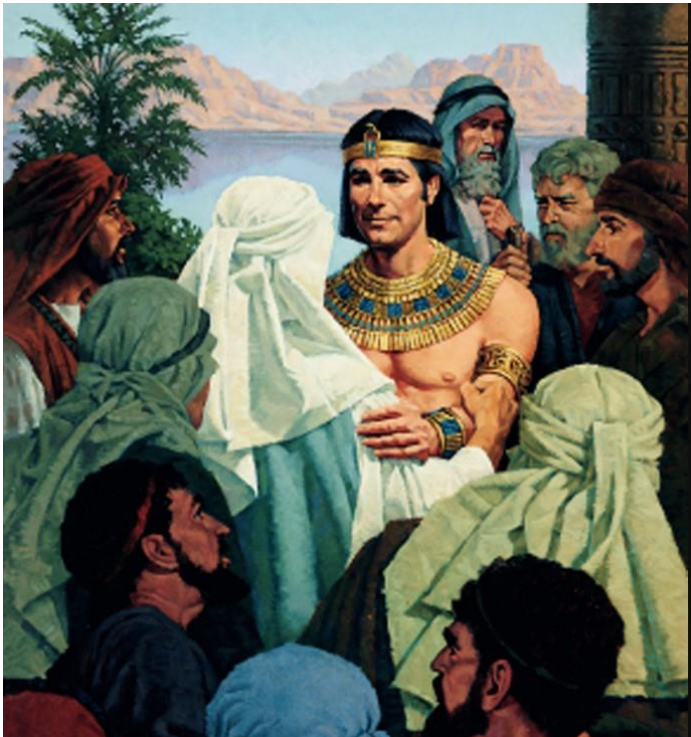


# Immanuel Lutheran Church

## Altamont, Illinois



*“Joseph Forgives His Brothers”*  
**The Sixteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Church  
Office Hours  
Rev. Dr. James F. Wright, Pastor  
Kendra Walker Dir of Youth/Fam  
Church Secretary  
Missionary

618-483-6395  
Monday-Friday  
217-994-1116  
217-821-7249  
618-483-6395

[www.immanuelaltamont.org](http://www.immanuelaltamont.org)  
9AM-Noon & 1PM-4PM  
[jimwright1961@gmail.com](mailto:jimwright1961@gmail.com)  
[kmwalker79@yahoo.com](mailto:kmwalker79@yahoo.com)  
[immalt22@gmail.com](mailto:immalt22@gmail.com)  
Rev. Ted Krey, Dominican Republic

**TO OUR GUESTS:** Welcome to Immanuel. We pray that you will be blessed worshipping the Lord with His people. Please sign a guest attendance card and place it at the end of your row. Please join us often.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER** is celebrated today. Here Jesus gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning the body and blood received a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of Christian concern for souls, we require thorough instruction in the teaching of the Lutheran Church before coming to the sacrament. Communion is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:27). Since unity at the altar means unity in doctrine and confession, we ask that only those who are in confessional fellowship with The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod attend the Lord's Supper. If you would like to come forward to receive a blessing, fold your hands across your chest before the pastor during the communion.

**DEAR VISITORS** We recognize this communion practice is a sensitive issue for many, therefore we have prepared a brochure to explain it more fully. These are available in the entry to the sanctuary. See Pastor for questions.

**In Our Prayers Medical Care** Dale Berg, Heather Davis, Tom Fedrigo, Abbey Franzen, Sandra Grimsley, Brenda Hammer, Sharon Hiser, Linda Holste, Dennis Meseke, Russell Phillips, Patti Smith Sessions, Shirley Siddens, Evelyn Shumaker

**Homebound:** Linda Holste, Norma Siebert, Kay Traub

**9/10/2023 Offerings** \$14,955.48; Includes: IRA/ Gift in Kind \$2,568.19; Sanctuary Renovation \$200.00.

**2024 Budget Meeting:** Stewardship's 2024 Budget Meeting is scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the conference room.

**Financial Update** An additional \$13,000 was borrowed on August 31 from our line of credit with the bank to meet our regular monthly expenses, making the total borrowed this summer \$23,000.

**Dear Congregation Members,** The Board of Elders has been approached in regard to offering communion every Sunday and we would like your input on this subject. We feel that it is important that all communicant members give prayerful consideration about the practice and voice their opinions in a survey that we will conduct beginning on September 9<sup>th</sup> and end on October 15<sup>th</sup>. We will review and tally the survey results and share them at the October Voter's Assembly Meeting. We will then further discuss any additional questions/concerns to assist in making a well-informed decision. If you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Elders. Thank you.

**\*Note from Pastor Wright:** Recovering the practice of every Sunday communion in no way diminishes the promise and spiritual benefit of the Lord's Supper. It is "special" because of our need for forgiveness and the words of Jesus, "This is my body/blood, given for you, for the forgiveness of your sins."

<u>Mon. Sept 18</u>	6:30 PM	2024 Budget Meeting
<u>Tues. Sept 19</u>	8:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
	4:30 PM – 9:00 PM	LWML Fall Rally
<u>Wed. Sept 20</u>	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Study
	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Class
	3:30 PM	Public School Confirmation Class
	7:15 PM	Women's Bible Study
	7:15 PM	Mixed Choir Practice
<u>Thur. Sept 21</u>	1:00 PM	Sewing Seeds of Kindness
	7:00 PM	Stewardship Board Meeting
<u>Fri. Sept 22</u>	-----	-----
<u>Sat. Sept 23</u>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Worship/Holy Communion</b>
<u>Sun. Sept 24</u>	8:00 AM	Men's Choir Practice
	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship/Holy Communion</b>
	9:45 AM	Bible Class (Lower Level)
	9:45 AM	Children's Sunday School
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship/Holy Communion</b>
	5:00 PM	Jr High Together Time
	6:45 PM	Sr High Together Time
		Media DVD to Tower – Bill Laatsch

"No matter what our days bring, God is the answer. His love never ends. His strength is our strength. He cares about each one of us in the most intimate of relationships. Through Jesus, we are His beloved children. We are here, in the land of the living, for His good purpose and at His will. Each day is a day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" *Barbara Lane Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Altamont Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League - Fall Rally**

Tuesday, **September 19<sup>th</sup>** at Immanuel 4:30 PM– 9:00 PM with 4:30PM registration and Rally beginning at 5PM. Theme is "Abound in Love for One Another." Free-will offering dinner will be served in the Parish Hall. Ingathering Project: Altamont Food Pantry.

**ALIS Focus Group: September 19<sup>th</sup>**, 6:30-7:30 pm in the ALIS Cafeteria. All are welcome whether you are connected to ALIS or not. Every person's opinion is valuable.

**Pork Burger Sale:** The SEA LLL will have a Pork Burger Sale and Bake Sale on the Triangle in Altamont on Saturday **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 11 to 1 pm. Set up and grilling will begin at 9:30 AM. Proceeds from this sale will help fund the Lutheran Hour Broadcast on the Vandalia Rodio station. Baked goods should be brought to the Triangle by 10:30 AM. We will need several volunteers to help grill, and other tasks to carry out this fund-raising

project. Contact Raymond at 618-267-6909 to volunteer or with any questions, contact Larry L. Wachtel 217-341-1402.

**Handbell Rehearsals** resume this month on Wednesday, **September 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>** at 6:15 PM.

**Mixed Choir Rehearsals** will resume this month on **September 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>** at 7:15PM.

**Grieving Together** grief support will meet here at Immanuel on Tuesday, **Sept 26<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 AM.

**Faith and Life Class** will begin on Tuesday, **September 26** from 6:30-8:00 in the church office conference room. We will be learning the basics of the Christian faith and what it means to be part of a Christian congregation like Immanuel. All are invited.

**Prayer Campaign for Life:** Our Church will soon be participating in the annual "Prayer Campaign for Life," 40 days focused on building a pro-life culture. We will be joining people of faith across our nation to pray, fast, and serve to end abortion and to fight physician-assisted suicide. Immanuel's prayer days are **Friday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, Sept 30.** Sign up to pray for 30 minutes. Sign-up sheets will be at all three entrances to church. Pastor will provide a prayer list. God heard the pro-life prayers of our nation, and blessed us by overturning Roe v. Wade in 2022. What a huge victory! We have the wonderful opportunity to pray in thanksgiving for this gift. Unfortunately, the average number of abortions committed in our state increased by over 1,300 per month after Roe was overturned. People in surrounding states view our state as an abortion "haven", since Illinois has no abortion restrictions. We have much to pray for!

**Life Chain 2023:** Sunday, **October 1,** Respect Life Sunday, 1:30 pm – Prayer Service, Sacred Heart Parish Center, 407 S Henrietta Street, Effingham. 2:00 –3:00 pm Life Chain on Keller Drive.

### **COMBINE CHOIRS for REFORMATION RALLY:**

In preparation for the celebrating the 506<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a Reformation Choir is being organized. Here are the details: Practices will be held at Bethlehem on **October 8, 15 and 22** from 3:00-4:00 pm. The choir will sing at the Oct. 29, 5pm. Bethlehem is hosting the service. Singers are being solicited from all the four Churches that make up this annual Reformation Celebratory Service. A festive musical arrangement is planned for the choir! Dean Manuel, Director 618-267-7914.

**Pork Burger Sale:** 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will have a Pork Burger and Dessert Sale in the Immanuel Parking Lot on Sat **Oct 7<sup>th</sup>** from 10:30AM–1:00PM.

**Heather Davis Benefit** will be held on Saturday, **October 28<sup>th</sup>** at the Carriage House Event Center from 3 – 10:30PM. Please join us for a catered meal, live/silent auctions, music and more. To make an auction item donation, contact Amy Frederking at 217-821-1146 / Jessica Grobengieser at 217-821-2498. Heather is an Immanuel member and serves as the head cook at ALIS. Please continue to keep Heather and her family in your prayers.