

Immanuel Lutheran Church August 2026 Newsletter

You may have heard of astronomical summer (June 21-September 21 this year) or meteorological summer (always June 1-August 31), but the summer that matters most to me (and I'd guess to many of you) is what I'll call scholastic summer (mid-May to mid-August around here). This definition of summer has less to do with the angle of the sun in the sky, or how many hours of light or dark we experience, or what the weather patterns may be, and more with how scheduled or structured our lives are. Whether or not you have children in school, the school year (and the summer break) will have a noticeable impact on your life.

In my neighborhood, daily traffic is noticeably reduced when school is out. At church, attendance and giving decrease over the summer as people take vacations or spend more time playing outdoors. At the beginning of this summer, SID President Heath Curtis wrote in one of his frequent emails to the pastors of the district, encouraging us to make good use of this season and its lighter schedule, not to get more work done but to be refreshed in body, mind, and spirit. That doesn't mean taking the entire summer off, which is not possible for pastors any more than it would be for most other people, but to find and take time to rest.

So how did it go for me? Not even "scholastic summer" is over, so the following report is premature, but I can say that in the "body" department, I attended two family weddings, went on four college visits, took a week-long family vacation, did some cycling (but less than usual, sadly), and worked in our garden (yes, that's restful for me). For my mind, I did some reading unrelated to my work (fiction, non-fiction, poetry), added other reading to my list for future seasons, attended three plays with the family (two musicals and one Shakespeare production), and learned some piano music (by Debussy) just for fun. For my spirit, I mostly maintained my daily devotional routine and checked in with my pastor earlier in the season. I also enjoyed attending Divine Service twice elsewhere and being on the receiving end.

Workwise, there was a week of helping with Vacation Bible School, the beginning of an adult instruction class, and some planning and scheduling for various classes and school chapels, as well as reading through the lectionary for the fall quarter to choose my preaching texts and deciding which hymns we will sing each week. There were always preparations for our Saturday and Sunday services, a few meetings, monthly newsletters, and other routine tasks. Now I need to get going on another round of home visits before the school year gets going. My purpose here is not to prove how busy I am. Some of you are equally busy, others even more so. I simply want to give you some idea how I've been spending my time, because I think it's helpful for the congregation to understand who their pastor is and what he does.

I hope and pray you've also found some time to rest and refresh this summer, and that you find joy in the ordinary rhythms of the life God gives you. If you'd ever like to talk about what's going on in your life, or if I can be helpful to you in any way, please let me know. The better we understand each other, the more effectively God can use us to serve together here.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR AUGUST 2026

Saturday, August 1 st	5:30 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, August 2 nd	8:30 a.m. Choir Practice
	9:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m. – Bible Class
Thursday, August 6 th	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Day of Spiritual Renewal at MELHS, Edwardsville
Saturday, August 8 th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service
Sunday, August 9 th	9:00 a.m. – Worship Service - Installation of teachers & principal
	10:15 a.m. – Bible Class
	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – ILS Open House
Monday, August 10 th	3:00 p.m. – Public Catechesis (7 th & 8 th Graders)
	4:00 p.m. – Beginner Catechesis (6 th Graders)
	7:00 p.m. – Board of Elders Meeting
Tuesday, August 11 th	7:00 p.m. – Adult Instructional Class
Wednesday, August 12 th	First Day of School and 8:30 a.m. Chapel K-8 with Early dismissal at 12:20 p.m.
Thursday, August 13 th	First day for Pre-school
	6:30 p.m. – Board for Parochial Ed. Meeting
Saturday, August 15 th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, August 16 th	9:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
	Acolyte Training after Worship Service
	10:15 a.m. – Bible Class
Monday, August 17 th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
	7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Meeting
Tuesday, August 18 th	Dual Circuit Pastors meet at Trinity, Iuka
Wednesday, August 19 th	12:15 p.m. – Chapel with Pastor d'Entremont
Saturday, August 22 nd	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service
Sunday, August 23 rd	9:00 a.m. – Worship Service
	10:15 a.m. Bible Class
Monday, August 24 th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
Tuesday, August 25 th	7:00 p.m. – Adult Instructional Class
Wednesday, August 26 th	12:15 p.m. – Chapel with Pastor Wood
Saturday, August 29 th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, August 30 st	8:30 a.m. Choir Practice (all children welcome!)
	9:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m. – Bible Class

Define Your Life by How You Give

Originally Published in August 2023

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For, giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living have on us. When we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others?” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, nor do we become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the Divine Nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

From the principal's desk:

Fresh Paint. Fresh Faces. Fresh Year.

A new school year is just around the corner, and we can't wait to welcome everyone back to Immanuel Lutheran School!

This summer has been full of exciting improvements to make our school an even better place to learn, grow, and thrive:

A freshly painted playground

Beautiful new murals to brighten our walls are coming soon

Updated classrooms ready for learning

New teacher joining our incredible team

And so much more!

A fresh coat of paint isn't just about color—it's about new beginnings, fresh opportunities, and endless possibilities. Speaking of possibilities, our students will experience so much more than core classes this year. We have created a "Specials Time" where students will experience something different each day: Art, STEM, Spanish/Music, and Home Economics. If you remember the creativity of growing microgreens and lettuce in Mrs. Recker's room last year, just wait, we're taking it a step further—that might mean baking bread, sewing on a button, balancing a checkbook. If you are a member of our congregation and this just sparked your interest, we want you to share your trade, idea, hobby with our students. Is there something they can learn from you—wood working, crochet, etc.?

Here's to new friendships, new adventures, new lessons, and another year of growing together in faith and knowledge. We can't wait to see all of our students fill these halls with smiles, laughter, and learning once again!

See you soon, Immanuel Family! Let's make this our best year yet!

Mrs. Kelli Borrenpohl

July 29, 2026

John Krueger

Southern Illinois District – Voting Delegate

LCMS Convention Recap

Saturday July 18, 2026, to July 23, 2026

Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix AZ

It was an honor to represent Washington County LCMS Congregations as a Voting Delegate. This was my first Convention and new to LCMS policies and procedures. From the opening gavel dropped by President Matthew C. Harrison to the closing gavel, the experience was at times overwhelming but very rewarding.

One note on the gavel: The historic gavel has been used to open/close Conventions since 1911. It is normally on display at the Lutheran History Museum in the LCMS International Center. The gavel was originally carved from a log from the Synod's original seminary to celebrate the 100th anniversary of C.F.W. Walther's birth.

The Tri-annual Convention is attended by Pastors and Lay Members from all over the World. The opening registration report listed 943 voting delegates. (464 lay and 479 pastors). Also, in attendance were Advisory delegates/representatives, special guests and others. In total over 1500 individuals were present at most daily sessions.

The daily "Agenda of the Day" began with an 8:00 a.m. Matins Service preached by Reverends from various Regions. Wednesday's service was preached by Rev. T. Benjamin Ball, second Vice-President from the Central Region. Lunch breaks each day were from noon till 1:30 p.m. with Midday Prayer Service setting the stage for the afternoon business session. Evening closing services were held at 5:30 p.m. each day as a Vespers or Responsive Prayer. All services included familiar hymns from LSB sung full throat by over 1000, mostly male voices. Very impressive, Pastors love to sing.

I haven't touched on the Business Sessions and frankly do not know where to start. The entire business agendas were organized, followed Robert's Rules of Order and were open for debates, amendments and prayerful votes cast by Delegates. The procedure to bring topics (Overtures) for Convention review begin several months prior. Those overtures are forwarded to assigned Floor Committees from most Regions who painstakingly study merits/consequences of each and present resolutions to the Voting Delegates. Each delegate then can speak for or against, make amendments and finally vote on the issue. There were a multitude of voting opportunities cast by each Delegate using handheld TV style remote controls. Each vote was tabulated and shared with the

Delegates on large video screens in 30 seconds. Very efficient and effective using latest voting technology.

I would highly recommend anyone who is interested in the Resolutions, go to the LCMS website and search for 2026 Convention Proceedings. I was going to highlight a few that I thought were "game changers" but for the sake of time and space it's best to search the website on your own. For those who have questions or wish to ask me for help finding the website/proceedings please contact me by email or at my phone number listed below.

Thank you for allowing me to represent your Congregation at the 69th Convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

John Krueger

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SENIOR HIGH DYG

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT YOUTH GATHERING

Saturday, August 29th
9am - 3pm

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1300 Beltline Road, Collinsville

*Come to me, all you who are
weary and burdened, and*

I WILL
GIVE YOU
REST.

Matthew 11:28

sidlcms.org/events



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to each of you having a birthday in August!

2. Emmerson Horvath
4. Julie Borrenpohl
5. Jeff Going
6. Betty Bollmeier
10. Sheppard Dugger, Larry Hasheider
11. Kinzy Schneider
12. Jason Hevner
14. Landon Elliott
15. Donna Davis
17. Shawn Quimby, Holly Strasburg
19. Pat Strasburg
20. Danny Moeller, Joshua Streuter
21. Denise Frederking
22. Collins Schumacher
27. Kayla Williams, Grady Langenfeld
28. Ruth Harre, John Schwankhaus

VISITATION COMMITTEE

Adeline Blumhorst

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Angie Kampwerth and Lois Obermeier

ACOLYTES

- Saturday, August 1st – Sadie Bergmann
Sunday, August 2nd – Coleson Hasheider
Saturday, August 8th – Markus Lautenschlaeger
Sunday, August 9th – Hudson Schneider
Saturday, August 15th – Landon Elliott
Sunday, August 16th – Devin Hundelt
Saturday, August 22nd – Collins Schumacher
Sunday, August 23rd – Maylen Kramper
Saturday, August 29th – Coleson Hasheider
Sunday, August 30th – Sadie Bergmann

Organist/Pianist

- Saturday, August 1st – Sophia Wood
Sunday, August 2nd – Sharon Krueger
Saturday, August 8th – Sophia Wood
Sunday, August 9th – Sharon Krueger
Saturday, August 15th – Sophia Wood
Sunday, August 16th – Sharon Krueger
Saturday, August 22nd – Sophia Wood
Sunday, August 23rd –
Saturday, August 29th – Sophia Wood
Sunday, August 30th – Sharon Krueger

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- Saturday, August 1st – Dennis Pruehsner
Sunday, August 2nd – Jeff Jacobs
Saturday, August 15th – Mike Jacobs
Sunday, August 16th – Jonathan Schneider
Saturday, August 29th – Dennis Pruehsner
Sunday, August 30th – Jeff Jacobs

USHERS FOR AUGUST

- Saturday –
Sunday – Dennis Machhoff

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 8-1 Jared and Nicole Borrenpohl
8-3 Doane and Lynn Borrenpohl
8-5 Paul and Janet Lange
8-6 Justin and Nicole Heberer
Albert and Audrey Moeller
8-7 Jim and Janet Weeke
8-11 Brian & Debbie Frederking
8-20 Jonathan and Krissy Schneider
8-23 John and Sharon Krueger
8-25 Mark & Kim Rennegarbe

MEN'S CLUB MEETING

Monday, August 17th at 7:30 p.m.

We urge all members to attend and welcome any men who would like to attend.

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Acolyte training for all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will be after worship service on August 16th. We will need some experienced acolytes to demonstrate for the new ones.

SCHOOL NEWS

NEW TEACHER

Karlie Pinkston was hired as the new 4th and 5th grade teacher at ILS.

PRINCIPAL/TEACHERS INSTALLATION

Sunday, August 9, 2026 Immanuel's Principal and teachers will be installed during the morning worship service.

SID DAY OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Thursday, August 6, 2026

This is for all SID Professional Workers. It will be held at Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville.

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, August 9th

Immanuel Lutheran School welcomes you to open house August 9th 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

First Day of Student attendance will be Wednesday, August 12th for grades K-8 with dismissal at 12:20 p.m.

First Day for Pre-school is August 13th.

Physicals All first- time students or those who will be playing sports or are entering grades kindergarten and sixth grade are required to have a physical. Physicals should include diabetes screening. First-time students and those entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades need proof of recent dental examinations. Vision examinations, birth certificates, are required for kindergarten and first- time students.

School Registration for the 2026/2027 school year – If you missed registration, please call the school office and make an appointment or register online through teacher ease. Thank you.

WEEKLY WORSHIP RESOURCE LISTINGS TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 1 & 2, 2026

Old Testament: Isaiah 55:1-5
Epistle: Romans 9:1-13
Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21
Order of Service: Divine Service Setting One
Hymns: 636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness
642 O Living Bread from Heaven
626 Come, Let Us Eat
618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table
636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness
652 Father, We Thank Thee

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 8 & 9, 2026

Old Testament: Job 38:4-18
Epistle: Romans 10:5-17
Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33
Order of Service: Prayer and Preaching
Hymns: 523 O Word of God Incarnate
587 I Know My Faith Is Founded
831 “How Shall They Hear,” Who Have Not Heard

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 15 & 16, 2026

Old Testament: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Epistle: Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32
Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28
Order of Service: Divine Service Setting Four
Hymns: 510 A Multitude Comes from the East and the West
653 In Christ There Is No East or West
649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds
770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus
832 Jesus Shall Reign
936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 22 & 23, 2026

Old Testament: Isaiah 51:1-6
Epistle: Romans 11:33-12:8
Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20
Order of Service: Matins
Hymns: 473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets us Free
645 Built on the Rock
828 We Are Called to Stand Together

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 29 & 30, 2026

Old Testament: Jeremiah 15:15-21
Epistle: Romans 12:9-21
Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28
Order of Service: Divine Service Setting Three
Hymns: 688 “Come Follow Me,” the Savior Spake
531 Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus
718 Jesus, Lead Thou On
722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me
861 Christ Be My Leader
857 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way