



Immanuel Lutheran Church

221 Brierton Lane
Festus, MO 63028
636-937-5525

www.ilcfestus.org

January 2022

I Just Can't Wait To Be King!

Recently, Sam and Andrew have really gotten into the movie "The Lion King." The movie chronicles the story of Simba and his journey from being a young cub to taking his Father Mufasa's throne. The story is not a clear and easy path, however, as this was tragically taken from him as Mufasa is killed by his evil brother, Scar. The story involves a great deal of confusion for Simba as he lives in exile as the rightful king, confused about his identity and purpose. Eventually he does return, defeats Scar, and takes the throne as the rightful lion king. Not only have the boys enjoyed watching the movie, but they've also enjoyed listening to the soundtrack, again and again. In particular, one song that occurs early in the movie that they love singing and marching around to is "I just can't wait to be king!" Here are some of the opening lyrics with some commentary from Zazu the hornbill, who serves as King Mufasa's advisor (and in this case, lion cub watcher). During this song, Simba and his friend Sarabi are accompanied by Zazu who challenges Simba's claims:

Simba: I'm gonna be a mighty king, so enemies beware

Zazu: Well I've never seen a king of beasts with quite so little hair

Simba: I'm gonna be the main event like no king was before. I'm brushing up on looking down, I'm working on my roar.

Zazu: Thus far a rather uninspiring thing

Simba: Oh, I just can't wait to be king

Zazu's comments toward Simba speak well to our Lord's coming. While there was the multitude of heavenly host rejoicing and singing about Jesus, you

would think that the sight you would behold was him coming as a mighty king. Isaiah even prophesied that his name would be "Mighty God" (see Isaiah 9). Yet it didn't appear that way at all, did it? While we get sentimental about the Christmas imagery, we're still challenged by this reality: A mighty king... born? As a baby? In a stable? As a child of perceived scandal? Indeed, thus far this is a rather uninspiring thing!

Later in the song, Simba declares... "Everybody look left, Everybody look right, Everywhere you look I'm, Standing in the spotlight"... but again Zazu challenges..."Not yet." Same for our Lord. Throughout the first thirty or so years of his life, Jesus would not be standing in the spotlight, but would be going about his childhood and eventually work, growing in wisdom and stature before the Lord. As he began his earthly ministry, Jesus came more into the spotlight, but even so, he often tried to avoid it, because it was not yet his time... and yet there were moments where the spotlight was clear... At Epiphany (January 6th), we celebrate that the Magi from the East come and bear him gifts fit for a king; it is these gentile foreigners who rightly perceive who Jesus is, even at his young age. Not only that, but a brighter spotlight is shone on him at His baptism in the Jordan, and especially his transfiguration on the mountain. But that spotlight would look very different during Holy Week. Again, Jesus would ride in lowly, on a colt... would a mighty king do that? The spotlight darkened as the eyes of many were fixed on the "King of the Jews" dead on a cross-- a rather uninspiring thing to say the least!

But that wasn't the end. Yes, suffering needed to come before the glory, but the spotlight shone again

as the eyes of the woman, the disciples, and some 500 others saw the risen Jesus... The spotlight shone as he ascended into heaven, and it will shine all the more when he comes again! In the meantime, once more we praise him and thank him that apart from our sentimental feelings, Jesus came in a rather uninspiring way... and he took the spotlight when the time was right to give us the most inspiring gift of all... forgiveness and eternal life in his name! As we begin the new year, rejoice that the rightful king who was once adored by the Magi will return again at the second Christmas, to put a final end to sin, death and the devil, and to make all things new!

Pastor Craig



We are Hiring!!

We are looking to hire a part-time employee to clean the FLC and Church. The position will also include light maintenance, coordinating with regular maintenance sub-

contractors, coordinating volunteers to help with maintenance of the facilities and more.

If you are interested in the position or know someone who would be a good candidate, please contact the Church office or Mike Wehner.

Mark Your Calendar

January

- 1st: Happy New Year*
- 2ⁿ: Joyful Noise Rehearsal after 2nd service*
- 5th: Youth Choir and Midweek Resume*
- 6th: Noon YAH! Meeting*
6:30 pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal
- 9th: VOTER'S MEETING with potluck*

January Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2: James Meyer | 19: Andrew Loessl |
| June Connor | Paul Sperry |
| 4: Ryan Mattison | 21: Carrie Malusky |
| 5: Isabella Malusky | 22: Jacob Schriver |
| Ken Bins | Ariella Buttner |
| 6: Fern Bowder | Carson Heine |
| 8: Kelsie Vallejo | Kyley Gartner |
| Steve Kratzer | 23: Dale Weisbrod |
| Ken French | Marilyn Baldonado |
| Andrea Ellis | 24: Mark Grebe |
| 9: Stephen Meyers | 25: Debbie Brandt |
| 10: Sophie Boofer | 27: Babe Pratt |
| 11: Lorelei Womack | Pam Cernik |
| 12: Austin Pierce | Sandy Bruce |
| Annemarie Westmoreland | 28: Joyce Malusky |
| Kelly Gastreich | Carl Wilhelm |
| Tyler Brown | Lisa Krodinger |
| 13: Donna Buehler | 29: Asher Storm |
| Betty Govero | Anna Mangin |
| 14: Larry Sallis | 31: Madison Caskanett |
| Ronald Buehler | Madison Shadowens |
| 16: Brett Berkbuegler | Aubrey Gordon |
| Dwayne Ruble | |
| Taylor Long | |

Anniversaries

- 10: Jim & Helen Metziner 51st
- 19: Larry & Jan Sallis 18th
- Ronald & Donna Buehler 64th

MUSIC MINISTRY



Joyful Noise has begun rehearsing for singing in our worship services. Our rehearsal schedule is on the church calendar and on the Music bulletin board in the Narthex. We will be singing for the January 9th services. If you are a high school or adult singer, please join us! We would love to have you. If you have questions, please contact Rachel Bierly at 773-443-2916 or the church office.

Anyone wishing to share musical talents, vocal...instrumental...teens....adults....soloists or groups, are always welcomed and appreciated. Please contact Rhonda Johnson if you are interested.

IMMANUEL LIBRARY

Just a reminder that Immanuel's Library is open during regular Church Office hours (Monday – Thursday from 9 am – 2 pm) and on Sunday morning before Sunday School/Bible Class time.

For our new members who may not know, the Library is located in the Family Life Center in Room #1. Books are checked out on the honor system.

The Library has something for everyone. There are numerous reference books and Bibles as well as Devotional books for all ages. There is a fiction section with stories for ages Teen thru Adult. And there is a pre-school age section with numerous books for parents to read with their children. There are also CDs and DVDs available.

We even have a Music section.

We also have numerous copies of previously used Sunday School and Midweek School Materials. If anyone knows of a need at a church, or nursing home, etc. some place where these materials could be used, please let us know.

ILC Librarian





From the Finance Board

During December, \$21,453.92 was received for the Budget. Immanuel's current budget position is noted in the table below.

Budget Requirement	\$ 304,488.00
Budget Received	254,694.15
Difference over or (under)	(\$ 49,793.85)

Additional gifts received in December:

- For the Daycare, \$210
- For the Seminary Foodbank, \$250
- For Poinsettias to beautify the Sanctuary, \$202

Immanuel members continue to support Local Missions, NYG, the Daycare Playground and Sanctuary Renovations with their gifts. The Finance Board recently welcomed Kristy Stuber as a new member to the Board. She joins Debbie Edwards, Pat Welker and Donna Wilhite. Thank you for your continued prayers for Immanuel. We are truly blessed!
Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Budt, Chair

TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME thru Dec. 13, 2021	\$15,939.55
EXPENSES thru Dec 13, 2021	<u>\$ 6,054.91</u>
Difference:	\$ 9,884.64
INCOME YTD	\$255,800.22
EXPENSES YTD	<u>\$241,333.70</u>
Difference:	\$ 14,466.52

Commerce Bank – Balance \$34,859.11
(general account)

Total all Bank Accounts:	\$186,339.02
Total Dedicated Accounts:	<u>\$193,239.40</u>
Difference:	\$- 6,900.38

It is anticipated that Immanuel will end the year in the **Red**. We still have the end of the year bills to pay along with our final payment to Synod. Final figures will be reported in the next newsletter. Asking all Boards to PLEASE turn in any final bills to the Bookkeeper before the end of the year.

Looking to 2022

At our Voters' Meeting on December 5th, the 2022 Budget was passed. It is not a balanced budget. The budget is \$323,309.00 based on anticipated expenses. Income is anticipated at only \$250,000. This is based on the giving trend over the last five years. This leaves a deficit of \$73,309.

In determining our budget expenses, our Boards were pretty conservative in determining their financial needs for 2022. Some of the increases were in Payroll Expenses and in the Trustee's Budget anticipating increases in insurance and increased prices of materials, etc. for repairs and maintenance. It is also hoped that we will find a part-time Janitor/-Maintenance person so that our buildings can be fully maintained appropriately. Other areas in the budget were cut to allow for this position.

Our Financial Secretary, Eric Hardman, is working on a long-term Financial Performance Turn Around Plan to move Immanuel forward. More information to come.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly House

YOUTH MINISTRY

Perfect attendance for November:

Blake Gordon
Austin Habsieger
Jewel Schubert
Kendall Cole
Grace Waltman
Gracelynn Schmitz

During our time on December 15th, we had our Christmas party with pizza and cupcakes. We played a trivia game and had sack races. Crafts included a new banner for the FLC. Be sure to check it out when you come for Bible Class.

Thank you to teachers and parents/grandparents that make sure children arrive on time and participate.

Classes resume January 5th and all children kindergarten to 5th grade are welcomed to join us. Time 5:45 - 7:00.

We also offer a Youth Bible Study for our older children. It's a great way to get involved and meet some new church friends.

Any questions, please contact Debbie Sevier.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

EVERYONE is welcomed 9:15 to 10:15 each Sunday at the FLC for Sunday School.

Enduring Faith Series 7 will begin January 2nd. Everyone is encouraged to come and learn about Jesus and His impact on our lives today and tomorrow.

A light breakfast is donated each week. Signup in the FLC.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

A huge thank you to all the children, parents and directors involved with the children's program. It was beautiful service and our kiddos sure looked like they were having a great time.



Immanuel Lutheran Childcare WINTER WONDERLAND NEWS

January 2022

❄️ Christmas Happenings ❄️

We had a lot of Christmas activities going on this past month. Christmas is a time of gathering and celebrating the birth of Jesus together with friends and families. We wanted to spread the cheer of Christmas around the daycare. We offered a free babysitting evening for all the daycare and church families. We had different Christmas activities for the children to participate in and it gave parents a chance to do some Christmas shopping and/or wrapping! The children ages infant-5 all performed in the annual Christmas Program. This year's theme was "A Country Kind of Christmas". The children also had their annual Christmas party with a fun gift exchange, activities, crafts, and more! We thank you all for all the help during this busy time of year.

Tuition Increase

Our weekly tuition will increase \$2 a day per child starting January 3, 2022 (except school age children). We strive to keep expenses low but the cost of living continues to increase. We thank you for entrusting your child in our care each day. Please stop by the office for question or concerns.

Parking Lot Safety

Please keep in mind that there are times during the day that the parking lot can be very busy, mainly drop-off (6am – 8am) and pick-up (3:30pm-5:30). Because of this, we ask that you be extremely aware of the kiddos in the parking lot and use extra precautions during these times. Kids aren't as aware of their surroundings as adults are. Also please, please keep your car locked during pick up and drop off!!

THE PARKING LOT IS ONE WAY!





Weather Closings

In the event of inclement weather and the daycare needs to close, it will be announced on Facebook and will also be on Fox 2 news. If we open late it will be @ 9 am. We will be announced as Immanuel Lutheran Childcare in Festus.



Teacher in the Spotlight



We want to welcome Miss Madison to our center. She is our new 2's Curious Kittens teacher in the afternoon. She is currently a Senior at Festus. She is going to Mizzou for a degree in Geography to pursue a government intel job. We are excited to see what she can bring to the class.



Spring Pictures

Spring pictures are set for

Monday, March 14th
&
Tuesday, March 15th

Pre-K Graduation pictures will also be taken on picture day so keep in mind those kids will be wearing a cap in the graduation pictures.



Stay Connected



Like us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/ILCC93

Daycare Website
www.immanuelchurchchildcare.com

Daycare Email
ilchildcare@hotmail.com

Church Website
<http://immanuelcrystalcitylcms.org>

Remember we post important reminders about our center on Facebook and DOJO. If you "Follow" us and click "See First" this will help with our post showing on your newsfeed. We also post cute pictures of the kids, their art work and videos of special programs. Our website also has a lot of information about our center. Please feel free to email us anytime with questions, comments, or concerns. Immanuel Lutheran Church also has a website with info and details about all their happenings.





SERVING IN WORSHIP FOR January 2022



Date	Preach	Lead Worship	Adult Bible Study	Children's Message	Lectors	Ushers	Acolytes	Greeters	Altar Guild
01/2 Communion Sunday	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens		8am Karen DeClue 10:30am Steve Shemwell	8am James Zimmerly 10:30am Justin Tauser Kadie Tauser	8am Taylor Habsieger 10:30am Kryslyn Poley	8am Carol James 10:30am Matthew Waltman	Christine Sansoucie Nicole Sansoucie Ann Stueve
01/9	Pastor Schnare Lutheran Heritage Foundation	Pastor Castens	Pastor Schnare Lutheran Heritage Foundation	Joanne Waltman	8am John Sansoucie 10:30am Janene Shelledy	8am Randy Wagner Dave Kutscher 10:30am Robert Finch Karen DeClue	8am Addie Meyer 10:30am Riley Boyer	8am Jan Baumgartner 10:30am Matthew Malusky	
01/16 Communion Sunday	Pastor Castens	Ethan Hart	Jason Kohm		Ethan Hart	8am Anne Torrence Kerr Dawson 10:30am Roy Stueve Ethan Boyer	8am Ella Waltman 10:30am David Finch	8am Carol James	Christine Sansoucie Nicole Sansoucie Ann Stueve
01/23	Pastor Reiter	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens	Stephanie Whitehead	8am Nicole Sansoucie 10:30am Karen DeClue	8am Nicole Sansoucie Andy Loessel 10:30am Karen DeClue Matt Malusky	8am Lauren Whitehead 10:30am Lexi Turner	8am Jan Baumgartner	
01/30 Communion Sunday	Pastor Bowder	Pastor Castens	Ethan Hart		8am Steve Shemwell 10:30am Janene Shelledy	8am Robert Finch 10:30am Matt Malusky Alana Nelms	8am Maddie Brown 10:30am Addie Meyer	8am Fern Bowder 10:30am Riley Boyer	Christine Sansoucie Nicole Sansoucie Ann Stueve

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
8:00 & 10:30 Communion 9:15 Sunday School/Bible Class Joyful Noise Rehearsal	6:30 pm Elders Meeting		10 am Adult Bible Study 5 pm Youth Choir 5:45 pm Midweek 6:00 pm Confirmation Youth, Adult Bible Study	Epiphany 12:00 YAHI 6:30 pm Joyful Noise		8
2 Lutheran Heritage	3		5 10 am Adult Bible Study 5 pm Youth Choir 5:45 pm Midweek 6:00 pm Confirmation Youth, Adult Bible Study	6 13		15
8:00 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Sunday School/Bible Class VOTERS MEETING with POTLUCK	9 am Finance Board		12 10 am Adult Bible Study 5 pm Youth Choir 5:45 pm Midweek 6:00 pm Confirmation Youth, Adult Bible Study			14
9 Lutheran Heritage	10		19 10 am Adult Bible Study 5 pm Youth Choir 5:45 pm Midweek 6:00 pm Confirmation Youth, Adult Bible Study	20 Newsetter Articles Due		21
8:00 & 10:30 Communion 9:15 Sunday School/Bible Class	6:30 pm Daycare Board					22
16	17					21
8:00 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Sunday School/Bible Class	9 am Finance Board	6 pm Church Council	26 10 am Adult Bible Study 5 pm Youth Choir 5:45 pm Midweek 6:00 pm Confirmation Youth, Adult Bible Study	27		28
23	24	25	26	27		29

30th: 8:00 & 10:30 Communion; 9:15 Sunday School/Bible Class; Noon NYG Meeting
31st: