

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Altamont, Illinois



1874 - 2024

*Third Sunday in Lent  
March 3, 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.

**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** Howard Voelker, Judy Voelker, Charla Wolff

**Prayers are requested for Susan Muenchow Bellas**, who is critically ill after a car accident in Colorado. Susan is the daughter of former Immanuel pastor Fred (Marlene) Muenchow, serving here 1986-2001.

**Congratulations on the Birth** of Kolt Matthew to Jason and Lauren Hooks of February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Charla Wolff 80th Birthday Cards** for March 6 can be sent to StoneBridge Memory Care, 1400 S 34<sup>th</sup> St, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864.

### **Fiscal**

**2/25/24 Offerings** Sunday \$13,627.95; Lent \$784; Includes; Easter flowers \$384.00; Chair Donation \$200.

**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

<b>Mon. Mar 4</b>	9:00 AM	Vicki's Bible Study
<b>Tues. Mar 5</b>	8:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
<b>Wed. Mar 6</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>Lenten Service with Meal After</b>
	7:30 PM	Bible Study "Sip Savor" with Kendra LL
	7:30 PM	Mixed Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thur. Mar 7</b>	1:00 PM	Sewing Seeds of Kindness
<b>Fri. Mar 8</b>	-----	-----
<b>Sat. Mar 9</b>	8:00 AM	Lutheran Laymen's League Convention
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sun. Mar 10</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
	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>
	11:00AM – 1:00PM	23 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Pork Dinner – Parish Hall

Media DVD to Tower – Jordan Seales

Greeters – Mike & Debbie Hanson (Sat.) / Pat Robinson (0830) / Eric & Sara Long (1100)

"[W]e were made for light and life. God's Word and Sacraments cast darkness aside in our lives; they draw us closer to Him and make us strong unto salvation ... cling to the promises of Christ. May we recognize that we are blessed For Life even when we are surrounded by darkness, and may we in our darkest seasons, through the work of the Holy Spirit, lean toward the Son for light and for hope."

Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

### 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.

### Flowers

**Altar Flowers** are provided this Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> in honor of Art and Judy Trost's 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Thank you and Happy Anniversary.

**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.

### **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](https://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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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.

**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 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.

## **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 meet after the Lent services (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. Current study is 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 Service on March 13 at appx 7:30 PM. Back to normal at 7:15 PM on March 27.at 7:15 PM in the Conference Room. Current Study: Book of Job

**Grief Group** meets on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at St John's in Effingham.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **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 17<sup>th</sup>. The bus will leave from the Parish Hall Parking Lot at 7:30 AM 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 have been serving around 40 people weekly in the food pantry. Our current needs are: *Hamburger Helpers, Ramen, fruit, canned meals, chunky soups, canned potatoes.* Thank you for all you do! Gene and Kris

**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.

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Zion Lutheran Breakfast & Bake Sale** at ALIS Gym on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 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](http://immanuelaltamont.org).

## **History of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont (Part II)**

In October of 1918 Pastor Hartmeister left for a call in Storm Lake, IA. Because of the Spanish influenza epidemic, no services were held from November until Christmas that year. The pastor mailed his farewell sermon to the members. In 1919 Rev. M.O. Burkhard began 22 years of ministry at Immanuel. The Immanuel Ladies Aid society began during his pastorate.

The services were given in the German language until 1922 when there were two English services each month. From 1932 two services were offered each Sunday, one in each language. By 1941 meetings were recorded in English. From then on one German language communion service was offered once each month until 1988.

Pastor Burkhardt died in 1941 and Rev. Dr. M. J. Naumann was called as pastor from Germany, where he was serving. In 1946 Pastor Naumann was called to teach at Concordia Theological Seminary in

Springfield, IL, and Rev. John W. Meyer of New Germany, MN was installed at Immanuel, serving until 1954. By this time the congregation had grown to 500 members. Rev. Hans Bruss accepted the call to serve Immanuel until 1960. During this time the Men's Club was very active, promoting membership in the Lutheran Laymen's League and supporting Immanuel School. The food stand at the fair was a major source of funds. The annual Reformation Rally brought thousands to the fair stadium to hear Dr. Walter A. Meier of Lutheran Hour fame.

In 1959 the congregation-built Immanuel School, the present-day building that houses Altamont Lutheran Interparish School. The faculty of the new school included Mrs. Rose Popp, Mrs. Ruth Jesgarz, Mr. Elroy Heimsoth and Mr. Richard Popp. In 1965 Mr. Herb Becker was installed as teacher and principal. He also played organ for church services, conducted the choir, and began the annual Christmas choir cantata. After years of planning, ALIS was formed in 1973. St. Paul Lutheran Church of Blue Point donated two classrooms to the building.

After the debt for the school structure was paid off, a building effort began to replace the church building. After the church was demolished and a new church constructed, the building was dedicated on September 7, 1969 with Pastors Bruss, Meyer, and Moehring officiating.

Rev. Erwin Moehring was installed in 1961, serving for almost 19 years before retiring.

When Pastor Moehring retired in 1979, many calls went unanswered for a new pastor. In 1981 Rev. John Brandt was called as his successor until 1985. Rev. Fred A. Muenchow was installed in 1986, serving for 15 years. From the 1980's through 2010 retired ministers Reinhart Krueger, Karl Weinrich, and Glenn Renken served as part-time visitation pastors.

By 1992 the church had grown to 958 baptized members. Vern Spilker was called as Director of Family, Youth, and Education in 1997, serving until 2014. The Walther League began in the 1920's as a ministry for youth, becoming Lutheran Youth Fellowship with junior and senior high groups. Contemporary worship was introduced in 1998 during the 11:00 AM Sunday hour with members singing and playing instruments. The 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation was celebrated in 1999.

## 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.**