

The Image

"The MISSION of Immanuel is to glorify God, build the Christian Church, foster Christian fellowship and concern, and join in the worldwide work of winning souls for Christ."



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK – OCTOBER 2021



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer" (Mark 9:25-29).

We last heard these words of our Lord among us on the penultimate Sunday of September. Because his own disciples could not cast out the demon, it may seem our Lord is somewhat lacking in power. Which of course He is not. Notice, He speaks a word of rebuke, and the evil spirit must obey. After all, Christ is God; He is the demon's Creator. The issue isn't Christ's lack of power. The fault is with the disciples. The fault is in their thinking that the power is *theirs*. That's why they failed. That's why we fail. And it's often why we fail to act.

You see, Christ doesn't give us power. He gives us access. As Christians, it's when we pray that we access what—Who—can cast out our demons. We often feel powerless because we are. How can we change the course of the events that so deeply and horribly impact our communities? How can we change a community when we cannot even change ourselves? We fail to govern our tongues, or to stop carrying grudges, or to give up our pet vices. How can we ever hope to change our communities? Our families? Our lives? Well, we can't. However, Christ can.

And Christ does.

When you and I gather for church, things happen. (Now, while this is not the focus of this newsletter, I, as your pastor, cannot encourage and admonish you enough to be regular in your church attendance. There is no other place, no other way, to receive the gifts and access we so desperately need.) When we gather for the Divine Service, we, simple people, are made into holy priests. We become the priesthood of believers. And think about what a priest does—intercedes for others. The priest, who has access, brings the requests of the community before the One who has the power to answer.

Rev. Dr. John Kleinig, one of the great scholars of our church body, puts it like this:

As holy priests we all have a common heavenly vocation (Hebrews 3:1), a hidden holy calling in addition to our earthly callings (2 Timothy 1:9). Since we have been justified by the grace of God the Father, we now have open access to His grace through His Son (Romans 5:1–2; Ephesians 3:10–12). Therefore, we may approach Him on behalf of others and the world around us. That’s the heart of the mystery for us. We have been appointed to serve as secret agents here on earth for the unseen Father; we are therefore people with double lives, people with a dual identity and a dual calling.¹

You and I “infiltrate” our neighbors’ lives, and as we do, we learn what it is they need. We learn what it is we are to pray for. And we have access to the One who can act.

I think this is therefore why prayer is constantly under attack, and why it’s often the first thing to go in our busy lives. Satan knows what a powerful tool it is. He would rather have us thinking that the power is ours. But remember, we in ourselves have no power. If he can direct us away from the True source of power, then so much the better for his designs. If he can have us despair in our failures and chuck the whole thing, well happy day for him. And he doesn’t much care for us infiltrating his turf. But that’s exactly where Christ sends us. As Kleinig notes—we go out as secret agents.

And go out we must. You see, when we look inward and rely on ourselves, of course we will be paralyzed with fear and the prospect of failure. Thus, our inclination will be to do nothing. But how will you know what to bring before our Heavenly Father if you never go out into the community? Plus, as a Christian who is filled with Christ each Sunday, you will have good things to give to your neighbor: the beauty of living with the Commandments, mercy,

¹ Kleinig, John, *Grace Upon Grace: Spirituality for Today*, (p. 64). Concordia Publishing House. Kindle Edition. I usually have at least one hard copy of this book on hand. It’s yours for the taking. And it is a great read.

forgiveness, and selfless and sacrificial love. As you go out, you will learn what your neighbor needs you to pray for and how it is you need to be a Christian to them.

And remember, you have access! You, in Christ, have access to the Almighty God. And He will act on your request.

So, I suppose I took the scenic route to say what I hope you already know. Come to church. And pray. Oh, get to know your neighbors and community too. Go to meetings. Volunteer. Ask questions. In Christ—as a Christian—you are the salt and the light your neighbor so desperately needs to see clearly and survive. And when you get discouraged and overwhelmed, remember the words of Christ: *“This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”* His is the power, and you have access.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Len Astrowski, Pastor

Recycle your Portals of Prayer when you are finished rather than tossing it in the trash. Bring them to church office and we will get them to the Central Illinois District LWML who will recycle them to prison ministries.

IMAGE DEADLINE for the **November 2021 issue** is **1:00 PM Friday, October 15th**. Have all items to the office, in writing, by that date. Thank You!

Congratulations to Haley and Charles Fiedler on the birth of their new baby girl, Camdyn Blake, born on Friday, August 27, 2021. May God bestow His blessings upon this family.



Asleep in Jesus ... Olga Scherer was called to her eternal rest on August 31, 2021 at the age of 92. Funeral Services were held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island on Friday, September 10th at 11:00 a.m. with visitation one hour prior at the church. There was a luncheon following the service in the cafeteria. Private burial services were held at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Rock Island. May God comfort the survivors with the sure hope that those who die in the Lord are with Him in Heaven.

Memorials

In memory of Olga Scherer, to the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery Fund

In memory of Olga Scherer, to the General Memorial Fund

Membership Changes

Deletions

By Death: Olga Scherer, August 31, 2021

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday ... We ask God for His blessing upon all our members, especially those who celebrate birthdays in May (especially 80+ this month) including:

Sharri Millen – October 8

Mary Hoffman – October 31

Happy Anniversary ... We ask God for His blessing upon all our members, especially those who celebrate anniversaries (especially 30+ this month) including:

Clayton & Brenda Weisenborn – October 18

Ardo & Carolyn Holmgrain – October 26

TRUNK OR TREAT

The Elders invite you to Immanuel's Trunk-or-Treat on **Saturday, October 23 from 2-4 p.m.** Decorate your trunk, go crazy with your costume, and enjoy fellowship with your church family! This

is also a great opportunity to invite community members to visit our church. The Elders will grill up some delicious food. In case of bad weather, the event will be moved from the parking lot to the gymnasium. Please contact an Elder if you have any questions.

COUNCIL

A Church Council meeting was held on September 23 where an agenda was prepared for a Voters Meeting on October 10. The 2022 church budget will be among the items discussed and voted on. The agenda will be mailed out to the voters the beginning of October.

ARE YOU MOVING?

HAVE YOU MOVED?

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU INFORM THE CHURCH OFFICE OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS! CALL TAMMY AT 309-786-3391, EMAIL TO ILCHURCH@MCHSI.COM, OR WRITE IT ON YOUR ATTENDANCE CARD WITH YOUR UPDATED INFORMATION.

EACH TIME UNDELIVERABLE MAIL IS RETURNED BECAUSE OF AN INVALID ADDRESS, THE CHURCH IS CHARGED 63 CENTS. THANKS!!



All adults and youth are invited to participate in any or all Bible studies offered at Immanuel. We are thankful we can gather together around God's Word. You are welcome to attend anytime.

- **Sunday morning Adult Bible class** – 8:00 am and 10:15 am in the Library or on Zoom.
- **Adult Bible study** – Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Library or on Zoom.
- **Intergenerational Studies:** 6 pm each Tuesday evening.
- **For the older youth**, there is a Youth Group meeting on Sunday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 pm – meet at the church or on Zoom.
- And of course for the younger ones, there is Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.



CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

- Please call the office when someone is ill, hospitalized, or homebound (309-786-3391).
 - Please use this email to contact the office: ilchurch@mchsi.com
 - Website address – www.immanuelri.org
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Immanuel-Lutheran-Church-Rock-Island-IL-LCMS-179175395513226/> All Sunday services are 'Live' streamed at 9 am and posted to our church's YouTube channel (the link is available on the church's website).

Reminder... each time you enter the hospital, be sure to say you are a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rock Island. According to the laws, the hospital needs to ask each time you come for a procedure. If you would like the pastor to know immediately, please have a family member or friend call the office and/or Pastor—otherwise we may not be aware of your hospitalization. Also, unless requested otherwise, members of the church will be prayed for using their first and last names.



Our volunteers who do the yard work are still collecting cans for recycling. The cash received is for yard expenses. You may leave bags by the door, but we suggest bringing them during office hours, 9am-1pm Monday thru Friday, leaving them outside the door of the educational wing (by the kitchen). **We are no longer collecting plastic bottles.** Thanks for your continued support and your donations.

The Lutheran Hour can be heard each Sunday on the following Stations at the listed times:

WGEN Kewanee, IL 1500 AM 5:30 am

WKEI Kewanee, IL 1450 AM 5:00 am

KCLN Clinton, IL 1390 AM 9:30 am

WMT Cedar Rapids, IA 600 AM 6:30 am

You can receive Daily Devotions to your computer, Go to lhmin@lhm.org

WE'RE GOING DIGITAL!

In 2022 we are going digital with *The Image!* We currently have the capability, through our membership database system, to send *The Image* via email with little to no additional cost involved. This will save us upwards of \$200.00 per month! Of course, those of you who do not have an e-mail address will still be able to receive the newsletter via U.S. mail.

Watch for more information in the weekly announcements or on the Immanuel Lutheran Church's website or Facebook page!



IMMEDIATE NEEDS

The next time you are in the store, or if you are doing your annual closet clean out, would you keep us in mind? We need the following items.

Men's Clothing:

- Men's Jeans (Sizes 30-38)
- T-Shirts (Sizes L, XL, XXL, XXXL)
- Men's Tennis Shoes (Sizes 6-10)
- New Underwear (all sizes)
- Sweat Shirts (All Sizes)
- Sweat Pants (All Sizes)
- Coats (L, XL, XXL, XXXL)

For our Community Meal Site:

- Large Cans of Vegetables
- Condiments
- Sugar
- Coffee Creamer
- Brown Sugar

Supplies:

- Paper Products—Toilet Paper & Paper Towels, Napkins
- Cleaning Products - Bathroom Cleaner, Window Cleaner, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Aerosol Spray, Fabuloso, & Pine Sol
- Personal Hygiene Products—toothpaste, shave cream, & men's deodorant

Please bring all items to Christian Care (Monday through Saturday) at
2209 3rd Ave., Rock Island , IL 61201

Christian Care Center Meal:

The LWML would like your help! We will be serving an in-person meal at Christian Care in Rock Island on Tuesday, October 12th. We are asking for food for dinner. All food items must be in disposable containers because no containers will be returned. All food needs to be at the church kitchen no later than Noon on Tuesday, October 12th. A sign-up sheet for food or help serving will be available in the narthex on Sunday, October 3rd or see Janet Mau with questions.



Feeling tired? Need a break?

*Do we have a solution for you! Grab Your Shoes
and Go!*



A Ladies' Getaway Event inspired by Terri Bentley

A perfect getaway for all ladies Be inspired and energized!



Bring your favorite shoes!

Date: October 8 & 9

Time: 5:00 p.m. Friday



If just coming on Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Place: Camp CILCA

If you or someone you know wants to go but doesn't want to drive please contact Mary Donegan at 309-781-2632 or email to doneganm75@yahoo.com and we will try to have a car pool go to Camp CILCA. Registration forms are in the Narthex.



The Immanuel Lutheran Church LWML is looking for a person or several people who enjoys brightening up other people's day through a greeting card ministry. LWML provides the cards and the stamps. Cards have been a great way to share Jesus love and never more so than in this last year. This is a ministry where we want to recognize when someone has had a baby, gotten married, been in the hospital or joined our Lord in heaven. We want to thank Jennie Berry for the years of care and compassion she has provided in this Sunshine Card Ministry.

LWML SUNDAY

Our Hearts in HIS Hand



Our hearts in HIS hand

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly (1 Peter 4:8).

The first Sunday in October is traditionally set aside for the observation of LWML Sunday, but it may be celebrated at any time.

“Our Hearts in His Hand” is the theme for LWML Sunday 2021 and is based on Peter’s first letter to persecuted Christians in Asia Minor. In chapter 4:8, Peter tells them, *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly*. The heart of the LWML is its members; our hearts have been made holy by God. We are fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home and abroad. Our hearts for Christ are in His hand of service, wherever and when He has need of us.

September & October 2021 LWML CID Mission Grant #3 –

Expanding Access at Camp CILCA - \$16,000 Camp CILCA reinforces the work of pastors and congregations in teaching the faith to young people, adults, and families. These funds will be used to purchase materials and labor for heating and cooling in two large cabinets at the camp. These updated cabins will attract more campers and families to Camp CILCA to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and enjoy God’s creation throughout the whole year. How can I help? Pray that God uses Camp CILCA to spread the gospel to all who attend or participate in the camp activities. Support this grant by donating to your church’s LWML group mite fund.

Thank you from the ladies of the LWML



LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – October 2021

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter article – October 2021

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, “You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs

who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.



Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Cristo Rey

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Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez



Newsletter October 2021

I was invited by my friends to go fishing. It turned out to be a memorable occasion for me. We spent several days far away from the city and people. We carried our back packs as we followed the guide for many miles. Finally, we came to the river. It was amazing camping on the shore of this river! A guy with fishing experience was our mentor. He handled the equipment so easily and installed it at different points along the shore so easily. The others guys and I just observed him and did everything he told us to do. At night we started a fire. As we sat around the fire, our mentor told us that it was time to check our lines. It was a dark night, so he searched in his bag for a strange lamp. Honestly, I had never seen a lamp like that! He opened the container and put in some little pieces of rock (I don't remember the mineral name), added water and struck a match. Voila! A clear and brilliant light appeared! He said: "Follow me!" We went to where the lines were and found a few fish. Every night we used the lamp with its brilliant light. We didn't fall, get lost or have to fear wild animals thanks to the lamp and its light!



The Holy Bible tells us about a lamp and a light. It's in Psalm 119:105 "*Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path*"

What a wonderful gift we have received from our God! His Word guides, protects and strengthens our faith. God promises that use of His Word will strengthen our faith so that when conflicts, sickness or darkness are around us, we will be secure! God's Word has remarkable powers!

!Muchas Gracias, amigos! We had a few weeks without A/C units which were not working correctly. The problem was referred to the RI Hispanic Council and Rev. Dr. Schrub. The company that maintains the A/C, Klauer, gave us two estimates for the repairs. Days later the CID agreed to pay half the cost for two units with the other half to be paid by the CR congregation. Once the action to be taken and the cost were defined, the date for the installation of the units was set. Now these units are working correctly. We thank the CID and RI Hispanic Council for their prompt help and support. Total cost was \$8,830.00

Men at work. Concordia's Mission Committee, Geneseo came to check the work needing to be done at CR. Their work crew will perform the following jobs:

- Install metal shelves in garage
- Paint yellow stripes in main parking lot
- Fill cracks in the parking area at the back of the church

They will meet and set the date to do the work.



New Members. On Aug. 29. Mrs. Ana Salgado and Mrs. Mayra Dominguez were confirmed. Formerly, they were with a nondenominational Christian group. They were instructed in the true teachings of the Word of God.

Comments:

A lady from our church who recently had a baby donated two boxes of cans of formula. I was asking contacts if they knew of a family who had a baby that might need the milk. No one knew of such a family, so the formula was delivered to a Pregnancy Center in Rock Island.

I took the church van for an alignment, rotation, and balancing, but the work could not be done since the mechanic said new parts were needed: front, outer & inner wheel bearing, front inner wheel seal, front lower suspension ball and new tires. Total cost would be \$2,291.00
I'm going to take the van to another shop for a second opinion.

We ask that you with us, please:

Thank God that Ana and Mayra have confirmed their faith in Christ.

Thank God for the new air conditioning units.

Thank God for the men from Concordia who will come to do work projects.

Ask God for His blessing as we reach out to the Quad Cities' Hispanic Community with the beautiful Gospel message.

Ask God for wisdom and direction as Pastor seeks repairs for the church van.

Pray for the people on the West and Eastern coasts and the Gulf States as they rebuild following fires, floods and hurricanes.

Pray for the people of Haiti as they rebuild again following an earthquake and for the people especially Christians in Afghanistan after government upheaval.

Thank you!





OCTOBER 2021

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

3300 24th St. Rock Island, IL 61201-6212

Office Phone: (309) 786-3391

Website: Immanuelri.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		<h2>Reformation</h2>			1 Tammy on vacation through Oct 13.		2
3 – LWML Sunday 7:15 am Elders Mtg. 8 am Bible Study 9 am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS 6:30-8:30 pm YOUTH Group	4 8 am – 4 pm RICC Home School Group 6 pm Book Club	5 9:30 am Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Intergen. Studies	6 9 – Noon CHALK Home School Group	7	8	9	
10 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Voters Meeting 6:30-8:30 pm YOUTH Group	11 8 am – 4 pm RICC Home School Group 6 pm Book Club	12 LWML Serving Lunch @ Christian Care 4:00 pm Confirmation 9:30am Bible Study 6:00 pm Intergen Studies	13 9 – Noon CHALK Home School Group	14	15 Deadline for items in The Image	16	
17 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS 6:30-8:30 pm YOUTH Group	18 8 am – 4 pm RICC Home School Group 6 pm Book Club	19 9:30 am Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Intergen. Studies	20 9 – Noon CHALK Home School Group	21	22	23 Trunk-Or-Treat 2-4 PM ILC Parking Lot	
24 / 31 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS 6:30-8:30 pm YOUTH Group	25 8 am – 4 pm RICC Home School Group 6 pm Book Club	26 9:30 am Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Intergen. Studies	27 9 – Noon CHALK Home School Group	28	29	30 	



THE IMAGE is the monthly newsletter published for members and friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church, 3300 24th St., Rock Island, Illinois. Immanuel is a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday Schedule

Bible Study at 8:00 AM
Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9:00 AM
Bible Study at 10:15 AM
Sunday School at 10:15 AM

We invite you to join us for worship and Bible Study and the fellowship of Christians who share in the joy of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Rev. Leonard A. Astrowski, Jr.
Organists: Christine Roth and Katherine Cobert

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Our Website: Immanuelri.org

Church Office Phone: 309-786-3391

Pastor Astrowski's Phone: 989-326-0199

Email addresses:

Pastor Astrowski: pastrowski@gmail.com

Church Office (Tammy): ilchurch@mchsi.com

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