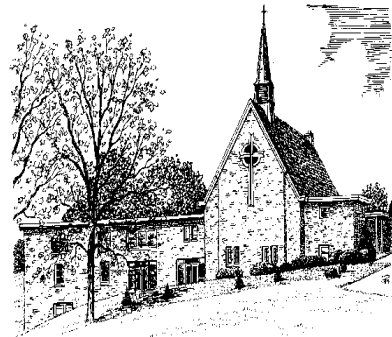


# The King's Business

March, 2025

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 59, NO. 3



## The Pastor's Page

I've been doing a fair amount of premarital counseling recently and, as part of that counseling, I do a brief Bible study on the topics of love and marriage in the Bible. And during that Bible study, I always make a statement that sounds a bit odd to American ears: Love can be commanded.

We don't typically think about love in those terms. To the average American, love is a mystical emotion. A warm, fuzzy feeling that is beyond our control. But that's not at all how Jesus talks about love. For Jesus, love is a command.

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" A Pharisee once asked Jesus. And what did Jesus reply? "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Love can be commanded. In fact, love is commanded. We are commanded to love God. We are commanded to love our neighbor. Which means that, for sinful human beings, love is not Gospel. It is Law. Love is the entire Law and the entire Law is about love.

It's not that way for God. For God, love is Gospel. Why? Because God has no obligation to love us. We are sinners. He is not. He can show nothing but anger and judgment to us and still be completely righteous for doing so. For God to show us any amount of grace, mercy, or compassion is withholding wrath that we deserve. God's love for us is pure gospel. But our love for God and our neighbor? That's Law.

In marriage, this is most evident in obeying the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment: You shall not commit adultery. When a husband and wife remain faithful to each other for long as they both shall live, they do so in obedience to the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment. But in obeying the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment, they are also showing love for each other. Because love, like the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment, can be commanded.

But this shows up in many other facets of our lives. One of the most interesting, to me, is the topic of civics and government. Did you know it is the God given duty and authority of the government to enforce your love for your neighbor? Let me explain.

In Romans 13, Paul commands us to be subject to the governing authorities. He tells us that these authorities have been instituted by God and that anyone who resists the authority of the government is resisting the authority of God himself and will receive God's judgement for that resistance.

In short, the governing authorities are an extension of God's authority in the civil realm. They are one of many ways that we feel the first use of the law in our lives, for they exist to curb our sinful behavior, particularly when it comes to how we interact with our neighbor in the city, state, and nation around us. So when a person is arrested, tried, and convicted of murder, the governing authorities are enforcing the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment. When a person is arrested, tried, and convicted of theft, the governing authorities are enforcing the 7<sup>th</sup> commandment, and so on.

But here's the thing: those commandments exist as part of Jesus' command to love your neighbor. The

government is simply enforcing that commandment in accord with God's purposes for it. That is why God puts every governing authority on earth. As Paul says, the government exists to bear the sword for our good.

That's something that is often lost in our understanding of civil government today, especially by Christians. The church is fundamentally a place of Gospel. Yes, we apply the Law when we need to, convicting people of sin. But our ultimate goal is always to proclaim God's forgiveness. And, as a result, we are Gospel-minded people, seeking to forgive as we have been forgiven. That's a good thing.

But the government is fundamentally not a place of Gospel. It is a place of Law. A place where evildoers should feel terror for the sins they have committed and the sword should be used to bring judgement on the criminal and justice to the oppressed.

Can the government show grace? Yes, at times. The government's ultimate goal, after all, is justice and the good of those it governs. And so, on rare occasions, there may be circumstances where the best, most just thing to do is to show a measure of grace. It happens. But it is not the norm.

It's important to remember that when evaluating the competency of the governing authorities. A government that acts like the Church is probably not doing its job, just as a church that acts like the government is probably not doing its job. We each have a role in God's kingdom. Roles that are opposite, in many ways, yet complementary. Serving together under Christ's authority to bring Law and Gospel to a world that needs both.

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](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.

## Office Hours

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

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

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

February went by very fast. Lots of weather and snow days. We had our Valentine's Parties and gave each other treats for our bags. We played a relay game with our parents.

We are working on sounds and recognition of our letters. We are writing our names in upper and lower case letters. We made an obstacle course in the fellowship hall. It was way too cold outside, so we got real creative inside. We were very good at the obstacles.

Pastor Ketelsen is still teaching us more about what the Creed says and what it means. Jesus went back to Heaven after instructing the disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. Then the Holy Spirit came down at Pentecost and helped the disciples by giving them the gift of speaking a language that different people could understand. Pastor also told us the parable of the prodigal son and taught us how much God really loves us.

Miss Gerhardt taught us about the story of the Good Samaritan and Jesus raising Jairus' daughter back to life.

Upcoming Dates in March

5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> NO SCHOOL (Conference on the Young Years)

## KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN

I think we may have had more snow days than school days in February. We are looking forward to the spring days with more outdoor play.

In February, we celebrated the 100th day of school. Before we know it, we will be celebrating the end of school year. Time is flying.

This month the teachers will be the ones learning. We head to the Lake of the Ozarks for our annual Conference on the Young Years professional development. We are looking forward to growing as educators.

Thank you for all of your support!

In HIS Service,  
The Kindergarten Team

## STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

January was a busy month for community outreach. Some events include the Pie Auction for the Boonville R-1 band programs, the Kiwanis chili dinner and silent auction, Guns and Hoses basketball game and silent auction for autism, and the Blue Out basketball game held at Boonville High School between New Franklin and Boonville high schools for students and staff battling cancer.

LCMS has announced that no Lutheran churches or schools were destroyed in the devastating California fires, although some members lost homes and/or businesses. Please continue to pray for those affected by these fires and by other disasters.

There will be a Missouri District Youth Gathering coming up on April 4-6, 2025 at Cross Pointe Retreat Center in Rocky Mount, MO. The LCMS Youth Gathering Missouri District Event will be Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, the last day of the National Youth Gathering.

There are new magazines and newsletter on the Narthex table.

At the January meeting of Retired Teachers and Staff of Cooper County there was a presentation from Area Agency on Aging. Their program was very informative. The poster listing all services available will be located on the bulletin board across from the member boxes.

Election of Chairs of Boards and Elders will be later this year. Please take a serious evaluation of your time and talents that will make these boards continue to be successful.

The after church service meet-and-greet (with treats to eat and drink) will continue. Everyone seems to enjoy visiting with others during these times. Looking forward, there will be a breakfast served after the Easter Sunrise service.

There were 6 prayer requests in January, and in February there were 6 prayer requests.





The suggested donations in the month of March for the NHN Food Pantry is cash donations to purchase Easter meals. 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, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



**EASTER LILIES:** The Altar Guild will be accepting donations for Easter Lilies **beginning March 16<sup>th</sup> – April 13<sup>th</sup>.** 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!



**Thrivent Choice** – Please consider designated Thrivent Choice dollars to Immanuel Lutheran Church or to the School. Thousands of available dollars in Mid-Missouri go undesignated every year. All 2025 Choice Dollars must be designated by March 31. An easy way to donate your Thrivent Choice dollars is to call 800-847-4836. Tell them you want Choice Dollars. You will need your ID # that is on your policy. They will donate your Choice dollars to wherever you want., such as Immanuel Lutheran Church, Neighbors helping Neighbors, etc.



**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!



**Concordia Seminary Choir Tour**

*Laudamus*, a select choir of seminarians preparing for full-time service as pastors in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will be performing at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2201 Rollins Rd., Columbia, MO as part of its 2025 tour, "My Song is Love Unknown." Under the direction of Dr. Samuel Eatherton, kantor and the Kreft Professor for Music Arts, the choir delights in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music. Come and be delighted by the musical offerings of these future pastors! The Concert is free and open to the public, and a freewill offering will be taken.



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.

# ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL 10 POINT PITCH TOURNAMENT

\$10 ENTRY FEE/\$20 PER TEAM  
50/50 RAFFLE

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025

ZION ACTIVITY CENTER

17291 Lone Elm Road, Bunceton, MO 65237

DOORS OPEN 4:30 P.M.

TOURNAMENT BEGINS 5:30 P.M.

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE:

PULLED PORK NACHOS

PULLED PORK SANDWICH

HOT DOGS

DESSERTS

SODAS, ETC.

Hosted by: Zion Lutheran School PTL

2025 - MARCH - 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2/23 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	2/24/2025	2/25 1p Ladies Bible Study	2/26 6:30p Bibles and BBQ Men's Group	2/27 7a Breakfast Bible Study	2/28/2025	3/1/2025 9a-4p 80th birthday party in Fellowship Hall
3/2 Worship/HC 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	3	4 1p Ladies Bible Study 7p Elders <i>Pastor to Circuit Meeting</i>	5 6:30p Ash Wednesday Service/HC <i>No School - Professioanl Development</i>	6 7a Breakfast Bible Study <i>Pastor out in am after Bible Study</i> <i>No School - Professioanl Development</i>	7 <i>No School - Professioanl Development</i>	8
9 <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i> 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	10 <i>No School - Professioanl Development</i>	11 1p Ladies Bible Study	12 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Midweek	13 7a Breakfast Bible Study	14	15
16 9a Worship/HC 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	17	18 1p Ladies Bible Study 7p Council	19 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:30p Lenten Midweek	20 7a Breakfast Bible Study	21 <i>Community Prayer Breakfast</i>	22 5:30p Zion Pitch Tournament
23 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	24	25 1p Ladies Bible Study	26 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:30p Lenten Midweek	27 7p Breakfast Study	28	29
30 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study and Sunday School	31	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-Apr	4/5/2025

Those Serving the Church				
Service:	Organists:	Readers:	Elders:	Altar Guild:
3/2	Tammy Poulsen	Craig Meyer	Tim Fahrenbrink	Diane Cummins Sharon Thoma
3/5 Ash Wednesday	Diane Cummins	Craig Meyer	Craig Meyer	
3/9	Gladys Moore	Gary Naumann	Tim Fahrenbrink	
3/12 Lenten Midweek	Diane Cummins		Gary Naumann	
3/16	Tammy Poulsen	Julie Thacher	Tim Fahrenbrink	
3/19 Lenten Midweek	Gladys Moore		Tim Fahrenbrink	
3/23	Diane Cummins	Penny Cain	Tim Fahrenbrink	
3/26 Lenten Midweek	Gladys Moore		Louis Stock	
3/30	Tammy Poulsen	Sharon Strough	Tim Fahrenbrink	

**CHURCH STATISTICS**

Date	Worship	Facebook Live/Total	Sunday School/Youth/Adult Bible Class
1 / 5	NA	39/66	No in church service due to weather
1 / 6	NA	11/23	
1/12	91	14/31	5/0/16
1/19	77	9/12	2/0/14
1/26	80	8/15	2/0/15
YTD Income including LCEF as of 1/31/2025			
YTD Expenses as of 1/31/2025			

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:** None

**MARCH SCRIPTURE READERS**

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

- 3/2 Craig Meyer
- 3/5 Craig Meyer (Ash Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.)
- 3/9 Gary Naumann
- 3/16 Julie Thacher
- 3/23 Penny Cain
- 3/30 Sharon Strough

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH**

- March 5** Penny and Gordon Cain  
Lance and Mary Franklin
- March 26** Darren and Lori Linneman

**BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

- March 1** Tyler Frederick  
Mark Loesing  
Kaitlyn Maggard  
Jaxson Templemire
- March 3** Ginger Gholson  
Stephanie Mawia  
Louis Stock
- March 4** William Thacher  
Joshua Ketelsen  
Emilia Ketelsen
- March 6** Landon Scott
- March 9** Marcella Frederick
- March 10** Taylor Day
- March 11** Dennis Handley
- March 12** Amanda Ellis
- March 14** Gabriel Schrader
- March 15** Addison Derendinger
- March 19** Suzanne Ayers  
Denise Klekamp  
Sandra Houston  
Tyler Peterson  
Jason Mathis
- March 21** Adam Chenault  
Kimberly Burnett  
Brady Gholson
- March 22** Maggie Voss  
Ally Franklin-Scott
- March 23** Matthew Locke
- March 24** Jordan Ayers  
Evan Franklin  
Candrick Walk
- March 25** Maralyn DeWall  
Ashley Schrader  
Ellen Derendinger
- March 26** Jodee Stock
- March 28** Donald Martin  
Sharron Toellner
- March 29** Donna Vollmer
- March 30** Edward Frederick
- March 31** Steven Gibson

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

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

March, 2025 Vol. 58, No. 3

Published Monthly

[www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church](http://www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church)

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Remember to “spring forward” and turn your clocks ahead as Daylight Saving Time begins on March 9<sup>th</sup>!