



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 – June 2026

A Letter to Fathers:

Yes, this is a letter to fathers, a letter to those who are, and those who will be. And for those of you without sons and daughters of your own, look around. Within our own congregation are the young who will benefit from your wisdom and experience. Look at our community, and you will discover a host of children and young adults in desperate need of your influence and guidance. You and I, with our weaknesses, self-doubts, and failures—none of these disqualify us—must be about this vocation God has given us.

Of course, your first vocation is that of a Christian. You will not love your neighbor as God would have you without Christ. And when I say this, I don't mean you sitting at home convincing yourself that you are good and that you believe in some vague concept you call "a Christian." It means being in church with your brothers to hear the Lord and receive His gifts. It is there where you will be filled with Christ and be strengthened. You will be encouraged and admonished, and you will stand together with your brothers in Christ. You'll learn you are not alone.

Then of course there is your vocation of spouse. If you have been blessed with the gift of a wife, your second duty is to her. You are to be Christ for her. That means you sacrifice yourself for her. It's not the other way around. YOU sacrifice for her. Period. Full stop. Again, I state, that you will not know what this means apart from your life in Christ. The Bible does not give us many words on the day-to-day lives of families. It does, however, speak a great deal about Christ. You want to know what a husband is to do? Look to Christ.

And then there is the vocation of parent. Once the Lord places children in your life (those of your own and the community's), you are forever a parent. And this vocation comes before work, and even boards and events at church—apart from the Divine Service. After you have received the gifts of Christ in the Divine Service, it is far more important for you to fulfill your vocation as parent than to fill boards. There are very few—thank the Lord—emergencies at church. And we, of course, attend to those when they arise. Over the years, I've had to provide counsel to a few men who used boards and meetings to "run" from the hard work of parenting. You cannot use work, meetings, or other non-family obligations to distract you from this vocation. Yes, we need to put food on the table, but there's a difference between providing things that are needed and working to provide unnecessary things. And, as Americans, most of the things the culture convinces us we need are unnecessary. Apart from being in church together, what your children need is your time. Young men are learning what is important by watching you. They learn how to parent and how to be a spouse by watching you and spending time with you. And, far, far more influential than anything I say as a pastor is what you say. How do you talk about the faith, how do you pray, how do you speak of your neighbors and brothers and sisters in Christ? This they learn

from you. And your daughters, for better or worse, will seek a man with similar traits to the man they know best—their father. It is so very important that we first realize and then act as Christ to our families.

Now, Satan—the father of lies—hates what I have just written. He has convinced our culture that godly men, specifically Christian men, are a bane on our world. These types of men are labeled as toxic. Satan is quick to remind us of the men that have abused the station God has given them and conveniently omits any mention of the myriad of men that were Christ-like fathers for their families. And we are quick to buy into that lie. There’s an old Latin saying we would do well to remember: *abusu non tollit usum*, “abuse does not negate proper use.” If people—men—misuse or abuse God’s law, that doesn’t mean God’s law is wrong. Not at all. The abuser is wrong and misusing their God-given vocation, and this is sinful. If that’s you, men, stop it. Remember what Christ has done for you. However, our culture—and even we at times—seeks to accuse God rather than the one who abuses God’s law.

We, men, must stop listening to the culture and unstop our ears to hear what God teaches us about our vocation. First, we turn to Genesis:

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him” (Genesis 2:15-18).

What we learn from this text is that the Lord gave His Word to Adam. Eve had not yet been created. It was Adam’s job—his vocation—to teach this Word to His wife and family. We later learn that he did do this. Yet, tragically, he then failed on the job. You recall as Eve, who had been taught this Word by Adam, was arguing with Satan, Adam did nothing. Being now cut out of that same cloth, I suppose we fall into the same failure. We are silent when we should be speaking. We choose not to use the authority and vocation the Lord has given us and we do nothing.¹ We often relegate that vocation to our wives, the pastor, or other “authorities.” Increasingly, churches in our synod, having a dearth of men willing to fill leadership roles, rely on women to fulfill those tasks. The men are there; they, however, have seemingly been lulled into idleness.

And, of course, there’s the great Word from Ephesians:

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband (Ephesians 5:25-33).

Here we are told very clearly that the husband is to be Christ to his wife. And then we are told exactly what this looks like. As Christ does for His church—everything—so the husband does for his wife. He is to care, nurture, and sanctify her. He

¹ We learn from Scripture that this is the basis for calling only men into the Pastoral Office. It is a reminder of our failures. What is also interesting are those confessions that ignore this teaching and place women into the office. They repeatedly commit this sin and continue to reenact the Fall—with disastrous consequences.

is to love as Christ loved. He is to sacrifice himself for his wife and family. That's what godly love is, and that's where the great blessings of fatherhood reside.

Men, we will fail. And we have failed. We're selfish and lazy. We cherish the wrong things and too often leave the caring and teaching of our families to others. We are under the curse like everyone else. Yet, we repent, for we too live under the banner of Christ's mercy and forgiveness. We are all haunted by past failures—saying hurtful things, being abusive, not being there when we were needed the most, having wrong priorities, and the list goes on. But we are forgiven. (And it is very good to ask for forgiveness from those you have hurt, even if years have gone by—after all, you're still haunted by those things.) And be in church. Hear and take to heart what the Lord does for you. And do this for others. Do it especially for your family. You will also be demonstrating for those you love what is important in your life. And, finally, don't isolate yourselves from your brothers in Christ. You'll find we all bear many of the same burdens and that you are not alone. It's a wonderful thing to have those "guy" friends that you can bear your soul to and cry and laugh about what it means to live as a man.

And the Lord is with you through it all.

My Brothers, I pray our Lord bless you every day. For us, every day is a father's day.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. L.A. Astrowski Jr., Pastor

Immanuel's Vacation Bible School will be held June 29-July 3, 2026

Theme: Teach Us To Pray

VBS will be Monday, June 29th – Friday, July 3rd from 5:00-7:35pm. 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 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



JUNE BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & BAPTISMS

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



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



- June 2, 2019 – Keith & Renee Hentrich
 June 10, 2017 – Michael & Amanda Depaepe
 June 15, 2012 – Corbin & Elena Ayers
 June 22, 1974 – John & Judith Klockau
 June 23, 2007 – David & Angie Mills
 June 27, 1976 – Ron & Janet Mau

Baptism Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1 - AJ Cortez</p> <p>4 - Kevin Klavon</p> <p>10 - Libby Cortez
Todd Hazen
Dawn Schumaker</p> <p>12 - John Klockau</p> <p>14 - Carrie Werke
Issac Raymond</p> | <p>15 - Jake Nixon
Leigh Ann Nixon</p> <p>17 - Mayson Davis
Michael Depaepe
Jill Elder
Kaleb Umlandt
Jacob Umlandt
Jeffrey Umlandt</p> <p>19 - Kathleen Woolfolk</p> <p>21 - Melody Poole</p> | <p>22 - Sonia England</p> <p>23 - Stephanie Moeller</p> <p>25 - Ronald Schultz</p> <p>28 - Burnie Eckardt
Dylan Mills</p> <p>29 - Mayson Davis
Torianna Davis</p> <p>30 - Sheila Ahlgrim
Jennifer Draper</p> |
|---|---|--|

**NOTE – Birthdays, anniversaries and baptisms are listed according to our records. If you find a mistake or any missing information, please notify the office. Thank You.*

We care about your privacy. If you would like your name and birthday and/or anniversary excluded from the newsletter list, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Remember – 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.**



MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTORY CHANGES / MEMORIALS - MAY REPORT:

Membership – Additions – Millie Eckardt, Owen Miller, Grace Mills, all by confirmation, May 3, 2026.

Deletions – none to report.

Changes – CORRECTION: Barb Soyke, apartment number is **Apt. B306**.

Memorials – To General Memorial, given in memory of Janice Roti.

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** – taking a break for the summer.
- **Adult Bible Study** – Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in Luther Room or on Zoom.
- **For the older youth** – there is a Rock Island Circuit Youth Group. Watch for announcements on dates and times.



THE 2026 FLOWER CHART and THE ETERNAL LIGHT CHART are 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.**



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 contact the office when someone is hospitalized or

homebound. The church office phone number is **309-786-3391**; email address is officeimmanuelri@gmail.com.

Building Upkeep

Thank you to those who have signed up to clean a room/area monthly. We really appreciate the help. If you are interested, there are several areas that haven't been claimed yet. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.



MOWERS NEEDED: If you are willing and able to help with the church lawn mowing this Spring and Summer, please sign up on the schedule sheet on the table in the Narthex. Thank you for your help!

Open House!

In Celebration of being Cancer Free and 50 years of "Wedded Bliss" our children are hosting an Open House at Bad Boyz Pizza (4706 Utica Ridge Rd, Bettendorf IA) on Saturday June 20th from 1-4pm. We would love for you to stop in, your presence is appreciated, no gifts are necessary. Thank you for all your prayers this last year!
- Ron and Janet Mau

My dad, Neil Burger, will be celebrating his 87th birthday on June 6th. He is homebound and bed-ridden so I am having a card shower for him. If you would like to send him a card, his address is:

Phillip N Burger
1209 21st Ave. Room 267 Silver Cross
Rock Island, IL 61201

Thank you, Tammy Robinson



Social Ministry would like to compile a list of people to contact for help in the kitchen for funeral luncheons. If you would be willing to help, please contact Tammy Robinson via email (ilcricactg@gmail.com).

Another part of our Social Ministry includes helping support 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.



LWML NEWS & NOTES

Tie Blankets and boxes to benefit Phil's Friends

Tie Blanket kits and Cardboard boxes to decorate will be available Sunday, May 31. We ask that only adults decorate the boxes which are used to send their care packages. *Please return by June 20th.*

Closet Clean Up

The LWML closet needs a cleaning so look for a table of cute items to take home in June!



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.

- **Higher Things in St. Louis June 23-26, 2026**

Please pray that our Circuit Youth Group will continue to be a source of fellowship, fun and sharing God's Word with our youth.



Items Needed:

Men's Deodorant
Shampoo
Conditioner

13-gal Trash bags
33 gal trash bags
39 gal lawn & leaf trash bags

Toilet paper
Men's disposable razors
Napkins

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

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

What Do You Want?

Originally published June 2023

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the "Shepherd Psalm." There we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord's sheep.

→

When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don't know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord's sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here's the Good News: the Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.

Ralph and Greg were discussing Ralph's recent Christian estate plan that he completed. Ralph said, "The Lord has blessed me and my family throughout our lives with great love and enough financial resources that our needs have always been met. In my estate plan, Jan and I are going to be able to pass along gifts that will enable our children to help their children. But in addition, we are going to give a \$100,000 gift to the scholarship fund at Church so that kids can get scholarships to go to our Lutheran School." Greg responded, "I am so happy for you guys, Ralph. I love that you have that gift to Church included in your plan as well. It makes me want to speak with Sally about doing something like that in our plan. Have you told pastor about this?" "No way. I don't want anyone to know about this plan." "Well, you told me," Greg said. "I am thankful you told me. It's moving me to rejoice with you. It's moving me to do something just like it. Would you reconsider talking with Pastor?"

Having discussions with ministry leaders is never about recognition or bragging. Hiding our financials from everyone else only matters if we think these things belong to us, and not to the Lord. There may be legitimate reasons not to share information with the ministry ahead of time. But many times, the advantages will outweigh the negatives. To help facilitate conversation with ministry leaders, your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Income - \$13,318

Expenses - \$25,714

Extra expenses this month include back-pay and property insurance. There was already some money in the bank so this did not put us in the negative.

- Thank You, Finance Committee

JUNE 2026 MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

Week of June 7, 2026 - **1 Corinthians 6:20**

You were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Week of June 14, 2026 - **Ephesians 5:8**

At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

Week of June 21, 2026 - **Colossians 4:2**

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Week of June 28, 2026 - **Isaiah 40:8**

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

OFFICERS NEEDED

If you are interested in becoming an officer or member of a committee at Immanuel, there are positions that will be open, including but not limited to: Foundation (1), Board of Christian Education (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, Scott Welch, or call the church office at 309-786-3391.***

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. -Galatians 6:10



Pastors' wives across the LCMS carry a quiet but significant vocation, often serving in a "glass house" while supporting their families, congregations, and husbands in ministry. Many shoulder heavy burdens without nearby family or a safe place to be understood. This year, we're partnering with you to provide confidential, supportive spaces for these women. We invite you to join us in making a meaningful difference for those who give so much.

The Spring 2026 Grow & Go Challenge

We love your pastor's wife — we know you do, too! Join us to show her some love and help grow Lutheran Family Service's ongoing, Christ-centered care for her and many others like her. We'll send a VISA gift card to present to your pastor's wife, along with your own appreciation, when at least 10 households from your church make a gift of \$10 or more before June 30 as part of our Spring Appeal.

Your gifts will be used by LFS to extend the ministry of love, mercy, and care we are called to accomplish together — growing support created especially for women who are married to our pastors within the LCMS, including KOINONIA Support Groups, Marriage Enrichment, and Individual Counseling Services. The cost for LFS to provide these programs throughout the year, which support and care for pastors' wives, is \$43,000.

The 2026 LFS Spring Grow & Go Challenge provides a fun and unique way for you and other LCMS members to remind your current pastor's wife how important she is to you and to the ministry, while growing Christian care for these special women throughout our Synod — a double blessing! Join us today!

Lutheran Family Service Go & Grow Challenge giving forms are on the table in the Narthex.

Introducing...

S.A.L.T. (Secretaries and Administrators in Lutheran Fellowship)

The Rock Island Circuit has 12 churches, 10 of which have secretaries/administrators. The secretaries have begun a new partnership in our Circuit ministry: one that supports each other in their positions by sharing ideas, problem solving together, and praying for one another. They are also working together to provide opportunities for our Circuit churches to connect through fellowship, service events, and worship. Watch your bulletin and newsletters for upcoming events and a special fundraiser that everyone can enjoy in 2027, all...year...long!

All Rock Island Circuit Churches are invited to attend:

- What: District Workshop, 'Exploring God's Mission Here'.
 - Where: St. John's, Geneseo – 8948 N. 1900th Ave., Geneseo IL
 - When: Saturday, August 8th, 2026
 - Time: Coffee and Fellowship, 8:30 AM – 9 AM; Workshop presentations, 9 AM – 3 PM
 - A free lunch will be provided.
 - Reservations requested by July 30th for planning purposes, by calling St. John's @ 815-989-2025 or email: churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org
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The Rock Island Circuit is looking for applicants for a Parish Nurse to serve its churches. Requirements include: RN and Online District Parish Nurse certification. Interested parties may contact the church office (309-786-3391) or Mel Vogel (309-781-9624).

Rock Island Circuit Summer VBS Guide

Are your children, grandchildren, or young neighbors and friends looking for a fun, faith-filled experience this summer? We have several incredible Vacation Bible School (VBS) options available throughout the area!

Reserve your child's spot by calling the number listed for your chosen program. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Please note: Not all programs run 5 days, check the dates carefully.

Find the week
that works
best for you!

June 1-5

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

316 South Oakwood Avenue, Geneseo
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Rainforest Falls by Concordia Supply
PK – 8th Grade
309-944-3993

June 29 – July 3 (light meal served)

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3300 24th Street, Rock Island
Light meal 5 PM, VBS 5:30 PM – 7:35 PM
Teach Us to Pray by Higher Things
309-786-3391

June 15-19

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH – TAYLOR RIDGE

18121 134th Avenue West, Taylor Ridge
8:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Tropical Trek by CPH
309-795-1063

July 13-16 (4-Day Program)

MOUNT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1372 West Fremont St, Galesburg
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Tropical Trek by CPH
309-342-7083

June 17-19 (3-Day Program)

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

109 South Elm Street, Kewanee
9:00 AM – Noon
309-852-2461

August 2 – August 6 (Includes Adult VBS!)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

8948 N 1900th Avenue, Geneseo
Light meal 5:30 PM, VBS until 7:45 PM
Emerald Adventure: An Irish Adventure through Psalm 23
An Adult VBS will be held at the same time!
815-989-2025

June 22-26

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

115 12th Avenue West, Milan
9:00 AM – Noon (with a Th evening program)
Tropical Trek by CPH
309-787-4295

We can't
wait to
see you!

Bring a friend, all are welcome!



Rock Island Circuit Night at the Ball Park

Saturday, July 11

5:30pm Game Time
Doors open at Noon



● **RSVP** to your Home Congregation
by **Sunday, June 14th**

● **\$\$** Give your **Cash or Checks**
(written to your home congregation) **by June 14th.**

Tickets You can pick up your tickets at the
Will Call Window under our church name.

The park is wheelchair/
walker accessible.

If the game is rained out your
ticket is good for any other
home game that you want to
use it at. No money will be
refunded.



¹Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways!
²You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.
Ps. 128: 1-2

Time of Celebration

We are in a season of celebrations, gathering together to honor individuals at their confirmations and graduations at many levels. These milestones are a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the many blessings we have received.

Psalm 128 reminds us that these blessings are not based on luck, but flow from a personal relationship with God, who is intimately involved in our lives. God is faithful to His children, and in His time, He will provide the fruit of His blessings.

As we celebrate, let us not rush these moments — but pause, savor them, and receive them with a thankful heart.

Mr. Trip Rodgers – CID Office

Pray for Our Central Illinois District 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.

St. Paul Lutheran Church – Pittsfield – celebrating 80 years

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pittsfield, Illinois, is celebrating 80 years since its start as a tent mission in August 1946. Events and outreach activities are being planned around visits from former pastors.

- Festivities begin June 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. with the son of the congregation, the Rev. Jesse Krusemark, preaching.
- Lunch will follow the worship service. Kindly let us know if you plan to join us. Worshipping...Eating...Remembering... 2:00 p.m.
- 80th Anniversary Service of Celebration (2:00 pm) with hymn singing, a brief history presentation, and time for sharing of our memories and ministries then and now.

For more information, call 217-242-8948.

The Concordia Chicago Festival of Scripture & The Arts will take place on campus next month, June 20–21. The two-day event, inspired by the Song of Solomon, will feature a variety of lectures, presentations, performances, and a special commissioned artwork.

The festival's highlight is the premiere performance of "Song of All Songs," a new work by Professor of Music Dr. Jonathan Stahlke. The piece draws on the entire biblical text of the Song of Solomon and will be performed by an orchestra, two choirs, and vocal soloists. We would love to welcome members of your congregations and communities to join us for the full festival or simply for the Sunday concert. Tickets for the full two-day festival are available on our website at <https://www.cuchicago.edu/events/2026/062/festival-of-scripture--the-arts--song-of-all-songs/>. The Sunday concert remains completely free and open to the public. Our hope is to include as many people as possible in this celebration of Scripture, creativity, and fellowship!

Summer Small Church Summit

- Saturday, June 13
- at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1201 W Jackson St, Auburn, IL

Sign-in will be at 9:00 a.m., the opening devotion will commence at 9:30, and the closing prayer will be at 2:50 p.m., followed by an ice cream social for those who would like to stay for more conversation.

The Small Church Summit will feature a keynote address by Rev. Andy Becker of St. Louis. He is the Synod's director for family ministry in the Office of National Mission. Family-related topics have been suggested for the Small Church Summit in the past, so it is high time we had a presentation like Rev. Becker's. He will share details about new initiatives the Synod has underway for families and how small congregations can use them.

In the afternoon, a smorgasbord of sectionals will be available. Participants will be able to choose which they want to hear in three time slots. Possibilities will range from congregational hospitality to strategic planning to church assessment tools to life issues, with more in between. There will be more offerings than any one person can take in, which makes for a good reason not to come to the Small Church Summit by yourself! Bring others with you who can help cover all these informative presentations and take learnings back to your church.

- Register for the Summer Small Church Summit by June 6, 2026, at <https://forms.gle/xLBUJu6XPfbPfyodA>

If you think your church is small, YOU are invited.

And everyone is welcome!



Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church
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Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez



JUNE 2026

Sharing Our Savior With Others.

Have you ever been rejected when you have tried to share the Gospel with others?

Rejection has happened to me several times. There was a man who made the sign of the cross, as if to mock me, when I told him that I was a Lutheran pastor. There was another man I encountered while walking in the neighborhood. As I approached the man and introduced myself, he turned around without saying anything to me. Yet another time I walked into a grocery store and watched people walking in different directions in order to avoid me.

It's hard to be a Christian in an unbelieving world, right? If we are to witness, we need a strong faith, and God is the One who can give us this. If you have experienced criticism, mockery or even aggression, please keep in mind these facts:

- We must be prepared to defend our Christian faith.
2 Tim. 1: 7 *“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”*
- Our Mighty God is always at our side.
Rom. 8:31 *“What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”*
- We want to remember to always answer with gentleness and respect.
1 Peter 3: 15b *“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”*
- We must not forget that *our* salvation is forever secure.
Rom. 1:16 *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.”*

Muchas Gracias. We continue to thank you, dear friends, for your prayers and support! Please rejoice with us as we watch how our Almighty God is bringing many to saving faith and enlarging His church. And please to continue to pray for us as we continue to reach out to others with the love of Christ! Your prayers and support mean so much!

Be assured that our Almighty God is at work at Cristo Rey!

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

Jun 1	Eccl. 9:1-17	John 9:24-41
Jun 2	Eccl. 10:1-20	John 10:1-21
Jun 3	Eccl. 11:1-10	John 10:22-42
Jun 4	Eccl. 12:1-14	John 11:1-16
Jun 5	Prov. 1:8-33	John 11:17-37
Jun 6	Prov. 3:5-24	John 11:38-57
Jun 7	Prov. 4:1-27	John 12:1-19
Jun 8	Prov. 5:1-23	John 12:20-36a
	<i>Prov. 6:1-7:27</i>	
Jun 9	Prov. 8:1-21	John 12:36b-50
Jun 10	Prov. 8:22-36	John 13:1-20
Jun 11	Prov. 9:1-18	John 13:21-38
Jun 12	Prov. 10:1-23	John 14:1-17
	<i>Prov. 11:1-12:28</i>	
Jun 13	Prov. 13:1-25	John 14:18-31
Jun 14	Prov. 14:1-27	John 15:1-11
Jun 15	Prov. 15:1-29	John 15:12-27
Jun 16	Prov. 16:1-24	John 16:1-16
Jun 17	Prov. 17:1-28	John 16:17-33
	<i>Prov. 18:1-20:4</i>	
Jun 18	Prov. 20:5-25	John 17:1-26
	<i>Prov. 21:1-31</i>	
Jun 19	Prov. 22:1-21	John 18:1-14
Jun 20	Prov. 22:22-23:12	John 18:15-40
Jun 21	Prov. 24:1-22	John 19:1-22
Jun 22	Prov. 25:1-22	John 19:23-42
	<i>Prov. 26:1-28</i>	
Jun 23	Prov. 27:1-24	John 20:1-18
	<i>Prov. 28:1-29:27</i>	
Jun 24	Prov. 30:1-9, 18-33	John 20:19-31
Jun 25	Prov. 31:10-31	John 21:1-25
Jun 26	Joshua 1:1-18	Acts 8:1-25
Jun 27	Joshua 2:1-24	Acts 8:26-40
Jun 28	Joshua 3:1-17	Acts 9:1-22
Jun 29	Joshua 4:1-24	Acts 9:23-43
Jun 30	Joshua 5:1-6:5	Acts 10:1-17

JUNE 2026

Immanuel Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 9:30 Bible Study	3	4 7 Youth Group Programmng Bd	5	6
7 7:15 Board of Elders 9 Worship w/HC 10:30 Bible Study	8	9 9:30 Bible Study	10 7 RI Circuit Youth Planning	11	12	13
14 9 Worship w/HC 10:30 Bible Study 2 Circuit Forum	15	16 9:30 Bible Study	17	18 6 Church Council Mtg	19 <i>THE IMAGE Item Submission Deadline</i>	20
21 9 Worship w/HC 10:30 Bible Study	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Higher Things in St. Louis				
28 9 Worship w/HC 10:30 Bible Study	29	30 9:30 Bible Study				
	Vacation Bible School · Monday, June 29 – Friday, July 3 · 5:00-7:35 pm					

Calendar is subject to change. Any changes will be listed in the weekly announcements.



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 10:30 AM – Sunday School at 10:30 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

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.