

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

## Altamont, Illinois



*“The Workers in the Vineyard”*

### **The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 24, 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

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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 Fedrigon, Abbey Franzen, Brenda Hammer, Linda Holste, Dennis Meseke, Russell Phillips, Patti Smith Sessions, Shirley Siddens, Evelyn Shumaker, Marlene Stuckemeyer

**Prayers** for Clark and Delaney Schulze at the death of Clark's mother, Shirley, on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Homebound:** Howard Voelker, Judy Voelker, Jenny Wendling

**Baptism** today at our 8:30 service. August Richard Alwardt was born on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and is the son of Tyler Alwardt and Gretchen (Simpson) Alwardt. Sponsors are Danielle Alwardt and Derrick Alwardt. Please keep August, his parents, and sponsors in your prayers.

**Thank You:** I want to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, and concerns following my heart attack and surgery. A special thank you to Pastor Gaylord Spilker for visiting me before surgery.

God Bless,  
*Sandy Grimsley*

**Women's Bible Class:** A new study entitled, "Living Above Worry and Stress" has started at Vicki Robinson's home on Monday mornings at 9 AM.

**Usher Schedules:** The usher schedules for October through December are ready and now in the narthex. Please pick up your copy.

**9/17/2023 Offerings:** \$11,405.00 Includes:  
Sanctuary Renovation \$90.00; Memorial Dale Stuemke \$485.00; Sanc. Reno Memorial Dale Stuemke \$25.00; AfterSchool Care \$740.00

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

<u>Mon. Sept 25</u>	9:00 AM	Women's Bible Study at V. Robinson
	7:30 PM	Elders Meeting
<u>Tues. Sept 26</u>	8:00 AM	Women's Bible Study Parish Hall
	10:00 AM	Grieving Together – at Immanuel
	6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Faith and Life Class with Pastor
<u>Wed. Sept 27</u>	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Study
	3:30 PM	Public School Confirmation Class
	6:15 PM	Handbells Practice
	7:15 PM	Mixed Choir Practice
<u>Thur. Sept 28</u>	1:00 PM	Sewing Seeds of Kindness
<u>Fri. Sept 29</u>	-----	-----
<u>Sat. Sept 30</u>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Worship/Holy Communion</b>
<u>Sun. Oct 1</u>	<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 – Bob Mayhaus

"Every human life meets us as gift and privilege, created and redeemed and called by our Lord as His own precious treasure from fertilization to forever. And our life-affirming witness and service is surrounded and celebrated by a magnificent multitude of like-minded saints gone before, yet to come, and the world over." *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Grieving Together** grief support will meet here at Immanuel this Tuesday at 10 AM.

**Faith and Life Class** will begin this Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 PM 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.

**Intentional Parenting Bible Study** will start on October 1<sup>st</sup> during Sunday School in the lower level of the parish hall.

**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, September 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>**. 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!

**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.

**From the Pastor:** Elevating the sermon above the Lord's Supper with regard to how often we receive it is not something supported by the Holy Scriptures. For the sake of those who need the Lord's Supper more often, we should be able to offer it more frequently than every 14 days.

**150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Cookbook** Remember to submit 2 of your favorite recipes no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>! You may either drop your recipes in the boxes at the entrances at church, or you may email your recipes to [Immanuelrecipe@gmail.com](mailto:Immanuelrecipe@gmail.com)

**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.

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

**Food Pantry:** Tuesday, September 12 had a total of 27 participants.

### **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.

**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.

**Mental Health First Aid Training:** The Effingham County Health Dept has an ARISE grant that is covering the cost of a Mental Health First Aid Training. This FREE training is open to ALL community members. The training will be held at the Altamont First United Methodist church on Wednesday, October 18th from 8:30 am-4:30pm. Lunch will be provided. To register call 1-217-708-5709 & ask for Lyndsey.