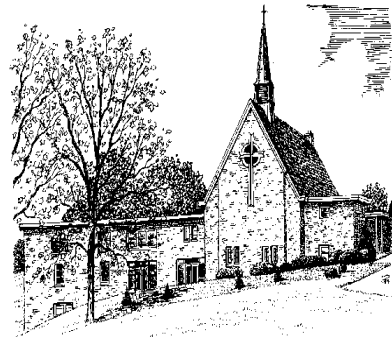


# The King's Business

December, 2024

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 58, NO. 12



## The Pastor's Page

Notre Dame has a bit of an unexpected problem. If you hadn't heard the news, the famous cathedral will soon reopen to visitors for the first time since the massive fire that nearly destroyed the building in April of 2019. It took over 5 years and roughly \$700 million, but the interior of the cathedral is fully restored. There's still several more years of work to do on the exterior.

Throughout the restoration, both the president of France, Emmanuel Macron, and the Roman Catholic Church insisted that their goal was to do a historic restoration. They had no intention of doing large scale redecorating. And, for the most part, they kept their promise. Sure, there's a new light fixture here and a new chair there, but the updates were fairly subtle.

What isn't subtle is the color of the stonework. The interior of Notre Dame was known for being fairly dark, with grey stones and long shadows. But the restored cathedral is now bright white and filled with light. Was this the result of a modern update to the cathedral's style?

Nope. Just soap and water. You see, 800 years of candles and oil lamps had left a thick layer of soot on the previously white limestone of Notre Dame. After the fire, new stonework was handcrafted to replace what was damaged beyond repair, while the existing stones were scrubbed to remove the scars of the fire. The result is an interior that may not look like it did in March of 2019, but it does probably look a great deal like the cathedral appeared when it was first built in 1200 A.D. The cathedral has been drastically changed and yet, in some ways, it is now more authentic than before.

As I was thinking about this situation, I realized that it's a striking picture of the incarnation. One that's worth considering as we approach the Christmas season and the celebration of Christ's birth. Which is, at its core, the

day we confess and rejoice that God became man and dwelt among us.

Because, when we compare ourselves to Jesus, we might, at first glance, see nothing in common. We are black with sin. Covered in the grime of our transgressions. Caked with layer upon layer of selfish, immoral soot. While Christ is white in his holiness. Shining as the sun of righteousness. Bright as lightning, like he was in His transfiguration. We are nothing alike.

And yet, we are actually the same. Christ is fully man. We are fully man. Christ was born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law. He emptied himself and took the form of a servant, made in human likeness. Christ is our brother in human flesh.

The only thing that makes us different is our sinfulness. Jesus is what we look like underneath all the filth of our sin. He's what Adam looked like before the Fall. And, in fact, he came to do what Adam didn't: live a perfect life of obedience and submission to God the Father. Christ is a new Adam and in Him humanity is restored to what we once were.

By Jesus' death, we are washed clean of our sins. Scrubbed of our soot. Rebuilt in the image of Christ. Restored in perfection and holiness. We become what humanity was when we were first created. God didn't make a mistake when He made Adam and Eve. They were both very good. And washed in the waters of Holy Baptism, we are made very good once again.

And, in exchange, Christ takes on all that filth, all that soot, all that grime, and puts it onto his own perfect and holy body. So that it dies with him on the cross. Layer upon layer of sin, hiding God's good creation, are taken to the tomb on Good Friday and buried in the grave. They are dead and gone so that you may live. So that you may have the hope of eternal life without all that sin. So that

you may be the perfect, holy, spotless creature that God created you to be.

Christmas isn't just about the birth of cute baby in a manger. It's about the rebirth of our human nature. It's about God taking the biggest disaster in the history of humanity – our fall into sin – and beginning the biggest restoration project in all of creation – our salvation through Jesus Christ. So that now you are a living temple for the Lord and a dwelling place for Holy Spirit. A bright white cathedral in which God Himself dwells.

May you and yours be blessed with a very merry Christmas.

- Pastor Ketelsen

### ***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!*

*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](mailto:Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com) or at 660-882-2208, Option 1 with your current information. Thank you.*

## **Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**1001 Immanuel Drive, Boonville, MO 65233**

**Church Office:** 660-882-2208

**E-Mail:** [Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com](mailto:Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church](http://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. – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 – 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

**November 17, 2024**

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

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Ketelsen opened with prayer.

**Acceptance of New Assembly Members:** None present.

**Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda:** No amendments; agenda accepted.

**Approve Minutes from August 18, 2024, Congregational Assembly Meeting:** Craig Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2024 Congregational Assembly Meeting. Gary Nauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:**

- a) A Thanksgiving Eve service will be held November 27.
- b) The Advent schedule is in the bulletin.
- c) Christmas Eve service will be at 5 pm; Christmas Day service will be at 9 am.
- d) There will be no New Year's Eve service however, there will be an Epiphany service on Monday, January 6.
- e) Pastor is working on a new member class to begin shortly after the new year.
- f) Pastor reports the Pastor's Conference was very informative.

**Reports of Officers:**

**President:** No report.

**Vice President:** No report.

**Secretary:** Council Secretary Tammy Meyer reports that the council members voted electronically on November 14 to approve the church budgets for presentation at the November 18 congregational meeting.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Kim Toellner is not present, but a written report was submitted.

**Board of Elders:** Chair Craig Meyer presents a written and verbal report.

- i. The Elders voted to accept the transfer of Ronald and Sara Fannin.
- ii. A peaceful release was granted to Amy Schnetzler Campbell.
- iii. Elders approved the purchase of a robot vacuum at a cost up to \$800.

**Board of Property:** Chair Darren Linneman presents a verbal report:

- i. He continues to monitor for groundhog damage following extermination efforts; there appears to be no current activity.
- ii. He expresses thanks to everyone who helped with the property cleanup.
- iii. Steve's Pest Control came back to re-treat for flies.

**Board of Christian Education:** Chair Andrea Thacher is not present, but a written report was submitted for the agenda and Pastor Ketelsen provides an overview:

- i. A Sunday School Facebook group has been created.
- ii. Christmas program rehearsals have been scheduled; the children's Christmas program will be December 22, replacing the sermon.
- iii. When Sunday school resumes there will be four teachers: Larry Davis, Glenda Gerhardt, Jasmine Campbell and Andrea Thacher.

**School Board:** Chair Gayle Linneman is not present, but the proposed budget was submitted for the agenda and vote. Gene reports a new checking account has been opened to keep school and scholarship funds separate.

**Board of Stewardship:** Chair Sharon Strough presents a verbal report:

- i. A sign-up sheet for Wednesday Advent service meals has been posted.

- ii. There will be a light reception in the Narthex following the December 22 service.
- iii. Plans are being made for a fellowship evening the weekend before or after Christmas for those who want to participate.

Earl Mangels made a motion to approve all board reports. Sharon seconds the motion, and it carried.

**Unfinished business:** None.

**New Business:**

**Approval of School Budget:** It is noted that the kindergarten scholarship income budget line item should be corrected to \$15, 000 not \$155,000. The total income should also be corrected to \$62,065. Craig motions to approve the school budget. Gary seconds the motion and the vote passes.

**Approval of Church Budget:** Craig reports there were changes to Pastor's health insurance with an increase in the deductible. There is a proposed increase to Pastor's salary to offset the deductible increase. There are other adjustments to pastoral ministry items.

**Update on Insurance:** Gene reports changes to the building insurance as well. The premium on hail and wind is 1% of replacement value. There is no flood or earthquake insurance – we haven't had it for approximately 20 years. The previous deductible was \$5000 and because we had no claims, we have a credit of \$2,500. The council voted to approve an increase of the deductible to \$10,000 to save \$707 on the premium. Workman's comp insurance stayed the same.

Craig motions to approve the church budget; Billy Mac Wells seconds. The motion carries and the budgets are approved.

**Mission giving for next year:** The approved budget includes \$10,000 for missions in 2025.

**Choose Delegate for 2025 Convention:** Pastor has talked with Terry Ehlers and Gary Naumann who have agreed to serve as delegates. If approved, Terry will be the primary and Gary the alternate. Jason motions to accept Terry

and Gary as delegates; Norman seconds. The motion carries.

**Announcements:** None.

**Adjournment:** Earl motions to adjourn and Jason seconds the motion. Meeting adjourned.

**Closing Prayer:** The meeting closed with everyone reciting the Lord's prayer.

**Attendees:** Twenty-nine members and one guest were in attendance.

Bob Schnetzler; Earl Mangels; Patty Mangels (guest); Norman Lenger; Randy Strough; Sharon Strough; Craig Meyer; Donald Meyer; Billy Mac Wells; Pat Lenger; Lori Linneman; Darren Linneman; Larry Davis; Georgia Davis; Gene Cummins; Diane Cummins; Terry Ehlers; Gladys Moore; Gary Naumann; Josh Derendinger; Tim Derendinger; Karen Schnetzler; Glenda Gerhardt; Pastor Joshua Ketelsen; Stefani Ketelsen; Wanda Derendinger; Jason Linneman; Tim Fahrenbrink; Arlene Loesing; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Meyer  
Church Council Secretary

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

Our November was another busy and fun month. We have finished our alphabet pages. During September and October, we did letters A-O. In November we covered letters P-Z. We covered A through F in September. In November we made a **Pig, Queen, Rabbit, Snake, Tiger, Umbrella Bird, Volcano, Watermelon, Fox, Yak and Zebra**. We have brought our letter bags with us to school every day to show our friends what we found in our house that starts with the letter of the day.

In chapel Pastor Ketelsen began teaching us about the Introduction to the Creed. He explained the creed is a prayer stating what we believe about God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The first part of the creed is about God creating everything. The second part of the creed talks Creation and the Fall. everything we need. God knitted us in the womb and takes care of us always. Ms. Glenda taught us about Namaan, Jonah, and Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

We had our Grandparent Cooking Day. We had so much fun. Everybody had one of more adults with them. We had a smorgasbord of food. Our adults helped us make a turkey out of our handprints and footprints. Our adults then took our turkey craft and our pilgrim home to decorate the table at our Thanksgiving meal.

Upcoming Dates in **December**

19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Christmas Program & Party  
 Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> NO SCHOOL

**KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN**

We are approaching the end of a calendar and the half way point of the school year. How? I don't know. These kids have been working hard! We have learned all the basic letter sounds. This means, we can start Reading Circle!

Before Thanksgiving break we worked on making Advent wreathes for the students to take home. We hope these are a blessing to them and their families by encouraging them to keep Christ at the center of Christmas.

Speaking of Advent, do not be alarmed if you see wise men traveling throughout the church. The Kindergarten students will be following the wise men's journey to see Jesus.

We did lots of turkey activities in November. We disguised some turkeys, so they wouldn't become dinner. We painted pinecones to look like turkeys.

In the afternoon, the students have been traveling around the world. They enjoyed the cuisine of Italy, discussed the canals of the Netherlands, and "stamped" their "passports" to a few other places. They were able to have their own grandparent cooking day in the afternoon. What a treat!

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of our program. We love what we do and seeing the students grow physically and in their faith is priceless.

In HIS Service,  
 The Kindergarten Team

**STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD**

The Children's Christmas Program during the worship service on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please attend to support them.

Immanuel will ring the Salvation Army Bell on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who volunteered to help.

There will be an Advent Meal before the Advent Midweek Services. Check the sign up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to bring something for the meal.

There were 4 prayer requests in November.



The suggested donations in the month of December for the NHN Food Pantry is paper products (paper plates, paper towels, etc.).

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, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



**Copies of sermons are available.** If you missed a service, or just loved one immensely, copies are available on our church website, [ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church](http://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.

# UPCOMING ADVENT SPECIAL SERVICES



## *Advent Services*

*\*Wednesday, December 4, 6:30 p.m.*

*\*Wednesday, December 11, 6:30 p.m.*

*\*Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.*

*\*There will be a Light Supper before the Midweek Advent Services*

*Children's Christmas Program, Sunday, December 22 during the  
9:00 a.m. worship service*

*Christmas Eve Service*

*Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 p.m.*

*Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion*

*Wednesday, December 25, 9:00 a.m.*

*Epiphany Service with Holy Communion*

*Monday, January 6, 6:30 p.m.*

## From the Missouri District LCMS 2024 Annual Report

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Fiscal Year 2024 Budget: **\$3,845,098**

### MISSOURI MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

**\$776,681**



District outreach ministries within include urban, rural and small town, campus, multi-ethnic, military, shared ministry, as well as new starts and restarts. The District also provides coaching for those focusing on missions in Missouri.

### ECCLESIASTICAL SERVICES

**\$336,621**



The District provides structure and support of rostered church workers, congregations, and schools—especially in ecclesiastical matters.

### NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

**\$530,147**



The District supports the work of the national office of Synod and the many initiatives of the LCMS including both National and International Missions.

### SERVING OUR CONGREGATIONS AND CHURCH WORKERS

**\$854,489**



The District offers support to congregations, Lutheran schools, and church workers. This includes support for Family Discipleship, Community Engagement, and Church Worker Recruitment and Retention.

### OFFICIAL CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

**\$705,187**



The District conducts various gatherings in support of the work of congregations and Lutheran schools and their workers.

### GENERAL OFFICE AND ADVANCEMENT

**\$641,973**



The District office carries out the day-to-day administration, as well as fundraising. This includes legal, audit, accounting, insurance, as well as certain costs associated with the Board of Directors.

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

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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