

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 – September 2024



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Most of you have probably read the book or have seen the movie *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. For me, some of the more memorable and theologically resonant lines are the following:

But amid all these rejoicings Aslan himself quietly slipped away. And when the Kings and Queens noticed that he wasn't there they said nothing about it. For Mr. Beaver had warned them, "He'll be coming and going," he had said. "One day you'll see him and another you won't. He doesn't like being tied down—and of course he has other countries to attend to. It's quite all right. He'll often drop in. Only you mustn't press him. He's wild, you know. Not like a tame lion."¹

The lion is not tame. He is wild. Aslan, a Turkish name meaning lion, is used by Lewis in his Narnia series as a loose allegory for Christ. Lion is also a title given to our Lord in Scripture. And it's very important that you and I remember that our Lord is not tame. He is not safe. Yes, He is good. Yes, He is holy. And it is that goodness and holiness that makes Him so unsafe. He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.²

¹ Lewis, C.S.. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Chronicles of Narnia Book 2) (p. 109). Harper Collins. Kindle Edition.

² "And one of the elders said to me, 'Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals'" (Revelation 5:5).

And the Lion roars.

*“The LORD roars from Zion
and utters his voice from Jerusalem;
the pastures of the shepherds mourn,
and the top of Carmel withers.”³*

Thus the Word of God given through the prophet Amos. The Lion indeed roars. And we would do well to heed that roar. Amos prophesies to God’s people at a time of ease and comfort for the nation. First, we should note that this prophecy, while indeed speaking of foreign nations, is directed to the people God has chosen to be His people—people like us. Second, we would also do well to note the parallels between our time and that of our forebears. We too live in a time of great wealth. We are the wealthiest people that have ever existed. And we are comfortable. And bored. In that boredom, we look for the new and exciting. We dismiss the age-old practices of the church as passe, boring. We exchange the Word of the Creator for the words our ears itch to hear. We replace solemnity and any rumor of the terrifying holiness of God in our churches with amusement. And we amuse ourselves to death. We want a nice God. A coach. A buddy. A pal.

I suppose a common criticism I receive as an ordained minister is that I’m not nice. I lack tact. I’m too blunt. Fair enough. But I make no apologies. None of those are requirements for the office I hold. What I am required to do is to speak the truth of God to you. I am to proclaim, without adulteration or equivocation, His Holy Word. And, now and then, that Word is not nice. Sometimes you will think I’m speaking directly to you. I, however, know precious little about most of your day-to-day lives. I know very little about your hurts, your secret sins. God, however, does know. And He, with that knowledge of you, uses His Word I so often weakly proclaim to cut to the heart. It shines the light into the dark places of our souls we’d rather not see. It shows us the truth. And that is a recipe for discomfort. It seems anything but nice. True, it’s not nice, but it is necessary.

So it was with Amos. As Amos spoke the Word of God to God’s people—the Word that was there to remind them that God in His goodness was so unsafe, the Word that terrified people trapped in the stupor of comfort—he was not received with thankful hearts of repentance. Not at all.

*Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,
“Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.””*

³ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Amos 1:2.

And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”⁴

As Amos prophesied how terrifyingly far the LORD would go to bring His people to repentance, even the religious leaders refused to listen. They, rather, cursed him.

When you read a passage like that above or think of our Lord Christ’s interactions with the pharisees and priests, you may be tempted to throw, if you will, all clergy under the bus. That is a temptation that you should avoid, for the most part. The priests of Amos’ day⁵ had abandoned the Word of God, pursuing the God of their bellies. They wished, above their call to be faithful to the Word, to be comfortable. Comfort was their idol. Comfort is far too often ours. It was a bit different for the pharisees of Jesus’ day. They worshipped at the altar of a man-made religion. Yes, its roots were the Torah and the religion the LORD gave His people in the desert—a religion of mercy and the resulting reflection of God’s goodness, holiness, and mercy in the community. It looked like what God had given, yet the meaning behind the sacrifices was lost. They read the same words we do yet understood them in a different way. The result was a different religion that had the appearance of the truth. They ultimately worshipped themselves. They decided what was the best and only application of God’s Law (the Torah—Hebrew for “law”). Any misapplication in their eyes was to be dealt with swiftly and harshly—with stones. Add to that their desire to keep the sword of Caesar sheathed. The desire for civil peace often trumped the truth.

Can you see yourself in the above? Is your ear faithfully tuned to His Word? Do your actions reflect our God as He tells us repeatedly in Scripture that His love is steadfast (a word only applied to God in His love for us)? Your duty is not to throw the clergy aside, but to discern where the Truth is proclaimed. Of course this takes work—which, I think, is why so many fail. It’s much easier to hear what you want, believe what you want, avoid uncomfortable situations and conversation, and to just go along with the popular opinions of the day. *Vox populi? Vox humbug!* God has given us the Office of the Holy Ministry. Your task is to discover where those faithful men are, and guard and keep what is taught by them.

One final point on this particular topic. Have you noticed how so many “successful” and popular evangelical churches are slowly (or quickly) abandoning the truth? Have you noticed how they are climbing into bed with the whims of the culture so as to remain relevant (read “to keep the pews full”)? I’ll spare you the many examples, but rest assured, this is happening even in our little corner of fly-over country.⁶

But back to Amos and the point at hand.

If you know the history of our ancestors in the Faith that lived at that time—the first half of the first millennia B.C., you know they did not repent. They did not heed the cry of the prophet Amos or the goodly number of other prophets the LORD sent to call them back to Him. And so? They were carried off. First by the Assyrians, then about a century-and-a-half later, the people of God who dwelt in the southern regions of the Holy Land were carried off by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon. And the temple was destroyed. The place where the LORD promised to be to bless His people was leveled to the ground. And the Holy Things were carried away by pagan hands. Imagine that scene! Imagine

⁴ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Amos 7:10-13

⁵ Amos prophesied in the mid-eighth century B.C.

⁶ If you desire some specific data, please ask me.

our beloved sanctuary, consecrated, dedicated as a Holy place, invaded by pagan outsiders, laughing and mocking as they carried off our paraments, communion vessels, Altar, and our beautiful font. Jeremiah witnessed this in his day and is, as a result, known as the weeping prophet (for a glimpse of such deep sorrow, read Lamentations).

Is God calling us, His people scattered throughout the land, to repentance? I am only able to answer that in the affirmative. And I think, if we don't, it will be quite painful. The LORD will do whatever it takes—WHATEVER—to call our eyes back to Him. He, indeed, is not safe. But Good. And that goodness requires us to fix our eyes only on Him. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. There is no other way to stand—exist—before the Lion than to be covered with the blood of Christ. Our sin cannot exist in His perfect Holiness and Goodness. Hence the necessity for the Christ and His blood.

Now, there is always hope. Even as He carries us off, His love is steadfast. So deep is His desire that we would be with Him forever that He will carry us through fire to show us what we are and who He is.

After Amos proclaims the terrible Word of God's judgment, still the LORD speaks. The Lion roars. Yes, He is not a safe God. But He is also good, and He is faithful to His word of promise. So the Lion roars:

“In that day I will raise up
the booth of David that is fallen
and repair its breaches,
and raise up its ruins
and rebuild it as in the days of old,
that they may possess the remnant of Edom
and all the nations who are called by my name,”
declares the LORD who does this...⁷

I have much more to say about this, especially as we face another national round of elections. This will suffice for now.

In Christ's most Holy Name,

Rev. Leonard A. Astrowski Jr., Pastor

⁷ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Amos 9:11-12.

Officers and Appointees of Immanuel Lutheran Church 2024 – 2025

Installation of Officers will be on September 8, 2024 during church service.

Our Elders for 2024-2025

Todd Hazen	(563) 320-3279	Alex Triage	(480) 620-2132
Mel Vogel (Chair)	(309) 781-9624	Tyler Werke	(812) 241-7554
Larry Wiebel	(309) 721-2049	John Campbell	(309) 781-0711

Our Officers/Appointees for 2024-2025

President -	Ron Mau
Corporate Secretary -	Amanda Eckardt
Treasurer/Chr. Bd. Of Finance -	Jack Copeland
Chair Board of Christian Education -	Burnie Eckardt
Board of Finance -	Vicki Bull
Property Comm. Chair -	Clayton Weisenborn
Controller -	Tammy Robinson
Financial Secretary -	Barb Soyke

Foundation Trustees -

Jim Boudro (Chair), Karlene Campbell, Kevin Millen, Renee Hentrich, Linda Haake

Call Committee -

Alaina Carter, Linda Haake, Karlene Campbell



Our meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Luther Room on the 4th Thursday of the month with Bible Study, followed by a brief business meeting and then Mission Work and Fellowship.

Immanuel LWML Officers for 2024/2025 are:

- Janet Mau: President
- Laurie Astrowski: Vice President
- Helen Vogel: Secretary
- Karlene Campbell: Treasurer

LWML will be meeting on the 4th Thursday in September. All ladies of the church are invited to join us at 6pm on September 26th in the Luther Room. The Board will be providing dessert. Join us as we discuss plans for the coming year. Please bring your ideas about what you would like to do. If you have any questions or want to discuss prior to the meeting, you can reach out to Helen Vogel, Karlene Campbell, Laurie Astrowski or Janet Mau.

You Are Invited to the 2024 LWML Fall Rally
Rally Theme: Seek Him - Hosea 10:12

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

115 West 12th Avenue, Milan, Illinois 61264

For Reservations call St. Matthew at 309-787-4295

(There are registration forms in the Narthex)

- ❖ Registration and fellowship coffee will be from 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
- ❖ Program will begin at 9:00 a.m.
- ❖ Registration for the Rally is \$15 which includes lunch. (Late fee, additional \$5) Checks should be made out to St. Matthew LWML and sent to Vicki Lude, 307 – 6th Street East, Milan, IL 61264. Reservations are requested to be received by September 10th.
- ❖ Questions? Email Deb Toal at stamperdeb@mchsi.com or call the church office at 309-787-4295.

Gifts From The Heart In-Gathering:

Concordia Lutheran Academy, Geneseo, IL: In the last two years, a Kindergarten and grades 1 and 2 were established at Concordia, Geneseo. This Fall, grades 3-5 are being added to provide a loving, consistent, Christ-centered education for their students. Our monetary donations will help purchase books and set up needed classrooms. (If donating by check, please make checks payable to Concordia Lutheran Academy).

Hiney Heroes: The Hiney Heroes Diaper Bank is dedicated to providing diapers through partner agencies in the Quad Cities and surrounding area families who need a clean, reliable supply of diapers for a healthy and comfortable quality of life. Our own Milan Christian Food Pantry is one of the partners who distribute diapers from Hiney Heroes. Our donations of cash or diapers (of any size) helps struggling area families. (If donation by check, make checks payable to Hiney Heroes)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our VBS theme was "Diving into the Ten Commandments" and was held Monday July 29th - Friday August 2nd from 5:00 pm - 7:45 pm. There were Bible stories, Catechism class, singing, crafts, games and more!

Thank you to all who volunteered their time, talents and donations to our VBS program. Thank you for all your prayers which were answered in abundance. It was a week full of excitement, fun, and most importantly – hearing God’s Word regarding His precious Ten Commandments. ***We were able to share God’s Word with 20 children during the week which included 8 children from our Immanuel family and 12 children who are friends of Immanuel.***

Thanks again!

Kathy Welch

VBS Coordinator 2024



SUNDAY SCHOOL 2024 - 2025

Sunday School will begin on Sunday, **September 8, 2024** at 10:30 a.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please contact Helen Vogel with any questions.



Elder’s “Meet – n – Greet” Potluck

- ❖ Sunday, **September 15, 2024** at Noon
- ❖ Elders will provide the meat, buns and condiments
- ❖ Bring a dish to pass – sign-up sheet is in the Narthex

As a reminder – we are still recycling aluminum cans. There is a white barrel outside of the kitchen door – west side of the building. Please place your aluminum cans in the barrel and they will be taken to be recycled. The money is then used to provide gas for the mower at the church.

Thank You,

Property Committee





Reminder... each time you enter the hospital, be sure to say you are a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rock Island so that the hospital can inform the church. ***If you would like 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.*** The hospitals do not regularly call the churches as they once did.

Please call the office when someone is ill, hospitalized, or homebound: **(309-786-3391)**.

Please use this email to contact the office: officeimmanuelri@gmail.com.



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

- **Sunday morning Adult Bible class** – 10:15 am in the Cafeteria.
- **Adult Bible study** – Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Luther Room or on Zoom.
- **Intergenerational Studies** – September – May at 6pm on Tuesdays. Does not meet during the summer.
- **For the older youth** – there is a Rock Island Circuit Youth Group. Watch for announcements on dates and times.
- **No Sunday School during the summer. Meets September – May at 10:30 am Sunday morning.**
 - **SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2024!**



YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Fall Activity**
 - Sunday, September 8th at 3 – 6 pm, Outing at Zion Lutheran, 18121 134th Ave. W, Taylor Ridge, IL
 - Kick ball, sand volleyball, other outdoor games.
 - Wiener Roast; Immanuel bring ingredients for s'mores; other churches bring sides.
- **Higher Things 2025**
 - June 24-27 – University of Mass., Amherst, MA
 - July 8-11 – Concordia Nebraska, Seward, NE
 - July 29 – August 1, Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI
 - \$100 reservation fee per attendee
 - Early Bird Rate
 - Immanuel most likely going to the Grand Rapids Higher Things
 - Five (5) youth per adult of the same gender

Total offering and expenses for April & May 2024

We thank you for your continued generosity!

April Offerings: \$16,655.25 April Expenses: \$27,252.73

May Offerings: \$21,507.00 May Expenses: \$18,972.00

We ask God for His blessing upon all our members, especially those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month including:



September 2 – Mike Kramer, Larry Wiebel

September 4 – Margaret Thompson

September 5 – Pat Matheny

September 6 – Dianne Allison

September 7 – Sophie Agbayani, Sonia England,
Dennis Langdon

September 12 – Layne Cozadd (8)

September 19 – Lillian Cobert, Sarah Leeson

September 22 – Janet Mau

September 25 – Tyler Werke

September 27 – Claire Mills (14)



September 2, 1989 – Pastor Len and Laurie Astrowski

September 4, 2010 – Nick and Alison Boisvert

September 16, 1978 – Brent and Wanda Titus

September 20, 2014 – Myron and Carla Hazen

September 27, 1959 – Neil and Karen Burger

September 30, 2000 – Rod and Carolyn Fowler

****NOTE – Birthdays and Anniversaries are listed to the best of our records.***

If you find a mistake or any missing information, please notify the office. Thank You!

Membership Changes:

Emily Bushá-Ruiz and Anthony Ruiz – transferred out

Changes to current directory:

Remove: Emily Bushá-Ruiz and Anthony Ruiz

Memorials Received in August:

None in August



Did you know there is a LCMS church bowling league that has been around since 1962? That's right 62 years! The league in the Quad Cities started out as a separate Men's and Women's league that met in the basement of Immanuel Lutheran School right next to the Church in downtown Rock Island. In the early 2000's the leagues joined into what is today's LCMS Men's and Women's League.

There are currently 4 churches that come together each Monday night in the Fall/Winter. It is a fun time to network and meet members from sister churches in the community. With COVID and the busyness of life our leagues numbers have shrunk. All ages are welcome, and we would love to see you there.

Additional Information:

- We are currently non-sanctioned, so as mentioned above we welcome bowlers of any age.
- All skill levels from beginner to experienced are welcome to join the league.
- On average the weekly cost is \$12.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Michael C Wagner

309-453-7206

wagner1680@gmail.com



Walk for Life 2024 is coming up very quickly!

This annual walk along the Mississippi River is an important fundraising event benefitting our local Pregnancy Resources Centers in Moline, Davenport, and now also in East Moline, to help moms and dads have hope! Every day, moms and dads have the courage to walk into Pregnancy Resources looking for answers to tough questions. Our walk together will help them see and choose life!

Please join our Immanuel team of walkers on Saturday morning September 7th at Ben Butterworth Park in Moline for this year's Walk For Life. Let's come together publicly to show that Immanuel Lutheran Church supports life here in our own community. Please sign up online to join in, choose your free T-shirt, and be sure to add yourself to our team. Then, ask your friends and family if they would sponsor your walk for this important cause, and we can walk together to represent Immanuel and provide financial support to Pregnancy Resources.

All options for support are available:

- Online debit/credit card giving
- mailing a check (or bringing to the walk)
- "bill me" option (with a \$25.00 gift minimum)

This is a family-friendly, outdoor event with refreshments, music, and lots of fun.

Yes, of course you can run or jog if you prefer!

Walk for Life 2024

Saturday, September 7th, 2024

Register and walk anytime between 8:30am – 10:00am

Ben Butterworth Park – East Shelter

5420 Old River Dr., Moline, IL

(55th St. and Old River Dr.)

For more info, contact -

Liz at Pregnancy Resources:

309.797.3636

Liz@qcpregnancy.org

3825 16th St.

Moline, IL 61265

Alaina Carter:

309.269.9232 Text or Call

Tammy, Church Office:

309.786.3391

Officeimmanuelri@gmail.com



CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

Verses for weeks September 1 – September 29, 2024

Week of September 1, 2024

Psalm 73: 25-26

Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Week of September 8, 2024

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Week of September 15, 2024

2 Corinthians 12:9

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Week of September 22, 2024

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Week of September 29, 2024

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.



The Camp CILCA Lowdown

September, 2024

217-487-7497 / camp@cilca.org
4124 Camp Cilca Rd. Cantrall, IL 62625

Camp CILCA's Chicken Dinner and Auction

Sunday September 1, 2024

Join us for Camp CILCA's 26th Annual Chicken Dinner on September 1, 2024. The meal is served 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Meals are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children 4-12. The menu includes grilled chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, homemade desserts, and drinks. 10:30 a.m. - Worship service at the Outdoor Chapel. 11:30am - 2:30pm - Chicken Dinner served from the Dining Hall. Live Auction begins at 12:30 pm! Swimming & boating is open from 1-4 p.m. (weather permitting).

4124 Camp CILCA Rd. Cantrall, IL 62625

Camp CILCA's Shooting Retreat

Saturday, September 21, 2024

Men, bring your sons, grandsons, nephews, or friends along with your firearms and some ammo to take aim at Camp CILCA. A range officer will be on hand for safety. Lunch will be served between morning and afternoon sessions. Total cost is \$15 per person. Camp CILCA will have some safety glasses and ear protection, but feel free to bring your own. Contact the camp office for more information or to register. 217-487-7497 / camp@cilca.org

4124 Camp CILCA Rd. Cantrall, IL 62625

Camp CILCA's G.R.I.T. Run

Saturday, October 5, 2024

The 5-kilometer course includes narrow trails, steep hills, creek bed crossings, scenic views, and stairs. Open Run participants will be able to take an alternative route for anyone nervous about navigating the creek bed. Open run participants ages 6-18 run for \$10, and participants 19+ run for \$30. Check out our website for details on this event - <https://www.cilca.org/> .

4124 Camp CILCA Rd. Cantrall, IL 62625



Stewards, Called to Forgiveness

Human beings were created and redeemed to be stewards. Bearing the image of God (Gen. 1:26–28), the steward was created to reflect the Creator within creation. In a way, stewards are simply mirrors. Mirrors cannot do anything to the image that is placed in front of them.

A mirror was the first item in creation that embodied the computer term GIGO. “Garbage in, Garbage out.” In a computer, if you enter good data, you get a good result. You enter bad data; you will get a garbage result.

In photography, you can run an image through a filter, which can remove imperfections. Myriad apps allow for the option to cut people out, add people in and change backgrounds all in an attempt to make the perfect image. Mirrors cannot do that. They do not provide anything new. Mirrors are created to reflect, not process, an image. They simply reflect the person standing in front of them.

Stewards are like this. Created to reflect, a steward will reflect the God in front of them. The steward will either reflect a godly stewardship that holds that God is the owner of all things (Ps. 24:1) and is the One to whom they are accountable, or they will reflect the god of self and see the created order as something to be possessed, used, and in far too many cases, abused. It is not a question of IF the steward reflects, it is really a question of WHO is being reflected.

For this reason, the Lutheran Service Book has included a necessary hymn worthy of meditation: “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” (LSB 788). Its first verse reads:

Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for food and harvest press,
While of Your richer gifts we’re unaware.

This is a fitting call to repentance for every steward. Our thankfulness is so often shallow. We get comfortable with the overflowing blessings we have entrusted to us by the Lord. These trusts are so many that the steward often forgets the One who entrusts them. Worse, with so many physical trusts evident, the steward loses sight of the greatest trust: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The failed steward sees so much plenty that they lose sight of the treasure: Jesus!

So, we confess our shallow thankfulness. In absolution, the imperfections of the failed steward are wiped away and a new image is sent into the world. We release our hold on stuff. We rethink our relationship with the created order and recall that it is all to be used FOR JESUS! This keeps the richer gifts in view, for us and for those we know and love who need Jesus.



Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church

1301-19th Street, East Moline, IL 61244

E-mail: cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net

Ph. (309) 738-6124

Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez



Newsletter September 2024

“not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” Hebrews 10:25

Over the past few weeks, I have heard these responses from different people: “It’s very early, it’s too far from my house, or I feel embarrassed to go”.

I heard these excuses when I invited people to Cristo Rey to participate in our worship. I’m sure that you have heard excuses, too, haven’t you?

I remember very well when I participated as a volunteer with a nonprofit local agency a few years ago and an invitation was extended to the people to celebrate Las Posadas. The event was on a wintery, December Saturday afternoon. This particular night was so very cold, and it was snowing. I was amazed when entire families started to arrive at the location. There were parents with babies and toddlers. You can imagine how these people were talking about the bad weather, but it didn’t seem that important to them. They wanted to come and have a good time at this party even if their children might get sick. I even heard that some people traveled to Iowa City to hear a popular music group and enjoy a time of dancing. I’m not saying that I am opposed to parties or dances, but we need to determine priorities correctly.

For people who do not attend worship, it’s so easy to reject the invitation to come to church, right? People who used to go to church but aren’t faithful in attendance, might say, “Maybe next week or when I have a certain feeling in my heart”. I’m sure that you can add even more excuses that you have heard.

According to God’s Word, if we go to church, it’s because the Holy Spirit put that desire in our hearts. We remember that we aren’t perfect or better than the people who don’t attend. As sinners we come to church to receive God’s forgiveness. As I recently told one of my contacts; “I’m in front of you as the first sinner to arrive at church and the last forgiven one to leave because I have the key to unlock the church building and then lock it again”.

Let’s go to church and worship our merciful Lord and receive that spiritual rest that only He can give!

“I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of the Lord” Psalm

Thank you so very much, dear friends, for your loyal support of the Hispanic ministry at Cristo Rey with prayers, donations and monetary gifts!



MUSIC FOR MISSIONS is a sacred music concert and hymn sing in support of Christo Rey (Christ the King) Lutheran Church, East Moline.

The event is scheduled for **Sunday, October 13, 2024, 2:00 p.m.** at **St. John's Lutheran Church, 711 Court St., Pekin.**

Music for Missions will feature guest organist Samuel Bishop, vocalists Allison Harley and Jennifer Rosa, the Bells of St. John's, St. John's Sanctuary Choir, and ample congregational singing.

A free will offering will be gathered to support Christo Rey Lutheran Church, a mission congregation of the Central Illinois District, LCMS.

Refreshments will be served following the program. Everyone is welcome!

For more information contact the St. John's, Pekin church office at 309-347-2136.




September 2024



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
1 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS	 HAPPY LABOR DAY Labor Day Office Closed 7 am Matins	3 9:30 am Bible Study	4	5 7 pm Youth Group Planning Bd Mtg	6	7 <i>Calendar subject to change. Any changes will be listed in weekly announcements.</i>
8 Installation of Officers 7:15 am Bd. Of Elders Mtg 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS 3-6 pm Youth @ Zion, TR	9 7 am Matins 8 am – 4 pm RICC 6 pm Book Club	10 9:30am Bible Study	11	12	13	14
15 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS Noon – Elder’s Picnic	16 7 am Matins 8 am – 4 pm RICC 6 pm Book Club	17 9:30am Bible Study	18	19	20	21 
22 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS	23 7 am Matins 8 am – 4 pm RICC 6 pm Book Club	24 9:30am Bible Study	25	26	27	28
29 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:15 am Bible Study/SS	30 7 am Matins 8 am – 4 pm RICC 6 pm Book Club					



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.

Sunday Schedule

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: www.immanuelri.org

Church Office Phone: 309-786-3391

Pastor Astrowski's Phone: 989-326-0199

Email Addresses: Pastor Astrowski – pastrowski@gmail.com Church Office – officeimmanuelri@gmail.com

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Immanuel-Lutheran-Church-RockIsland-IL-LCMS-179175395513326/>

All Sunday services are “live” streamed on Facebook at 9 am Sundays and posted to the church’s YouTube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWLcoXZtMq13HOqRo_uifqg/featured?view_as=subscriber.

Additionally, you can tune in to Pastor’s nightly devotion each evening at 9 pm “live” on Facebook or find it on the church’s YouTube page later.