Immanuel Lutheran Church November Newsletter

Usually if someone says they're going in circles, it's a mild complaint about a wasted effort resulting in little or no real progress. Maybe your GPS isn't working, and you're lost. Maybe the discussion you're having isn't getting anywhere. But sometimes going repeatedly round a loop has a purpose: mowing your lawn, harvesting crops, running a race on the track, etc. Those loops come in a variety of shapes, but repetition may feel like you're going in circles.

On our birthdays, we sometimes hear comments about starting or completing another trip around the Sun. Life's journey thus involves going in circles. (Actually, astronomers tell us the Earth's orbit is elliptical, not circular.) Time's arrow moves in only one direction, but as we move through life, are we simply going in circles (ellipses), or are we making progress, achieving some worthwhile purpose, or getting some results? Those are good questions!

Although we have two full months left of this calendar year, the current church year ends and the next one begins in late November. And I've already purchased a new pastoral desk diary. Each week gets two facing pages: one just for Sunday (as pastors need), the other for the other six days of the week. I've also been given two new wall calendars (one standard-style page-per-month, another poster-size circular calendar of the Christian church year).

Perhaps you've seen one of these unique circular calendars? In case you haven't, I plan to post one at church and another at school in the next few weeks, so watch for one on a wall near you! Each week is like a spoke of a wheel, with Sunday on the outside of the circle and Saturday near the center. Each day is nearly rectangular, with almost square corners and a couple of slightly curved edges, each little shape filled with the appropriate liturgical color.

The Creator built time into his creation: cycles of light and darkness (called day and night), growth and death (annually for many plants and some animals, longer for other creatures). We need daily times for both work and rest. We are also commanded to take weekly times of rest – primarily to gather as God's people for rest and refreshment by hearing his Word. This seven-day cycle of work and rest (in a six-to-one pattern) is revealed in only that Word.

It's vital for us to maintain those patterns established by God for our lives. When we live in those patterns, life goes better. When we slip away from them, we invent our own patterns. As time goes by, we grow accustomed to doing things our way, so we find it harder to break those habits and return to doing things God's way. Having a congregation where we belong and participate helps us live by daily, weekly, and annual rhythms of liturgical life together.

Finally, three Scripture passages for your prayerful consideration:

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18

Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

Sunday, November 1st	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
	2:30 p.m. – 16th Annual Okawville Music Festival
Monday, November 2nd	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
	7:00 p.m. – Elders Meeting
Wednesday, November 4th	8:15 a.m. – Pre K 3 Chapel – Pastor Wood
	12:30 p.m. –Chapel – Pastor Wood
	7:00 p.m. – PTL Meeting
	7:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, November 7th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service
Sunday, November 8th	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
Monday, November 9th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
	1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Blood Drive at ILS
Tuesday, November 10th	6:30 p.m. - Veterans' Day Glow Run at ILS
Wednesday, November 11th	No School – Veterans' Day Observed
	7:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, November 12th	6:30 p.m. – Board for Parochial Ed. Meeting
Saturday, November 14th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, November 15th	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday, November 16th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
	7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Meeting
Wednesday, November 18th	8:15 a.m. – Pre K 3 Chapel – Pastor Wood
	12:30 p.m. –Chapel – Pastor d'Entremont
	7:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, November 19th	7:00 p.m. – LWML Meeting
Saturday, November 21st	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service
Sunday, November 22nd	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
Monday, November 23rd	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis
Wednesday, November 25th – Friday, November 27th No School	
Thursday, November 26th -	9:00 a.m. - Thanksgiving Day Service
Saturday, November 28th	5:30 p.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, November 29th	9:00 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday, November 30th	6:45 a.m. – Public Catechesis

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart!

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Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, by His death for our sins and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water combined with His Word, promise and name, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure and wealth is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity and everything that is His belongs also to us: righteousness, peace, eternal life. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly, divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's Holy Word, as a sacrifice. Thus all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him, from which we eat to nourish our bodies and share with our family, neighbors and fellow Christians, with the poor and even our enemies, as holy things given by our holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and bring blessing upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom and the souls that receive them.

Thus we place all that we have into God's hands. He never fails to remember us and pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving celebrations, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all — even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

Dear Immanuel Families,

As we continue through another exciting school year at Immanuel Lutheran School, we are thankful for the many blessings God provides to our students, families, teachers, and congregation. Our school is more than a place of learning-it is a community where faith grows, friendships flourish, and children are encouraged to use their God-given gifts to serve others. Our faith is growing into our families, as we have witnessed two families join our church community. Friendships are happening daily as we hear about the impacts our BIG students have on our LITTLE students, whether they are helping in preschool or sitting with them in chapel. As for serving there is so much our Immanuel Family has done or is getting ready to do in our community.

In September, we put together a great float to show appreciation to our military and celebrate 250 years of America, while also having another successful year in our kabob stand at Wheat Fest. Huge shout out to all of the people that helped in creating our float, especially Connie Murphy who takes the reign each year! We couldn't do it without you. After learning all the classroom rules in August, we have shifted gears and dove deep into our subjects, reading and learning math facts. Ag in the Classroom, came to teach us about the water cycle and our teachers did lessons on how to be creative, embrace your mindset, and overcome perfectionism with studying the book, "The Dot". After reading the book "The Dot", we were able to serve our community by delivering them all a friendly snack of Dot pretzels on Dot Day, September 15th. To round out the month of September, Immanuel school families joined Immanuel church families at Church in the Park and all the students sang a song together. Thank you Immanuel Church for including our school families for this wonderful event.

October kicked off with the local fire department visiting us for Fire Prevention Week and teaching us all about how to be safe in a fire. Our service project for October was participating in the Chili Cookoff alongside our Alumni and Friends. In the classrooms, our learning turned from apples to pumpkins, Ten Commandments to Reformation, and from novels to the writing process! October ends with Red Ribbon Week and being reminded that using and abusing drugs is bad.

We have teamed up with the Senior Center this year and the 6-8th grade have already started decorating Cheer Bags for Christmas, and in November we will start wrapping gifts with Jeff and Laura Obermeier again for Lutheran Child and Family Services. November will also start practicing for our Christmas Program.

As part of our Immanuel Congregation, please know you are always welcome to join us, whether it is a community event, school event, or in prayer. Mark your calendars:

VFW and Red Cross Blood Drive- November 9, 1-6pm
Veteran's Day Assembly at OHS- November 10, 1:30pm
Veteran's Day Glow Run- November 10, 7:30pm
Immanuel School Christmas Program- December 3, 6:30pm

God's Ultimate Blessings,
Kelli Borrenpohl, Principal

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to each of you having a November birthday:

2. Emily Horton
3. Taryn Sensmeyer, Sue Schwankhaus
5. Declan Horton
9. Dennis Eggemann
10. Mallory Bening
11. Erin Kurtz
12. Allison Dunn
13. Kathy Borrenpohl, Joyce Lammers
17. Braden Meyer, Ryker Obermeier
18. Kathy Suedmeyer, Mallory Unverfehrt, Brian Frederking
19. Judy Hasheider, Michael Weeke
20. Tori Buettner
22. Todd Schwankhaus
23. Linda Schuetz
24. Megan Wienstroer
25. Lynda Schroeder, Lisa Clark
26. Roy Frederking
27. Laura Obermeier, Nathan Stangle, Heather Strasburg
28. Aaron Elliott, Gary Bergmann, Jordan Kuhlengel, Mason Obermeier
29. Dennis Pruehsner, Addison Hasheider
30. Kristen Miller, Gary Streuter, Dylan Clark

VISITATION COMMITTEE

Carolyn Rennegarbe

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Charlotte Durham and Sharon Storck

ACOLYTES

Sunday, November 1st – Maylen Kramper
Saturday, November 7th – Mabrey Heberer
Sunday, November 8th – Kaidyn Schumacher
Saturday, November 14th – Markus Lautenschlaeger
Sunday, November 15th – Landon Elliott
Saturday, November 21st – Collins Schumacher
Sunday, November 22nd – Hudson Schneider
Thursday, November 26th – Maylen Kramper
Saturday, November 28th – Aubrey Heberer
Sunday, November 29th – Devin Hundelt

ORGANISTS/PIANISTS

Sunday, November 1st – Sharon Krueger
Saturday, November 7th – Art Eichhorn
Sunday, November 8th – Sophia Wood
Saturday, November 14th – Sophia Wood
Sunday, November 15th – Sharon Krueger
Saturday, November 21st – Eric Wood
Sunday, November 22nd – Sharon Krueger
Thursday, November 26th – Sharon Krueger
Saturday, November 28th – Sophia Wood
Sunday, November 29th – Sharon Krueger

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Sunday, November 1st – Jeff Jacobs
Saturday, November 14th – Mike Jacobs
Sunday, November 15th – Dennis Pruehsner
Saturday, November 28th – Kent Helbig
Sunday, November 29th – Jonathan Schneider

USHERS

Saturday:
Sunday:

OFFICIAL ACTS

Burial: 09-12-26 Stanley Schwankhaus
10-02-26 Julie Borrenpohl

Baptism: 10-11-26 Myron Rossel

New Members: Gerri Mitchell, Katlyn Benfield, Caden Benfield, Nathan Stangle, Melissa Sprehe, Sylvia Sprehe

Peaceful Release: Anna Long, Penelope Long, Matthew Long

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LWML

Thank you to all who contributed toiletries for the Addieville UCC food pantry! Due to your generous contributions and a Thrivent action team card, we were able to donate all of the requested items, plus several packages of diapers and baby wipes.

The November LWML meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19 at 7pm in the church narthex. Carolyn Rennegarbe will have the opening devotion, and Mary Ann Niedens will have the topic.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Thanksgiving contributions have been designated for Current Fund debt reduction. Please give the current negative balance your prayerful thought

16th Annual Music Festival is on Sunday, November 1st at 2:30 p.m. Please join us for an enjoyable program at church, with a wide variety of sounds and styles planned. You will hear singing, organ, piano, cello, flutes, various brass instruments, and more singing, by musicians of a range of ages and abilities. Most (but not all) of the music is "church music." An offering will be gathered to support Christ Our Song Lutheran School of Music, based in New Minden.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

will begin working on next year's offering envelopes. Please let Malinda know if you need or want a new box. The boxes will be the same as this year. We do have some members now using EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer) for their contributions. Please contact Malinda at 618-713-5008.

Christmas Gifts for Needy Children This Holiday Season

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School will be teaming up again with Lutheran Child & Family Services this year to provide Christmas gifts for Needy Children!! Names, ages, sizes, wants, and needs will be available on November 15th. Gifts need to be in the church basement no later than December 6th. Any questions please contact Jeff or Laura Obermeier (314-0849 or 314-0850), Kelli Borrenpohl (977-2451), or the school office (243-6142).

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTION

Lutheran Witness renewals are due by November 27th. This year's annual subscription is $30.70. If you would like to continue your subscription or start a new one, please pick up a form from the table in the narthex and return it with payment or call the church office by the above date. Yearly subscriptions begin February 2026.

Key Cards

We are in the process of deactivating all key cards for the school that are not being used by past board members or teachers. If you have a key card and are not currently on a board or a teacher at this time, please drop it off in the school office or leave it on the table in the narthex so they can be picked up. We need to order additional cards but if we can collect past cards this may prevent us from having that additional expense.

Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School's First Open House for prospective students is scheduled for Sunday, November 15, with tours from 2:00-4:00. Families will be able to visit the school, tour the facilities, and talk with current students, parents, and teachers. Come see how Christ Our Rock can serve your family. This event is open to all prospective students and families. Transfer students and potential freshmen are encouraged to attend. Interested families not able to attend can contact the school office at 226-3315 to receive an information packet and set an appointment to visit the school.

School News

PTL Meeting November 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Blood Drive Nov. 9th at ILS 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Veteran's Day Glow Run Nov. 10th Registration at 6:30 p.m. and Race begins at 7:30 p.m.

No School: November 11th, 25th -27th

Preschool – 8th grade students are asked to join and sing at the Okawville Music Festival on Sunday, November 16th at 3:00 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Ag in the Classroom: November 19th

1st Quarter Honor Roll

6th Grade
Honor Roll
Graycyn Borrenpohl

High Honor Roll
Drew Schwartz

7th Grade
Honor Roll
Brynlee Borrenpohl

High Honor Roll
Nyelle Burianek

8th Grade
High Honor Roll
Devin Hundelt

WEEKLY WORSHIP RESOURCE LISTINGS

ALL SAINTS DAY
October 31 & November 1, 2026
First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17
Epistle: 1 John 3:1-3
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12
Order of Service – Divine Service Setting One
Hymns: 644 The Church's One Foundation
677 For All the Saints
651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord
673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home
812 Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs
678 We Sing for All the Unsung Saints

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 7 & 8, 2026
Old Testament: Amos 5:18-24
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13
Order of Service – Prayer and Preaching
Hymns: 514 The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us
516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying
515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

TWENTY- FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 14 & 15, 2026
Old Testament: Zephaniah 1:7-16
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30
Order of Service – Divine Service Setting Four
Hymns: 610 Lord Jesus, Think on Me
508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near
411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
523 O Word of God Incarnate
632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee
663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

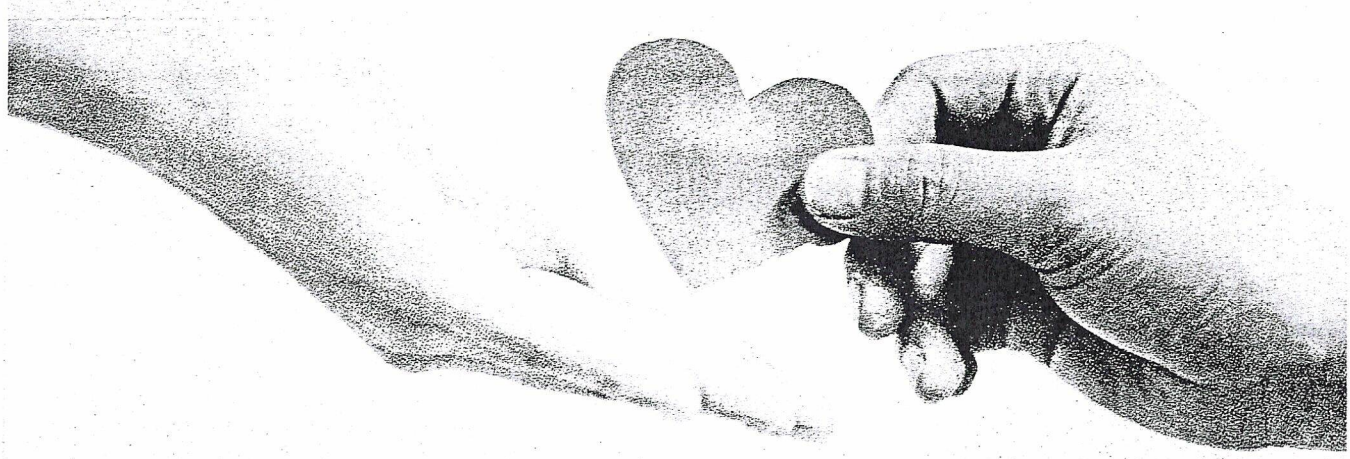
LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR
November 21 & 22, 2026
Old Testament: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46
Order of Service – Matins
Hymns: 609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive
532 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns
578 Thy Strong Word

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 26, 2026
Old Testament: Deuteronomy 8:1-10
Epistle: Philippines 4:6-20
Gospel: Luke 17:11-19
Order of Service – Prayer and Preaching
Hymns: 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness
468 I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives
806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart
785 We Praise You, O God

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
November 28 & 29, 2026
Old Testament: Isaiah 64:1-9
Epistle: 1Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 11:110
Order of Service – Divine Service Setting Three
Hymns: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You
332 Savior of the Nations, Come
341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come
806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart
343 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

VFW
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 5596 Okawville IL.

Immanuel Lutheran
Church . School . Wee Care



Blood Drive

Scan the QR code to make an appointment

November
9th 2026
1 pm-6 pm

At Immanuel Lutheran School, hosted by VFW Post 5596 and Immanuel Lutheran School

Immanuel Lutheran School, 606 S. Hanover St., Okawville IL.