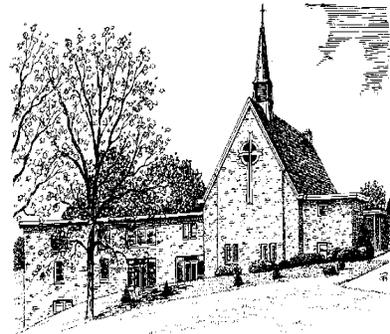


# The King's Business

March, 2026

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 60, NO. 3



## The Pastor's Page

St. Patrick is one of the most recognized figures in Christian history. Though much of what we commonly associate with him is more legend than history. The real story of St. Patrick is far more interesting, in my opinion.

Patrick was born in Roman Britain in the late fourth century. At the age of 16 years old, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken to Ireland. There he was sold into slavery and forced to tend sheep. He spent six years in captivity. In his own writing, the *Confessio*, Patrick recalls how, during that lonely and painful time, the Lord used his suffering to awaken him spiritually. He prayed constantly. What had once been nominal Christianity became a living faith.

Eventually, Patrick escaped. He fled his master, traveled roughly 200 miles to the coast, and found passage on a ship that carried him back home. He was reunited with his family. By every human measure, his ordeal was over.

But the Lord wasn't finished with him. After years of preparation for ministry, Patrick had a vision. In it, he heard the voices of the Irish calling him back: "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more." And so, the land where he had once been held captive became the field to which Christ sent him as a missionary.

He returned to the very people who had enslaved him. To those who had taken him from his family. And he returned not with retaliation, but with the Word of Life. He returned so that his former captors might hear of Christ and be saved.

Our Lord teaches in Matthew 5, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." He says, "If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also." For many of us, these are abstract hypotheticals. But St. Patrick lived out these ideals.

And I can't imagine it was easy. The natural human response to injustice is vengeance. When we're harmed, we want the one who hurt us to suffer. Yet Christ calls us to something radically different: not the destruction of our enemies, but their repentance. Not their ruin, but their life.

Patrick understood this. Not because he was naturally noble, but because he had come to understand the Gospel. He had come to understand the truth that we were all once enemies of God. But, as St. Paul writes in Romans 5, "While we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son." We rebelled against God. And what did Christ do?

He didn't take vengeance. He didn't summon legions of angels. He didn't crush His enemies. Instead, He stretched out His hands on the cross. He bore our sin. He endured our punishment. He prayed, "Father, forgive them." And He sacrificed Himself so that we might live.

Patrick reflected the mercy that Christ had shown him. When he returned to Ireland, he faced real danger. The social and political landscape was hostile. Yet through preaching, teaching, baptizing, and patient endurance, the Lord used him to bring many to faith. Those who once would have enslaved him became, by grace, his brothers and sisters in Christ.

St. Patrick's return to Ireland became a living illustration of Christ's command. We live by Christ's mercy and we are called to show Christ's mercy.

This month, the world remembers St. Patrick as a symbol of Irish heritage. But, as Christians, we remember something more. We give thanks for a man who, having been rescued by Christ, became an instrument of rescue for others. Even for those who had once harmed him.

And we pray that the same Lord who turned Patrick's captivity into mission would turn our wounds into

witness and turn our enemies into fellow heirs of eternal life.

May God bless you this St. Patrick's Day and throughout 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.*

Copies of sermons are available. If you missed a service, or just want to reflect on one, copies are available at [ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church](http://ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church), our church website. 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!*

### ***Office Hours***

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

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

## **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

**Custodian:** Cora Linneman, Tiffany Bowers

**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 is not meeting at this time.

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

**Tuesday Ladies Bible Class** meets on Tuesdays 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 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. They are on break until after Easter.

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

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

February 15, 2026

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

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

**Acceptance of New Assembly Members:** No new members.

**Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda:** Following a call for amendments to the agenda, the agenda was accepted as presented.

**Approve Minutes** from November 16, 2025 Congregational Assembly Meeting: Gary Naumann motions to approve the minutes. Craig Meyer seconds and the motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Ketelsen provides a verbal report:

A. Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday; the series is "For Us".

B. A new member class will be formed in the near future.

### Reports of Officers:

**President:** No report.

**Vice President:** No report.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Kim Toellner presents written financial reports. Responding to an inquiry about the solar panels, Kim reports we have received no invoices from the company in several months. Pastor indicates one panel needs to be reset but the other two are working.

**Board of Elders:** Chair Craig Meyer reviews a written report:

a. Tim Fahrenbrink and Cody Waibel will not seek reelection.

b. Chrystal Williams and family donated an iPad for use with the organ system. This will be an improvement over the laptop that was used previously.

**Board of Property:** Chair Adam Templemire presents a verbal report:

a. The janitorial position for the downstairs has been filled.

b. A bid was received from Cintas for cleaning supplies, and it was determined to be double the price of current expenses so we will not pursue a contract with them.

c. Adam had a conversation with Steve's Pest Control regarding the current pest issues. Steve's will address those concerns with additional treatments. They will also begin treating the offices at no additional charge.

d. Neville & Sons Carpet Cleaning will spot clean the pews to remove wax deposits and clean the carpets in the sanctuary, narthex, down the hall, and the administrative offices, all for \$450.

**Board of Christian Education:** Chair Jasmine Campbell is not present; Pastor reports VBS kit materials have been received.

**School Board:** Chair Gayle Linneman is not present; no report.

**Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** Chair Gaven Linneman is not present; no report. Terry Ehlers reports that plastic sacks are still needed for the Food Pantry. He also overviews other outreach opportunities.

Christian Stock motions to approve the Board reports. Earl Mangels seconds the motion and it carries.

### Unfinished Business:

a. Update on Investments: Gene provides an overview of the investment accounts:

i. Southern Bank account is a CD that now totals approximately \$31,000. The CD will renew on February 21 and the investment committee agreed to renew it for 7 months.

ii. The Thrivent fund made about \$12,000 within six months last year; it totals around \$198,000 currently. Gene and Patty are working on online account access.

iii. The Edward Jones account 12887 totaling \$105,000 and the Guided Solutions account totaling \$181,000 were moved to Edward Jones several years ago. Some of the 12887 account was used for general expenses last year as well as playground expenses.

iv. The 26479 account is in a money market account.

v. The 27465 account totaling \$140,000 is a one-year CD;

vi. The 27871 account totals \$28,000 and is money that was donated from a member a few years ago.

b. Downstairs bathroom project: WonderWorks, Jason Mathis, submitted a proposal to renovate the two existing bathrooms and construct two new bathrooms in education wing. Craig overviews the written proposal and explains the initial bid was for \$28,000 but upon further discussion of the project the contractor asked to increase the bid to \$30,000. Council members have discussed and voted to approve the project for \$35,000, including contingencies. Gary Naumann moves to approve the project at \$35,000. Earl Mangels seconds the motion. Pastor mentions the rooms where the new

bathrooms will be currently used for storage and those rooms will need to be emptied with the help of school staff and members of the congregation. Christian asks about floor drains and Pastor and Craig confirm they are existing. Following a vote, the motion carried and the project is approved.

#### **New Business:**

a. Election of officers at May meeting: Gene reports Tammy Meyer will run for another term as Secretary; Gayle Linneman will run for another term as Chair of the School Board and Adam Templemire will run for Chair of the Board of Property. A President will need to be elected as Gene is now termed out. Two Elder positions also need to be filled. Anyone interested in running should reach out to Gene or Craig.

#### **Announcements:**

a. None.

Earl Mangels motions to adjourn; Larry Davis seconds the motion. The motion carries and the meeting is adjourned.

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

**Attendees:** Thirty-three members and one guest were in attendance. Craig Meyer; Randy Strough; Earl Mangels; Christian Stock; Patty Mangels (guest); Diane Cummins; Georgia Davis; Larry Davis; Louis Stock; Kimberly Toellner; Billy Mac Wells; Brenda Wells; Gary Naumann; Tom Toellner; Sharron Toellner; Norman Lenger; Pat Lenger; Don Meyer; Gene Cummins; Luanna Carpenter; Sharon Strough; Glenda Gerhardt; Ray Schrader; Terry Ehlers; Stefani Ketelesen; Cody Waibel; Tim Fahrenbrink; Bob Schnetzler; Karen Schnetzler; Susan Templemire; Brandy Templemire; Adam Templemire; Pastor Joshua Ketelesen; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Meyer  
Church Council Secretary

## **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

We are beginning a new adventure in our classroom! The children will be coloring pages for each letter of the alphabet. Each day, your child will bring a Show and Tell item that starts with the letter of the day. By the end of the school year, they will have a complete

alphabet book to take home. We are excited to watch them grow in their letter recognition and confidence!

Our Valentine's parties were a wonderful success. Parents were able to join us and enjoy the day together. The children received lots of goodies in their treat baggies and had a great time celebrating with friends. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special.

In chapel, we have been learning about the Good Samaritan, Jairus' daughter, the Lord's Supper, and Jesus on trial. Pastor Ketelsen's chapel lessons have focused on the Creed, including the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. He has now begun teaching about the Lord's Prayer.

#### **Upcoming Events in March:**

- **March 4–10:** No school. The teachers from Immanuel will be attending a training at the lake.
- **Sunday, March 29:** Preschoolers and kindergartners will be singing at Immanuel. They have been practicing and are excited to share their song.
- **March 30 & 31:** Easter parties will be held on Monday and Tuesday.

Thank you to the members of Immanuel for giving us the opportunity to come to school at your church. We are truly grateful for your support and partnership.

We look forward to a wonderful month of March!

## **KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN**

Kindergarten has been full of excitement this month! We celebrated our 100th Day of school! They thought it was pretty funny when Mrs. Ketelsen walked around with a cane pretending to be 100 years old. The students were so proud to mark this milestone and show just how much they've grown and learned in 100 days.

Valentine's Day brought a wonderful reminder of kindness and friendship. We enjoyed sharing cards and treats with one another. We wore our PJs and snuggled in for a movie and popcorn.

Lately, our classroom has also caught a serious case of Winter Olympics fever! We have been watching various events daily during snack time. The students have been especially fascinated with curling. During indoor recess, we've improvised our own version—using a hover soccer ball as the "stone" and a Swiffer as the broom.

It has been a joyful season of learning, laughter, and lots of movement. Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us each day!

In HIS Service,  
The Kindergarten Team

**STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD**

Keep turning in grocery bags for Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry, as this is an ongoing need. Also any shelf stable food is needed, and if you would prefer to donate cash, it is always welcome. This past month, 18 pounds of foods were donated. Over 285 families received food items in the month of February.

*SHINE!* will be April 10-19, 2026. If you have ideas for a project, please let Pastor Ketelsen or Terry Ehlers know. We will choose what project and when to accomplish this LCMS District-wide service event. Teams are free to wear outfits of their own choosing or purchase the 2026 *SHINE!* T-shirt at a special online store created just for this occasion. Head to [mo.lcms.org/shine](http://mo.lcms.org/shine) for more details.

The Missouri District Youth Gathering will be April 17-19. See Pastor Ketelsen if you are interested.

When approached by some type of mailing requesting a financial donation, be sure to check the mailing address. The Missouri Synod has numerous needs, as well as other Lutheran organizations.

*For Us* daily devotions for Lent are available on the table in the narthex. These devotions follow the midweek sermon series. There is always other reading materials available, too. Take home to read and return when you have time.

The schedule of Easter activities is in the Special Services notification elsewhere in the newsletter. Refer to it so you can plan ahead. Don't forget the Lenten Midweek services are also online if you are unable to attend in person.



The suggested donations in the month of March for the NHN Food Pantry is cash donations for 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



**EASTER LILIES:** The Altar Guild will be accepting donations for Easter Lilies from **March 1<sup>st</sup> through March 29<sup>th</sup>.** If you wish to donate a lily, **please** use the sign-up sheet which will be on the table in the narthex. **Cost per plant is \$20.00.** Take an envelope that is provided and 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!



*Luther's Morning Prayer*

*"I thank you, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."*



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH DINNER

*Proceeds will benefit the roof replacement project*

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

4:30 – 7:30 P.M.

ZION ACTIVITY CENTER

LONE ELM, MO

FREE WILL DONATION MEAL:

Smoked Ham & Chicken

Baked Potato, Green Beans & Corn

Assorted Salads & Desserts

DINE IN OR TO-GO OPTIONS

EXTRAS:

Silent Auction

Country Store

Whole Hog Raffle – Tickets are \$10.00 each

\*See a Zion Church Member for tickets\*

\*Fully handicap accessible\*



## 2026 Special Services

*All Lenten Midweek Services at 6:30 pm*

*\*March 4, Midweek Lenten Service*

*\*March 11, Midweek Lenten Service*

*\*March 18, Midweek Lenten Service*

*\*March 25, Midweek Lenten Service*

*\*5:30 pm – Light meal and desserts prior to worship service*



## Holy Week Services

*9:00 am, March 29, Palm Sunday/Children sing*

*6:30 pm, April 2, Maundy Thursday Service/HC*

*6:30 pm, April 3, Good Friday Service*



## April 5, Easter Sunday

*6:45 am, Flowering of the Cross*

*7:00 am, Easter Sunrise with Holy Communion*

*8:15 am, Fellowship Breakfast with Easter Egg Hunt*

*10:00 am, Easter Festival Worship with Holy Communion*

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

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