos, tenors and bass sing their individual parts without any concept of how they fit together, the music doesn't sound as powerful. The narrow range of the

typical alto line almost sounds monotonous. The tenor line can get painfully high, and the base line can get uncomfortably low. But, when interdependently entwined, along with the melody that is so often carried by the sopranos, the music becomes a tremendously powerful tool in communicating the Gospel.

The same is true of individual stewards. Certainly, stewards with more financial means are in a unique place to "carry the tune" for ministry in a local congregation. But that doesn't rule out the faithful stewardship of the saint-like 94-year-old Hulda, who prayed for her young pastor in German every night while the aches and pains of arthritis and the grief of losing a daughter to cancer kept her awake. This does not rule out Jimmy, the profoundly developmentally disabled confirmand whose basic but dramatically eloquent confession of the faith left an impression on a congregation long after he went to be with Jesus. It doesn't rule out the single parent, the recovering addict, the family coming out of bankruptcy, the elderly widow and everyone in between.

The Lord has entrusted all the baptized with stewardship of the one thing needful: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No one member of any congregation is more important than another when it comes to this stewardship. The biggest check isn't always the best way to communicate the Gospel. In fact, it is almost always better communicated with the widow's mite, the tenacious stewardship of the talents and so much more.

In the local congregation and beyond, our corporate stewardship of the Gospel needs each other to fill out our great confession. It is not about equal amount. It is about interdependence that only the Holy Spirit can work! Each of us has a role to play, a harmony to sing. The standard for that role is faithfulness. We do not have the same function, but we have the same Jesus! As we sing the parts entrusted to us by the Holy Spirit, the sweet music of the Gospel goes out!

From the Principal's Desk

I am honored and blessed to be serving as Immanuel Lutheran School's principal, tasked with acting in the best interest of all stakeholders: students, teachers, staff, parents, school board, alumni and friends, church members, daycare, and our community. That's right, if you are reading this you are a stakeholder to our school and God has led you in some way to be a part of us and on behalf of ILS, I welcome each and every one of you with open arms! Let us not lose sight of the day-to-day, gradual contributions each person can make. We must shift our attention away from less meaningful pursuits like greed, entitlement, and selfishness, because in today's society, we must educate everyone on how to improve our world for when we depart.

As it says, our mission is to "Preparing students for life here and in eternity", but I can not do this alone. Therefore, I challenge you, our students, teachers, staff, parents, school board, alumni and friends, church members, daycare, and community, to lead along side of me with excellence and ask yourself, "Am I not only doing something to make someone else's life better, but am I doing the job God intends for me?" Be the best version of yourself!

This year is going to be a great year; let's do it together!

So far, we have made many strides. The students are doing their part: learning, being kind friends, entering items in at the fair, and completing their fall NWEA testing. Teachers are working hard at compiling and analyzing data to better help the students in the classroom and our parents are being very supportive. Several church members have made anonymous donations and asked how they can help. The school board has come together twice already this year, alongside our elders to assure the school year is moving in the right direction. PTL will meet for the second time on September 29th to discuss how they can better assist the school and to see projects through. The daycare continues to love and take care of each and every one of God's children daily. Alumni and Friends continue to support our school and our mission. One stride in the last month, that sets apart from the rest, is how much all of our stakeholders came together for one purpose: The Wheat Festival.

All hands were on deck, church and community members donated their time to help build and gather materials for our wonderful, 3rd place float for the parade. The president of our school board walked the whole parade route twice to be a part of us, while other board members made sure there were plenty of goodies to hand out on the route. Alumni and Friends were the heart and soul behind our float and PTL ran yet another flawless and successful kabob stand. Daycare workers, students, families, teachers and staff put in countless hours.

We all came together to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Wee Care, and in doing so, we fulfilled God's purpose:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" Romans 8:28

This is the first year, in 10 years at least, that we had 100% participation towards the same purpose from all stakeholders. From the bottom of my heart I say, "Thank you", "Job Well Done", "Be Proud" and if you're someone who is looking for a purpose-please reach out! We have so much of God's work that still needs to be done!

Upcoming events: Chili Cookoff- October 11th 5pm, Immanuel Night- October 23rd 6-7:30pm

God's ultimate blessings, Mrs. Kelli Borrenpohl

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following who have birthdays in October:

- 3. Dominic Perry, Sharon Storck
- 5. Konrad Berg, Jackie Schwankhaus
- 6. Braelyn Dunn, Justin Kramper, Mark Schneider
- 8. Xavier Williams
- 11. Lori Caloia, Megan Rennegarbe
- 13. Josh Berg, Dillon Teter
- 14. Tonya Gass, Jeremy Weeke, Delaney Toensing
- 16. Jim Unverfehrt
- 17. Tami Schilling
- 18. Garrett Guest
- 19. Angie Kampwerth
- 20. Ken Storck, Jr.
- 21. Landan Kraus
- 22. Krissy Schneider
- 23. Brent Schneider
- 24. Lori Unverfehrt, Hudson Schneider
- 26. Jeffrey Jacobs, Bob Kraus, Tricia Rennegarbe
- 27. Jason Obermeier
- 28. Raelyn Obermeier
- 29. Cory Kraus
- 30. Mary Ann Niedens
- 31. Dylan Borrenpohl, Harper Jacobs

VISITATION COMMITTEE

Lois Obermeier and Sheila Prueshner

ALTAR GUILD COMMITTEE

Laura Obermeier and Malinda Weeke

ACOLYTES

Saturday, October 4th – Sadie Bergmann Sunday, October 5th – Markus Lautenschlaeger Saturday, October 11th – Coleson Hasheider Sunday, October 12th – Hudson Schneider Saturday, October 18th – Devin Hundelt Sunday, October 19th – Landon Elliott Saturday, October 25th – Collins Schumacher Sunday, October 26th – Maylen Kramper

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Saturday, October 4th – Kent Helbig Sunday, October 5th – Jonathan Schneider Saturday, October 18th – Kent Helbig Sunday, October 19th – Dennis Pruehsner

USHERS FOR OCTOBER

Saturday – Sunday –

ORGANISTS/PIANISTS

Saturday, October 4th – Sophia Wood Sunday, October 5th – Sharon Krueger Saturday, October 12th – Sophia Wood Sunday, October 12th – Sharon Krueger Saturday, October 18th – Sunday, October 19th – Sharon Krueger Saturday, October 25th – Art Eichhorn Sunday, October 26th – Barbara Croessman

OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

3rd – Tim & Kelly Schumacher

9th – Dennis & Sheila Pruehsner

11th – Ben & Tonya Gass

15th – James & Nancy Rossel

23rd – Justin & Breck Kramper Dennis & Deb Maschhoff

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

During October we will discuss "He Shall Come Again; A study of the End Times."

COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASSES WEDNESDAYS - 10:00 A.M. .at Original Springs, Okawville

Pastor Wood will conduct the Bible Class this month.

CONGREGATIONAL FUND MEETING Wednesday, October 15th 7:00 P.M.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING Wednesday, October 15th 7:30 P.M.

All elected officers and board members are urged to attend.

QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING

Will be held after the worship service on Sunday, October 26th. All members are urged to attend.

PASTOR WOOD OUT OF TOWN

Pastor Wood will be attending his 25th seminary class reunion Thursday, October 9th through Friday, October 10th. Pastor Jim d"Entremont will be on call. He can be reached at 573-723-0339.

LWML NEWS

Thank you to all who have donated to the toiletry collection for the Addieville Food Pantry! The Upper Kaskaskia Zone LWML Fall Workshop will be held on Saturday, October 4 at Trinity Hoyleton. Registration is at 8:45am and the workshop starts at 9am, to end with lunch at 12pm. All women are welcome to attend! Thank you to all women who have agreed to serve as Prayer Pals for ILS students! The October LWML meeting will be on Thursday, October 16 at 7pm in the church basement. We will watch a video of a keynote speaker from the national LWML convention that happened in June, as well have our monthly business meeting.

SCHOOL NEWS

Early Dismissal – Friday October 10th at 12:20 pm

No School – Monday, October 13th (Columbus Day)

3 yr old pre-k has a field trip to the Country Kids Pumpkin Patch on Thursday, October 9th.

5th- 8th Grade will be doing the Chili Cookoff again this year. Save the date for October 11th and come visit their booth and try some chili, hot dogs, and dessert.

Immanuel Night is October 23^{rd} 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Open house with fun for all ages. Everyone is welcome to attend.

K-2 Field Trip is Friday, October 24^{th.} to Eckert's in Millstadt.

Little 8 Pee Wee Conference Basketball Schedule for October:

Thursday, October 2nd 6:00 p.m. TSJ/ILS (girls) at. TSJ/ILS (boys)

Tuesday, October 7th 6:00 p.m. Hoffman at. TSJ/ILS girls; 6:00 p.m. TSJ/ILS boys at Hoyleton

Thursday, October 9th 6:00 p.m. St. Bruno at. TSJ/ILS girls; 6:00 p.m. TSJ/ILS boys at Oakdale

Tuesday, October 14th 6:00 p.m. Oakdale at. TSJ/ILS girls; 6:00 p.m. TSJ/ILS boys at. Hoffman

Thursday, October 16th 6:00 p.m. Hoyleton at. TSJ/ILS girls; 6:00 p.m. TSJ/ILS boys at. St. Bruno

The Conference Tournament will be held October 17th and 18th at Hoffman.

(all TSJ/ILS home games are played at TSJ)

WEEKLY WORSHIP RESOURCE LISTINGS SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4 & 5 2025

Old Testament: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Gospel: Luke 17:1-10

Order of Service – Divine Service Setting One Hymns: 843 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

587 I Know My Faith Is Founded

392 God Loves Me Dearly

777 Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

857 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11 & 12, 2025

Old Testament: Ruth 1:1-19a Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:1-13 Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Order of Service - Prayer and Preaching

Hymns: 664 Fight the Good Fight

589 Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

662 Onward, Christian Soldiers

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18 & 19, 2025

Old Testament: Genesis 32:22-30

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Order of Service – Divine Service Four Hymns: 728 How Firm a Foundation

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586 Preach You the Word

579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise

580 The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

703 How Can I Thank You, Lord

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 25 & 26, 2025

First Reading: Genesis 4:1-15 Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 18:9-17 Order of Service – Matins

Hymns: 615 When in the Hour of Deepest Need

745 In God, My Faithful God

565 Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ