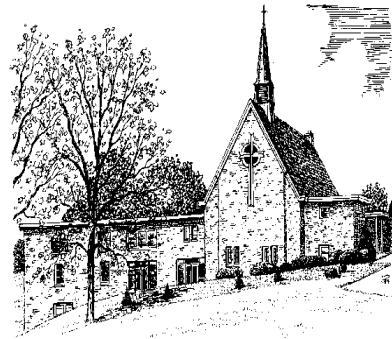


The King's Business

August, 2025

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 59, NO. 8



The Pastor's Page

In recent months, several congregations across the country have experienced attacks during worship services. These events have naturally stirred concern, even fear, in many hearts. Our own congregation has begun to discuss new security procedures. These are serious and weighty matters. But as we enter these conversations, we must ask not only what should be done, but why. What is motivating us? Are we acting out of fear for ourselves or love for our neighbor?

Martin Luther's explanation of the Fifth Commandment offers a clear and helpful lens through which to view this discussion: *"You shall not murder."* *What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.*

Notice how Luther frames the commandment not only as a prohibition against harm but as a call to help. The commandment is not fulfilled merely by avoiding violence. It is fulfilled when we actively protect the life and well-being of others. To keep the Fifth Commandment is to live in self-giving love, guarding not only our own safety, but especially that of those around us.

This is where the difference between self-defense and neighbor-defense becomes crucial. Both may involve similar concerns and preparations. But the heart behind our actions makes all the difference.

Self-defense, when driven by fear, often narrows our view. We begin to see strangers as threats, our neighbors as liabilities, and our own lives as something to preserve at any cost. It asks, "What must I do to survive?"

Neighbor-defense, shaped by love, widens our concern. We see others not as threats but as fellow bearers of God's image, worth protecting and serving. It asks, "What can I do to keep others safe?"

Jesus says, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). In other words, true love does not begin with self-preservation, but with self-sacrifice.

At the same time, we must also listen carefully to what Jesus says about violence. He tells us to "turn the other cheek" (Matthew 5:39), and when Peter drew his sword in Gethsemane, Jesus told him plainly, "Put it back in its place" (Matthew 26:52). Any conversation about protection must be guided by these words.

The call to defend our neighbor is not a license for hatred. Love never delights in force. It grieves every necessity that arises in a fallen world. As Christians, we are always called to seek peace, pray for our enemies, and entrust our lives to God.

That's why the tone of our planning matters. We are not assembling a militia. We are not building a fortress. We are a congregation of Christ's people, and He has called us to act in love. That means sober-minded vigilance, yes, but always directed toward the good of others, never simply the protection of ourselves.

These conversations won't always be easy. But they are necessary. And as we have them, we remember that our Lord Jesus did not cling to safety. He stepped into danger for us. He gave His life so that we might live. His death on the cross was the truest fulfillment of the

Fifth Commandment: He did not harm His enemies, but instead bore harm for their sake.

So, as we plan and prepare, let us do so not with fear in our hearts, but with the love of Christ. Let us defend not only ourselves, but our neighbors. Let us build not only safe spaces, but holy ones. Places where the life of every person is treasured, protected, and cherished as a gift from God.

1 John 4:18 tells us, "Perfect love casts out fear." Let that be our goal: not perfect security, but perfect love. And where we fall short, we return again to the One who laid down His life for His friends, trusting in His mercy, walking in His love, and serving our neighbor in peace.

God's Blessings to You This Month
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.

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 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!*

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.

Office Hours

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

Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

June 17, 2025

Call to Order: President Gene Cummins called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Ketelsen opened the meeting with prayer.

Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda: Gene requests to add a new business item to the agenda for money that the school owes to the general fund. Jason Linneman motions to approve the agenda as revised. Gayle Linneman seconds. Revised agenda accepted.

Approve Minutes of April 15, 2025: Jason motions to approve minutes of the April 15 council meeting; Gaven Linneman seconds. The motion carries.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ketelsen presents a verbal report:

- a. Installation of elected officers is tentatively scheduled for June 29 service.
- b. Men's Bible study is back in session. The Sunday morning study is wrapping up the current topic.
- c. A new member class is still being planned. There are 7 possible participants.
- d. Pastor will be on vacation July 7th through the 13th.
- e. The Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul will be celebrated with Holy Communion on June 29.

Reports of Officers:

- a. **President's Report:** Gene reports he is working with Glenda on her insurance supplement.
- b. **Vice President's Report:** No report.
- c. **Secretary's Report:** No report.
- d. **Treasurer's Report:** Chair Kim Toellner not present; written reports presented and discussed.
 - i. Pastor reports Kim has investigated moving from Southern Bank to BTC Bank. Additional ACH fees will be charged by BTC. Other fee structures are difficult to compare.
 - ii. No solar payments have been withdrawn by the solar company in over 2 years.
- e. **Elder's Report:** Chair Craig Meyer presents a verbal report:
 - i. Craig was elected Chair of the Board for the current term and Louis Stock was elected Secretary.
- f. **Board of Property:** Chair Darren Linneman reports the roof has been sealed around the cross as well as sealing of other minor spots. The

contractor did not find any other obvious concerns, but we will continue to monitor for future leaks.

- g. **Board of Christian Education/LYF:** Chair Jasmine Campbell and Pastor Ketelsen report two additional volunteers are needed for VBS.
- h. **School Board:** Gayle Linneman presents a verbal report:
 - i. An application form for scholarship recipients has been developed.
 - ii. Scholarship applications that have been received will be reviewed by the Board.
- i. **Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** Chair Gaven Linneman presents a verbal report:
 - i. He is working on the 5th Sunday fellowship event for June 29.
 - ii. The church picnic will be on Sunday, September 28.

Craig motions to approve the board reports. Gaven seconds the motion, and it carries.

Unfinished Business

- a. **Review sewer issues:** Brian Weir Plumbing suggested a cleanout be installed between the building and the city main line to make it easier to clean out. They also suggest repairing the cleanout that is closest to the building. Bids were presented. After discussion, additional bids will be sourced.
- b. **Review playground issues:** Gaven reports on the scope and worksite plans. Following discussion, Craig motioned for Gaven to submit a bid that includes gravel removal, building of a block retaining wall, ground leveling and reinstallation of necessary fencing with a special Congregational Assembly meeting to be held June 29 to approve the bid. Darren seconds the motion and it carries.
- c. **Review downstairs bathroom remodel:** After discussion, bathroom remodel plans were tabled until after the playground project is confirmed.

New Business:

- a. **School Reimbursement to General Fund:** Gene reports the school owes the general fund \$12,000. Gayle motions for \$6000 to be paid now and the Council will revisit issue in September. Gaven seconds. The motion carries.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: Gaven motions to adjourn and Gayle seconds the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

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

Attendees: Pastor Ketelsen; Gene Cummins; Jason Linneman; Darren Linneman; Craig Meyer; Jasmine Campbell; Gayle Linneman; Gaven Linneman; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer
Church Council Secretary

PRESCHOOL NEWS

I am so excited for school to start! Open House is Sunday, August 17th, between 3:00 – 4:00 pm.

The preschool and kindergarten will be very busy. We have a great year planned! During the first quarter, August – October, we will have school pictures taken, the firefighters will come to see us, and we will have a fall festival.

We will learn about God in the Old Testament stories until Christmas. We will learn about Jesus in the New Testament. We have circle time, playtime, snack time, story time, and music. The teachers are preparing the classrooms. Every day we get more excited to school to begin.

KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN

The new school year is just around the corner, and we're excited to welcome seven bright, eager kindergartners to our church school community! Their first day is August 25th, and preparations are well underway to make this year joyful, safe, and Christ-centered.

We are especially thankful to our church family for the recent playground improvements—including a brand-new surface that will make the space safer and more enjoyable for all.

Please pray for our students, families, and staff as we begin another year of growing in faith and learning together!

In HIS Service,
The Kindergarten Team

2025-2026 Immanuel Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment is open. For an application, please contact Glenda Gerhardt at 660-888-9996.

STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

The Messenger from Lutheran Bible Translators focuses on Nigeria in the current issue. Visualize trying to communicate with a neighbor who speaks a different language. This is the problem in many African countries. Any financial support along with our prayers will help this worthy organization located in Concordia, MO.

Lutheran World Relief is another Lutheran organization. War torn Ukraine was one of the countries updated in their current newsletter.

Both of these newsletters can be found on the table in the Narthex.

Terry Ehlers was Immanuel's delegate to the Missouri District Convention this year. Meeting other delegates was refreshing based on his previous life experiences. Everyone wants the best for our District. Each congregation, based on their geographical location, has their own pulpit needs. We will keep you current on areas of interest for the remainder of this calendar year.

In the current issue of *Portals of Prayer*, the author for June used a different word for devotions of what God is, beginning with God is Gracious, God is Merciful, and God is Good. In August, the author continues the theme, with devotions of what Jesus is, beginning with Jesus is My Savior, Jesus is My Lord, and Jesus is My Prophet. *Portals of Prayer* is a wonderful resource for your daily devotions.

There were 2 prayer requests in June. So far in July there have been 8 prayer requests.



The suggested donations in the month of August for the NHN Food Pantry is macaroni & cheese, hamburger helper type box dinners, and other boxed dinners. 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, August 5th, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 12th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 19th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



**Have you heard about the
APPLE WINE FESTIVAL
to continue celebrating Trinity's 100th Anniversary in 2025!**



WHEN: Saturday, October 4, 2025

12:00 - 6:00PM



WHERE: Trinity Upper Parking Lot
2201 W. Rollins Rd
Columbia, MO 65203



WHAT: Open-House Event featuring...

**For-Purchase German Food of Brats, Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad,
Pretzels, Dessert, Soda & Water**

**Over 21 Biergarten with For-Purchase Keepsake Glass that allows for
complimentary Apple Wine, and local German Beer brewed by our
very own Benjamin Asbeck**

Live Music from So Grand Polka Band 12:00 - 3:00PM

Children's Area with Activities and Photo Back Drop



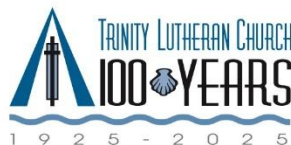
ADMISSION FEE: FREE!



Along with our congregation members, we are inviting our area Lutheran congregations to join us for fun, fellowship and celebration as we give thanks with all for God's grace given and shown to Trinity for 100 years. So make sure to mark your calendars!

If you have any questions regarding the event please contact:

Jacque Eckhoff, Apple Wine Fest Chairperson
at jacque711@hotmail.com or 573-289-0273.



2025 - August - 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7/27 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study | 7/28 5:30-7:30p VBS | 7/29 5:30-7:30p VBS | 7/30 5:30-7:30p VBS | 7/31 7a Breakfast Bible Study 5:30-7:30p VBS | 8/1 5:30 VBS Closing | 8/2 |
| 3 9a Worship/HC 10:15a Bible Study | 4 | 5 7p Elders | 6 | 7 7a Breakfast Bible Study | 8 4p Wedding Rehearsal | 9 3p Derendinger/ Baker Wedding |
| 10 9a Worship with Baptism of Eileen Schrader 10:15a Bible Study | 11 | 12 | 13 6:30p Bibles & BBQ Men's Group | 14 7a Breakfast Bible Study | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9a Worship/HC 10:15a Voter's Assembly 3p School Open House | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 7a Breakfast Bible Study | 22 | 23 |
| 24 <i>The Feast of St. Bartholomew</i> 9a Worship/HC 10:15a Bible Study | 25 <i>1st Day of School</i> | 26 | 27 6:30p Bibles & BBQ Men's Group | 28 7a Breakfast Bible Study | 29 | 30 |

Those Serving the Church

| Service: | Organists: | Readers: | Elders: | Altar Guild: |
|----------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8/3 | Tammy Poulsen | Brad Toellner | Cody Waibel | Julie Thacher Stefani Ketelsen |
| 8/10 | Gladys Moore | Christian Stock | | |
| 8/17 | Tammy Poulsen | Craig Meyer | | |
| 8/24 | Diane Cummins | Gary Naumann | | |
| 8/31 | Tammy Poulsen | Julie Thacher | | |

*And we know that in all things
God works for the good of those*

*who love him, who have been
called according to his purpose.*

Romans 8:28

CHURCH STATISTICS

| Date | Worship | Sunday School/Youth/ Adult Bible Class |
|---|---------|--|
| 4 / 2 | 32 | Lent Midweek |
| 4 / 6 | 85 | 0/NA/17 |
| 4 / 9 | 29 | Lent Midweek |
| 4/13 | 141 | Palm Sunday |
| 4/17 | 29 | Maundy Thursday |
| 4/18 | 39 | Good Friday |
| 4/20 | 101 | Easter Sunrise |
| 4/20 | 26 | Easter Festival |
| 4/27 | 70 | 03/NA/13 |
| Due to changes in Facebook, there are no online numbers available | | |
| YTD Income as of 6/30/2025 | | \$107,339.19 |
| YTD Expenses as of 6/30/2025 | | \$103,927.39 |

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: None

AUGUST SCRIPTURE READERS

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

8/3 Brad Toellner
8/10 Christian Stock
8/17 Craig Meyer
8/24 Gary Naumann
8/31 Julie Thacher

*Anniversaries and Birthdays***ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH**

August 3 Wilbert and Nancy Meyer
August 7 Larry and Georgia Davis
August 9 Dennis and Gloria Stephenson
August 10 Earl and Patty Mangels
David and Amber Scott
August 25 Carol and Randall Kollmeyer

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

August 1 Laci Fuhlage
August 2 William Stock
August 3 Doris Linneman
Emily Moore
Darren Linneman
August 4 Bobby Schnetzler
August 5 Gayle Linneman
August 8 Violet Herman
August 9 Glenda Gerhardt
Caleb Moore
August 11 Melissa Frederick
August 13 Kelsey Ehlers
August 14 Karen Dierking
Blake Huggins
August 17 Rachel Walk
Courtney Franklin
August 19 Quincie Leeling
August 20 Steven Fornshell
August 22 Mari Loesing
Billy Wells
Emily Mawia
August 24 Emily Bozarth
Susan Templemire
Aarica Shay
August 25 Teresa Windsor
August 27 Lacey Twenter
August 28 Ashley Schnetzler
Sonya Fuemmeler
August 29 Cole Shay
Leah Williams
Taylor Williams
August 31 Phyllis Barnes
Luanna Carpenter
Ashley Huber

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S POSTAGE PAID
BOONVILLE, MO
PERMIT NO. 330

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

August, 2025 Vol. 58, No. 8

Published Monthly

www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church

| <u>What's Inside</u> | <u>Page Number</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Anniversaries & Birthdays | 7 |
| Announcements | 4-5 |
| Bible Studies | 2 |
| Calendar | 6 |
| Church Contact Information | 2 |
| Church Membership Changes | 7 |
| Church Statistics | 7 |
| Church Council Minutes | 3-4 |
| Office Hours | 2 |
| Keeping Up With Kindergarten | 4 |
| Preschool News | 4 |
| August Scripture Readers | 7 |
| Shut-ins | 7 |
| Stewardship/Outreach Board | 4 |
| The Pastor's Page | 1-2 |
| Those Who Serve | 6 |
| Zoom Services | 2 |

Ladies, you are invited to join us for a Tuesday afternoon Bible study beginning September 9th at 1:00 p.m., as we dive into "Meant for Good" by Donna Snow. This engaging study explores the life of Joseph from the Old Testament—a powerful story of resilience, faith, and God's redemptive plan.

Whether you're new to Bible study or a seasoned participant, this is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, find encouragement, and connect with other women. All are welcome—bring a friend!

Books will be available before the first session. We hope you'll join us for this journey through Joseph's story.