



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Festus, MO 63028
636-937-5525

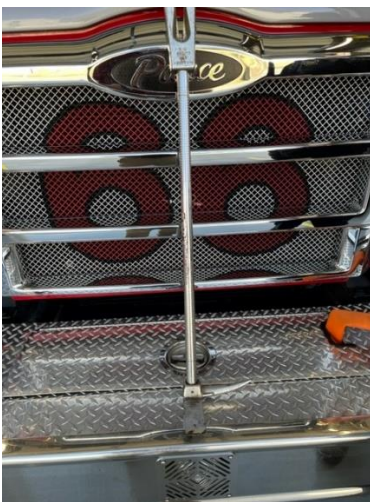
www.ilcfestus.org

April 2022

Be Opened

There is an amazing amount of stuff in our daily lives that we find ourselves opening. Let's have a little fun and brainstorm a few. We open house doors, car doors, eyes, ears, bank accounts, kitchen cabinets, dresser drawers, canned foods, a can of worms, our minds, garden gates, windows, businesses, our homes, our hearts, mailboxes, books, and the list goes on.

These tasks seem so simple and straightforward that we don't have to give them a second thought. It would be rare that we would have to go through a step by step rehearsal of how to open a door. It comes naturally. It comes naturally until something gets in the way. What if the door that we attempt to open is locked? What if the window through which we would like to get some fresh air is stuck? What if nothing budes?



This task is one that those in the fire service run up against frequently to save life and property. Doors are not always unlocked, and keys are not always a possibility. Some things just won't budge. Many years ago a deputy chief with the Fire Department of New

York came up with a solution to crack open that which would simply not budge. With the skilled use

of this tool even the heaviest, most secure metal door would give way. He stamped this tool with letters that give us an even greater insight to its purpose: AMDG, ad maiorem Dei gloriam- to the greater glory of God.

Have you seen what happens when God is glorified? "And Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.'" John 12:23. Jesus is glorified when He is lifted up on the cross. On that cross He is your sin. He bleeds and dies with your sin, your guilt, your shame. He is glorified on that tree at His crucifixion. Look what happens next! "And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, He gave up His spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people." Matthew 12:50-53.

Look what you have just seen? Open! Things that seemed so desperately closed open at Jesus' death. The curtain separating God and man is open. The grave which was our fiercest captor is open. The heaviest, most secure chains on our lives- sin, death, and the power of the devil- are all broken open! Ad maiorem Dei gloriam. On that cross God is glorified, and you are set free!

Pastor Castens

Mark Your Calendar

April

3rd: *VOTERS MEETING & POTLUCK*
16th: *Easter Set Up – Volunteers Needed*
17th: *Easter Worship: 6 am; 8 am; 10:30 am*
Easter Breakfast following 6 am & 8 am
Easter Egg Hunt at 9:15 am

UPCOMING:

May 1st : Confirmation
May 12th : Blood Drive
June 5th : New Member Orientation
& Luncheon
July 24th : VBS begins
July 31st : Fun Fest

April Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1: Jared Wehner | 18: Barbara Livengood |
| Lola Poeniske | Cathy Kennedy |
| Nickie Brown | Richard Lucas Jr |
| 2: Danny Hassell | Sara Schultz |
| Edward Carver | 19: Dustin Lorenz |
| 3: Jeff Kennedy | James Schubert |
| Lauren Schaefer | Myah Meyer |
| 4: Kathy Wilhelm | 20: Johnathan Schnurr |
| Robert Holzhauser | Macie Turner |
| 5: Collin Weinhaus | Maddie Brown |
| 6: Nancy Cattoor | 21: Haley Casseus |
| 7: Nelson Ruble | Kim Wehlermann |
| 8: Ethan Boyer | 22: Joshua Laidlaw |
| Jennifer Becker | Ryan Stackley |
| Joanne Waltman | 24: Chuck Conner |
| Randy Wagner | David Birks |
| 9: Dylan Doenges | Gary Lindsey |
| 10: Alex French | 25: Ella Bradley |
| Gunnison Heine | Kadie Tauser |
| 11: Charlotte Ruble | Mark Roylance |
| Colton Stanton | 27: AnnaJane Brandt |
| Jacque Guth | Jack Malusky |
| Tom Edwards | Kensi Frnech |
| 12: Lindsey Luechtefeld | Leabella Stroer |
| 13: Rose Roylance | Scott Johnson |
| 14: Brendan Sperry | 28: Brian Mayer |
| 16: Dale French | Brianna Wagner |
| Kyle Castens | Kyle Wehlermann |
| Tom Burnham | 29: Joseph Schubert |
| 17: Augustus Bourque | 30: Chelsea Mudd |
| Myra Bins | Henry Seals |
| | Linda Pierce |



Anniversaries

6th: *Ken & Sherry Foerstel 3rd*
7th: *Andrew & Mary Loessl 21st*
8th: *Richard & Nancy Cattoor 55th*
12th: *David & Kristina Carver 14th*
15th: *Alex & Emma Broyles 10th*
20th: *Chad & Kara Stackley 26th*
23rd: *Carl & Myra Roth 28th*
29th: *Stephan & Lorrin French 27th*

Worship Opportunities

Lenten services

Wednesday April 6th at 10a & 7p

Palm Sunday

Sunday April 10th 8a & 10:30a

Maundy Thursday service

Thursday April 14th at 7p

Good Friday service

Friday April 15th at 7p

Easter – April 17th

Sunrise service at 6a

Easter Breakfast at 7a

Communion service 8a

Easter Breakfast at 9:15a

Easter Egg Hunt at 9:15a

Communion service 10:30a



New Members

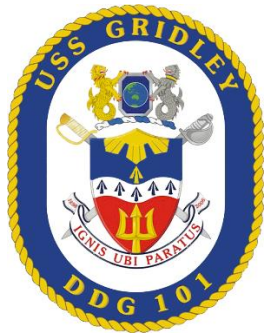
Our New Members Class is going to occur on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm starting April 20th.

The class is open to anyone wanting to become a member of Immanuel that has not been confirmed member at another LCMS church or would like a refresher course on our faith. We will be concluding the 6 week course with a welcome ceremony at the 10:30 service on June 5th and an orientation and luncheon following. To be sure we have the correct amount of class materials, please register on our website: www.ilcfeetus.org.

First Aid Class

Elders, Ushers, Church

Leaders are encouraged to sign up for the CPR First Aid Class to be held on April 28th 6 pm – 9 pm. There is a sign up sheet in the Welcome Room (Narthex Annex) at church.



Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings from the warm waters of the Arabian Gulf. In January I deployed onboard the mighty warship USS GRIDLEY (DDG-101), an Arleigh-Burke Guided Missile Destroyer. Our deployment

was a regularly scheduled 7th Fleet deployment with the goal of enhancing interoperability with alliances and partnerships, while serving as a ready-response force in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific region. However, as things in life often change and seldom go according to plans, we have been operating for the past few months in the 5th Fleet Area of Operations to support naval operations, ensure maritime stability, and provide security in the Central region.

I've learned that no matter what waters our ship is sailing in, my duties as Chaplain aren't all that different. I get to take care of Sailors in body, mind, and spirit. That task, while challenging at times, is very rewarding. Every day I go to sleep feeling like I made a difference in the life of someone.

Having spent the last 16 years as a parish pastor in Florida and a Navy Reservist, the transition to Active Duty, a cross country move, and immediate deployment, has taken some getting used to. Just when I thought I had ministry and life all figured out, God's Call to Navy Chaplaincy was irresistible and I couldn't put it off any longer. Compelled by the Holy Spirit and knowing the change would be difficult, I accepted the Call and began this new chapter of ministry.

Being a caretaker of souls while deployed at sea is a unique thing. I live and work with my congregation. A Destroyer isn't a huge ship, so I see my 350

Sailors multiple times a day. They can't escape from me, nor can I get away from them. I am constantly interacting with my "flock." Meals together, passing in the passageways, working out, and more, we are always together. As the ship's Chaplain I am also on call 24 hours a day. My Captain expects me to be the "go to guy" for every Sailor in the midst of whatever might be going on in their lives: good, bad, or otherwise.

In the parish, I spent the bulk of my time crafting sermons and writing Bible studies, with only a few hours spent doing counseling. That ratio has flipped here on deployment. Now I spend the bulk of my time counseling Sailors who are going through difficult times. I spend anywhere from 25-30 hours a week in one-on-one counseling sessions with Sailors, trying to build resiliency with them and to walk with them through hard times. Sometimes they just need someone to listen to them and care about them.

Every night around sunset I get to pray over the "1-MC" (the microphone that goes throughout the ship). My prayers focus on the needs of Sailors and our nation. Evening prayer is considered a sacred thing onboard the ship, and I am blessed with the opportunity to pray for our safety, competence in all situations, courage in the midst of danger, and strength. I get a lot of inspiration for my prayers from the Psalms.

Every Sunday I offer 2 Divine Services, one in the morning and one in the evening, which accommodates Sailors who stand different watches. While I only have a few Lutherans onboard, we still use The Lutheran Service Book every Sunday. My Sailors, many who are not Lutheran, are getting to experience our beautiful liturgy, hymnody, and Christ-centered preaching.

My "church" is a small classroom that only holds about 12 people, but we happily make do with what we have and we make a joyful noise to the Lord as we receive His precious gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Keep praying for our Sailors and service-members. Many of them don't know Jesus, which means they don't have the comfort and the hope that we have. Many of them don't know the love of our Heavenly

Father, who will never leave or forsake them. Many are unaware of the truth that Jesus died to forgive their sins and rose so that they can have eternal life. As a Chaplain I get to find unique ways to tell others the Good News of Jesus Christ. My ministry at sea seems to put in action Jesus' instruction to be, "wise as serpents and innocent as doves (Mt 10:16)." I truly appreciate your prayers and your support. It strengthens me in my service to know that you include me in your Sunday prayers.

God's richest blessings to you this Lenten season!
Humbly in Christ,
LT Ross M. Engel, Chaplain, USN
USS GRIDLEY (DDG 101)



Board of Stewardship

Thank those of you who have come forward to have your digital pictures taken after each service in front of the altar! Currently we are taking pictures of all new members who have joined from 2019 through 2022. The pictures will be viewed on the screen in our Welcome Room (the addition to the Narthex) enabling us to know see who the latest members are in our Church Family and to welcome them. New Members just need to stay a bit after each service and go towards the altar and Carol James will take pictures after the first service and Karen DeClue after the second service (or a proxy may be taking pictures, perhaps!)

Our plans are evolving for the very first Welcome Luncheon on June 5th and then again on November 16th. All members please save these dates and be prepared for a time of great fellowship! We are considering having a Picnic Themed potluck, looking forward to a feast of salads, sandwiches, beverages and desserts. Put on your thinking caps as you decide what special picnic dishes to bring that might make our new members feel welcome!

Stay tuned, more to come as plans evolve!

Blessings,
Carol James – Chair
Myra Bins and Kristy Stuber - Members

Some Thoughts On Evangelism

We will be resuming our Griefshare session this month. Griefshare is a well thought out, well presented 13-week journey. Griefshare helps one examine their own grief and work through it with support from others. Friendships are cultivated along the way and shows that the Lord is well acquainted with your grief and will help you every step of the way. Check the bulletin announcements for start date and times.

May 12th is the date for the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Immanuel from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Family Life Center. We could use a few able bodies to volunteer for that day to help with setup and take down, and for check-in and welcome for donors. David Poley is coordinating with the Red Cross for this drive.

Look for information on a community 5K run as a benefit for charity and other opportunities for community involvement that will point people to the Savior.

In addition to the letter in this newsletter, there was a post in Friends of Immanuel from Lt. Engle, our adopted chaplain on board the USS Gridley. Please keep him in your prayers.

God's Blessings for a Spirit filled Resurrection Day.

Karen DeClue





From the Finance Board.....

TREASURER'S REPORT

During late February and early March \$25,757.88 was received for the Budget. Our current budget position is shown in the table below. This information is also reported in the bulletin bi-weekly.

Budget Requirement \$62,174.80

Budget Received \$57,609.53

Difference over or (under) (\$ 4,565.27)

Immanuel members continue to faithfully support the Daycare, Local Missions, NYG, the Daycare Playground and Sanctuary Renovations. The Stonie's Sticks fundraiser earned \$579 in March.

Thank you for putting your name (or envelope number) on the outside of the envelope with your offering. This helps the Finance Board properly record the gifts. If you would like a box of envelopes to use, please include a note with your gift and a box will be provided.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Immanuel. We are truly blessed!

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Budt, Chair

INCOME through 3/21/22:	\$27,015.98
EXPENSES through 3/21/22:	<u>\$16,034.29</u>
Difference:	\$10,981.69

INCOME YTD	\$69,636.22
EXPENSES YTD	<u>\$63,101.02</u>
Difference:	\$ 6,535.20

Commerce Bank – Balance (general account)	\$35,542.64
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Total all Bank Accounts:	\$171,926.49
Total Dedicated Accounts: (restricted spending)	<u>\$189,420.73</u>
Difference:	\$ -17,494.24

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly House

MIDWEEK

Midweek had their end of year party in March. Thank you to all of our parents, students, and teachers for a wonderful year of learning more about our faith and the wonderful things our God does for us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

We are continuing with the Enduring Faith series in both the children's classes and the adult study. 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.

We would like to recognize our High School Graduates. Please submit a bio, pictures, and future plans to the church office so we can feature them in May.



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MUSIC MINISTRY

Joyful Noise would like to invite all adult and high school aged singers to join us. We rehearse on Mondays and offer 2 options for rehearsal times: one at 3 pm and one at 6:30 pm.

Our final singing opportunity before breaking for the summer will be May 1st for both services.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Rachel Bierly at 773-443-2916 or the church office.

Youth choir will be ending their season in May. For more information about this group please visit our website or speak to Rhonda Johnson.

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 Lutheran Childcare

Newsletter



Parent Teacher Night

Thursday, April 7th (6 p.m. – 8 p.m.)

Infants - School Age Classes

Sign-up Sheets will be in the Foyer

We are excited for you to see your child's classroom and meet with their teachers!

Pre-K Graduation

is in the works. The Graduation ceremony will be held on

Thursday, May 26th at 6:30 pm.

Please have your child there by 6:00

pm.

We are still working out the details on location. **Each child will receive a t-shirt to wear at the ceremony.**

We hope you can join us for this special event! More info coming soon.



MEET THE TEACHER!

We would like to introduce to you **Ms. Madi**. She is our new morning teacher in the 2's Class.



Easter Parties

will be held on **Thursday, April 14th starting at 9am**

The kids will find eggs and get a visit from the Easter Bunny himself! One parent/loved one per child may attend the party. We are also accepting donations of Easter Eggs and wrapped candy or treats for the Egg Hunt.

All donations are greatly appreciated.



dates to Remember

April 7th – Parent Teacher Night

April 14th – Easter Party

April 15th – CLOSED for Good Friday

April 24-30- Lutheran Schools/SHINE Week

May 26th – PreK Graduation @ 6:30pm

May 30th – CLOSED Memorial Day

May 31st – Summer Enrollment Starts





in all
things

National Lutheran
Schools Week

Colossians 1:15-20

April 24-30, 2022



Lutheran Schools Week is quickly approaching us, and we have planned many exciting activities to celebrate the week. Each day of the week we will have a bible story and verse to support our theme; Sent to Serve.

Mission Project
Brenden's Backpacks



SPIRIT
DAYS

Each year we pick a mission project to do during LSW. This year we are collecting items for Brenden's Friday Backpacks. This is an organization that helps feed over 1,400 hungry kids over the weekends in the Jefferson County area. Every Friday, each child takes home a bag of single-serve, non-perishable, kid-friendly foods that can be easily prepared and last until the child returns to school the next week. You can follow them on Facebook or their website brendensfridaybackpacks.org. We would be very grateful if you could donate some of the items below. We will have a collection box out in our foyer.

- kid friendly canned soup and pasta
- pudding or fruit cups
- plastic jars of peanut butter (16oz)
- individual snacks (cookies, crackers, chips, trail mix, fruit snacks, etc.)
- granola bars
- single serve cereal
- monetary donations are also welcome

Monday: Dress
up like
something God
created Day

Tuesday:
Neon Day

Wednesday:
Dress for
Success Day

Thursday:
Beach Day

Friday:
Superhero Day



SERVING IN WORSHIP FOR April 2022



Date	Preach	Lead Worship	Adult Bible Study	Children's Message	Lectors	Ushers	Acolytes	Greeters	Altar Guild
04/3 Communion Sunday	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens	Pastor Castens		<u>8am</u> Terry Mangan <u>10:30am</u> Lisa Schnurr	<u>8am</u> James Zimmerly Kent Steffens <u>10:30am</u> Matt Malusky Roy Stueve	<u>8am</u> Cole Malusky <u>10:30am</u> Kryslyn Poley	<u>8am</u> Carol James <u>10:30am</u> Anne Stueve	Anne Stueve Eric Hardman
04/10	Jason Kohm	Pastor Castens	Ethan Hart	Joanne Walman	<u>8am</u> Steve Shemwell <u>10:30am</u> Kathy Wilhelm	<u>8am</u> Randy Wagner Dave Kutscher <u>10:30am</u> Karen DeClue	<u>8am</u> Jackson Malusky <u>10:30am</u> Addie Meyer	<u>8am</u> Fern Bowder <u>10:30am</u> Matthew Malusky	
04/17 Easter Sunday	Pastor Castens	Jason Kohm	Jason Kohm		Jason Kohm	<u>8am</u> Robert Finch John Sansoucie <u>8am</u> Anne Torrence <u>10:30am</u> Ed Malusky	<u>8am</u> Usher <u>8am</u> Taylor Habsieger <u>10:30am</u> Usher	<u>8am</u> Jan Baumgartner <u>8am</u> Carol James <u>10:30</u> Kristy Stuber	Anne Stueve Eric Hardman
04/24	Pastor Castens	Ethan Hart	Pastor Castens	Stephanie Whitehead	Ethan Hart	<u>8am</u> Nicole Sansoucie Andy Loessl <u>10:30am</u> Karen DeClue	<u>8am</u> Kryslyn Poley <u>10:30am</u> Rose Roylance	<u>8am</u> Fern Bowder <u>10:30</u> Lauren Malusky	

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 LWML Spring Rally at St Paul Farmington
3 Communion 8 & 10:30 Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15	4 9am Finance Board 3 pm & 6:30 pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal 6:30 pm Elders Meeting	5 10 am Lenten Service Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study 7pm Lenten Service	6 10 am Lenten Service Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study 7pm Lenten Service	7 12 YAH! meeting	8	9 11 am – 3 pm FLC Reserved
10 Palm Sunday Worship 8 & 10:30 Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15	11 3 pm & 6:30 pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal	12 10 am Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 5 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study	13 10 am Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 5 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study	14 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service	15	16 Easter Set Up in FLC
17 Easter Sunrise Service 6 am Communion 8 & 10:30 Easter Breakfast 7 am & 9:15 am Easter Egg Hunt 9:15 am	18 9am Finance Board 3 pm & 6:30 pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal 6:30 pm Daycare Board Meeting	19 Newsletter Articles due 20 10 am Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 5 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study 6:30 pm New Member	20 10 am Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 5 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study 6:30 pm New Member	21	22	23 3 pm – 8 pm 25 Lutherans That Cook
24 Worship 8 & 10:30 Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15 Joyful Noise Rehearsal after 2 nd service	25	26 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	27 10 am Adult Bible Study 12:30 Quilters 1 pm Autumn Ridge 5 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Confirmation, Adult & Youth Bible Study 6:30 pm New Member	28 9:30 am Priscilla Circle	29	30