

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Altamont, Illinois



First Sunday in Lent ***February 18, 2024***

Church	618-483-6395	www.immanuelaltamont.org
Office Hours	Monday-Friday	9AM-Noon & 1PM-4PM
Rev. Dr. James F. Wright, Pastor	217-994-1116	jimwright1961@gmail.com
Kendra Walker Dir of Youth/Fam	217-821-7249	kmwalker79@yahoo.com
Church Secretary	618-483-6395	immalt22@gmail.com
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.

Holy Communion will be offered every Sunday through Lent.

In Our Prayers

Medical Care Dale Berg, Tom Campbell, Heather Davis, Abbey Franzen, Sharon Hiser, Linda Holste, Edith Miller, Kenny Milleville, Ruth Ann Owens, Lucille Schroeder, Patti Smith Sessions, Evelyn Shumaker, Shirley Siddens, Jennifer Wendling. **Homebound** Norma Siebert, Kay Traub, Linda Holste. Prayers of comfort for the family of Brandi Pilcher.

Thank You received from Pastor and Lisa's friend, Ron Warsaw: "Thank you very much for allowing Pastor Wright to come to Houston to be with Susan and me. It was very comforting to us for him to be there during her final days."

Lucille Schroeder 98th Birthday Cards for Feb 21 can be sent c/o Harrison's Crossing, 395 8th Avenue, Terre Haute, IN 47804

Fiscal

2/11/24 Offerings \$15,092.94 Includes: IRA/Gift in Kind \$284.04
After School Care \$100.00 **January Vanco Giving & E-Giving** \$6,822.05

If you have **Giving Envelope # 205, please contact Barb Busby at 618-694-5499.

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.

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 by **March 4th**.

This Week At A Glance

CEFS Week 1

Mon. Feb 19	9:00 AM	Vicki's Bible Study
Tues. Feb 20	8:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
Wed. Feb 21	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Study
	3:30 PM	Public School Confirmation Class
	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:30 PM	Lenten Service with Meal After
	7:30 PM	Bible Study with Kendra Lower Level
	7:30 PM	Mixed Choir Rehearsal
Thur. Feb 22	1:00 PM	Sewing Seeds of Kindness
Fri. Feb 23	-----	-----
Sat. Feb 24	6:00 PM	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sun. Feb 25	8:00 AM	Men's Choir Practice
	8:30 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:45 AM	Children's Sunday School
	9:45 AM	Pastor's Bible Study
	11:00 AM	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
		Media DVD to Tower – Bill Laatsch

"The state can punish offenders, but it can't give birth to law-abiding citizens. The state cannot love or nurture a child. It takes a family. A radical thought, that, but off limits in our public conversations swept clean of moral discourse. Pray that this will change." *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Flowers

Easter Flowers Orders are being taken now: **Deadline to order is March 4.** [See back page for information and form.](#)

Flowers are Lilies, Hyacinths and Hydrangeas, Tulips (Limit 12)

Weekly flower sign up is in the parish hall. If you would like to provide flowers for the altar, please sign on the date you will be doing so.

150th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

There will be a fully catered 150th Anniversary Celebration Dinner on March 3 after the 10:00 AM service. Free will offerings will be accepted. Pastor Ross and family will be with us. One service only at 10 AM.

Ladies Aid

Reminder to pick up your serving dishes/containers from the kitchen.

Fundraisers

30TH Annual ALIS PTL Dinner/Auction will be on Saturday, Feb. 24th 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. 12th** to Jennifer Milleville: 217-821-1898. LYF will provide babysitting. See LYF section for details.

Lutheran Care Center Congregational Service and Auction

A congregational service for all congregations that currently own Lutheran Care Center will be held at 2:30 PM on Sunday, March 3rd at St. John's Lutheran Church in Effingham. This event will allow all members to come together to worship, have fellowship, and enjoy a pastoral bake off with auctioneer, Trent Schmidt. Refreshments and the bake off will follow the service of scripture and songs. Pastor Wright's dessert will be included in the auction. Our members will want to cheer for him and bid on his scrumptious donation. All monetary donations go to LCC. Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you are attending and/or if you are providing a dessert. Contact Kathy Corder 618.367.4495 if you wish to donate towards this charitable cause. **FYI** This event is being held in place of the annual LCC dinner auction.

23rd Annual Pork Dinner will be Sunday, March 10th 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 3rd. 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.

Pork Dinner Worker sign-up sheets are in the narthex, along with a sheet to order a half pork loin, and a sheet for bringing a dessert. We need your help!! Please volunteer a couple hours of your day to work the dinner. 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.

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

Pork Dinner March 10th 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 today following the 8:30 service: **February 18th**

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-Jacob

Women's Bible Study titled "*Sip, Savor and Drink Deeply Receive God's Overflowing Gifts*" will start February 21st after the Lent service (approx 7:30pm) in the lower level of parish hall. There are 7 sessions. Anyone who would like to join us can purchase a copy of the book on Amazon for \$9.99.

Grief Group meets on February 20th at 10 AM (Immanuel).

Women's Bible Study in PH at 8:00 AM on Tuesdays with Ruth Spilker. New Study starts February 6th 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 14th and 28th 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 2nd from 2 – 5PM. No gifts please. They would love your well wishes and congratulations.

Lutheran Laymen's League Convention In years past it was impossible to have the "Lutheran Hour" Speaker to come to our District because he is so busy. Guess what? We have him coming to our LLL Convention in Altamont. Join the Central Illinois LLL District at their annual convention hosted at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont, Illinois on March, 9, 2024. All are welcome to attend.

Our guest speaker is Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of the Lutheran Hour® focusing on Energizing Mission. Other highlights include four breakout sessions to encourage the faith community. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. with the convention beginning at 9:00 a.m. Registration fee is \$25 which includes lunch. Join us for a day of spiritual growth with inspirational presentations to encourage and equip you as partners in His mission. Complete the registration form in the narthex and return. Addressed envelopes are in the narthex. If you have any questions or need more information you can contact Deloris by phone: 309.361.1461; email: Delorisblessman@yahoo.com Registration deadline is March 5, 2024. We need a count for lunch.

April 17th Illinois March for Life in Springfield, IL

Illinois March for Life will be on April 17th. 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 Needs

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

Food Pantry

We had a total of 35 participants last week.

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

St Clare Catholic Church Breakfast will be having a Sausage Breakfast today, February 18th from 7:30 AM – 12PM.

Chili Soup Supper The Altamont First United Methodist Church at 308 N 2nd, is holding a fundraiser chili/soup supper on March 3rd from 4 to 7PM in the fellowship hall. They will be taking a free will donation

1st Annual Zion Lutheran Breakfast & Bake Sale at ALIS Gym on Sunday, March 17th from 9:30AM to 1 PM. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and drinks served for a free-will offering. Proceeds from the benefits will be divided into thirds to ALIS Playground Equipment, LCC and Zion Lutheran Church.

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.

Pure Germany! 2024

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

To learn more contact Jim Yagow at jimyagow@aol.com or call (920) 809-4445.

What Is Lent?

Lent is the time of preparation before Easter. It lasts for six weeks, not counting the Sundays in Lent, which are short reprieves from Lenten discipline. During Lent Christians observe a time of fasting, self-discipline, and spiritual devotion to Jesus. In Lutheranism, fasting is not emphasized to earn God's favor, but to connect with the suffering of Jesus through appreciation for all the discomfort he endured to win salvation for his people. The main purpose of Lent is to set aside time to reflect upon the Savior, his humiliation, suffering, death, burial, and resurrection. Through these things he won salvation for us.

The forty days period of Lent is based upon two Bible stories, the forty-year journey of the Hebrews from Egypt to the promised land, where their faithfulness was tested, and upon the forty-day fasting of Jesus in the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil. In the case of the Hebrews, they were not found worthy. All died on the journey, even Moses himself. Yet God continued to provide for them and their children who entered the land. Jesus, however, was victorious in his test, relying on the Word of God as his defense against temptation.

In the Bible, 40 holds special significance in that it is more than people can take by themselves. It rained for 40 days before the great flood. Moses fasted on the mountain 40 days before he received the Ten Commandments. The spies spent 40 days in the land of Canaan. Elijah traveled 40 days to reach the mountain of God in Sinai. Thirty-nine lashes whip was considered severe punishment without death.

Ash Wednesday is the first day in Lent. Pastors rub ashes on the heads of believers as a symbol of repentance and death. Lent culminates in Holy Week, where Christians observe the Last Supper of Jesus and the disciples, his crucifixion for our sins on Good Friday, and his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Take advantage of the self-discipline of Lent this year by reading the Bible, examining yourself according to the commandments of God, and praying that God would make you aware of all that he is doing for you as your savior and redeemer. Anything you do without during Lent can be given to the poor, that "The fasts of the rich are the feasts of the poor."

EASTER SUNDAY FLOWERS

If you are interested in helping decorate the Church for our Easter services, please fill out the form below. Either turn in to the church office or place it in the collection plate in an envelope along with a check made out to Immanuel Lutheran Church by **Monday, March 4, 2024**

Prices are as follows:

- Lilies:** 6" pot 1 plant- \$19.00
Two plants per pot - \$40.00
- Tulips:** 6-inch pot/6 bulbs- \$15.00
- Hyacinths:** 6-inch pot/
4 bulbs - \$15.00
- Hydrangeas** 6-inch pot- \$35.00

If you have any questions, call Diana Wendling 618-335-0067.

Name: _____

I wish to purchase (indicate flower type and quantity)

of plants _____

Type/s _____

in the amount of _____ total.

Please indicate in
In thankfulness or memory of

by _____

AND/OR

A Donation of _____ in thankfulness or memory of

by _____

LIMIT of 12 tulips for sale. We need more Easter Lilies.