Immanuel Lutheran Church May 2025 Newsletter

Where is Jesus now? I've heard various answers from Christians young and old. He's everywhere. He's in my heart. He's in his Word and Sacraments. He's at the right hand of God. Those answers are each true in their own ways, but each could be misunderstood. Saying Jesus is everywhere could become an excuse to avoid gathering with other members of his body, as his Church. Saying Jesus is in my heart could make faith no more than my own subjective experience. Either of the remaining answers is incomplete without the other to balance the truth it expresses. Yes, he's at the right hand of God (in his fully divine-human reality, his immortal body still showing how he suffered), but he's not avoiding his people. He is still with us through the means of grace.

One of the most overlooked or neglected days in the Church Year helps us understand where Jesus is now (and what he expects us to do as we wait for his promised return). Ascension Day, being 40 days after his resurrection from the dead, always falls on a Thursday, so unless its is "transferred" to the following Sunday, most of us pay little attention to it. In years past, our circuits sometimes gathered for a joint Ascension service. This year, we will have our own Divine Service for the Ascension of Our Lord on May 29 at 7 PM. This is a joyous yet poignant occasion. Our Lord has accomplished what he came to earth to do, so he victoriously goes home, but that means he's not with us in the same way he was with his disciples. On the other hand, now he becomes available to his Church throughout the world in marvelous, miraculous ways.

Until he comes again with glory to judge the living and the dead, he sits at the Father's right hand, ruling all things in heaven and earth for the good of his Church. Both current events and world history make this hard to believe, but it's true, nonetheless. Week by week, and year by year, the holy Christian Church lives out what she confesses in the creeds. We believe in the Father, maker of heaven and earth, so we follow the pattern he set, working six days a week and resting to be refreshed by his grace on the other. We believe in his Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, so we spend nearly half of each year, Christmas through Ascension, reviewing all that he did here on earth in its proper order. We believe in the Holy Spirit, so we rely on his work in us for the rest of the year, growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH MAY 2025 CALENDAR

Saturday, May 3rd 5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion - Pastor Eichhorn

Sunday, May 4th 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service with Holy Communion

Monday, May 5th Teacher Appreciation Week – May 5-10

Tuesday, May 6th SID Spring Pastoral Conference at New Minden and Nashville

6:30 p.m. - PTL Meeting

Wednesday, May7th 12:15 p.m. - Chapel – Pastor d'Entremont

Thursday, May 8th 6:30 p.m. - Board of Parochial Education Meeting

Saturday, May 10th 5:30 p.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, May 11th 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service

Monday, May 12th – Thursday, May 15th Pastor Wood on Vacation Tuesday, May 13th – Thursday, May 15th 7th and 8th Grade Class Trip

Wednesday, May 14th Last day of 3 yr. old and 4 yr. old Pre-School

Thursday, May 15th 8:15 a.m. - 4 yr. old Pre-School Graduation

7:00 p.m. - LWML Meeting

Friday, May 16th 8:15 a.m. - Kindergarten Graduation and Chapel with Pastor Wood

2:25 p.m. - 8th Grade Graduation/Celebration

Saturday, May 17th 5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, May 18th 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class (Last Sunday for S.S.)

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service with Holy Communion

Tuesday, May 20th Dual Circuit Pastors at Trinity, Iuka

Wednesday, May 21st 8:00 a.m. Closing Chapel Service - Pastor Wood

Awards Program following Chapel

Saturday, May 24th 5:30 p.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, May 25th 9:00 a.m. – Bible Class

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service

Thursday, May 29th 7:00 p.m. – Ascension Worship Service with Holy Communion

Saturday, May 31st 5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

Stewardship Thoughts - May 2025

Sanctification, vocation and stewardship-themed bulletin blurbs keyed to the lectionaries.

Stewardship in the Body of Christ

Baseball season is upon us. The southern images of spring training give way to the pageantry of Opening Day. On that day, the hopes and dreams of every major league team, player and fan focus on doing whatever it takes to get to the Fall Classic, the World Series. Baseball is a secular way that so many of us confess that hope "springs" eternal.

With all of this in mind, baseball can also teach us a new perspective about stewardship. Think about the game itself. Baseball is a team sport. The home team faces off against the visitors. Yet while it is a team game, there are repetitive, individual confrontations that take place within the game. The baseball game cannot start without the individual pitcher against the hitter. Once the batted ball is in play, the battle is between the ability of the fielder against the speed of the baserunner. Once there is a runner on base, an attempt to steal a base pits the runner against the catcher. A base hit into the outfield pits the outfielder against a runner trying to score.

Baseball is a team game with many smaller units at play. Without all those smaller units working together and achieving their tasks, the team will lose.

Romans 12 puts our stewardship of the Gospel in a similar setting. The church is certainly described as a team, if you will.

Verse 3: "For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned." This is where the Body of Christ is really seen as a team. No one member of the baseball team can win the game by themselves. In the same way, no one part of the Body of Christ can accomplish stewardship of the Gospel alone. The pastor cannot. The congregational chair cannot. The lead soprano in the choir cannot. But each of these individuals have been added to the local congregation to be built into a team that can win the victory with Jesus.

Verses 4–5: "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." In baseball, the pitcher pitches. The catcher catches. The hitter hits. When a pitcher attempts to hit, the result is usually not very pretty. Catchers often do not excel at running the

bases. The hitter usually does not do well when they are sent to the mound to pitch. Every member of the Body of Christ has a unique set of abilities and functions. Not everyone preaches. Not everyone leads. Not everyone sings well. Yet when the congregation assembles together as a team, it can succeed in ways unattainable by the individual.

Verses 6–8: "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness." Each member of the team has a role to play. Abilities and opportunities are entrusted to the individual members of the Body of Christ to be used for the ultimate purpose of stewarding the Gospel for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor. The one preaching is no more or less important than the others. The one serving or the one teaching, the leader or the merciful one — all are equally important in the faithful stewardship of all that the Lord has entrusted to the Body of Christ. All this stewardship is for the sake of the other!

A baseball team can have five All-Star pitchers but cannot win if the hitters do not hit. The best lineup in the league will struggle if the pitchers cannot get anyone on the other team out. Pitchers need the defense behind them to play well. Coaches need to lead well. When they all work together, you have a winning baseball team. When the Body of Christ has all its members faithfully stewarding the unique individual talents that have been entrusted to them, the victory goes to Jesus! This is the goal of faithful stewardship! It is all about Jesus!



REVELATION 22:16

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to each of you who has a birthday in May. If we have overlooked someone, or have the incorrect date, please contact the church office and the records will be corrected.

- 1. Laney Hundelt, Alexa Rennegarbe, Cora Schmidt, William Strasburg, Sophia Hall
- 2. Danielle Eggemann, Gene Frederking
- 3. Jose Eggemann, Cindy Kuhlengel Matthew Bolam
- 4. Earl Weeke
- 5. Victoria Woods
- 6. Elizabeth Guest, Saxon Cantrell
- 9. Kylie Hasheider
- 13. Kelly Heckert
- 14. James Hasheider
- 19. Pam Wienstroer
- 20. Evan Perry
- 22. Bill Frederking, Lauren Elliott, Jonathan Kraus
- 23. Kooper Suedmeyer
- 24. Lisa Teter, Riley Clark
- 26. Wendy Streuter, Kera Harre
- 27. Stacy Friedrich,
- 28. Levi Traub, Owen Hevner
- 29. Douglas Bening
- 30. Blakely Glynn, Leonard Hemminghaus
- 31.Kristal Jacobs, Maylen Kramper, Kermit Muelken, Piper Langenfeld

VISITATION COMMITTEE

Carolyn Rennegarbe

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Sheila Pruehsner and Carolyn Rennegarbe

ACOLYTES

Saturday, May 3rd – Michael Lautenschlaeger Sunday, May 4th – Landan Kraus Saturday, May 10th – Kooper Suedmeyer Sunday, May 11th – Landon Elliott Saturday, May 17th – Matthew Lautenschlaeger Sunday, May 18th – Collins Schumacher Saturday, May 24th – Maylen Kramper Sunday, May 25th – Devin Hundelt Saturday, May 31st – Olivia Bergmann

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Saturday, May 3th – Kent Helbig Sunday, May 4th – Jonathan Schneider Saturday, May 17th – Jeff Jacobs Sunday, May 18th – Dennis Pruehsner Thursday, May 29th – Jonathan Schneider Saturday, May 31st – Kent Helbig

ORGANISTS/PIANISTS

Saturday, May 3rd – Pastor Eichhorn Sunday, My 4th – Sharon Krueger Saturday, May 10th – Pastor Wood Sunday, May 11th – Sharon Krueger Saturday, May 17th – Sophia Wood Sunday, May 18th – Saturday, May 24th – Pastor Wood Sunday, May 25th – Sharon Krueger Thursday, May 29th – Sharon Krueger Saturday, May 31st -Sophia Wood

USHERS FOR MAY

Saturday – Jeff Obermeier Sunday – Bryce Kolweier and Albert Moeller

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

5-5 Steve & Charlene Elliott

5-6 Leonard & Lois Obermeier

5-8 Jason & Dana Obermeier Norbert & Betty Hasheider

5-10 Tyson & Anna Long

5-16 Jeff & Laura Obermeier

5-28 William & Charlotte Durham

5-31 Steve & Tina Horvath

CONFIRMATION

The following confirmed their faith on Sunday, April 13th Olivia Bergmann, Emmerson Hasheider, Landan Kraus, Matthew Lautenschlaeger, Michael Lautenschlaeger, Kooper Suemeyer.

OFFICIAL ACTS

Transfer In - Pat Quinlan from Holy Cross Lutheran Church Collinsville, IL

Burial – 05-2-25 Gloria Eggemann at Ebenezer Cemetery

PASTOR WOOD VACATION

Pastor Wood will be on vacation Monday, May 12 – Thursday, May 15. Pastor Jim d'Entremont will be coving while he is gone. He can be reached by calling 573-723-0339.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are planning a craft and singing in church for Mother's Day. Last day of Sunday School is May 17 before our summer break. We have begun planning for VBS June 16th-20th – Epic Australian Adventure - An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus! Contact Allison Dunn, Krissy Schnieder or Amber Jacobs if you'd like to volunteer.

MEN'S CLUB

No Men's Club meetings will be held in the months of May and June. They will resume in July.

SECRET ANGELS

A special Thank You to the 2025 Secret Angels that have volunteered to sponsor our confirmands. The confirmands and secret angels for this year are: Olivia Bergmann (Cindy Kuhlengel), Emmerson Hasheider (Larry Hasheider), Landan Kraus (Katie Kramper), Matthew Lautenschlaeger (Jonathan & Krissy Schneider), Michael Lautenschlaeger (Jonathan & Krissy Schneider), and Kooper Suedmeyer (Deb Guest and Lisa Teter).

LWML NEWS

LWML will meet on Thursday, May 15 at 7pm in the church basement. Mary Ann Niedens will have the opening devotion, and Carolyn Rennegarbe will have the topic. She will share a video about creation, "In Six Days". Please join us!

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

The Alumni & Friends will host a yard sale at the school again this year. Funds are raised for the school. It supports a community event and helps area families. This project is a lot of work and the Board needs as much help as we can get. Many thanks to the teachers and students of Immanuel, who have helped move tables to the gym over the years! This in itself is a big job and the kids make quick work out of something that would take our small group hours to accomplish. This task is planned for May 21st. Donations may be taken to the gym beginning that afternoon. We plan to work as often as is necessary to get the donations displayed and priced. Items are taken to the area where they will be sold and the pricing is completed later. This creates a more consistent pricing process and opens the opportunity to volunteer to a much broader group. Thank you to everyone who has donated in the past or plans to donate this year. Last year over \$3,000 was raised through your donations! For the past two years, sale hours were held during two weekends (Thursday, Friday and Saturday). We are trying to schedule sale dates and times. However, we need to see when volunteers are available before final decisions are made. During sale days, volunteers will be needed for bagging, occasional straightening of items and cashiers. There will be a sign-up sheet at church or you

can speak with any Alumni and; Friends board member. At this time, we are looking at the following dates: May 29, 30 and 31, June 7, 8, and 9. Refreshments will be available for volunteers. Last year, after the sale was over, we opened the school on Monday night so that people could come and take what they could use. It was well attended and benefitted several lowincome families even more! Others came and gave donations for things they found. This worked out very well and there was a smaller number of items than we have had in past years that we moved forward to another group to use. Please consider volunteering for this project. Any amount of time helps! Thank you in advance!

EASTER LILIES

The Altar Guild thanks the following for again beautifying our Altar for Easter with lilies from the following: Adeline Blumhorst in memory of husband, Roland Blumhorst and parents, William and Bertha Brune and Otto and Elda Blumhorst; Gene and Sharon Frederking in memory of parents, Edwin and Erna Frederking and Virgil and Ruby Hoelscher; Roy and Linda Frederking in memory of parents Edwin and Erna Frederking and Warren and Virginia Stricker; Eula Haier in memory of her husband, Fred Haier; Ruth Harre in memory of husband, Duane, grandson Brody C. Miller, parents William and Eileen Auld and Henry and Verdell Harre; brothers-in-law Ken Harre and Jim Blair; Norbert and Betty Hasheider in memory of parents, Elmer and Loraine Hasheider and Henry and Verdell Harre and brothers, Wayne Hasheider, Duane and Ken Harre, and sister, Cheryl Oeltjen and brother-in-law, Jim Blair; Robert and Donna Kraus (2 lilies) one in memory of parents Carl and Arlene Kraus, sister Connie Kraus; the other in memory of LaVern and Hazel Dick; Larry and Cindy Kuhlengel in memory of parents Rufus and Flora Kuhlengel and parents Ray and Lorine Schuette; Kyle Martens and Donna Roseman (3 lilies) one in memory of Kyle's wife, Kim Martens, Kim's father, Roger Canada, and the other in memory of Donna's parents and family; Jeff and Laura Obermeier in memory of Laura's parents Joe and Ann Wojtowicz; Leonard and Lois Obermeier (two lilies) in memory of son-in-law, Keith Wienstroer and parents, John and Ella Obermeier and Henry and Verdell Harre, brothers, Ken and Duane Harre, Ed Obermeier. and sisters Hulda Jacobs, Bertha and Lou

Randoll, brother-in-law, Jim Blair, brother, John and sister-in-law Kathryn Obermeier; Gene and Carolyn Rennegarbe given to the Glory of God; Cora Schmidt, K. Lynn Owens, Dan Schmidt and families in memory of husband and father, Stan Schmidt; Earl and Ruth Weeke in memory of parents, Albert and Esther Weeke, Elmer and Loraine Hasheider, and brothers and sister, Wayne Hasheider, Elroy Weeke, and Cheryl Oeltjen. Thanks to all.

SCHOOL NEWS

May 2nd – May 4th Chalk the Walk at ILS See enclosed flyer for more details.

May 5th - 9th Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6th Kindergarten field trip to the zoo

May 13th-May 15th 7th and 8th grade field trip

May 14th Last day of morning and afternoon preschool

May 15th 4 yr old graduation and K- 4th grade park day is planned

May 16th Kindergarten graduation and 8th celebration

May 21^{st} Closing chapel and $1^{st} - 7^{th}$ grade awards – Last day of school

School Registration Immanuel Lutheran School registration is on-going for Pre-School, 3 and 4-year-olds, and K-8. Registration is open enrollment for everyone. If you have any questions, please call 618-243-6142 or 243-6216. If you know of anyone interested in our programs, please let the school office know.

THANK YOU

A special thank you to the Prayer Pals sponsored by Immanuel LWML for providing treats for the Pre-school through Grade 8 through the 2024 – 2025. Our Prayer Pals for this year are Joyce Borrenpohl, Nancy Glynn, Cindy Hundelt, Alexis Kampwerth, Angie Kampwerth, Cindy Kuhlengel, Mary Ann Niedens, Pat Quinlan, Carolyn Rennegarbe, Nancy Rossel, and Emily Wood.

8th Grade Celebration – Friday, May 16th 2:25 p.m: The following student will graduate – Jackson Rennegarbe, son of Mark and Kim Rennegarbe.

Kindergarten graduation – Friday, May 16th 8:15 am: The following will graduate – Rhet Borrenpohl, son of Steven and Kelli Borrenpohl; Everett Bourget, son of Chris and Angela Bourget; Judson Greten, son of Lucas and Elizabeth Greten; Memphis Lange, son of John and Olivia Lange; Kolten Steinkamp, son of Jared and Dawn Steinkamp; Jacen Strubhart, son of Harrison Strubhart.

Pre-School Graduation - Thursday, May 15th 8:15 a.m. The following will graduate: Oliver Aubrecht, son of Danny and Whitney Aubrecht; Owen Bejma, son of Brian and Jill Bejma; Dirk Clary, son of Devin and Jill Clary; Charleigh Colstock, daughter of Adam and Breanna Colstock; Hawke Galliano, son of Joshua and Audra Galliano: Bo Glynn, son of Danny and Ashley Glynn; Lucy Hundelt, daughter of Brad and Ashley Hundelt; Kenley Jacobs, daughter of Mike and Amber Jacobs; Thomas Janowski, son of Daniel and Danielle Janowski; Emma Knight, daughter of Shawn and Katie Knight; Ava Koerkenmeier, daughter of Kyle and Kelly Koerkenmeier; Axeton Kurtz, son of Cole and Courtney Kurtz; Walker Kurtz, son of Kody and Hillary Kurtz; Henderson Lohman, son of Justin and Elizabeth Lohman; Kori Lohmann, daughter of Drew and Amy Lohman; Degen Riechmann, son of Trey and Amber Riechmann; Skylar Smith, daughter of David Smith and Stephanie Gaebe; Avery Wilke, daughter of Kurt and Katie Wilke.

HERITAGE HOUSE SPONSORED CARRY-OUT DINNER

Heritage House sponsored carry-out-dinner - The Heritage House Museum Association is sponsoring a carry-out-dinner for Sunday, May 4, 2025, beginning at 11:00 a.m. and serving till 1:00 p.m. Carry-outs can be picked up at the food stand building behind the Schlosser Complex property along West St. Louis Street.

The menu will include roast beef, roast pork, or beef and noodles with applesauce and 2 sides – homemade mashed potatoes, gravy, seasoned green beans, candied carrots, and buttered corn. A dinner that includes an entrée, applesauce, and 2 sides is \$14.00. Additional beef and noodles are available for \$10.00 a quart. Extra sides are

also available for \$2.00 per serving. We will also have a great selection of homemade pie, cake and various desserts for \$3.50.

"All food is homemade". Proceeds will benefit the Museum Association and help pay for maintenance and the perseverance of the museum properties that are major attractions for the town of Okawville. For more information, call Jackie at 618-541-7708. (Leave a message with a phone number.)

WEEKLY WORSHIP RESOURCE LISTING

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER May 3 & 4, 2025

First Reading: Acts 9:1 -22 Epistle: Revelation 5:1-14 Gospel: John 21:1-19

Order of Service – Divine Service Setting One Hymns: 611Chief of Sinners Though I Be 483 With High Delight Let Us Unite

488 He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

547 The Lamb

548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious 688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 10 & 11, 2025

First Reading: Acts 20:17-35 Epistle: Revelation 7:9-17 Gospel: John 10:22-30

Order of Service - Prayer and Preaching

Hymns: 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not

Want

625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread 740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 17 & 18, 2025

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-7

Gospel: John 16:12-22

Order of Service - Divine Service Setting Four

Hymns: 672 Jerusalem the Golden 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

818 In Thee Is Gladness

674 Jerusalem, O City Fair and High

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 24 & 25, 2025

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

Second Reading: Revelation 21:9-14,21-27

Gospel: John 16:23-33 Order of Service – Matins

Hymns: 556: 1-6 Dear Christians, One and All,

Rejoice

556:7-10 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD May 29, 2025

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

Order of Service - Divine Service Setting One

Hymns: 480 He's Risen, He's Risen 493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing 821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 31 & June 1, 2025

First Reading: Acts 1:12-26

Second Reading: Revelation 22:1-20

Gospel: John 17:20-26

Order of Service - Divine Service Setting One

Hymns: 478 The Day of Resurrection

553 O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts' Desire

649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

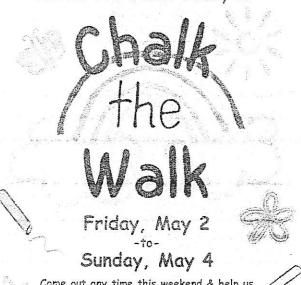
652 Father, We Thank Thee

701 Draw Us to Thee

487 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Immanuel Lutheran School PTL

Invites You & Your Family to:



Come out <u>any time this weekend</u> & help us show appreciation for our teachers by decorating the sidewalks of ILS with encouraging messages, creative artwork, & inspiring quotes—just in time to kick off Teacher Appreciation Week (May 5-9).

CHALK WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE PTL (look for the buckets near the front doors)