

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Altamont, Illinois



***Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 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, Sam Byers, Tom Campbell, Heather Davis, Abbey Franzen, Sharon Hiser, Linda Holste, Edith Miller, Kenny Milleville, Mike Myers, 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.

Snow Removal Our thanks to Mike Hoffmeister, Matt, Jacob, and Jared Will and Merc for snow removal this past weekend.

Fiscal

2/18/24 Offerings \$11,568 Includes: After School Care \$50; Sanctuary Renovation \$40; Easter Flowers \$34

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**. (Please include check book, bank statements, and paid invoices.)

This Week At A Glance

CEFS Week 2

Mon. Feb 26	9:00 AM	Vicki's Bible Study
Tues. Feb 27	8:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
Wed. Feb 28	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	Bible Study with Andy Conference Room
	7:30 PM	Mixed Choir Rehearsal
Thur. Feb 29	1:00 PM	Sewing Seeds of Kindness
Fri. Mar 1	-----	-----
Sat. Mar 2	6:00 PM	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sun. Mar 3	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
	5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Together Time Media DVD to Tower – Bob Mayhaus

“Our Heavenly Father remains active and almighty, especially in the difficult circumstances that life issues involve. In joining Himself to us with His incarnation, wisdom, power, atonement, and resurrection, Jesus makes every human life blessed—and a blessing! He lovingly and ably handles decisions about welfare and affliction, life and death, so that we don't have to do it on our own.” *Pastor Michael Salemink – 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 and Dinner

Celebrate With Us on Sunday, March 3, 2024. There will be one service only for the weekend at 10:00 AM on Sunday. Former Associate pastor Bernard Ross and family will be our guest along with former choir director Marlene Krenzke. Sign up now for the free-will donation, fully catered meal following the service.

Ladies Aid

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

Journey to the Cross:

Join us for Journey to the Cross, an Easter learning experience on March 17th and March 24th during Sunday School. Smell the aroma of anointing perfume, taste Passover food, feel a crown of thorns, and so much more. Grab your passport and travel through sites Jesus visited from Palm Sunday through Easter. You will hear about Jesus from Bible witnesses and be a part of the Passion experience.

Lutheran Early Response Training Survey

Are you interested in helping a community recover after a natural disaster and showing the love of Christ? Your opinion can help LCMS Disaster Response and Training improve its organization and training of LERT volunteers so that they are ready to deploy when a natural disaster strikes. Please take a brief survey at lcms.org/lert-survey-congregation and let us know how we can improve LERT training and provide relief more effectively to natural disasters. **We would appreciate receiving all responses by March 15.** All responses are completely anonymous and confidential. Questions? Contact LCMS Church Information Center at [888-THE LCMS](tel:888-374-5267) (843-5267) or infocenter@lcms.org.

Fundraisers

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 – 3/3, 3/17 5-8 PM

Lenten Meals after services 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.

Current Bible Study & Learning Opportunities

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

Women's Bible Study titled "*Sip, Savor and Drink Deeply Receive God's Overflowing Gifts*" will start February 28th 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.

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 meeting after Lenten Services on Feb. 28th and March 13 at appx 7:30 PM. Back to normal at 7:15 PMon March 27.at 7:15 PM in the Conference Room. Current Study: Book of Job

Grief Group meets on March 19th at 10:00 AM at St John's in Effingham.

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

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. 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. Bus sign up sheet in narthex. Bring a sack lunch, or with a donation, you can have lunch at the Statehouse Inn Ballroom. Info flyer is in the narthex.

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 weekly total of 38 participants.

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.

History of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont (Part I)

German Lutherans came to this area from Buffalo, New York, in the 1850's. Many of them came from Prussia and Pomerania, now a part of Germany. When a number of Lutheran families settled in the newly organized town of Altamont, they decided to form a congregation of their own. Lutherans were meeting in homes with the Pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church leading them, but in a meeting held on February 2, 1874, the congregation was formally organized by signing a constitution. The founding members were Bernard Kopplin, Frederich Engel, Ferdinand Krueger, W. Krull, Herman Munzel, K. Peters, W. Schmiedeberg, K. Schmiedeberg, and August Vogt. The congregation affiliated with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod of St. Louis.

For the first five year the congregation continued with Pastor Wangerin of Bethlehem. In 1879 they called their first resident pastor, Rev. J. G. [Goesswein](#), who served here until 1887. They also bought a school house for and moved it to the block where the church now sits. This was the first house of worship and school.

In 1884 another church building became available and it was moved to the corner of North Edwards and East Division streets. Much remodeling and a steeple was added. This building was our center of worship until May 19, 1968 when the present sanctuary was built in its place.

The second pastor of Immanuel was Rev. G. C. Wegener, serving from 1884-1887. A classmate, Rev. L.J. Schwartz was called from Mt. Carrol, IL and served until 1893. Rev. H. Ruhland was the third pastor, coming from Manito, IL and serving until 1909. Immanuel celebrated 25 years of ministry in 1899 with former pastors [Goesswein](#), Schwartz, and Wegener preaching. Money was raised for a new pipe organ.

When Pastor Ruhland was called to Ottawa, Canada in 1909, the congregation called Rev. J. Hartmeister who served until 1918.

Christian education has always been a priority for the children of Immanuel. The pastors taught school from the earliest days until 1911 when the first full time teacher was called, George Alpers, from Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Nebraska. Three years later a teacher house was purchased for him to live in.

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.