

IMMANUEL IMAGE

December

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Fargo, ND
Volume 52, Edition 12
2018



What Child Is This?

What Child is This? The angel answers the question this way in the presence of the shepherds: "A Savior, who is Christ

the Lord" (Luke 2:11). The hymn-writer answers it this way: "This, this is Christ the king." They want to leave us with no doubt regarding the identity of this child. This Advent and Christmas series will once again focus our eyes on the unmatched blessing of our Lord's incarnation.

Advent 1, Dec 5th; 4:15 & 6 pm – "The Child Who Is Zechariah's Hope"

Advent 2, Dec 12th; 4:15 & 6 pm – "The Child Who Is a Virgin's Great Son"

Advent 3, Dec 19th; 4:15 & 6 pm – "The Child Who Is John's Joy"

Sunday, Dec 23rd – Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve, 4:15 & 6 pm – "The Child Who Is the Lord"

Christmas Day, 10 am – "In the Fullness of Time"



Daily **Advent devotion books** and artistically designed children's books for the youngest ones – both with the same theme – will be made available to all of our

families at Immanuel. Day by day, our Advent devotions will reflect on the Scriptures and the beloved hymn, What Child is This, to proclaim the story of the little child who is also fully God, who took on human flesh and blood so that "nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you."

The whole series of daily devotions and weekly Advent services will give us a greater appreciation for the full range of blessings that are ours through faith in the Christ Child who is God from before the foundations of the world, and who was born of the Virgin Mary.

Also available: paper copies of the Lutheran Hour Ministries publication, "The Coming King" are located on the green table in the Welcome Hall –

free of charge.

Or, you may prefer to visit the webpage to download the document and print for yourself: <https://www.lhm.org/advent>

Meals served from 5-5:45 pm:

Dec 5 - LSF serves Sloppy Joes

Dec 12 - LWML Serves potatoes, chili, & hot dogs

Dec 19 - LYF going to National Youth Gathering will serve Soup & Sandwiches.

Children's Christmas Service

Practices are December 2nd and 9th from 1-3 pm. The **Children's Christmas Service** will be held on **December 16th at 3:00 pm**. There will be treats for all in the Celebration Center after the service, furnished and served by LWML.

Christmas Giving Tree: Immanuel has again participated in the First Link Giving Tree to provide 50 gifts to people in the community. The gifts will need to be returned no later than 12 noon on **Dec. 16th**. Thank you for brightening Christmas!

Caroling!

Pastor Schulz and LSF invite you to join in Christmas caroling to homebound members on **Sunday, Dec. 9th**. We'll meet at the church at **4:00pm** and carpool to a few north Fargo locations. All ages are welcome. Please contact Pastor with any questions.



If you enjoy singing Christmas Carols *indoors*, come to the Welcome Hall at **9:15 am on December 23rd** with Pam Sommer.

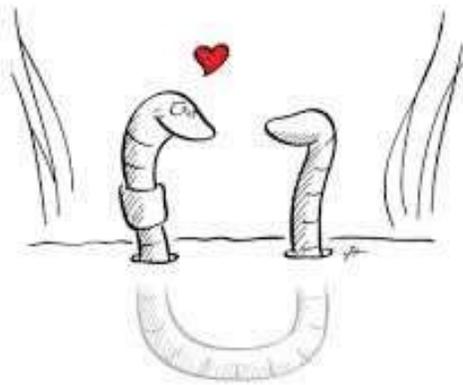


*This year's cooperative **New Year's Eve worship service** will be held at **7:00 pm** at Grace Lutheran Church, with Pastor Schulz preaching the sermon that night. Help bring in the new year, praising our God!*



“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 2:3-5)

Narcissism is on the rise. People are becoming entirely self-absorbed to the point they cannot recognize the plight of others. We see ourselves and our reflection in the mirror...and no further it seems.



There are a number of films that have narcissists for their main characters: Gas lighting, Rain Man, Fatal Attraction, The Devil Wears Prada, Anchorman, and even Iron Man. The list is much longer...and if you start watching for it...you'll find a lot more!

There was an article in the Guardian recently about how people are swarming to national parks.

Horseshoe Bend overlooking the Colorado, which flows into the Grand Canyon, is one example. It went from a few thousand visits per year to 100,000 in 2010 the same year Instagram was launched. By 2015 an estimated 750,000 people made the trek. And why?

“Social media is the number one driver,” said Maschelle Zia, who manages Horseshoe Bend for the Glen Canyon national recreation area. “People don’t come here for solitude. They are looking for the iconic photo.”

But self-absorption didn’t arrive with the advent of Immanuel Image, December 2018

selfies on cell phones. St Augustine coined the phrase “incurvatus in se” to describe the human condition that is curved in on itself. All we can see at times is our own belly button! Martin Luther expanded on this phrase in his commentary on the book of Romans:

“Our nature, by the corruption of the first sin, being so deeply curved in on itself that it not only bends the best gifts of God towards itself and enjoys them (as is plain in the works-righteous and hypocrites), or rather even uses God himself in order to attain these gifts, but it also fails to realize that is so wickedly, curvedly, and viciously seeks all things, even God, for its own sake.”

But Christ has set us free from the self-concern for ourselves. He has liberated from our bondage to sin and death. No longer do we have to prove ourselves to God, but we are approved in the death and resurrection of Christ! And he gives us a new live to live...no longer concerned for ourselves, but concerned for others. Our mind is the same as that of Christ Jesus who left the glories of heaven, assumed our human nature and suffered and died on the cross for our sins. The life of Christ teaches us, nay equips us, to live a life lived toward others.

Pastor Worral

Offering Envelopes



Giving Envelopes are now available in the Welcome Hall. Please remember to WAIT until 2019 to use the new envelopes. Each box has a little pink information sheet on the procedure for online giving to Immanuel through

Vanco, our online giving portal. The Board of Stewardship also reminds you that **Promise Cards** for 2019 will be accepted throughout December at the Sign-Up Center, or in the office.

The Immanuel Image is edited by Parish Administrative Assistant, Louise M. Tegtmeier. Parish Workers Circle of Immanuel LWML assembles the newsletter, usually on the last Thursday of each month. Distribution to members and friends is sent monthly via US Postal Service. Subscription changes: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1258 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102-2637; 701-293-7979; Immanuel.fargo@gmail.com.

Red River Lutheran School Association
Grace Lutheran School

Monthly Newsletter – December 2018

The King and Me - GLS Annual Christmas Musical

Join us **December 13th & 14th at 7pm** for Grace Lutheran School's annual all-school Christmas Musical. We'll meet Hannah and her crew who are frantically trying to open Bethlehem's one and only theme park, "Royal World" even in spite of poor planning and city safety inspectors. What they didn't expect was the birth of the True King in a little stable on the edge of town. As the story unfolds, all involved learn what is really important and what Christmas is all about!



Dec. 13 – dress rehearsal for the public at 1:30 pm

GLS Barnes and Noble Book Fair!

Join us at Barnes and Noble, 1201 42nd St S in Fargo on Saturday, December 15th, for our Bookfair! Browse and shop for those special purchases and support Grace Lutheran School's ministry at the same time. Join us for a special story time and craft activity at 3 pm. A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases will benefit our school. Can't attend the Book Fair on the 15th? Visit BN.COM/bookfairs to support us online from 12/15/18 to 12/20/18 by entering Bookfair ID 12311213 at checkout.

Thank you for supporting Grace Lutheran School!

GLS at Grace Luth. Church – Jan 20, 2019

As an early announcement, faculty and students will visit Grace Lutheran Church to share information about the school and highlight our ministry to the families of our Association churches.

Annual Auction Committee looking for Volunteers!

The Grace Auction committee is already at work! You can help us by procuring donations, volunteering to help with decorations, setting up the ballroom, working on special class projects, and finding those special items that will highlight our

evening and promote our school with all of your friends. To volunteer, contact Dinah Sommerfeld at 701-212-0072 or call the school office.

Supporting Grace Lutheran School

Support of GLS can be done in many ways. As a "not for profit" organization we will always need the financial backing of our association churches and generous donations from our alumni. We sponsor many fundraisers to strengthen our budget (Spaghetti dinner, Giving Hearts and the Auction) and through the year it becomes a way for us to minister to children and families. You can also support our ministry through your Thrivent choice dollars by contacting Thrivent and tell them you want your Choice Dollars to go to Grace Lutheran School. Also, year-end gifts can also be a great way to minister to families and give you a tax break. You are also able to support the school by investing in an LCEF account, which strengthens your church and also communicates to LCEF that they can invest in the future of GLS, assured that the association churches are supporting the school's ministry.

We are excited and honored to teach 67 children this fall and look for many ways to reach out to more children and to share the love of God with all. Please invite families with school-aged children to visit. Your congregation is a vital part of the future of GLS. As we look to the future, our goal is to develop our curriculum and technology equipment, work on deferred building maintenance projects, strengthen our teacher & staff salaries, as well as looking in to the possibility of adding early childhood classes for 3-year-olds.

Give us a call and set up a Care Visit or help us with our goals - today!

Volunteers are always needed!

At Grace Lutheran school we have LOTS of ways to volunteer your talents to help us! We always need helpers to assisting students in completing their work, helping teachers with tasks and breaks, supervising morning care and recesses. When our cook is ill or takes a day off, we need help in the kitchen. Year-round there are always projects and repairs to do around the school. Feel free to contact us for a service project. Please contact John Hage, Principal at (701) 232-7747 or email jhagge@gracels.com for further information.

Facebook: [facebook.com/gracelutheranschoolfargo](https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranschoolfargo)

Website: www.gracelutheranschool.org

Blog: <http://gracelutheranschoolfargo.blogspot.com/>

Twitter: @glsfargo

Instagram: [gracelutheranfargo](https://www.instagram.com/gracelutheranfargo)

The Board for Human Care has been very active this fall, starting with welcome gifts for the college students, spearheading the drive for personal care items for the food pantry, and providing gift cards for needy people who stop in for help. This past month, we've had several activities. None of these activities would be possible without the caring and loving hearts of Immanuel's members!

Service of Remembrance – Nov. 4: It was a moving and memorable afternoon as several of our members who have experienced the death of loved ones gathered together. Pastor Schulz led a devotion and those in attendance spoke of their loved ones and the processes of grief.

Refreshments were served by the board members.

FM Emergency Food Pantry – Nov 5-9:

Thank you to all who volunteered at the FM Emergency Food Pantry to fill orders. Immanuel provided at least three volunteers for each shift for the week!

Giving Tree: We placed 50 tags on the giving tree this year and they were scooped up very quickly! Your wrapped gifts, with the tag attached, should be brought to the church anytime. The deadline is noon on Sunday, Dec. 16. The board will deliver them to Salem Evangelical Church on Monday, Dec. 17, where they will be distributed to needy people in our community. Immanuel is a loving and giving congregation and these gifts will make a better Christmas for many. Thank you.

Budgeted and Alms Funds: Our board, in consultation with our pastors, will distribute the budgeted funds to the community organizations and to our members as there are needs. Thank you to all who continue to contribute to the Alms Ministry. You may place any donations in the tan envelopes from the pews and place them in the offering plate or in the alms box next to the office.

Submitted by Board for Human Care

Pam Sommer, Chair; Barbara Downs; Delores Maier; Pastor Steve Schulz



1Dec – Dick Demro (91);
Bob Geske (92); Paul Ill;
Keri Stevens; Patty Wolter
2Dec – Gretchen
Kirklewski; Patrick
Maassel
4Dec – ReNae Schaefer
5Dec – Wayne Redmann,
Ali Ressler, Clara
Sauvageau
6Dec – Matthew Walla
7Dec – Beth Mairs,
Jonathan Schulz

8Dec – Michael Leach
9Dec – Drew Kittelson
10Dec – Emily Engebretson, Ben Moen, Lisa
Vasicek, Houston Wagner (5)
11Dec – Landon Deisler-Williams, Josh Gornowicz,
Ashley Salmonson
12Dec – Ellisyn Esping (6), Trey Larson
13Dec – Kay Levenson
14Dec – Samantha Hintz
15Dec – Christine Sauvageau
16Dec – Elijah Caldwell (5), Henry Fortier (1), Amy
Hirsch, Rylee Hoppe, Mathew Kaeding, Bonnie
Kittelson, Ashlynn Wendel
17Dec – Carl Bumgarner, Martha Gross (98), Diane
Lueck
19Dec – Brian Aasland, Safara Simmons (4), Travis
Woyen
20Dec – Mike Vasicek, (Cheryl Orman-Lindsey)
23Dec – Noah Olson, Carolyn Worrall
24Dec – Dan Backstrom (92)
25Dec – Sofia Jacobson
26Dec – JohnHenry Merz (3)
27Dec – Blair Aasland
28Dec – Kathy Bumgarner, Leah Gornowicz (8),
Abigail Schwinghammer (1), Michael Wardlow
29Dec – Abigail Johnson, Donovan Larson
30Dec – Mary Hallgren, Julie McCoy, Al Ochsner,
Jennifer Walla
31Dec – Ben Duncan, Betty Thomas



4Dec – Rod & Kris Lym (36th)
7Dec – Debby & Don Bickle (45th)
9Dec – Brent & Kristi Aasland (7th)
18Dec – Bill & Donna Piper (47th)
20Dec – Ted & Linda Gangelhoff
(49th)
21Dec – Donovan & Hidir Larson
(22nd)

23Dec – Richard & Norma Frohberg (56th)
26Dec – Edward & Karen Woyen (25th)
27Dec – Bob & Donna Roach (66th)
31Dec – Jeff & Kathy Bumgarner (30th)



“Main Street Living North”

TV Program

December UPDATE

The first recording of pastors from the Western Region of the ND District LCMS took place at Messiah Lutheran Church in Mandan on November 3rd. These worship services will be broadcast during January and February! A reminder that MSLN is now additionally being broadcast at 10:00AM Central (9:00 Mountain) on the following “XTRA” channels: KBMY Xtra Channel 17-3

Bismarck/Dickinson and KMCY Xtra Channel 14.3 Minot/Williston, WDAY Xtra Channel 6.3 Fargo-Moorhead and WDAZ Xtra Channel 8.3 Grand Forks. (Note: Some cable channel numbers may be different in your area). All programming will also continue on the FOX stations at 9:00 AM Central in the eastern half of ND and western Minnesota.

Please continue to help spread the word to your extended family and friends. In addition to viewing the TV programs on Sunday mornings, please also let them know that they can watch all of the archived programs at any time online! A reminder that by the time you are reading this, to reach the website for archived programs you will first need to go to the MSL Network site at www.mainstreetliving.com and then click on “North” to reach our North Dakota and Minnesota North broadcast area website.

To help with the cost of expanding to the western half of North Dakota, the Main Street Living NETWORK has also announced that they will provide matching funds up to \$16,000 for any new donations made. To add your much needed financial support, checks may be sent to “Main Street Living NORTH”, 821-5th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account. Thank you and God’s blessing in Christ!

“Main Street Living North” & Special Advent/Christmas TV Programs in Dec:

(Note: During December, the regular “This Is The Life” programs are being replaced by a church-season series of Lutheran Hour animated programs.)

Dec 2: Rev. Michael Nielson, Trinity Lutheran Church, Fisher, MN, and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Euclid, MN, presents the message: **“Singing to the King,”** based on Luke 19:28-40. Today’s Lutheran Hour program is **“The City That Forgot About Christmas”**. In it, Benji thinks the hustle and bustle of Christmas only makes people more grouchy, but grandfather has a different view.

Dec 9: Rev. Daniel Voht, Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, presents the message: **“The Second Sunday of Advent,”** based on St. Luke 3:1-14. Today’s Lutheran Hour program is **“The Stableboy’s Christmas”**. In it, a family experiences the excitement of the holidays, while trying to keep the true meaning of Christmas at the center of their preparations.

Dec 16: Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy, President of the English District LC-MS delivers today’s message: **“Do Not Be Anxious,”** based on Luke 7:

18-28. Today’s Lutheran Hour program is **“Red Boots for Christmas”**. In it, a small shop in the small town of Friedensdorf doesn’t have any Christmas decorations, and no Christmas spirit inside the store.

Dec 23: Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod leads our Christmas worship service. The message is based on Luke 1: 39-45. Today’s Lutheran Hour program is **“Christmas Is”**, which takes a journey back in time to the first Christmas with Benji and Waldo to rediscover the feeling and message of this significant day.

Dec 30: Rev. Nabil Nour, third Vice President of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Pastor at Trinity Lutheran in Hartford, South Dakota presents today’s message: **“The Firstborn,”** based on Exodus 13: 1-2. Today’s Lutheran Hour program is **“The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery”**. It’s Christmas, and some mysterious events have occurred which require some special investigative talents.

“MAIN STREET LIVING” is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the ND and MNN Districts of our LCMS, along with the 30-minute **“This Is The Life”** rebroadcast programs.

Ken Koehler, MSLN Board President

	
From (date)	Honor/MEMORY
Wayne/Elaine Hankel (10-29)	EVELYN BEST
Dan & Pearl Backstrom	VONNI STASKA
Russ & Deb Bubach	ED LEAPALDT



November became a busy month for our LWML. Our Unit Meeting was held on November 3, with 13 in attendance. Christmas cards with an enclosure were prepared for our Immanuel member college students as well as active military members. In addition, Bonnie Kittelson led members in making Christmas cards to send to the Ysleta Mission in El Paso, TX. Welcome Circle cleaned the play room. Thank you to all who attended and helped with these projects! The following Saturday, Nov. 10, our Zone Fall Rally was held at St. John, Hillsboro. 4 of our members were able to attend. This was also the day of preparing Mercy Meals at

Immanuel, so many of our members were involved with that.

Advent season and the end of another calendar year are now upon us, and with this come more ways for us to actively serve within our own church. Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

Wed., Dec. 12 – LWML serving for the Advent supper @ 5pm. Ingredients for the meal will be purchased by Deanna and be at church for Circle workers to come and prepare. Each Circle brings 5 doz. bars/cookies plus your Circle assigned part of the meal. Contact your Circle Chair for more details! Helpers will be needed for serving and clean up!

Sunday, Dec. 16 @ 4 pm – LWML serves treats following the Children's Christmas Service. We will need helpers to set up, serve and clean up (2-3 per Circle). Each Circle please bring 6 doz. cookies/bars. We will also serve hot chocolate, marshmallows, and coffee.

Thur., Jan. 3, 2019 – Pie Day at Rosewood on Broadway. Our LWML provides and serves the pies. We will need 4-6 helpers to be at Rosewood by 12:45 to cut and plate the pies and help serve them at 1:30. 9-10 pies are needed. A **sign-up sheet will be out by Sunday, Dec. 2** for pies and helpers.

A **second sign-up sheet** will be out for ordering the **LWML Quarterly magazine for 2019.** Cost is **\$6** for the year. Magazines are then labeled with your name and located on the LWML table in the Welcome Hall each quarter when they arrive – wonderful articles for all!

As we set our thoughts and hearts on Advent and Christmas preparations, I pray that you will be filled with Christ's love for you, as he came as a babe at Christmas to be our Savior – the greatest gift we will ever receive! God's blessings to each and every one of you. Merry Christmas!

In Christ's Service, Patty Walla, LWML President

In loving Remembrance of Bill Sharpe

Gale Sharpe and her family were notified that her husband William (Bill) Sharpe has posthumously won the Arthur C. Haake Leadership Award from Lutheran Church Extension Fund. The Arthur C. Haake Leadership Award is given to individuals who have made significant and long-lasting contributions to Lutheran Church Extension Fund, ultimately for the work of the Church.

Created in 1999, the Haake Leadership Award pays tribute to the late Art Haake. President of LCEF

from 1978 until his death in 1997, Art is remembered as an effective Christian leader and a man of God.

Kurt Fuhr, Regional Vice President – Central Region for Lutheran Church Extension Fund, worked with Bill for LCEF and nominated Bill for the award. The award was presented to Gale and her family on November 16 in San Diego at the LCEF Fall Leadership Conference. What a wonderful honor for a guy as humble as Bill was.



Here is what was sent in for the award by Kurt Fuhr: *Narration*

Bill Sharpe served as the District Vice President in the North Dakota District for over 25 years, from August 1991 up until his untimely death in April 2017. Bill not only served as our LCEF DVP, he also served as the District's Business Manager and its sole Executive Staff person outside of the District President.

Bill graduated from Concordia, Seward in 1978, then earned a Master's in Administration from Florida Atlantic in 1983. He initially served in teaching and administrative positions in Iowa, Florida, and Illinois before his call to serve the Dakota Boy's Ranch in North Dakota in 1987, and then was called by the North Dakota District in 1991. Previous to his church career, Bill served in the US Army in a variety of roles internationally, including intelligence work in Vietnam.

Even though North Dakota has always been considered a small District program by both LCEF and LCMS standards, Bill was always a thoughtful leader and recognized as such by his peers. Bill enjoyed his low profile and worked quietly and effectively in his multiple District roles, serving the needs and moving mission work forward in North Dakota. Bill WAS the District, and was a sought-

after resource by congregations, ministries, and church workers. One of his more recent mission successes was the purchase of a large piece of acreage in a growing part of Fargo, the largest city in North Dakota. Once purchased, Bill then systematically sold off individual lots like a developer for single family homes that not only fueled the construction costs of a new mission congregation, but also surrounded it with new houses that could be reached as new potential members. This was simply a brilliant win/win solution for both District mission work and LCEF purposes.

Bill exemplified our LCEF mission of reaching more people for Christ through our work in congregations, and assisted them over 25 years with counsel and building needs. Bill's signature dry wit and subtle humor were ever present in his work. His laid back personality and humility worked wonderfully in relating to his upper-midwest audience, but behind that was always a passion and practicality to do Christ's work serving in the North Dakota mission field. Bill also took an instrumental leadership role in taking the North Dakota mission work into the international mission field as well. Under his leadership, the District began supporting school building projects in Kenya, Africa. The District supported this work with both human and financial resources, with Bill making these mission trips himself along with helping to lead teams of volunteers. The District still today supports these international mission efforts in Kenya. As Bill modeled in his own life; his legacy of teaching, leading, and serving both his church and country has been lovingly carried on by his wife Gale, his son Andrew, and daughters Rachel and Rebekah. All three kids are married and have blessed Bill and Gale with four grandchildren, with Bill being able to enjoy time with the first three.

Bill may have served a smaller District, but leaves a large legacy of service, commitment, and mission work for both the North Dakota District and LCEF. Those who served with him continue to be amused by how Bill would have responded to new challenges and opportunities in the church and LCEF. As we know it would be with a wry smile and comment, and then he would get to it, maybe bend a few rules in the process, and then quietly get it done.

Please let this serve as the nomination for Bill Sharpe as the recipient of the Art Haake Leadership award for 2018 for LCEF. Thank you for your consideration.



Library Hi-lights

The **Constantine Codex** by Paul L. Maier, also author of *A Skeleton in God's Closet* and its sequel, *More Than a Skeleton* - probably 2 of our most-read novels.

For centuries, scholars have speculated about a lost book of the Bible. No one has ever found it--- **UNTIL NOW.**

A few pieces of centuries old parchment tucked inside a tattered book lead famed archaeologist Jonathan Weber and his wife Shannon to what could possibly be the greatest find in church history--a discarded biblical manuscript whose ancient pages reveal a secret that will change the way the world views Scripture.

Is it one of fifty copies commissioned by Constantine the Great and lost for centuries? Or the most sophisticated forgery of all time?

When the manuscript is stolen Jon is swept into a deadly race to find it and prove its authenticity before it's lost forever. Everything hangs in the balance--his career, his reputation, even his life--but he's willing to risk it all in one final daring attempt to determine the truth.

Dr. Paul L. Maier is the professor of ancient history at Western Michigan University and a much published author. Over 5 million copies of Dr. Maier's books are now in print in 20 languages, as well as over 250 scholarly articles and reviews.

Many of you may remember when he spoke at our church a number of years ago. He stood for several hours on one of our high stands in our Celebration Center and spoke to us. He brought many of his books that afterwards sold out so quickly he had to take reorders.

We have all his novels in our library and I believe most if not all of his scholarly books. I'll put them out for viewing. In 1997 he spoke at Grace Lutheran School's auditorium all day....morning & afternoon! I thought oh my, how can I sit that long and listen to a lecture! Well, little did I know how this man can make a day fly by and wanting more! I bought one of his books (*In the Fullness of Time*) that day and I'll treasure his little message and signature in it. Dr. Maier is the son of the late Dr. Walter Maier, first speaker of the Lutheran Hour radio broadcast.

Hank Hanegraaff, president of the Christian Research Institute and host of the *Bible Answer Man* broadcast wrote this. "Just a few pages into it I was hooked. Maier is that rare combination of masterful storyteller and historian. A brilliant use of the power of story to excite and educate. Bravo!" You can visit Dr. Maier's website at

www.paulmaier.com.

Ardis Danielson, Librarian



Flower Calendar for 2019
is near the church's Sign-Up Center. You can help to beautify our worship services and honor a person or event in your life. See the nearby poster for more information.



enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Acts 4:29

Acts 4 Program: High School BIBLE STUDY/DISCUSSION GROUP

High School students have been enjoying a book study and discussion with Chris Olson on Wednesday nights at 7pm for the last 8 weeks. They are just finishing up with Starting at The End, by Brad Alles – a book which examines the major world views of our present age by comparing and contrasting them with Biblical Christianity. This class is open to all high school youth.

Chris Olson, study leader

Coordinators of Acts4 Program: Todd & Melissa Evensen; tmevensen@gmx.com



Saturday, Feb 2, 2019, Immanuel Fargo will be hosting a **lay workshop** that will focus on elders in

the church. It will not be for elders alone, but we are going to talk about care ministry with a congregation and that will impact elders a great deal.

Pastor Arnold comes to us from Doxology and he works with them in much of their care ministry. We think this will be an excellent & most helpful topic!

Housing Needed

Caleb and Hannah Worrall are looking for a short-term home in Fargo during this coming summer (approximately June 6th through August 6th). Contact Pastor or Carolyn if able to point them in the right direction ☺.



Poinsettias

Help Beautify our Chancel during the Christmas season!

If you would like to provide a Poinsettia to decorate the Chancel this Christmas, please complete this order form and send it, with payment, to the church office.

Colors available this year are Red, White, & Marble (white/pink).

Deadline for ordering Poinsettias is **December 16th!**

Poinsettias may be picked up from the church after services on Tuesday, December 25th.

Poinsettia Order Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____

Color: _____ Qty: _____

Color: _____ Qty: _____

Please enclose **\$8.00** for each plant ordered.
Checks should be payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Family Serving Group – December 2018

Co-Chairmen: Rod & Carolyn Draeger (701-282-8080) and Josh & Melissa Gornowicz (701-799-5825)

Darrell & Vi Aasland
Paul & Jenny DeBoer
Josh & Melissa Gornowicz
DeLores Koenig
Michael & Karen Maassel
Danny Montana
Les & Patty Ressler
Bruce & Val Severson

Steve & Janet Asche
Rod & Carolyn Draeger
Dan & Bonnie Kittelson
Virginia Lepage
Todd & Beth Mairs
Brandon Renner
Ted & Judy Rossman
Alex & Ashlynn Wendel



His will in Spain. People are hearing and believing the saving Word of God and that's an big eternal blessing!

Thankful for the little blessings and the big blessings! **We thank God for you.**

Wishing each of you a Thanksgiving filled with many blessings in Christ,
 Pastor David and Shelee Warner
 Your Missionaries in Spain

Pastor David and Shelee Warner #yourmissionariesinSpain

To support God's work in Spain, you can make a donation to "God's Reign in Spain" so that the Gospel can continue to be shared!

You can make a gift by mail –

Make checks payable to the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Write **WARNER SPAIN** in the memo line and mail to **Mission Central, 40718 HWY E16 Mapleton, IA 51034-7105 OR LCMS, PO Box 66861 St Louis, MO 63166-6861**

Are you skinny? Short?
 Gordo? (that's Spanish for "chubby") Tall?
 What size are you?

Because blessings come in all sizes. At this Thanksgiving time, we're all thinking about what we are thankful for, and to whom we give that thanks.

Here on the Mission field of Spain, we are thankful for you.

Some of you give a few dollars a month, others give thousands every year; many of you pray, some of you send a note or an email of encouragement. God is blessing all your gifts as He uses you to provide exactly what we need to proclaim His love, to grow His church here in Spain.

Because of your support, David is now offering a Bible study at 2 different times, every Wednesday. Six or 7 people from all over Spain skype in to participate in a short order of prayer and discuss the readings from last Sunday. Last week at the appointed hour, David was travelling home from member visits in northern Spain, so he pulled off the highway, connected to



the internet using his cell phone as a hotspot, and led the Bible

study from his car.

Just a small blessing—a weekly Bible study for 2 or 3 people in the morning and 3 or 4 people in the evening. But we know that God's Word is a big blessing in our lives, that His rich grace and mercy flow from His Word, providing all that we need even water to quench our thirst and the very bread of life.

As together we offer our time and talents to the Lord, He blesses and multiplies them to accomplish

YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS			
10-31-2018			
	BUDGET	2018	2017
* RECEIPTS *			
REGULAR ENVELOPES	\$539,000.00	\$403,069.12	\$449,036.91
PLATE OFFERINGS	\$12,000.00	\$9,523.50	\$8,748.27
SPEC. SERVICES & MISC.	\$25,700.00	\$12,309.50	\$13,235.21
ASSETS RELEASED	\$0.00	\$15,097.04	\$0.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$576,700.00	\$424,902.12	\$471,020.39
* EXPENSES *			
MISSIONS	\$117,200.00	\$84,851.18	\$93,999.82
ELDERS	\$28,610.00	\$20,783.83	\$22,532.84
EVANGELISM	\$4,350.00	\$2,707.10	\$621.39
STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE	\$2,700.00	\$2,633.07	\$2,356.10
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$60,300.00	\$52,980.55	\$46,154.92
TRUSTEES	\$54,200.00	\$49,256.54	\$51,613.25
ADMINISTRATION	\$265,690.00	\$215,665.54	\$211,558.83
HUMAN CARE	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
CAMPUS MINISTRY	\$63,280.00	\$54,127.90	\$51,319.37
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$598,580.00	\$483,005.71	\$481,156.52
HOME PURPOSES PLUS (MINUS)	(\$21,880.00)	(\$58,103.59)	(\$10,136.13)
YEAR-TO-DATE REC'D			
BOTW-BLDG. MAINT. FUND		\$11,497.00	\$9,247.00
THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS		\$5,915.00	\$7,318.00

By the Way: There are several (8) lightweight coats among the Lost and Found Items, located near the parking lot entrance coat racks.

ND DISTRICT ANNUAL MEN'S WINTER RETREAT -

January 25-26, 2019

Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads, St. John, ND

"Misquoted: Things the Bible Doesn't Say"

The Bible is God's loving, self-revelation to the world; and the center of the whole thing is Christ, crucified and risen for the forgiveness of all people. However, this simple and wonderful good news is often left behind as teachers, preachers, and popular Christian authors twist, distort, and manipulate verses in order to make the text say things it simply does not say.

At this year's men's retreat, Pastor Dan Suelzle will discuss how we read the Bible on its own terms, looking for Christ on every page, so that we will have the true comfort that God gives there. We'll also look at a few examples of how the Bible is often misquoted and provide a better way of understanding those texts.

Pastor Dan Suelzle is the campus pastor of Wittenberg Lutheran Chapel, serving the students of the University of North Dakota with the Gospel of Christ. After growing up in Hazen, ND, he received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Concordia Nebraska and an M.Div. from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. His first call was to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Eugene, Oregon, where he served for six years before accepting the call to Wittenberg. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at Concordia Seminary. He and his wife have four children. For over 25 years men have enjoyed the camaraderie of these retreats—thought-provoking Scripture-based presentations, fellowship, music, good food, card games, skeet shooting, etc.

Father & son duos are encouraged to come.

Contact Corey Isaak to register:

Call 701-

281-0240 or

E-mail:

[corey.isaak](mailto:corey.isaak@gracefargo.org)

[@gracefargo](mailto:corey.isaak@gracefargo.org)

[.org](http://gracefargo.org)



Ryan's family is leaving for Michigan to begin their new adventure at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Macomb Township. We will have a congregational potluck dinner at noon on December 30th. Please try to attend our send-off on that date. Ryan was our DCE for over 10 years. We will all miss him greatly!

December 2018 Worship Assistants

Dec 2	8:15 am	Peter Woyen Canyn L, Lauren D Walla Team Sandi Gardner-Leikas	11 am	Steve Asche Zoe S McCoy Team Bill & Donna Piper
Dec 5	4:15/6p	Volunteer Ushers	5p	Meal by LSF
Dec 9	8:15 am	Vas Soori Jeremy D Hass Team Danny Montana	11 am	Clint Lowe Jack S, Heidi W Kosel Team W Redmann, S Dobmeier
Dec 12	4:15/6p	Volunteer Ushers	5p	Meal by LWML
Dec 16	8:15 am	Erick Esping Gracelynn K, Jonathon A Stahlecker Team P/D Mayland	11 am	Russ Bubach Jenna C Hankel Team Bob & Donna Roach
Dec 16	3p	Volunteer Ushers	4p	Treats by LWML
Dec 19	4:15/6p	Stahlecker Team	5p	Meal by LYF
Dec 23	8:15 am	Paul Mayland Tyler H Montana Team M & L Semanko	11 am	Dean Sonnenberg Ben M, Abigail M Zinke Team Randy Roesler
Dec 24	4:15 6p	Mayland Team; Roesler Team	Dec 25	10a: Walla Team
Dec 30	8:15 am	James Zinke Aryn D Hass Team Curt & Pam Sommer	11 am	Peter Woyen Ethan H Kosel Team Jim & Carol Thoreson

Merry
Christmas

[This page is ND District LCMS
"Message in the Pew"]

[this page reserved for cover]