June 2025

Volume 169, #6



"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 - June 2025



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Soon after you receive this, on the second Sunday of the month, we will celebrate the ancient and great Feast of Pentecost. With that we will usher in, in the rhythm of the church year, the "long green season." The paraments and vestments, apart from the occasional commemoration or feast, will be green and remain so until we usher in the new church year with Advent in late fall. So, mid-June we begin the season of Pentecost. Pentecost, of course, commemorates the giving of the Holy Spirit. It's the day, now clothed with power from on-high, the church goes. It goes, therefore, baptizing and teaching. The color green reminds us that it is a season of growth—growth of the church and growth of you and me as Christians.

As the weeks and months of the season of Pentecost unfold, we will be taught what life in the church is like. In the lectionary system we use, the season of Pentecost has us typically reading through the Gospel in its written sequence. This year the focus is on Luke, so we will read through that record as it was written. This allows us to see the flow of the Gospel and to track the Lord's movements—and the theological significance of said movements. We experience the tension build as our Lord moves from His Baptism to His Passion. Practically, it allows me, as I preach, to point you to what has happened before—what you've heard in the last few weeks—to remind you that the Gospel is to be taken as a whole. Sometimes, since we only gather for the Divine Service on Sunday, the readings tend to get isolated and compartmentalized in our minds, and we fail to see the larger context which is so important to a proper understanding of the text. As a brief aside, I encourage you to use the daily lectionary (found in the hymnal and printed in the bulletin each week). This will help you build your knowledge of Scripture, and since it typically reads through large sections of the Old and New Testament, it will help you grasp the context in which various well-known passages are found.

Of course, this also brings us to the typical pastoral admonitions. I encourage you to not abandon the church for summer activities. If you're travelling, it's very easy to find a sister church nearby. I can help with that too—and I will probably know a pastor or two in the area of your travels.g Also, as warmer weather arrives, the church (your brothers and sisters in Christ) will experience "competition" with Sunday morning sports (although this seems to be increasingly a year-round concern). If you're a parent with a child involved in these activities, I encourage you to talk to coaches, leaders,

and other parents about your desire to attend church. And I remind you parents that your actions, what you allow and don't allow, are catechizing your children. You are teaching them what their priorities should be. Yes, we provide live-streaming of our services, but that should never be the norm of your church participation. Live-streaming is provided mostly for those who, due to illness, age, or infirmity, cannot be with us. Also, if you are able to attend but do not, you are turning your back on the Lord's command to participate in the Holy Supper.

That's a topic I will continue next month. I will explore with you, over the summer months, what it means when we turn our backs on the good gifts of God. My hope is that this will help us see God's steadfast love and His wrath as two sides of the same coin. I hope we will more clearly see what it means to be "the Bride of Christ," and what that indicates about the Lord's relationship to us.

For now, however, I encourage you to continue to join your brothers and sisters in receiving the gifts of the Lord. Come and receive His body given for, His blood shed for your forgiveness.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near (Hebrews 10:19-25).

See you in church as you learn and grow during the Pentecost season.

In Christ,

Rev. Leonard A. Astrowski Jr, Pastor



ASLEEP IN JESUS ... Maxine Grace Grisham was called to her eternal rest on Sunday, May 25, 2025 at the age of 95. Funeral services were held on May 30, 2025. May God comfort the survivors with the sure hope that those who die in the Lord are with Him in Heaven.



ASLEEP IN JESUS ... Angela May (Coulter) Anders was called to her eternal rest on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the age of 50. Funeral service was held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. May God comfort the survivors with the sure hope that those who die in the Lord are with Him in Heaven.

EDUCATION BUILDING RESTROOMS ...

The work to update the Men's and Women's restrooms in the Education Building hallway to be handicap compliant is underway

OFFICERS NEEDED

If you are interested in becoming an officer or member of a committee at Immanuel, there are several positions that will be open including but not limited to: Congregation President; Corporate

Secretary; Treasurer; Property Chairman; Foundation (1), Call Committee (3); Elders (4).

Some positions require attendance to the Council meetings which are *generally* held on the 3rd Thursday of every other month. The date of the next Council meeting has not yet been determined but at that time a nomination list will be put together for the next Voter Assembly to elect the new officers. *If you are interested, please contact Mel Vogel, Ron Mau, or call the church office at 309-786-3391.*



THE 2025 FLOWER CHART and THE ETERNAL LIGHT CHART is posted in the Narthex. The cost for Altar Flowers (two vases) is \$30.00 and for Eternal Light is \$10.00. If you sign up, please be sure to check the calendar periodically for the date(s) you signed to donate.



**PLEASE WRITE OUT ON THE FORM WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE PRINTED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR EMAIL THE INFO TO OFFICEIMMANUELRI@GMAIL.COM. YOU CAN ALSO WRITE A NOTE AND LEAVE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE FOR THE CHURCH OFFICE.



Immanuel LWML meetings have concluded for the 2024-2025 season.

Join us again in the Fall. WELCOME!

LWML FALL RALLY will be held in September – here at Immanuel
Theme: "Precious in His Eyes"
Isaiah 43:3-4



YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Youth Meetings at Immanuel Rock Island

- * All Circuit youth are welcome to attend the regularly scheduled Youth Group meetings at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island.
- Meeting schedule First hour: Pastor leads a Bible Study, Second hour: games and snacks.
- Future meeting dates will be shared via email at the beginning of each month for your reference and monthly planning.
- Please join us
 - Higher Things 2025
 July 29 August 1, Calvin University, Grand Rapids MI



In addition to providing Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets, our Social Ministry continues to help with special needs throughout the year as needed when requested via the Elders or Pastor. Envelopes are provided in your envelope box or use plain envelope, indicating for Social Ministry.

If you have any question, contact the church office or Mel Vogel.

Another part of our Social Ministry includes helping support two Seminarian families. If you wish to help with their support, you can place your gift in an envelope with "Seminarians" and your envelope number written on it, and place it in the offering plate or bring to the church office. These gifts will be recorded on your Financial Statement and checks will be sent to them quarterly.

Names and addresses if you wish to send a card of encouragement, etc:

Josh Bieri received a Vicarage appointment to Faith Lutheran Church, LaCrosse WI

Joshua & Crystal Bieri (2nd year)

2219 Abbey Drive, Apt 5

Fort Wayne IN 46835

Josh Camp will begin his 2nd year at CTSFW in the Fall
Josh & Catherine Camp
5207 N Clinton Street
Fort Wayne IN 46825



Daily Readings for JUNE from the Lutheran Service Book, pages 299-304



Immanuel VBS - 2025

June 23 – 27

5:00 - 7:45 pm

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be Monday, June 23rd – Friday, June 27th in the evening. We will be "Digging Into the Apostles' Creed", learning the mystery of the Holy Trinity, and studying the baptism of Jesus. We will start each evening with a light meal followed by Bible stories, catechism, singing, crafts, and games. VBS enrollment is open to children going into PreK through 6th grade (typically ages 4-11 years old). Encourage your children to invite their friends to join them at VBS for a night or the entire week.

Please prayerfully consider being a VBS volunteers. More volunteers will allow us to share God's Word with more children! We will need volunteers to help with registration, teaching, crafts, music, group leaders (escorting children to each activity, games, and kitchen helpers. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is located in the Narthex. We plan to have our first VBS staff meeting in April (more details to follow).

Please pray that our VBS will be a blessing to the children and adults who will attend.

Control/Click the link below to complete and submit registration

Vacation Bible School Registration Form

THANK YOU!
Kathy Welch and Helen Vogel
VBS Coordinators

Thank You

Central Illinois District Scholarship Sunday was May 4th. We thank everyone who participated with gifts and prayers in support of our CID seminarians and full-time church worker students. Because of the great need for pastors, teachers, principals, and other full-time church workers we also ask you to speak to your pastor if you are considering a vocation in ministry or know of

someone who would be a good candidate. In addition, please forward their name and contact information to President Michael Mohr at the District office (address below).

Please continue to pray for the needs of our students throughout the year. If you were not able to make a gift last month you may still do so today or at any time during the year. The need is great. Please make your check payable to either "The CID Scholarship Fund" to designate it to be used for current needs, or to "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund" where the proceeds will be used for years to come to support CID church worker students. Please send your gift to Central Illinois District LCMS, 1860 N. Grand Avenue W, Springfield IL 62702-1626.

If you are considering making a gift to ministry of retirement assets, property, IRA assets or a gift through your estate, you may contact our CID Planned Gift Counselor, Rev. Charles Olander at 217-416-8842 or c-olander@msn.com for assistance.



JUNE 2025 MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

Week of June 1st – Psalm 56:3

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

Week of June 8th - Ezekiel 36:26

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.

And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Week of June 15th – Leviticus 19:2

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for the Lord your God am holy.

Week of June 22nd – Hebrews 13:15

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Week of June 29th - Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Pray for our Central Illinois District (CID) Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District.

Please remember in your prayers all our CID campus ministries, especially Rev. Michael Schuermann and University Lutheran Church in Champaign, serving students, faculty, and staff of the University of Illinois and other institutions. And pray for the "Keeping Christ on Campus" campaign, building endowments to help CID support our campus ministries.

Ministry Readiness Study Report – The Lutheran Church Extension Fund LCEF)-Missouri Synod, has recently completed a Ministry Readiness study for CID, to determine the District's capacity to undertake a financial campaign.

Based on this study, LCEF recommends that CID pursue such a campaign. A three-year, \$3 million campaign is being contemplated. Please pray for this effort and for the delegates to this summer's convention who will consider launching this endeavor!

We urge you to examine a summary of the study's findings and discuss this possible campaign with your fellow church members and your congregation's delegates to the District convention. You can review this summary and other related information in the "Mission Education Toolkit" on the CID website.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry – Icms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article – **June 2025**

Rooted in Christ, Growing in Stewardship

The heartland is now awash in various hues of green. The doldrums of winter give way to the colors of spring. Now, the promise of spring gives way to the growth of summer. Fields are planted and sprouted. Gardens are planted. Flowers adorn the beds of neighborhood homes and roadside ditches. Green is the shade of life! Green growth is also the hue of the faithful steward. The seed of faith planted in human hearts in the waters of Holy Baptism grows as it is nurtured in the Word proclaimed and ingested in the Holy Supper. This faith does indeed save. But our stewardship of the Gospel is also designed to bear fruit for God's glory and the benefit of our neighbor.

To consider this, let us look at the hymn, "Fruitful Trees, the Spirits Sowing" (LSB 691). It is very much a stewardship hymn!

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing, May we ripen and increase, Fruit to life eternal growing, rich in love and joy and peace.

- The tree of faith is not planted in us by us. It is the Spirit's work! We do not claim the title "steward." Rather, we are created for it (Gen. 1:26–28).
- He is the One who makes it grow in us. The fruits of the Spirit are borne out because we, by grace through faith, are connected to the vine that is Jesus (John 15).

Laden branches freely bearing Gifts the Giver loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by sharing, Patience, kindness, gentleness.

- Our stewardship is NOT about what we do. It is about what the Holy Spirit does in and through us. That is the fruit that we bear. His fruit for His purposes.
- But that fruit is lived out through us. The world sees the fruit of our stewardship of the Gospel in lives lived connected to Word and Sacrament.

Rooted deep in Christ our Master, Christ our pattern and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly faster, Goodness, faith, and self-control.

- Stewards have been created and redeemed to reflect the image of Jesus in the world. He is the pattern. We reflect to others around us the Light of the Gospel He has shone on us.
- This reflection comes when Christ's goodness flows from us to others.

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending, May we grow till harvests cease; Till we taste, in life unending, Heaven's love and joy and peace.

- Just as the Spirit has created us for stewardship of the Gospel, so also does He cause our faithfulness! He calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies and KEEPS us in this faithful stewardship of the Gospel.
- The ultimate goal of our faithful stewardship is eternity. For us. For our neighbor. All worked out by the Spirit.

Green is the color of the world right now. It is also the color of our stewardship and it is growing in us as we are connected to the vine, Jesus! God grant our growth in Him

JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



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

3 rd -	Shelley Moeller	11 th -	Burnie Eckardt
	Jay Cozadd		Kathy Welch
	Jay Cozadd	12 th -	Sheila Ahlgrim
4 th -	Destiny McCallister		Jeff Umlandt
6 th -	Owen Miller	18 th -	Jennifer Draper
	Neil Burger		Gabrielle Taylor
	Stephanie Moeller	22 nd -	Helen Vogel
7 th -	Kevin Millen		Gretchen Dayrell
9 th -	Len Marquardt	23 rd -	Jesse Poole
	Nathan Leeson	25 th -	Amanda Hoss
	Samuel Ayers		Danielle Smith
		26 th -	Malakai Gore
		27 th -	Sephiroth Kuhn



June 2, 2019 – Keith & Renee Hentrich

June 10, 2017 – Michael & Amanda Depaepe

June 15, 2012 – Corbin & Elena Ayers

June 16, 1963 – Rodger & Sandy Kramer

June 22, 1974 – John & Judith Klockau

June 23, 2007 – David & Angie Mills

June 27, 1976 – Ron & Janet Mau

- *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 in May:

Additions: Bevy Eckardt and Alex Miller - Confirmed May 5, 2025

Changes to current directory:

Deaths: Maxine Grisham (05/25/2025); Angela (Coulter) Anders (05/21/2025)

Memorials Received in May: (none)



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 Adult Bible class** 10:30 am in the Luther Room.
- **Sunday School** 10:30 am in Peter and Mark rooms.
- Adult Bible Study Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in Luther Room or on Zoom.
- Intergenerational Studies (Tuesdays at 6:00 pm) WILL BEGIN AGAIN IN FALL
- For the older youth there is a Rock Island Circuit Youth Group. Watch for announcements on dates and times.



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.

As a reminder – we continue to recycle 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 purchase gas for the mower at the church. Thank You.





Men's Deodorant Shampoo Conditioner 13-gal Trash bags 33 gal trash bags 39 gallon lawn and leaf trash bags Toilet paper Men's disposable razors Napkins Deodorant

Please place items in the Christian Care box in the Narthex. Items will be taken to Christian Care.

2025 Camp CILCA



Camp CILCA (2 ½ hours south of the QCA) as founded by the LCMS in 1950. That's right, 75 years ago!

SAVE THE DATE:

- Summer Camp registration is OPEN!
 - To celebrate CILCA's 75th anniversary, all program sessions for summer 2025 are just \$100.
- * Homecoming: August 2, 2025
 - This will be CILCA's only fundraiser for the year (replacing the Hog Roast and Chicken Fry). There will be live music, a vendor fair, great food served from 4-6pm, swimming, square dancing, face painting, wagon rides and more. Mark your calendar to celebrate CILCA's 75th anniversary in style!
- ❖ S.E.L.F. Retreat: August 22-24

What does S.E.L.F. stand for? Singles Engaged in Lutheran Fellowship. What's our goal? Our goal is fellowship and fun. We are planning to do lots of activities and have a ton of fun with other Lutherans who happen to be single. When's the retreat? August 22-24. Who can attend? Anyone over the age of 18.

CAMP CILCA BROCHURES ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) – after tornadoes and severe weather left a swath of devastation and damage across Missouri, Kentucky, and other states recently (including **Concordia Seminary and Park** in St. Louis), **LCC** is deploying **LCC Disaster Response** teams to provide chainsaw assistance and debris removal with heavy equipment at multiple sites. **LCC Care Teams** trained in **Spiritual First Aid®** are standing by to mobilize and travel to affected areas. <u>If you are compelled to give towards this response, please donate to</u> May 2025 Tornado Outbreak Response Fund. By phone: 866-

455-6466 or by mail: Lutheran Church Charities, 3020 Milwaukee Ave, Northbrook IL 60062.





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



JUNE 2025

In almost all offices and workplaces, there are secretaries whose work is very important. When I worked in Monterrey, there was a secretary who was excellent at her job. When the boss asked for a special work report, she already had it for him, because she had prepared it in advance so it would be ready when he requested it. She was very efficient, although the person to whom the credit was given was often not her, but her boss. In a sense, the work of the Holy Spirit is like that of an efficient and excellent, much better than a secretary. The Holy Spirit works in anonymity, behind the scenes as such, but He is perfectly efficient and excellent.



We speak much of God the Father, since we address many of our prayers to Him. We talk a lot about Jesus, the Son of God, and what He did for us on the cross, but when we little mention the Holy Spirit, it does not mean that He is inactive. Far from it! The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Holy Trinity and is always active, working in our hearts to lead us to Christ. The Holy Spirit is like the beating heart in each one of us. We do not know how this

vital organ works, nor do we know how many liters of blood pass through it. All we know is that the heart is there pumping all the blood that runs through the veins and arteries of our body and does this without us noticing it. It's the same with the Holy Spirit. His work is important and indispensable for our spiritual health and our salvation. This Sunday, June 8, the church celebrates Pentecost which is one of the most important Christian holidays. We then enter the church season of Pentecost. It is the day that a great change began in the life of the early Christian church. Many say that Pentecost is the birthday of the church. On this day, there was a tremendous change!

The change of the disciples. After the death of Jesus, the disciples were frightened. They felt that God had abandoned them. They hid together in one place, separated from the bustle of people who walked and celebrated in the streets. They were afraid of being persecuted and taken to the dungeon. They feared that their lives might end on the cross also. That is why they were all hidden under one roof, full of fear of being seen in the light. But Pentecost came nonetheless. The disciples heard the wind coming from the sky, and tongues of fire perched on their heads. They felt the strengthening presence of the Holy Spirit which Jesus had promised them as recorded in Acts 1:8. He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit and that when He came, they would receive power and be the most vigorous witnesses to the Gospel to everyone.

And that's exactly what happened at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit encouraged them to take to the streets and start vigorously proclaiming the message of salvation in Jesus Christ. They have nothing to fear anymore; God is in their hearts; God is in their words; God is in their bodies and minds. God Himself gave them the strength and enabled them to speak without fear. And that was what they did! All left the place where they had been hiding and began to speak in foreign languages they had never learned. They talked about Jesus and what He had done.

<u>The change of the crowd</u>. Peter, standing, addressed the crowd and gave a wonderful and glorious sermon. Indeed, a change had been made! The Lord touched and changed the hearts of the people, and that day 3000 people were added to the church.

<u>Today God wants to make the same kind of change.</u> There are still many who do not believe in Jesus. They do not know that there is a heaven that God offers for those who believe in His Son. There are still many Christians, who like the disciples are afraid, inactive and do not share the Gospel with their friends and family, because they think that there will be no change.

The change is made only by God. The fire of the Holy Spirit is in us whenever we listen, read and meditate on the Word of God, and when we partake of the sacrament and remember our baptism.

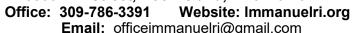
May God the Holy Spirit help you to change, fill your heart and encourage you to share Jesus without any fear. Amen.

JUNE 2025



Immanuel Lutheran Church Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

3300 24th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201-6212





	Email: οπiceimmanueiri@gmail.com						
1 7:15 am Bd of Elders 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study	2	3	4 7 – Circuit Youth Group Planning	5 7 – Youth Group Programming Board	6	7	
8 PENTECOST 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30-6:30 – Immanuel Youth Group	9 7 am Matins	10 9:30 am Bible Study	11	12	13	14	
15 HOLY TRINITY 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study	16 7 am Matins	17 9:30 am Bible Study	18	19	Deadline for submitting information for THE IMAGE	21	
22 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study	23 7 am Matins	24 9:30 am Bible Study	25	26	27	28	
		VBS 5:00	pm – 7:45 pm	each day			
29 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study	30 7 am Matins						



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.lmmanuelri.org

Church Office Phone: 309-786-3391

Pastor Astrowski's Phone: 989-326-0199

Email Addresses: Pastor Astrowski – <u>pastrowski@gmail.com</u> Church Office – <u>officeimmanuelri@gmail.com</u>

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.