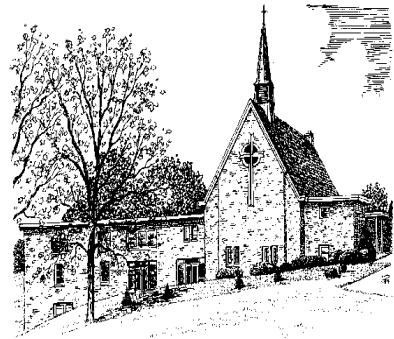


The King's Business

April, 2025

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 59, NO.



The Pastor's Page

Years ago, as a child, I participated in something my congregation had put together: a Seder meal. If you're unfamiliar with it, the Seder is the modern Jewish Passover meal. Our congregation, like many LCMS congregations, had decided that hosting a Seder during Holy Week would be a meaningful way to remember the Last Supper. I was fairly young at the time, but I still remember it being a very somber, reverent occasion.

Over my ministry, I've been asked by parishioners at various times about whether I would ever host a Seder. Years ago, my reaction to such an idea was more positive. After all, it's a pretty common practice in LCMS congregations. The congregation I grew up in had done it. Why not? But as I studied and considered the idea further, I realized it probably wasn't the best practice for several reasons.

First, it's important to realize that the modern Seder is not the same thing as the Passover meal that Jesus and the disciples celebrated, nor the same Passover meal that was instituted and practiced by the Israelites throughout the Old Testament. The modern Jewish Seder developed centuries after Christ, especially after the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. The elements and structure of today's Seder differ from what Jesus observed. So, attempts to "recreate" the Last Supper using a modern Seder are simply inaccurate and more than a little misleading.

Second, we need to understand that Christ has fulfilled the Passover. Jesus did not merely modify the Passover when he gave us the Lord's Supper: He brought it to completion. The Lord's Supper is not just a meal of remembrance but a means of grace where Christ gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

Christ himself is the fulfillment of the Passover lamb. The blood of Christ is the blood of the lamb, spread

on the doorposts, to protect us from God's wrath. Christ himself is the unleavened bread, promising freedom from slavery to sin, death, and the devil. So, trying to continue a form of the Passover after its fulfillment is really just clinging to the shadow rather than the reality.

Third, and this applies to participating in any festival of the Old Testament, we need to remember that the Passover was part of the Old Covenant, based on law and obligation. The Lord's Supper belongs to the New Covenant, centered on the Gospel: God's free gift of grace in Christ. The Seder is a meal of instruction and remembrance, but it does not offer Christ's real presence or the forgiveness of sins.

Now, I want to make it clear that I am not condemning fellow Christians or LCMS congregations who choose to take part in a Seder. It's not a sinful practice. And if you participated in one and found it helpful, I'm happy for you. I just think it has the potential to be misleading or distracting.

Instead of looking to the Seder to remember the Last Supper, I'd much rather embrace the meal Christ has given: The Lord's Supper. Unlike the Seder, which only recalls the past, the Lord's Supper is a present reality in which Christ is truly present. In this Sacrament, we receive His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, strengthening our faith and uniting us as the Church.

In truth, the Church does not need additional rituals to remember the Passover or the Last Supper. We have been given the greater meal—the Lord's Supper—where Christ Himself comes to us. Instead of seeking to understand the Passover through a Seder, we should look to the Lord's Table, where the true fulfillment of the Passover is given to us in Christ's body and blood.

This is how our Lord has commanded us to remember Him. This is how we receive His gifts of grace.

This is how we participate in the fulfillment of all that the Old Testament promised. The Jews can have their Seder and remember the past in ignorance. I would much rather embrace the present joy of Christ coming to me for the forgiveness of all my sins.

God's Blessing to You This Holy Week and Easter Season
Pastor Ketelsen

Does the Church Office have current contact information for you and your family members? If you have a new address or phone information, please contact the Church Office at by email at Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com or at 660-882-2208, Option 1 with your current information. Thank you.

Office Hours

*Tuesday & Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

Immanuel has another way to be part of virtual Sunday services!

We now have Zoom. Those who do not have access to Facebook can call a phone number, input a special code, and listen to the audio of the service LIVE on their phone.

Step 1: Call 1 (253) 215-8782 a little before 9:00 am

Step 2: Follow the prompt to input the Meeting ID: 9283696439

Step 3: Join "the meeting" and listen to the service LIVE

Please contact any members or friends who could make use of this service!

Copies of sermons are available. If you missed a service, or just loved one immensely, copies are available on our church website, ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church. You can also find hard copies in the red folder in the church Narthex. Please help yourself, and feel free to share with friends or shut-ins.

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

1001 Immanuel Drive, Boonville, MO 65233

Church Office: 660-882-2208

E-Mail: Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com

Website: www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church

Pastor: Rev. Joshua Ketelsen

Pastor's Cell Phone: 989-306-2586

Preschool Director/Teacher: Glenda Gerhardt

Preschool Teacher Assistant: Trina Derendinger

Kindergarten Teachers: Stefani Ketelsen

Glenda Gerhardt

Office Manager: Patty Mangels

Custodians: Cora Linneman/Doug Thoma

Production/Distribution of Newsletter: **Patty Mangels**

Sunday Service - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.

Fellowship Time - Fifth Sundays 10:15 a.m. as announced

Lord's Supper - 9:00 a.m. - 1st & 3rd Sundays & Festivals

Midweek Services - 6:30 pm on Wednesdays during

Advent & Lent

Kindergarten

All Day Kindergarten

(Pre-registration required)

Preschool

3-5 year olds

Mon-Wed-Fri, 8-11am & 12-3pm (4 & 5 year olds)

Tues-Thurs, 8-11am & 12-3pm (3 year olds)

(Pre-registration required)

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School: for age 3 - 5th grade is meeting in the Sunday School Room.

Youth Class for junior and senior high meets in the youth room in the sub-basement.

Adult Bible Study: meets Sunday Mornings at 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday Ladies Bible Class meets on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. in the large classroom on the main floor.

Bibles and Bar-B-Q Men's Bible Discussion Group meets the second and fourth Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday Morning Breakfast Bible Study: meets on Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at 87 Diner. Please join us for food, fellowship, and study.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 18, 2025

Call to Order: Vice President Jason Linneman called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Ketelsen opened the meeting with prayer.

Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda: With no amendments offered, the agenda is accepted as presented.

Approve Minutes of January 21, 2024: Sharon Strough motions to approve the minutes of January 21; Kim Toellner seconds the motion. The motion carries.

Pastor's Report:

- a. Lent has begun; midweek services are underway and going well; Pastor is working on some potential live music for Easter service.
- b. Pastor will be on vacation May 17 – 25.
- c. A meeting of the Missouri Action Advisory Group (MAAG) will convene on March 23 in Ashland; Pastor and Craig Meyer will attend.

Reports of Officers:

- a. **President's Report:** Not present; no report.
- b. **Vice President's Report:** No report.
- c. **Secretary's Report:** No report.
- d. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kim Toellner presents a written report including the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement and Expense report; the information is reviewed and discussed.
- e. **Elder's Report:** Chair Craig Meyer presents a verbal report from the last meeting:
 - i. The military bible sticks are changing their format from mp3 files to an application available via cell phones.
 - ii. The SHINE! event was discussed and Elders suggested cookies be delivered to first responders and other community workers.
 - iii. Nominations for elections were discussed.
- f. **Board of Property:** Chair Darren Linneman is not present; Pastor reports the elevator was inspected and passed. Council members discuss the need for a cleaning day prior to Easter. Craig makes a motion for a church cleaning day on April 12 at 11 a.m. with lunch to be provided. The focus will be to clean the windows for fly

control. Kim seconds the motion. The motion carries.

- g. **Board of Christian Education/LYF:** Chair Andrea Thacher reports she is planning the VBS curriculum and securing volunteers.
- h. **School Board:** Chair Gayle Linneman is not present; Pastor reports that Stefanie Ketelsen has researched mulch replacement for the playground and estimates that the materials to replace the existing pea gravel with rubber mulch would total \$16,000. After discussion, no further action was taken.
- i. **Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** Chair Sharon Strough presents a verbal report:
 - i. The menu and associated costs for the Easter breakfast and Palm Sunday fellowship were discussed.
 - ii. There will be two projects for the SHINE! event; members will be asked to provide baked cookies that will be packaged and delivered to first responders/community workers. Yardwork will also be performed for some community members.

Unfinished Business

- a. **SHINE! Project update:** This topic was discussed under the Stewardship agenda item.
- b. **Property projects update:** Brian Weir Plumbing was contacted about the sewer pipe lining; he has had scheduling conflicts and has not yet come to do the pipe inspection to provide a quote.

New Business:

- a. **Nominating committee for the upcoming May election of new officers:** Jason will chair the nominating committee. Board positions and potential candidates were discussed.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: Craig motions to adjourn and Kim seconds. The motion carried.

Closing Prayer: Pastor asked everyone to join in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Attendees: Pastor Ketelsen; Jason Linneman; Craig Meyer; Kim Toellner; Sharon Strough; Andrea Thacher; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer, Church Council Secretary

PRESCHOOL NEWS

March was a very busy month. Ms. Glenda, Ms. Trina and Mrs. Ketelsen went to school at the lake and brought back all sorts of fun ideas and new books.

We are continuing to work on letters, numbers, reading, fine motor and large motor skills and most of all how to be a good friend to everyone.

Pastor Ketelsen finished up with the Creed and now we are learning about the Lord's Prayer. We are learning what it means and how to say it. We learn, when we pray, why we fold our hands, bow our heads and close our eyes. God loves to hear our prayers. We can tell God we love him. We can ask God for help. We can tell God thank you and we can tell God we are sorry for our sins.

Miss Gerhardt taught us about the Lord's Supper, Jesus on Trial, Jesus dying on the cross and rising again three days later.

We have a very busy April and May coming up. We get to sing for church on Palm Sunday, have Easter parties and break and have a trike day with our Grandparents. We are SO excited.

Upcoming Dates in April

8th NO SCHOOL Election Day
 13th Singing at Immanuel (Sunday)
 14th Easter Party
 15th Easter Party
 16th NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)
 17th NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)
 18th NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)

21st NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)
 24th Grandparent Trike Day
 25th Grandparent Trike Day

Upcoming Dates in May

5th Science Day
 6th Science Day
 7th Water Day
 8th Water Day
 8th MWF Preschool Graduation
 9th End of the year picnic

KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN

March kept us very busy!

The teachers had a conference for 3 days at Lake of the Ozarks. We learned so much and have already used some of that knowledge.

In Kindergarten, we had a few special days. First, we painted boxes to put away our Alleluias. Second, we celebrated Purim. We made hammentaschen, made masks, and watched the Veggie Tales version of Esther's story.

In the afternoon, the students have learned about the planets and space. It has been out of this world.

We have enjoyed the warmer days with longer recesses. Everyone has a better day with the fresh air and sunshine!

We have less than a month of school days left. The year has flown by.

Thank you for all of your support. We appreciate the prayers and encouragement.

Thank you for all of your support!

In HIS Service,
 The Kindergarten Team

STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

The SHINE! project will take place on Saturday, April 5th. One team will be doing yard work at Neighbors Helping Neighbors and at several homes in the community. The other team will package cookies at the church to be taken to our area first responders. This is the second year Immanuel has participated in this district project.

Baby Grace is a local outreach mission that offers a gift basket upon the birth of a first child, and once a month they offer free diapers and wipes and free shopping in the clothes closet. An open House is held the third Thursday of each month in the house next to Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church, 407 E. Spring Street. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board or call Barbara Wooldridge, Baby Grace Director at 660-882-2059 or the church at 660-882-6223.

Immanuel has been supporting Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri (LFCS) for many years. Recently, our donations were recognized in their *Spirit Newsletter*. LFCS serves Missouri families from all walks of life in their greatest times of need. As a nonprofit social services organization, they provide four key areas of support to strengthen families in Mid-Missouri: Adoption, Pregnancy Services, Parenting Education, and Behavioral Health. The programs offered through each of these areas empower children and families to develop healthy, supportive foundations for a lifetime.

During Lent, a collection Immanuel is collecting funds to support Faith Comes By Hearing. They record reliable translations of God's Word in the languages of the world in collaboration with heart-language speakers and have initiated Oral Bible Translation projects. They freely provide Bible recordings to communities around the world and equip local believers to host Audio Bible listening programs. They partner with like-minded ministries to share God's Word and engage the last, least, and forgotten like never before. *And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*
- Matthew 24:14

There were 7 prayer requests in February and in March there were 5 prayer request.



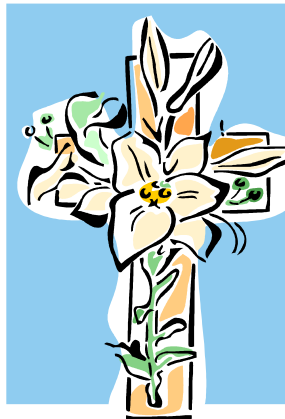
The suggested donations in the month of April for the NHN Food Pantry is canned vegetables, canned or dry beans, and cereal. As always, any non-perishable canned and boxed goods are welcome, as well as cash or C&R gift certificates. Food Pantry envelopes are available in the Narthex. **Please make checks to Neighbors Helping Neighbors.** Thank you for your generosity.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS DISTRIBUTION
 Tuesday, April 1st, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
 Tuesday, April 8th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, April 15th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



EASTER LILIES: The Altar Guild will be accepting donations for Easter Lilies **beginning March 16th – April 13th**. Cost per plant is \$15.00. If you wish to donate a lily(ies), **please** use the sign-up sheet which will be on the table in the narthex.

Take an envelope that is provided, place your cash/check in it and place it in the offering plate when it is passed during the worship service. If paying by check, please make it payable to **Immanuel Lutheran Church.**
THANK YOU!! Your support is greatly appreciated!



FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

Prior to the 7:00 a.m. Sunrise and 10:30 a.m. Festival worship services, worshippers are encouraged to bring their fresh, live flowers and/or flowering branches and attach them to the large wooden cross. Extra

flowers will be available in the narthex for those who would like to participate.

Christ Is Risen! He Has Risen Indeed! Alleluia!



⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9



2025 - APRIL - 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
3/30 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	3/31/2025	4/1 1p Ladies Bible Study 7p Elders <i>Pastor to Circuit Meeting</i>	4/2 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:30p Lenten Midweek	4/3 7a Breakfast Bible Study	4/4	4/5 9a SHINE! Project
6 9:15a Worship/HC and Baptism 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	7	8 6a-7p Election in Fellowship Hall 1p Ladies Bible Study <i>No School</i>	9 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:30p Lenten Midweek	10 7a Breakfast Bible Study	11	12 11a Work Day
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9a Worship 10:15a Sunday School <i>Reception in Narthex after worship</i>	14 <i>Easter Party</i>	15 1p Ladies Bible Study 7p Council <i>Easter Party</i>	16 <i>No School-Easter Break</i>	17 6:30p Maundy Thursday Worship Service No Breakfast Bible Study <i>No School-Easter Break</i>	18 6:30p Good Friday Worship Service <i>No School-Easter Break</i>	19
20 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 6:45a Flowering of the Cross 7:00a Sunrise Worship/HC 8:15a Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt 10:30a - Easter Festival/HC	21 <i>No School-Easter Break</i>	22 1p Ladies Bible Study	23	24 7a Breakfast Bible Study	25	26
27 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	28	29 1p Ladies Bible Study	30	5/1 7p Breakfast Study	5/2	5/3

Those Serving the Church

Service:	Organists:	Readers:	Elders:	Altar Guild:
4/2 Lenten Midweek	Diane Cummins		Cody Waibel	Diane Cummins Tammy Meyer
4/6	Tammy Poulsen	Tim Derindinger	Cody Waibel	
4/9 Lenten Midweek	Gladys Moore		Gary Naumann	
4/13 Palm Sunday	Tammy Poulsen	Brad Toellner	Cody Waibel	
4/17 Maundy Thursday	Diane Cummins		Louis Stock	
4/18 Good Friday	Gladys Moore	Craig Meyer	Craig Meyer	
4/20 Easter Sunrise	Tammy Poulsen	Christian Stock	Cody Waibel	
4/20 Easter Festival	Diane Cummins		Tim Fahrenbrink	
4/27	Gladys Moore	Craig Meyer	Cody Waibel	

CHURCH STATISTICS

Date	Worship	Facebook Live/Total	Sunday School/Youth/Adult Bible Class
2 / 2	69	9/18	2/0/10
2 / 9	74	10/18	3/0/15
2/16	56	12/21	Voters' Assembly
2/23	81	NA	0/0/12
1/26	80	8/15	2/0/15
YTD Income including LCEF as of 2/28/2025			
YTD Expenses as of 2/28/2025			



You are encouraged to take time to visit with, or send a card to, those members who are no longer able to attend regular church services. How wonderful it must be to know you are remembered, prayed for, and someone has taken some of their precious hours to visit with you. Addresses for the care facilities above are shown below. The Church Office can help you with other addresses when requested.

MEMBERS SHUT-IN OR IN NURSING HOME

Nursing Home:

- Bristol Manor** – Raeola Walker
1290 W. Ashley Rd., Room 110, Boonville, MO 65233
- Mexico Veterans Home** – Tom Moore
1 Veterans Drive, Room 122, Mexico, MO 65265

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

- Transfer out:** None
- Transfer in:** None
- Reaffirmed:** None
- Confirmed:** None
- Baptism:** None
- Deceased:** Marilyn Schwalie

APRIL SCRIPTURE READERS

All services are at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

- 4/6 Tim Derendinger
- 4/13 Brad Toellner
- 4/18 Craig Meyer (Good Friday)
- 4/20 Christian Stock
- 4/27 Craig Meyer

ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

- April 24** Kyle and Andrea Thacher

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- April 1** Kathy Handley
Maggie Smallwood
- April 3** Jason Linneman
Brenda Wells
- April 4** Becky Ehlers
Jensen Ayers
- April 6** Gordon Cain
- April 7** Stefani Ketelsen
- April 9** Thomas Loesing
Eli Stock
- April 11** Kaylee Alpers
- April 12** Mark DeWall
- April 13** Jimmy Gholson
- April 14** Brenden Meyer
Patricia Fuemmeler
- April 15** Darrel Leutung
- April 17** Jessica Fredrick
- April 18** Craig Meyer
Tucker Kaiser
Logan Turk
- April 20** Mary Derendinger
Richard Vieth
- April 23** Joshua Derendinger
Charles Campbell
- April 25** Zachary Loesing
- April 27** Brady Stock
- April 29** Randall Ayers
Candrck Walk
- March 25** Maralyn DeWall
Ashley Schrader

**Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Preschool & Kindergarten
1001 Immanuel Drive
Boonville, MO 65233**

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