

INTEGRATE

A newsletter for the family and friends of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church



Volume 65 No. 5

May 2023



LWML NID ZONE 16 SPRING RALLY – SATURDAY, MAY 6th

Here at Immanuel! Meet author Christa Petzold. Christa will share her book “Gathered by Christ – The Overlooked Gift of Church”. Christa is a pastor’s wife, home school mom, and Young Women’s Representative (YWR) for our Milwaukee convention. She will be bringing copies of her book and doing book signings.

Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the Program will be from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Come for coffee, Bible study, and fellowship. Bring ingathering items for the Milwaukee convention for Kids Camp & Child Care: Board games, card games, puzzles, crayons, glue sticks, pencils, tempera paints, scissors, cotton balls, etc. All women are invited!

QUILT BLESSING

The Quilters are having a quilt blessing the weekend of May 13 & 14. We are thankful for the compassion they show in sharing their skills and talents with those in need. Please come to worship services that weekend and see all the quilts they have created!



VOTERS MEETING

Sunday, May 21 at 8:00 a.m. The Trustees will be presenting a proposal to repave the upper level of the parking lot. Other items may be discussed and decided – watch your email for the items which will be on the agenda.

WOMEN’S/GIRLS’ TEA

Sunday, May 21st, 1:00–3:30 p.m. Wear your spring bonnet – win a prize!! Delicious tea sandwiches, scones, fruit, cookies, tea, and lemonade. All this while supporting the new Redeeming Life Maternity Home in East Dundee. Pick up your “baby bottle envelope” on the LWML table in the narthex and return it with your gift on the day of the tea!! Hear deaconess Lori Trinche as she shares all the exciting and current progress of building the new Christ-centered home for women and children in the Northern IL District. Register on our website at www.immanuelmokena.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LWML Zone Rally	Saturday, May 6
Collection for LCMS	May 6–21 (see page 5 for more details!)
Quilt Blessing	Saturday, May 13, 5 pm & Sunday, May 14, 9 am
Voters Meeting	Sunday, May 21, 8 am
Spring Women’s Tea	Sunday, May 21, 1:00–3:30 pm
Church Picnic	Saturday, June 3 (see page 5 for more details!)
Family VBS	Monday–Wednesday, July 17–19, 6:00–7:15 p.m.
Big Kids VBS	Thursday–Friday, July 20–23, 6:00–7:15 p.m.

At Immanuel Mokena, our tagline is “following Jesus, finding family.” To us this means in the process of striving to be like Jesus, we grow together as Christians and followers and develop strong relationships as part of the family of Christ.

As we grow together, we are focusing on a key 1-2-3 here at Immanuel:

1 Mission: making disciples.

2 Places where it happens: temple spaces and table spaces.

3 Key Relationships: with God (UP), with people who know and love Jesus (IN), and with those who don't yet know how much He loves them (OUT).

We want all people to know that they are very-much-loved children of God, and we want to walk beside them as they discover their place in His Kingdom.

Financial Summary

YOY Comparison	MAR 2023	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	YOY Change	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
Offering	25,488	83,262	77,932	5,330	7
Interest	86	241	51	190	
Facility	240	2775	500	2,275	
Expense	26,876	82,924	81,987	937	1
Balance	-1,062	3,354	-3,504	6,858	

> Pastor's Scholarship Fund Balance \$17,600

WORSHIP SERVICES

Contemporary Saturdays at 5:00 pm
Traditional Sundays at 9:00 am

God's Kids Club (Sunday School) and Adult Bible Study - Sundays at 10:15 am (September through May)

ARE YOU IN NEED OF FINANCIAL, PASTORAL OR OFFICE SUPPORT?

Please Contact Us:

Pastoral Support: 708-479-5600 x2

Office Support: 708-479-5600 x1

Live-Streamed Weekly Worship

Tune in to Facebook, YouTube Channel or immanuelmokena.org (click connect, live stream) to view the services live from the comfort of your home. Service times are listed above.

Announcement & Integrate Publishing

Announcements are due on Wednesdays by 9 a.m. Articles for the June *Integrate* are due by May 26 and will be on our website, emailed, and mailed after **June 1st**. The *Integrate* Newsletter is also available online at immanuelmokena.org

Official Acts

April 1, 2023 – New Member – Katie Eberth – Transferred from First Lutheran Church, Missoula, Montana

Elders

Immanuel has elders who assist the pastor during the worship service and outside of worship. Their job is to be of service to you in any cares/concerns you may have with the congregation and within your family. Here are your elders:

Elder 1: Marty Olsen 815-464-4373

Elder 2: Jim Bubeck 312-952-1727

Elder 3: Bruce Bechtel 815-485-5455

Elder 4: Jerry Vrshek 815-469-5059 (Director)

Elder 5: Lynn Gilmore 815-600-6855

Elder 6: Fred Eassa 708-275-9907

Elder 7: Harold Oesterreich 708-479-7745

Please contact these Elders should you have any needs/concerns/questions.

Donations To Special Groups

Please follow the below instructions for submitting donations via check to any of the following groups.

GROUP

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE

Rays of HOPE

Rays Of Hope

God's Kids Club

Immanuel Lutheran

Include on Memo: God's Kids Club

Ruth Society

Ruth Society

LWML

LWML NID

Pastor's Scholarship Fund **Immanuel Lutheran**

Include on Memo: Pastor's Scholarship Fund

* For Special Group Donations: Clearly write on the outside of your offering envelope where the funds should be designated.



Women's Ministry Corner

"Bring Your Own Lunch"

June 12th at 12 noon
in the HUB!

Ladies- Pack up your lunch and let's spend an hour together!

Ladies Day at Olivet was wonderful! Consider joining us next year!



Spring Women's Tea

Sunday, May 21st, 1:00-3:30 p.m. Wear your spring bonnet - win a prize!! Delicious tea sandwiches, scones, fruit, cookies, tea, and lemonade. All this while supporting the new Redeeming Life Maternity Home in East Dundee. Pick up your "baby bottle envelope" on the LWML table in the narthex and return it with your gift on the day of the tea!! Hear deaconess Lori Trinche as she shares all the exciting and current progress of building the new Christ-centered home for women and children in the Northern IL District. Register on our website at www.immanuelmokena.org.

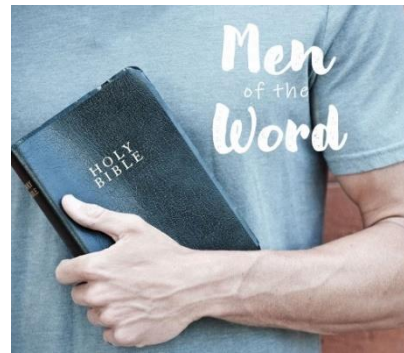


WOMEN OF THE WORD

Women of the Word will meet twice in May before taking a break for summer.

Ladies- consider joining us May 8 and May 22. We gather from 7-8 pm in the HUB.

Connect with us as we lean into God's Word together!



MEN OF THE WORD

All men are invited to join us on the 1st & 3rd Mondays at 7 pm. We will be meeting in the library.

Join us in May before our summer break! We will take a full break in June & July and resume in the second half of August.

RUTH SOCIETY

The Ruth Society wants to thank everyone who helped and attended the delicious spaghetti dinner on April 29. We truly appreciate your support!!

Our May meeting will be held Thursday, May 4th. Refreshments at 7:00 p.m.; meeting at 7:30 p.m. We will have election of officers for Vice President and Secretary. At the June 1st meeting we will have Installation of Officers. Hope to see you!

The Ruth Society would like to thank the following people for donating lilies for the Easter services:

Rich & Barb Belanski
Leo & Kathy Cleary
Nasser Diab
Kerry & Jill Gerken
Bruce & Barb Malm
Colleen & Keith Maranto
Troy & Jean Smith

The Bowllds Family
in memory of Joyce, Evelyn, & Bob

Lynn R. Gilmore in memory of
parents Bob & Charlotte Gilmore and
wife Kate Lopez-Gilmore

Naomi Nagy
in memory of Rod Nagy

Mary & Harold Oesterreich
in memory of Francis & Walter Phelps
and Burnette & Harold Oesterreich

Kevin & Maetha Smith
in memory of Bill & Hazel Mutsch,
Bob & Betty Smith,
and Bill Palmer

Karen Tatro
in memory of Leola & Harold Klode

Lyn Thorne
in memory of Mel & May Krohse

George & Deb Tolskey
in memory of George P. Tolsky
and Jack & Rosemarie Warren

Bev & Nick Whittier
in memory of our parents
Ed & Elsie Walsh,
N.T. & Louise Whittier,
and brother Greg Whittier

Dorothy Mazanke
in honor of Olga Mazanke



It is here! The final month of the school year. This is so hard to believe, that we are at the end of the school year. At times, it feels like we just are getting started and then there are times that we need to be done. We have had an amazing year and look forward to that continuing.

The children have collected \$740 through their offering during chapel which will be divided between Paws and the Frankfort Food Pantry. The children did a great job and we are so proud of them. The children are reaching out to the community and showing Jesus' love to others.

Plants will be delivered on May 9th and there will be extras available for purchase. Thank you for all the support with the preschool

fundraisers. Your support means a great deal to all of us.

We are now accepting registration for the 2023-2024 school year. Classes are filling up fast!

FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

Food Drive

The Board of Stewardship would like to thank everyone for their donations to the Food Pantry!



Blood Drives

The Board of Stewardship encourages our members to give blood if they are able to do so. A small investment of your time results in a potentially life-saving gift for others. Listed below are local donation centers as well as a two local drives taking place in the month of May. Using the websites below, you can find a local drive to fit your schedule, and the donation centers are open on a regular basis.

vitalant.org

Orland Park Donation Center is located at
11120 W. 179th St., Orland Park.
phone 708-326-4721

donate.illinois.versiti.org

Tinley Park Donation Center is located at
16100 Centennial Circle, Tinley Park.
phone 708-633-0101

Local drives through Versiti taking place in May:
Silver Cross Hospital mobile drive:

May 9th, 12pm-4:30 pm

New Lenox Public Library mobile drive:

May 19th, 10am-4pm

Visit donate.illinois.versiti.org to schedule a donation.

LCMS National Offering

During May, the Board of Stewardship will be holding a collection for Immanuel's contribution to the LCMS National Offering. A free will offering will be collected from May 6 through May 21 — a collection box will be in the lobby. You may also send in checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran with LCMS National Offering noted on the memo line. Please see below for a message from President Harrison regarding the plans for the funds raised:



***“We preach Christ crucified” (1 COR. 1:23).** We chose this simple statement as the theme for our upcoming LCMS convention in Milwaukee. As I have prepared for the convention, these words have resonated in my mind. These words describe our church. We, the LCMS, preach Christ crucified along with the apostles and the whole Christian church throughout the world.*

Not only do we enjoy fellowship with every Christian of every time and place, but we also seek to reach all people with the Gospel, for not all have heard. One thing that diminishes our ability to share the Good News with all people is language. Since the tower of Babel in Genesis 11, people have spoken different languages. Yet as we learned in Acts 2, the message of the Gospel unites people into the one Body of Christ.

Therefore, we have designated our 2023–2026 LCMS National Offering, “We Preach Christ Crucified for All People,” for the translation of solid biblical Lutheran resources into languages that lack such materials. Whatever you generously contribute to this offering will enable this vital work. We thank God for all those who have labored to translate the Scriptures. You will help provide instructional and doctrinal resources LCMS congregations can use to reach and instruct non-English speakers in His Word.

Our 2019 convention theme verses included Paul's words, “Pray without ceasing” (1 THESS. 5:17). I have made it my habit to pray before I start my day, praying for individuals, members of my congregation, international church leaders,

people I have met and, of course, the Synod at large. Many times, the Psalms of David provide the words for my prayers.

Please pray for those who translate Lutheran resources, that their labor would produce faithful and beneficial materials for those who use them. Pray for those who receive their work. Pray for our international church partners. Pray for all those who do not know Jesus. Join me in daily prayers, for our Lord has graciously invited us to bring before Him all our concerns, all through Jesus Christ crucified and risen. We preach Christ crucified — for all people.

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LWML

Immanuel/Mokena will be well represented at the LWML Convention in Milwaukee June 22–25. Packing their bags will be Delynn Flannery, Marcia Prosen, Ruth Welzen, Miriam and Emily Wilson and Barb (and Richard) Belanski. Excitement will be high as they study God's Word, hear mission speakers, participate in servant activities, vote for mission grants and new officers, attend worship services, sing anthems of praise to God, and connect and make new friends from around the country. You are invited to join them in the LWML Mission Pledge Walk on the Milwaukee Riverwalk on Saturday, June 24th by pledging a gift to them in their walking endeavor as they support the new mission goal for 2023–2025! Beginning in June, a sign-up sheet will be on the LWML table in the narthex to indicate your financial support and a manilla envelope to deposit your gift. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Immanuel friends to assist them in “Proclaiming His message to the nations”. “Team Immanuel” thanks you!!



FROM THE BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

By Lyn Thorne

CAKE WALK ANYONE?

Coming Soon....The Church Picnic Reimagined
What's new? It will be on Saturday, June 3rd immediately following the 5pm service.

What's the same: It will be held out in the Picnic Pavilion. The main dish will be provided by the Board of Fellowship. The members will bring a dish to pass and their own beverages. There will also be an inflatable house and games for all.

What to look forward to? A great night of fun and Fellowship and a sing along bonfire.

How can I help? Setup, cleanup of the outdoor area, and planning. Look for a signup sheet on the opportunity board.

PRAYER PATIO CELEBRATION BRICKS



As most of you know, the prayer patio is a place where we can purchase engraved bricks to celebrate the many blessings of life. The next order for bricks will be sent in mid June. The order forms can be found in the Opportunities Book at the Welcome Counter in the lobby. If you have any questions please see Lyn Thorne or the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Family VBS

Monday, July 17th through Wednesday July 19th from 6pm to 7:15pm. All families with children between 2 years old and 4th grade will enjoy learning about Jesus in our big backyard with singing, games, and activities. Registration will be available on ImmanuelMokena.org in the upcoming weeks.

Something NEW this year is our **Big Kid Camp**. On Thursday 7/20 and Friday 7/21 from 6pm to

7:15pm, all children from 5th to 8th grade are invited to participate in a Big Kid version of VBS with games and activities that culminates on Friday with a bonfire. Parents do not need to attend.

You will also find registration on our website soon.



THANK YOU! Laurie Pohrte would like to thank all of you for the cards, calls, and prayers during her surgery and recovery.

REMEMBER OUR MILITARY, CHAPLAINS AND FAMILIES ON ARMED FORCES SUNDAY

Armed Forces Day is on Saturday, May 20, 2023. LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces encourages us to give thanks to God for our nation's military veterans, service personnel, chaplains and families. You can help our Lutheran servicemen and women stay spiritually strong by enrolling them in the Ministry-by-Mail program. For more info, visit www.lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces

MOKENA FIRE DISTRICT FREE SENIOR LUNCHEON

Join the Mokena Fire District for their Senior Luncheon on Thursday, May 18, 2023. Topic will be "How to Prevent Fall Injuries" and you can learn helpful tips regarding preventing slip and fall injuries. Luncheon will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Station #1, 19853 S. Wolf Road. To register, call 479-5371 Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. or register online at www.mokenafire.org. Seating is limited.





MAY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Alyssa Johnson
 5 Nathan Seputis
 5 Sharla Wojno
 6 Caden Cousineau
 6 Rachel Klode
 7 Laura Threewitt
 9 William Baker
 9 Joshua Welzen
 14 Scott Malm
 14 Greg Marnul
 15 Kyle Klode
 15 Brett Seivert
 16 D.J (Dan) Foiles
 17 Caitlyn Greenspan
 20 Lindsay Strobel
 21 Tom Bartnik
 21 Lucas Liberty
 21 Jeremy Miranda
 22 Ray DeVivo
 22 Gayle Snedden
 22 Jenna Welzen
 23 Donald Jeffrey
 23 Robert Krause
 23 Carole Sluis
 26 Linda Havrilla
 27 Ashley Johnson
 27 Laura Saltzman
 28 Lillie Burkhardt
 28 Sharon Durkin
 29 Sarah Limanowski
 29 Jamie Smith
 30 Jessica Welzen
 31 John Horneij
 31 Dorothy Mazanke

Anniversaries

6 Marita & David Navratil	45 years
7 Doug & Terri Hutson	35 years
10 Nick & Bev Whittier	54 years
14 Ron & Jan Hamning	40 years
18 Morris & Laura Threewitt	49 years
29 Norman & Nancy Kaczmarczyk	47 years
31 Robert & Marlene Cupp	10 years
31 Matt & Lou Dawn Howard	46 years
31 Lee & Amy Zagrakalis	37 years

We wish God's blessings on all these people celebrating a birthday or anniversary. If we have forgotten anyone's special day or it is in error, please contact the church office.

Ways to Submit an Offering

- **Drop off** a check (or cash in sealed envelope with your name) in the secure black lockbox by the church office entrance door.
 - **Mail** a check to the office: 10731 W La Porte Rd, Mokena, IL 60448
 - **Electronic Giving** – go to the website, www.immanuelmokena.org, and click on Electronic Giving under the Giving menu. Fill in the secure form with either credit card or checking account information to submit offering.
 - **Joyful Response:** many members already use this service which automatically debits their checking account at a specified interval (weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, etc.) for a specified amount. The form can be found on the Electronic Giving page on the website – just fill it out and drop off or mail to the church office.
-

How to find the Live Streaming Worship Services...

- www.immanuelmokena.org – Go to Connect, select Live Stream
- Facebook – Follow us @ImmanuelMokena
- YouTube – Our channel is Immanuel Lutheran Mokena (you can subscribe to the channel to be notified when new videos are posted)