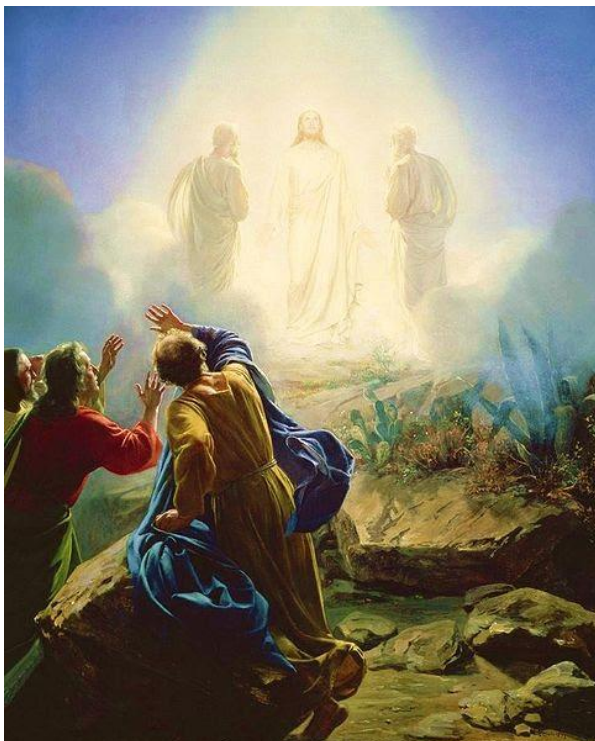


# Immanuel Lutheran Church

## Altamont, Illinois



***Fifth Sunday after Epiphany***

***February 11, 2024***

Church	618-483-6395	<a href="http://www.immanuelaltamont.org">www.immanuelaltamont.org</a>
Office Hours	Monday-Friday	9AM-Noon & 1PM-4PM
Rev. Dr. James F. Wright, Pastor	217-994-1116	<a href="mailto:jimwright1961@gmail.com">jimwright1961@gmail.com</a>
Kendra Walker Dir of Youth/Fam	217-821-7249	<a href="mailto:kmwalker79@yahoo.com">kmwalker79@yahoo.com</a>
Church Secretary	618-483-6395	<a href="mailto:immalt22@gmail.com">immalt22@gmail.com</a>
Missionary		Rev. Ted Krey, Dominican Republic

### **Welcome Guests**

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 more fully and available in the entry to the sanctuary. See Pastor for questions.

## **In Our Prayers**

**Medical Care** Dale Berg, Tom Campbell, Heather Davis, Abbey Franzen, Sharon Hiser, Linda Holste, Edith Miller, Kenny Milleville, Ruth Ann Owens, Brandi Pitcher, Lucille Schroeder, Patti Smith Sessions, Evelyn Shumaker, Shirley Siddens, Jennifer Wendling. **Homebound** Don Ousley, Ruth Ann Owens, Evelyn Shumaker

**2/4/24 Offerings:** \$27,988.35 Includes: IRA/Gift in Kind \$5,650.00; Fair Stand Proceeds \$6,829.30; Sanctuary Renovation \$1,150.00; Lutheran Hour Ministries \$80.00

**Audits** Any service group at the church who has a checking or savings account needs to provide their books for financial audit to the church office.

**Envelopes** If you have not been using envelopes for several years, you may not have designated ones at present, however if you do prefer to have envelopes, please contact Barbara Busby to receive.

**Giving Statements** have been mailed. Please check your statement for accuracy, and contact Barbara Busby at the church office with any questions.

## This Week At A Glance

<b>Mon. Feb 12</b>	9:00 AM	Vicki's Bible Study
<b>Tues. Feb 13</b>	8:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
	1:30 PM	Church History Book Meeting/Conf Rm
<b>Wed. Feb 14</b>	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Study
	3:30 PM	Public School Confirmation Class
	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	<b>6;30 PM</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Service</b>
	7:30 PM	Mixed Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thur. Feb 15</b>	1:00 PM	Sewing Seeds of Kindness
<b>Fri. Feb 16</b>	-----	-----
<b>Sat. Feb 17</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sun. Feb 18</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
	9:30 AM	Directory Group Photos (detail in bulletin)
	9:45 AM	Children's Sunday School
	9:45 AM	Pastor's Bible Study
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service w/ Holy Communion</b>
		<b>Media Com DVD to tower – Phil Grimsley</b>
	5:00 PM	Together Time Jr
	6:15 PM	Together Time Sr

Media DVD to Tower – Phil Grimsley

We live dripping with the promise of Baptism. We live fueled by the fire of God's Word. We live created on the sixth day and recreated by God's grace to be followers of Jesus seven days of the week until that great eighth day, called eternity, when we will sing praise in His presence forever. We live and we love and we are loved in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, sin forgiven, shame erased, status: all very good." *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

## Fundraisers

**30<sup>TH</sup> Annual ALIS PTL Dinner/Auction** will be on Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> at the Carriage House Event Center. Social hour, silent auction, and meal are from 4:30-6 PM. Live auction at 6:30 PM & evening concludes with music by Thunder Road. \$25 per person. Seating reservations available on a first-come basis for \$300 (table of 8). **RSVP by Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** to Jennifer Milleville: 217-821-1898L or Robin Elam: 618-204-0397. LYF will provide babysitting. See LYF section for details.

**23rd Annual Pork Dinner** will be Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall from 11 AM until 1 PM. The dinner is one week later than usual to allow all members to attend the special church service on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The menu is as follows: grilled pork loin, baked potato, baked beans, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, dinner roll and dessert. Other meat options are pork burger or hot dog. Pork Loin Dinner: \$15 / Porkburger Dinner: \$7. Children ages 4 and under eat free.

We need your help!! Please volunteer a couple hours of your day to work the dinner. Watch for work sign-up sheets in the narthex. As always, more hands make the load lighter.

**LYF Participation Dates**

**Together Time** – 2/18, 3/3, 3/17

**ALIS Auction PTL Dinner Auction** LYF will provide babysitting from 4-10 PM in the PH basement. Free-will donation is appreciated. Please register your children online or contact Kendra at 217-821-7249 / [kmwalker79@yahoo.com](mailto:kmwalker79@yahoo.com).

**Lenten Meals** after services except not on Ash Wednesday – 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20

**Pork Dinner March 10<sup>th</sup>** LYF will help with drinks, clean up, and general tasks.

**Easter Breakfast 3/31** LYF will host a light Easter Breakfast after the Sunrise Service. We will have baked items, fruit, and drinks. Please sign up to help on linktree.

**Church Directory** If you are a member of any of these groups, please be available for photos in the sanctuary following the 8:30 service:

**February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Chair / Vice Chair	Stewardship Committee	Greeters
Elders / Trustees	Secretary	Ushers
Board of Christian Ed.		

**February 18<sup>th</sup>**

Praise Team	Envelope Committee	LCC Board Members
	Financial Secretaries	Interparish Board

## **Current Bible Study & Learning Opportunities**

**Pastor's Bible Class** 9:45AM in LL on Sundays. Current Study: Heroes of The Old Testament-Abraham

**Grief Group** meets on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM (Immanuel).

**Women's Bible Study** in PH at 8:00 AM on Tuesdays with Ruth Spilker. New Study starts February 6<sup>th</sup> on the Book of Psalms.

**Men's Bible Study** in PH at 6:15AM Wednesdays. Current Study: Book of Hebrews

**Women's Bible Study** at Vicki Robinson's 9 AM on Mondays. Current Study: Matthew

**Women's Bible Study with Andy** on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 PM in the Conference Room. Current Study: Book of Job

## **Upcoming Events**

**60th Wedding Anniversary** Arthur Trost and Judy (Bartimus) Trost were married on March 1, 1964 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The children are inviting family and friends to join in an open house celebration of this wonderful couple at the Altamont Municipal Bldg on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2 – 5PM. No gifts please. They would love your well wishes and congratulations.

**Lutheran Laymen's League Convention** is Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at Immanuel. Lutheran Hour Speaker, Michael Zeigler will be here. Lunch will be served. Registration fee is \$25 and registration forms are required and need to be sent in to the CID. Forms with addressed envelopes are in the narthex.

### **April 17th Illinois March for Life in Springfield, IL**

Illinois March for Life will be on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The bus will leave from the Parish Hall Parking Lot at 8:00AM that day. Please sign up for the bus on sheet in the narthex. Bring a sack lunch, or if you choose to donate, you can have lunch at the Statehouse Inn Ballroom. See flyer in narthex for other information.

## **Volunteer Opportunities and Needs**

### **Sewing Seeds of Kindness Group**

Needs good used sewing machines. Contact Marilyn Winter to donate. 618-553-6023.

**Lutheran Care Center Activities** needs donation items (snack crackers, small cookie pkgs, bite-sized candy bars, holiday door

hangers, hard candies, tissue boxes, gift cards (McDonalds, Joe's Pizza, Andrews Eats, etc).

## **Community**

**Caring for the Caregiver Free Event** February 16<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 6 PM at the Effingham Event Center. Light refreshments, no rsvp required, and respite care will be provided.

**St. Peter's Lutheran Men's Club Sausage Supper** will be on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Serving begins at 5 PM in the St. Peter's Lutheran School Gym with carry-outs available.

**First United Methodist Church** will be hosting a soup supper on Sunday, March 3rd from 4-7 PM. All are welcome!

**Food Pantry** We had a total of 37 participants last week.

**St Clare Catholic Church Breakfast** will be having a Sausage Breakfast on February 18th from 7:30 AM – 12PM. The menu includes sausage patties, country ham, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, sweet rolls, beverages. Free-will donation will be accepted.

## **Travel Opportunity**

### **Greece Tour 2024**

Pastor Wright will host a tour of the places St. Paul preached the Gospel November 5-15, 2024. Brochures are available at the in the Narthex and at [immanuelaltamont.org](http://immanuelaltamont.org).

### **Pure Germany! 2024**

Pomerania, Lutherland & Northern Bavaria Sept.11-23, 2024

This trip is open to all, but if your ancestors emigrated from northeast Germany (Pomerania), you will want to consider signing-up for Pure Germany! 2024. This is a special-customized 12-day tour of northeast Germany, Luther Heritage sites, and northern Bavaria.

Described as an "amazing trip" by a former traveler-participant, this tour is a one-of-a-kind journey toward discovering your roots. "I don't know what else I could have asked for," shared John Schultz of North Tonawanda, NY (2022 tour participant).

If you or someone you know would like to learn more, contact Jim Yagow at [jimyagow@aol.com](mailto:jimyagow@aol.com) or call (920) 809-4445.

## **Caring for My Neighbor**

*LCMS Stewardship Ministry*

*Newsletter Article – February 2024*

If any of the Ten Commandments might tempt us to think that keeping the Law is easy, it would be the Fifth Commandment. After all, how hard is it to get through life without murdering somebody? The vast majority of people can handle that!

But Jesus famously blows up this notion by pointing out that the command, “you shall not murder,” goes much deeper — down to the heart.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matt. 5:21–22)

Hatred and disdain come from the same sort of crookedness of heart as murder. With both murder and hatred, you look down on another person and think them of little worth.

In the Small Catechism, Luther also points out that every “do not” in the commandments also includes a “do this:” “We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but help and support him in every physical need” (SC, Fifth Commandment, emphasis added).

We are not called merely to avoid evil; we must also do positive good.

So when Jesus drew near to us and became our neighbor by taking up our humanity, He came not only to avoid harming us, but He came to positively help us, bless us and serve us.

We are now called to show the love to our neighbors that Christ showed to us. Your neighbor is yet another gift that God has given you that requires your stewardship. We are called to show mercy, to be kind, to love and serve our neighbor. One aspect of this stewardship is financial: our neighbors need us to support the church’s work so that they can hear the Gospel and come to faith. Our neighbors need the church’s alms and mercy work. Our neighbors need our faithful service in all we do in the name of Christ.

