

# 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 – July 2025



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

How are we to reconcile God's mercy and His wrath? That is the question I will explore in the next several paragraphs.

As I write this, our nation again remembers D-Day—June 6.<sup>1</sup> I think a lot about that day and the fortunes of war. I think about how, on a June day in 1944, while their families and friends, at home in sleepy towns, tended tender spring gardens, baked, mowed, and read the paper with news from far-away fronts, thousands of men jumped into the water and began advancing on a beachhead. As the folks at home, not knowing what was transpiring half a world away, readied themselves to retire for the night, their fathers, sons, and brothers disembarked their landing crafts and stepped into what historians would call "the jaws of death." Indeed, it was. Thousands would take their last breath that day and never again give or receive the warm embrace of loved ones or enjoy the comforts of home.

And for the survivors? They would spend the rest of their lives dealing with the reality of survival. They witnessed the high cost of freedom as their fellow soldiers—thousands—lay fallen as they pressed forward, enduring a storm of enemy fire, mortars and mines, they advanced and finally established a beachhead. One might think that, with such a horrible task accomplished, these men would have earned a lifetime of rest. But the war raged on, and those who survived the coming months would endure still further terrors and see the thing through.<sup>2</sup> And they did. They saw the thing through. And they would look to their homeland and wonder.

As you read this, the nation will again be celebrating its anniversary. We, the citizens of this land, will hopefully recall our great blessings. We have the blessing of the inheritance those men on a beach in France, and on fronts throughout the world, earned for us. We didn't earn it—they did! As so many decades have passed since those men reclaimed French soil, the remaining survivors are few. Soon, living memory will die. But I do wonder what they think about our use of the freedom they defended for us. Had the defense been unsuccessful, I shudder to think what life in the

<sup>1</sup> If you don't know what D-Day is, please take a moment or two and look it up.

<sup>2</sup> I am blessed to have known members of this parish who endured such things. If you're interested in learning more about the sacrifices these men made, I can refer you to two explorations of these hardships communicated through film. Of course, there is the epic and hard-to-view film *Saving Private Ryan*, and then there is the historically faithful series *Band of Brothers*.

world might be. As these men reached further into eastern Germany and the Baltic nations, they were given a glimpse of what they were fighting against and why they had to be victorious. And, by God's grace, they were.

Yet, I wonder what those few who remain think. As they recall the terrible cost of victory and brothers in arms that remain buried on the French coast, I wonder what they think about our use of their sacrifice. Is there anger? Is there regret? Do they look at what we've done to the world they handed down to us and shake their heads in disgust? Maybe, as we think about these things, we can begin to understand God's wrath.

*The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD (Genesis 6:5-8).*

More than once the Word of God records God's anger and regret. Anger and regret for us and what we do. What's interesting is that God is merciful. His mercy teaches us that He loves—He is love. And it's not just that He is love, but that His love is steadfast. He is abounding in His steadfast love. Anger and wrath are alien to Him—as they typically are for us (or should be). So, what causes an action that is alien to God to occur in God?

Remember, the love of God is not what we typically think love is. We think love is what makes us happy—what satisfies our desires. His love is defined by sacrifice. Indeed, He, in a sense, gives something of Himself in the very act of creating. He breathes life into us. He speaks from Himself, and it is. He gives His Word to create. His Word is a creative force that brings everything into existence. And He gives of Himself to allow us to flourish and stand beside Him reveling in the immense beauty and goodness of His creation (and it should be obvious to us that beauty and goodness are two sides of the same coin). And, of course, He gives His Son. And the Son gives His life in the ultimate act of recreation and restoration. The Word made flesh. The Word who walked among us, lived and died for us. The Word who destroyed death for us. He is and is the cause of the new creation, and in Him we are part of that same new creation. To what end?

Before I continue, I remind you that Christ, in His crucifixion, put to death all your sin. Your sin died with Him. This is the reality every baptized child of God lives in.

*What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life (Romans 6:1-4).*

You are joined in and benefit from what the Lord did, what He provided and still provides through His church. We are weak, scared, full of doubts and questions, and Christ died for all of this. We are forgiven. Yet, what are we to do with all these gifts bestowed by our gracious God? Or, to restate the question I posed above: to what end have been made part of the New Creation in Christ?

Perhaps, for the sake of this writing, we are better served by ruminating on this question in the past tense. What have we done with such gifts? We are given everything. We have been freed—no sin need frighten or alarm us. We know what awaits us. We are heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven. It's all ours—not of our own doing but by the work of God. So, what have we done?

I ask you to take a moment to search your heart—a heart known all too well by your Creator. Have you fallen into the trap set by our fallen culture? Have you passively succumbed to the temptation to be only a Christian for an hour and a half on Sunday mornings in order to be acceptable to the world around you? Have you chosen to remain silent when you know you should speak? Have you removed yourself—and the Christ you carry within you—from the public square? The world, which remains the realm of the defeated yet dangerous evil one, hates you. The world hated the Lord, and He tells you that it will hate you too, dear Christian. You are dangerous to it, for you carry the Truth—the reality which the world tries desperately not to grasp. You know, as a Christian, that God’s Holy Law comes, as all of God’s gifts do, with blessings—great blessings. Yet, too often we hide, or worse are ashamed of, those blessings. For the sake of acceptance, we sell out. We keep from our neighbors what is needed most. We take what God gives, and we hide and twist and pervert His gifts—good things—in exchange for temporal comfort.

Think about the times—many they are—that you have worked to give those you love the very best (and you might think of your pastor who toils to give you the good gifts of God), only to see those gifts wasted. How do you react? How does God react? In the answer we can see the Lord’s wrath. He desires the best for us. He gives His best for us. He sacrifices for us. And our response? If you examine your heart, you know. His wrath results from our misuse, abuse, and wasting of His love. Of course He would be angry. He holds the best before us and we choose—so very often—the worst.

It is time, during this season of Pentecost, that we examine ourselves—deeply. It is time to repent. It is time to realize we are Christians. We ARE Christians. Every hour—every minute—of each day, we are His. The world needs us to be just that. And the Lord will be with us every step of the way. That is His promise.

In Christ’s most holy name,

Rev. L. A. Astrowski Jr, Pastor.

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## **PREGNANCY RESOURCES – URGENT NEED!**



Pregnancy Resources has an URGENT NEED for diapers sizes 1-5. Pick up a package or two and make all the difference for a new or growing family. Those babies keep growing, and you are helping those who have said “Yes” to Life. Bring to the church and place in the alcove in the Narthex. Items will be taken to Pregnancy Resources.

THANK YOU!

**ALSO, mark your calendars for the WALK FOR LIFE  
Saturday, September 6th**

**The construction has been completed and we now have  
handicap-accessible restrooms in the Education Wing hallway.**

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**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.***

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**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](mailto: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 ZONE RALLY will be held in September – here at Immanuel  
Theme: “Precious in His Eyes”  
Isaiah 43:3-4

**WE WILL BE MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> AT 6:00 PM TO BEGIN  
PLANNING FOR THE ZONE RALLY. HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MEETING.**

### LWML-CID Mission Grant Mite Bytes

Mission Grant #2 – LCMS Disaster Relief - \$10,000

LCMS Disaster Relief works with member congregations to immediately give access, relief, and aid in recovery following a disaster. This grant would replenish the funding available to meet the needs to start and enable this process at disaster time.

*How can I help? Pray that God provides workers to bring relief and aid during a disaster through the US. Support this grant by donating to our LWML group Mite Fund.*

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### 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

- July 13, 2-5 pm - Pool Party 1 at the Miller's
- July 20, 2 pm – “Higher Things” Joint Bible Study at Immanuel
- July 29-August 1 - Higher Things 2025, Calvin University, Grand Rapids MI
- August – Pool Party 2



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 “Seminarrians” 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  
2219 Abbey Drive, Apt 5, Fort Wayne IN 46835

Josh Camp will begin his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at CTSFW in the Fall

Josh & Catherine Camp  
5207 N Clinton Street, Fort Wayne IN 46825

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CENTRAL ILLINOIS  
DISTRICT  
*of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

**JULY 2025 MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE**

Week of July 6<sup>th</sup> – John 15:5

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

Week of July 13<sup>th</sup> – Psalm 119:11

*I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.*

Week of July 20<sup>th</sup> – 1 Corinthians 15:58

*Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

Week of July 27<sup>th</sup> – Deuteronomy 6:6-7

*And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*

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

Jul 1	Joshua 6:6-27	Acts 10:18-33
Jul 2	Joshua 7:1-26	Acts 10:34-48
Jul 3	Joshua 8:1-28	Acts 11:1-18
Jul 4	Joshua 10:1-25	Acts 11:19-30
	<i>Joshua 10:28-22:34</i>	
Jul 5	Joshua 23:1-16	Acts 12:1-25
Jul 6	Joshua 24:1-31	Acts 13:1-12
	<i>Judg. 1:1-36</i>	
Jul 7	Judg. 2:6-23	Acts 13:13-41
Jul 8	Judg. 3:7-31	Acts 13:42-52
Jul 9	Judg. 4:1-24	Acts 14:1-18
	<i>Judg. 5:1-31</i>	
Jul 10	Judg. 6:1-24	Acts 14:19-15:5
Jul 11	Judg. 6:25-40	Acts 15:6-21
Jul 12	Judg. 7:1-23	Gal. 1:1-24
	<i>Judg. 7:24-12:15</i>	
Jul 13	Judg. 13:1-25	Gal. 2:1-21
	<i>Ruth 1:1-4:22</i>	
Jul 14	Judg. 14:1-20	Gal. 3:1-22
Jul 15	Judg. 15:1-16:3	Gal. 3:23-4:11
Jul 16	Judg. 16:4-30	Gal. 4:12-31
	<i>Judg. 17:1-21:25</i>	
Jul 17	1 Sam. 1:1-20	Gal. 5:1-26
Jul 18	1 Sam. 1:21-2:17	Gal. 6:1-18
Jul 19	1 Sam. 2:18-36	Acts 15:22-41
Jul 20	1 Sam. 3:1-21	Acts 16:1-22
Jul 21	1 Sam. 4:1-22	Acts 16:23-40
	<i>Acts 17:1-34</i>	
Jul 22	1 Sam. 5:1-6:3, 10-16	Acts 18:1-11, 23-28
Jul 23	1 Sam. 6:19-7:17	Acts 19:1-22
	<i>Acts 19:23-21:14</i>	
Jul 24	1 Sam. 8:1-22	Acts 21:15-36
Jul 25	1 Sam. 9:1-27	Acts 21:37-22:16
Jul 26	1 Sam. 10:1-27	Acts 22:17-29
Jul 27	1 Sam. 12:1-25	Acts 22:30-23:11
Jul 28	1 Sam. 13:1-18	Acts 23:12-35
Jul 29	1 Sam. 14:47-15:9	Acts 24:1-23
Jul 30	1 Sam. 15:10-35	Acts 24:24-25:12
Jul 31	1 Sam. 16:1-23	Acts 25:13-27

## ***Faithfulness: The Stewardship Standard***

*“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful” (1 Cor. 4:2).*

What is the standard to which a steward is held? Ask the average person, and they might talk about percentages, tithes, and commitments. Too often, the default mode of measuring stewards is by how much and how frequently they give. This is not helpful. Measuring activity without any connection to baptismal identity is a recipe for disaster. It can either breed a sense of superiority and self-righteousness or create a culture of scarcity and despair. Neither outcome is godly or helpful.

This is not to say that stewardship should be regarded as "no big deal." St. Paul, within his discussion of the ministry to which he has been called, sets the standard of accountability for the steward: faithfulness. This removes any sense of superiority or self-righteousness and dispels scarcity and despair. When a steward manages what the Lord has entrusted to them — resources and all aspects of life — for God's purposes, the focus is not on how much or how frequently they give.

This standard reflects the stewardship portrayed in the Gospels where Jesus entrusts varying amounts, each according to ability. The commended stewards were recognized for their faithfulness in their vocation, not the amounts they managed. Conversely, the condemned stewards were not castigated for their lack of performance but for their lack of faithfulness.

What does this mean for the steward in the pew? The Lord has entrusted you with various things. Luther captures them in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer. The familiar couplets of food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals and all possessions are the Lord's, and He has entrusted them to you for His purpose. This trust brings an active realization of thanksgiving.

This active thanksgiving is our stewardship. It can be distilled into two questions that the steward regularly needs to answer:

1. How has God blessed me?
2. How is He calling me to respond?

The first question is quite simple to answer: if the Lord has entrusted something to you, it is a blessing. This blessing is for God's glory and the benefit of your neighbor. The second question is more challenging to measure; it is not about percentages and charts. Instead, it is about a life of thanksgiving that flows from the mercies of God revealed in Jesus Christ. This thanksgiving starts at and flows from the cross and the empty tomb. Our stewardship of the Gospel drives our stewardship of everything else.

The standard, then, is faithfulness. Faithfulness flows from eyes focused on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. It does not come from our efforts but through the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives, through Word and Sacrament. It begins at the altar in the Divine Service but extends into the world — from hearth and home to workplace and classroom, from commerce to leisure. The mercy of God, freely given in Jesus, leads us to demonstrate a faithfulness that reveals to others the same mercy we have received in Jesus.

This faithfulness cannot be measured empirically. It is simply allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us for the glory of God and the benefit of our neighbor. Weekly. Daily. Faithfully.





## **JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

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

1 <sup>st</sup> -	Keith Hentrich	11 <sup>th</sup> -	Levi Boisvert
3 <sup>rd</sup> -	Carla Hazen	12 <sup>th</sup> -	Carter Fiedler
3 <sup>rd</sup> -	Joyce Heald	13 <sup>th</sup> -	Alan Bamsey
4 <sup>th</sup> -	Barb Soyke	18 <sup>th</sup> -	Donna Dettmann
	Ashley Wilson	19 <sup>th</sup> -	Mona Griffin
5 <sup>th</sup> -	Rick Moeller	21 <sup>st</sup> -	Kaleb Umlandt
	Sydney Biscontine	22 <sup>nd</sup> -	Wayne Scherer
6 <sup>th</sup> -	Tamme Schaefer-Hoss	23 <sup>rd</sup> -	Vicki Bull
	Kaitlyn Long	25 <sup>th</sup> -	Heidi Masias
7 <sup>th</sup> -	Dennis Rusk	27 <sup>th</sup> -	Christine Roth
	Kathy Woolfolk	31 <sup>st</sup> -	Sandy Kramer
8 <sup>th</sup> -	Samuel Tiece		
	Torianna Davis		



July 1, 1995 – Andy & Leigh Ann Nixon  
July 11, 2003 – Bryan & Katherine Cobert  
July 31, 2010 – Burnie & Amanda Eckardt

- **\*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***

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### **MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTORY CHANGES / MEMORIALS - JUNE REPORT:**

**Membership Changes - None**

**Changes to current directory - None**

**Memorials Received - None**

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*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](mailto: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.**



By providing safe shelter, support, and resources, Christian Care empowers the homeless to make positive changes in every aspect of their lives.

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 75<sup>th</sup> 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 75<sup>th</sup> 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

**AUCTION** - As you may know, Camp CILCA serves hundreds of youth and adults throughout Illinois and neighboring states during summer camps and other year-around activities. **CILCA's major fundraiser this year is the Homecoming and Auction, Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.** We are seeking donations of any type that could be placed on the live and silent auctions. The money raised will be used to continue the vital ministry of Camp.

If you would like to donate something for the auction, we ask that you send a picture of the item along with a description and monetary value to [camp@cilca.org](mailto:camp@cilca.org) by July 26 and drop it in the Dining Hall at Camp CILCA by 5pm Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

We would love to see you all at the live auction at 3 pm, the silent auction during the pulled pork dinner from 4-6 pm, and the worship service and concert to follow!

Thank you for your support of the ministry of Camp CILCA. Please keep the Camp and all of the programs in your prayers. [www.cilca.org](http://www.cilca.org)

**EVENTS AT THE HOMECOMING:** Volleyball Tournament, pick-up softball game, guided hikes, Camp tours, swimming, boating, live auction, vendor fair, silent auction, meal, outdoor worship, echelon concert, sing-along & s'mores

## DOLLARS FOR MISSIONS – Central Illinois District

**Dollars for Mission** had a very good month of May! By June 1, the gathering of funds for three distinct projects could be declared complete:

- \$25,000 for Masonry/tuckpointing at University Lutheran Church, Champaign
- \$2,600 for Parking lot closure devices and camera installation, Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb
- \$6,000 to Refurbish seating in library and game room and technology in game room, Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb

May was a good month indeed. In fact, by the end of it there was still some money left over for President Michael Mohr to designate a new project from the District mission sites “repairs and upgrades list,” which by the way is the last thing to be found in the Mission Commission report at <https://www.cidlcms.org/resources/missioneducationtoolkit/2025MissionCommissionConventionReport.pdf>

The new (and current!) project is **\$10,000 to replace insulation in the chancel ceiling at Wittenberg Lutheran Center, Normal.**

Dating from 1980, the fiberglass batt insulation above Wittenberg’s chancel has fallen from its intended place, that is, immediately under the roof. The area needing replacement measures some 775 square feet.

This job will not be easy. The replacement area is not readily accessible, due to a non-structural ceiling right above the altar and organ in the chancel. The task of replacing this insulation will require ingenuity and creativity. In short, the total price will end up being much greater than relatively minor costs for materials.

Frankly, May was such a good month that the District office is scrambling to keep up with things. A new DFM current project page on the ceiling project for Normal is in process for CID website. Look for it soon.

Thank you very much for your support of CID missions through A Dollar for Missions!

*Amy Holmes*

Office Assistant  
Central Illinois District-LCMS  
1850 North Grand Avenue West  
Springfield IL 62702  
(O) 217.793.1802 x103  
FAX 217.793.1822  
Find us on [Facebook!](#)  
Find us on [Instagram!](#)

## **Lutherans for Life of Illinois**

presents

### **A Summer Life Gathering FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE**

At Trinity Lutheran Church, 1201 W. Jackson Street, Auburn, IL 62615

August 23, 2025 - 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Speakers and topics include:

David Curtin, Illinois Family Institute – Effective interactions with lawmakers

Kim Marxhausen, author Weary Joy: A Caregiver's Journey

John Tally, Pro-Life Lawyer – power of attorney for Healthcare

Elmi Patton, First Step Women's Center, Springfield

Julia Heinz, Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries Maternity Home

Jen Hall, We are Called to Care foster care ministry

Pastor Kevin Wendorf, St. John's Lutheran, Chatham – End of Life Preparation

Jerry Curry, Director of the Curry Funeral Home – funeral planning

Prayer for Life

***More information and downloadable registration at***

***Lutherans for Life Illinois***





Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church  
1301-19<sup>th</sup> Street, East Moline, IL 61244  
E-mail: [cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net) Ph. (309) 738-6124  
Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez



JULY 2025

### **The Liberty in Christ.**

Here in the United States, July 4th is a big national holiday, The United States Independence Day and I am sure you celebrate it. Many families gather together for cookouts. The beaches are full of visitors. Towns all across America have parades and fireworks. It is a time for family reunions and patriotic activities. Right?



Mexico has an Independence day also. The citizens of Mexico all over the world relive the night of September 15th, 1810 when the parish priest, Miguel Hidalgo, called on his townspeople to take arms against the Spaniards who had been ruling Mexico since the days of the Conquest in 1521.

El Grito (The Shout), every 16th of September is the Mexican Fiesta par excellence! Streets, houses, buildings and cars are decorated everywhere in the country. On every street corner there are vendors selling flags, balloons, and hats, all with green, white and red, the national colors. Flags wave from practically every house and building.

It is customary for the current President to deliver the Grito at the National Palace in Mexico City. The original bell rung by Hidalgo is the bell that is rung every 16th of September. The ceremony reaches the high point when the crowd joins in proudly shouting out the names of the heroes of Independence and ends with the exciting: Viva Mexico! When the Grito ceremony ends, the sky lights up with multicolored fireworks that shower the hearts with the pride of knowing that Mexico is free and independent nation. Why I am talking about liberty? Just read Galatians 5:1 *"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery"*

We have the true liberty in Christ for these reasons:

Because of His love, He died on the cross for us; Through His Gospel, we are now His Children; He gave us reconciliation and His peace; Even though we are sinners, we received His forgiveness; Because gave us faith, we confess that we receive salvation. Nations may celebrate their Independence Day, but for Children of God, liberty is constant! Every day in Christ we have true liberty; sin's liberty, death's and hell's liberty granted by Jesus. We do not proclaim liberty for just one day, but for an eternal liberty when we believe in His promises.

PLEASE, WATCH US:

<https://youtu.be/U-limHLeZvY>

**Our ministry would not be possible without your support and prayers.  
We thank God every day because of you!**

# JULY 2025



**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**  
**3300 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, IL 61201-6212**  
**Office: 309-786-3391 Website: Immanuelri.org**  
**Email: officeimmanuelri@gmail.com**



		1 9:30 am Bible Study  6 – LWML Convention Planning meeting	2  7 – Circuit Youth Group Planning	3  7 – Youth Group Programming Board	4 Independence Day	5
6 7:15 am Bd of Elders 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study	7 7 am Matins	8 9:30 am Bible Study	9	10	11	12
13 9 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study 2-5 – Youth Group Pool Party	14 7 am Matins	15 9:30 am Bible Study	16	17	18 <b>Deadline for submitting information for THE IMAGE</b>	19
CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT CONVENTION						
20 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study  2 – <i>Higher Things</i> Joint Bible Study	21 7 am Matins	22 9:30 am Bible Study	23	24	25	26
27 9:00 am Worship w/HC 10:30 am Bible Study	28 7 am Matins					
YOUTH – “HIGHER THINGS” thru AUGUST 1st						



**THE IMAGE** is the monthly newsletter published for members and friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church, 3300 24<sup>th</sup> 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 – Thursday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Our Website:** [www.immanuelri.org](http://www.immanuelri.org)

**Church Office Phone:** 309-786-3391

**Pastor Astrowski's Phone:** 989-326-0199

**Email Addresses:** Pastor Astrowski – [pastrowski@gmail.com](mailto:pastrowski@gmail.com) Church Office – [officeimmanuelri@gmail.com](mailto: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](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.***