

# Immanuel Lutheran News

203 E. Division St., Altamont, Illinois ph. 618.483.6395

James F. Wright, Senior Pastor ph. 217-994-1116

Visit our web site at [www.immanuelaltamont.org](http://www.immanuelaltamont.org)

August 2020

From the Pastor,

## **COME BACK TO WORSHIP!**

“And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” So says the Letter to the Hebrews (10:25). I believe it is safe for most people to return to worship in church again. We are following these precautions against Coronavirus:

- We sanitize the church building with disinfectant fog twice a weekend.
- Shaking hands and all physical contact between members is discontinued during the pandemic.
- The children’s talk is suspended for the time being.
- All worship materials are printed on disposable paper.
- Offerings are collected at the doors instead of being passed from person to person.
- Doors are open for you to enter and exit. You really don’t have to touch anything in the building.
- Masks are not required, but we encourage everyone to wear one, especially if you are coming within six feet of someone you don’t share a home with.
- The Lord’s Supper is distributed in a continuous, spaced line with the pastor wearing a face covering and gloves.

What a treasure it is to have a church where we can gather to hear the word of God read and preached, to sing together the songs of encouragement and faith, and to pray together to the God who has given himself to us. If you go into stores, it seems to me that it is much more dangerous there to contract a virus than at church.

While some of you may continue to worship from home using our videos from [immanuelaltamont.org](http://immanuelaltamont.org), I encourage those **who are healthy** to return to worship. We are currently at seventy percent of our average worship attendance before Coronavirus. We would like to get closer to one hundred percent.

There is truly nothing better than to be together with the people we will be spending eternity with in the new world while we are still in the old world.. Jesus invites you to come to the feast.

Pastor Wright

**LERT DEPLOYED** The Immanuel LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) deployed to a small disaster in Beecher City on Monday, July 20, 2020. Storms late Sunday night knocked down trees and disrupted power to several residents of the village. One mobile home was wrecked with a tree through



the roof and two occupants hospitalized. The American Red Cross provided shelter for the family. Our LERT team was activated by the Effingham County Emergency Management Agency. On such short notice only five of us could deploy. Ken Mercier, Garry Wolff, Maurice and Alta Lowry and I were able to help three residences by cutting trees and piling the debris by the street. The mayor's office and the fire department provided rehabilitation with water and sandwiches. We were able to assist the two city employees and public works manager to get the community cleaned up. We were assisted by nearby residents and the family of one of the properties.

Immanuel received LERT training in 2013 and again in 2015. We have about 20 people trained for response. Our goal is to provide help through recovery effort and encouragement. It provides a great opportunity to give witness to our Lord Jesus through work, words, and just being there in time of need. People were certainly appreciative of Immanuel for coming.

We will schedule a training event at Immanuel next year when the coronavirus epidemic is over.

Surely there will be more disasters to respond to in our area.

**No** Small Group Communion Wed. August 5.

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** with Pastor Wright for adults will start on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM beginning on September 8. We study the Bible and the Lutheran Catechism. Everyone is welcome to come. Runs through mid November.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS** Families with students in public school grades 6-8 should contact pastor or Andy Wendling for Wednesday after school catechism class beginning September 9 from 3:15-4:45 PM

**Online VBS is live!** You may still participate by viewing VBS online now thru August 19 at [www.immanuelaltamont.org](http://www.immanuelaltamont.org)

**Sr. LYF Lock-In** August 14, 7pm-7am  
Come join us as we kick off the new school year! This will be the "official" grade transition and we will be electing LYF officers.

**High School Sunday School Class** will start August 23, 2020

**LYF Parent Meeting** August 26, 2020 7pm

**Young Adult Meeting** We will be having a meeting for young adults to discuss what they desire in a young adult ministry August 30, 2020 12:15 pm.

**Children's Lessons** - Children can watch a Bible lesson every Sunday! This is a great way to teach your child about Christ during the summer. Videos can be found on the church website.

**The Baby Bottle Project** is the Family Life Center's greatest fundraiser. We will be kicking it off August 1 through September 1. Please don't forget to pick up a bottle! If you are not coming to church now but would like to donate, please make your check payable to FLC and drop it off at church or mail to: Family Life Center, 605 Eden Ave, PO Box 154, Effingham, IL 62401. Please be sure in the "note" section of your check to put: Immanuel, Altamont. Thank you so much for your help.

**CEFS Meal deliveries** for Immanuel continue through August 7.

*Thank you to Immanuel Members - My heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards and phone calls during my recovery from my recent fall. It was really special to be thought of by so many members of Immanuel. I am still in recovery mode but doing better as time goes on.*

*Thanks again, Carol Kassel*

*I wish to thank everyone for prayers, cards and phone calls before my surgery and after my return home. Thank you to Pastor Wright for his prayers and phone calls.*

*God bless you all, Freda Beccue*

*Curtis Baginski wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and support during his hospitalization in Chicago.*

#### Prayer Corner

- For healing of Heath Beccue, Claudia Berg, Gail Bryan, Tiffany Dunaway, Mary Frailey, Abbey Franzen, Carol Kassel, Pam Kepley, Cathy Marble, JR Newby, Angela Kull Ohnesorge, Deb Pagel, Pam Paszotta, Gary Pryor, Walter Ruding, Evelyn Shumaker, Norma Siebert, Barb Smith, Doris Strullmyer, Elverna Tappendorf, Phil Walk, Craig Wolff, Gina Wolff and others.
- Comfort to the family of Judy Mercier.
- For our pastor, church staff, ALIS school staff
- For Lutheran missionaries Ted Krey and Britt Odemba and for their families.
- For our government for protection of unborn children and elderly.
- For peace in the world, an end to violence in the name of God, and for harmony among nations.
- For those persecuted for their faith in Jesus.
- For police, fire fighters, emergency medical personnel, and those who serve in our military and their families.

**Lutherans for Life Donations** – If you use Lutherans for Life offering envelope, donation will go to *National* Lutherans for Life. If you want a donation to go to *local chapter*, use a Designated envelope and mark "Immanuel Lutherans for Life".

**Pork Chop Meal** Sat, Aug 8, 11-2 at Altamont 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church, 308 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Curbside pickup at the north door. Cost is \$7 per meal for butterfly pork chop sandwich, chips, coleslaw, pickle. Pre-orders are accepted (but not required): call 618-483-6036 Mon-Wed 9-12.

