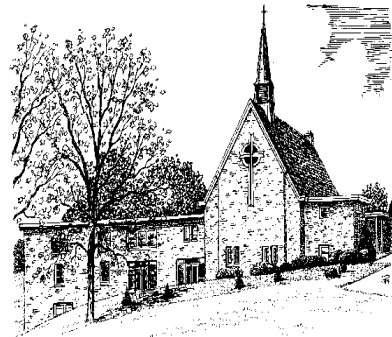


The King's Business

April & May, 2026

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 60, NO. 4 & 5



The Pastor's Page

Each year on Trinity Sunday, Immanuel joins congregations all over the world to confess one of the most substantial and carefully worded statements of Christian faith ever written: the Athanasian Creed. Longer and more detailed than the Apostles' or Nicene Creeds, it often stands out simply because of its length and its precise, almost technical language. One look at creed makes it obvious why Trinity Sunday, which focuses on the mystery and revelation of the one true God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, provides the ideal setting for this creed. Its entire purpose is to confess clearly who the Triune God is and how He has made Himself known to us.

One of the most distinctive features of the Athanasian Creed is its almost rhythmic repetition. It speaks in balanced phrases: "not confounding the persons, nor dividing the substance," and "the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God; and yet there are not three Gods, but one God." And while this wording certainly makes it easier to read aloud, it also serves a theological purpose.

For the history of the church is filled with misunderstandings regarding the nature of the Trinity. Errors that either collapse the three persons into one or separate them into three gods. By emphasizing 'both this and that' and 'neither this nor that', the creed holds together the two essential truths that Scripture reveals: that God is one, and that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are each fully and eternally God.

Another striking feature is the creed's clarity about the person and work of Christ. It doesn't stop with the doctrine of the Trinity in the abstract but moves directly

into the incarnation. It confesses that our Lord Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully man, "perfect God and perfect man," with a rational soul and human flesh.

Again, the Athanasian Creed holds in tension two seemingly contradictory statements. And yet, two truths that must both be true for our salvation. Only if Christ is truly God can He overcome sin and death, and only if He is truly man can He stand in our place under the Law. The Athanasian Creed makes this connection explicit, showing that the doctrine of the Trinity is not an inconsequential teaching, but is essential to the Gospel itself.

In this way, the Athanasian Creed (like all good and true confessions of the faith) serves as both a teacher and a guardian for Christians. It teaches by summarizing the witness of Scripture in clear and memorable language. It guards by drawing firm lines where Scripture draws them, protecting the Church from teachings that would distort or diminish the saving work of Christ. In a world where confusion about truth is common, such clarity is a great gift.

There is also a devotional value to the creed that is sometimes overlooked. It's careful distinctions and repeated phrases mold our thinking about God, giving us a way to confess the incomprehensible. I won't claim to be able to recite the entire Athanasian Creed by heart, but on numerous occasions I have found myself quoting snippets of it when faced with a paradoxical statement about the Almighty. In those moments, it's actually a great comfort to know with certainty that, while what I'm saying may be irrational from a limited human

perspective, it is faithful to what the Scriptures reveal about the Triune God.

Ultimately, the use of the Athanasian Creed on Trinity Sunday reminds us that the Christian faith is not vague or undefined. It is rooted in the concrete revelation of God in Scripture and in history, especially in the sending of His Son for our salvation. To confess this creed is to stand with the Church across the centuries, speaking the same truth and trusting in the same Lord. It is a confession that shapes our understanding, steadies our faith, and directs our hearts to the Triune God, who has done all things for our salvation.

May God bless you this Trinity Sunday and through the month of May,

-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 want to reflect on one, copies are available at 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!

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

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. - 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 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.

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

March 17, 2026

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

Opening Prayer: Pastor Ketelsen opened the meeting with prayer.

Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda: Gayle Linneman requests to add a topic for the school budget; With no further amendments offered the agenda was accepted without dissent.

Approve Minutes of January 20, 2026: Gayle motions to approve the minutes; Jason Linneman seconds and the motion carries.

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

- There has been good attendance at Lenten services.
- He is still organizing a new member class.
- The copy machine has been down for one and a half weeks as there is an issue with a backordered part. We will seek credit on the monthly maintenance expense or request a loaner machine be provided.

Reports of Officers:

- a. **President's Report:** Gene reports \$2700 in pledges toward the bathroom project.
- b. **Vice President's Report:** No report.
- c. **Secretary's Report:** No report.
- d. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kim Toellner is not present but written financial reports are provided and reviewed.
- e. **Elder's Report:** Chair Craig Meyer presents written report.
- f. **Board of Property:** Chair Adam Templemire presents a verbal report:
 - i. The stone cross above the altar still leaks when it rains. Adam received an estimate of \$1000 to repair it. Gayle motions to have the company perform the repairs for a cost up to \$1700; Craig Meyer seconds the motion and it carries.
 - ii. The estimates for the sign repair have been submitted to the insurance company. The quotes are \$14,500 for masonry work; \$10,000 for lettering; \$2000 for cleanup of the damaged sign. We will wait for the insurance settlement before committing to the repairs.

iii. The Security committee has requested the purchase of an AED for the basement level. Gaven Linneman suggests looking for grant funding. Adam has tested the existing unit, and it is functioning.

iv. The fluorescent light ballasts were replaced in the men's bathroom.

v. The boiler inspection has been completed. A new automatic bleeder is needed. A quote has been received for \$4300; another quote will be requested from Specialized Mechanical.

vi. The carpets have been cleaned.

vii. The insurance rider for the school has been renewed.

viii. The damaged metal railing along the drive has been removed and is being replaced.

g. **Board of Christian Education/LYF:** Chair Jasmine Campbell reports she would like to clean up the basement Sunday school room; she will make an announcement to request assistance. A letter will be sent with preschoolers and kindergartners to invite their families to Easter service.

h. **School Board:** Chair Gayle Linneman has no report.

i. **Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** Chair Gaven Linneman presents a verbal report. There will be cookies and fruit served following the March 29 service.

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

Unfinished Business:

a. **Sign replacement:** The insurance claim is pending with the insurance company.

b. **Update on bathroom:** A down payment for bathroom renovations will be due in April. A workday is needed soon to clean out the rooms that will be renovated.

c. **Update on Officer Elections:** We are still seeking Elder nominations. All other open positions have a candidate that will run.

New Business:

a. **Church Directory:** The congregation will be polled at the next assembly meeting to gauge interest in a new directory and request a volunteer to organize.

- b. **Stained glass repair:** A quote of \$1500 was received to repair the broken stained-glass window. Following discussion, no action will be taken at this time.
- c. **School Budget:** The proposed budget is presented. Craig motions to approve the budget to be presented to the Congregational Assembly. Gaven seconds the motion and it carries.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: Gaven motions to adjourn and Jasmine 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; Craig Meyer; Adam Templemire; Gaven Linneman; Gayle Linneman; Jasmine Campbell and Tammy Meyer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer
Church Council Secretary

PRESCHOOL NEWS

I cannot believe it is already the end of the school year. This last couple of months has been fantastic. We had 19 children sing in church on Palm Sunday. They did such a fantastic job. I love to listen to children praise Jesus. Thank you to all the families who came to hear the children sing.

Our Easter parties were fun also. The children did their Easter egg hunt and gave each other treats in their bags. A big thank you to all the parents who came to celebrate with us. A special thank you to James and Laura Martinez for providing and setting out the Easter eggs for the party.

We are still working on our recognition and sounds of the alphabet. We only have three letter to go.

Pastor Ketelsen is teaching more about the Lord's Prayer Miss Gerhardt taught us all about Easter. We learned about Jesus eating a meal with the disciples and the special meal He gave to them, and then going to a garden to pray to God, the soldiers coming to arrest Jesus, Judas betraying Jesus, the trail, crucifixion and death of Jesus, Then JESUS RESURRECTION?

UPCOMING DATES:

May 4 & 5 Science Days
May 6 & 7 Water Days
May 7 MWF class graduation
May 8 Picnic at Harley Park

KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN

April – As we step into the freshness of spring, our kindergarteners are buzzing with energy. The warmer weather has given us more opportunities to enjoy God's creation and soaking up the sunshine during our learning and playtime.

Inside the classroom, we are growing in our reading skills every day, Students are gaining confidence as young readers. It is a joy to watch their excitement as the world of books continues to open up for them.

This month we also celebrated Purim, learning the story of Esther and how God worked behind the scenes to protect His people. The children enjoyed hearing the story, eating Hamantachen, and watching the Veggie Tales version.

In the afternoon, the students have been "traveling" the world. One major stop they made was Italy. They tried lasagna, spaghetti and meatballs, pizza, and gelato.

As we enter the last quarter of the school year, we are reflecting on how much we've learned and looking forward to finishing strong. We continue to thank God for each child and the growth we witness daily. May this spring season bring joy, renewal, and plenty of opportunities to learn and play together.

May – Our kindergarten classroom has been full of joy and celebration this season! As we prepared our hearts for Easter, the children loved making *resurrection rolls* and learning the sweet reminder of the empty tomb! We also enjoyed creating colorful Easter crafts.

We had an extra special day celebrating Mrs. Ketelsen's birthday with fun Mickey decorations and yummy muffins. The smiles made it a day to remember.

Now we are beginning to count down the final days of school. It's hard to believe how much we've grown! The excitement is building as we look ahead to becoming 1st graders. What a blessing it is to learn, grow, and celebrate together each day.

In HIS Service
The Kindergarten Team

SCHOOL NEWS

THE CONFERENCE ON THE YOUNG YEARS

The teachers annual trip to the Conference on the Young Years happened in March. It is a time for us to get inspired and equipped with fresh ideas for our classrooms. There were many great sessions we attended.

One such session was focused on strengthening fine motor skills through purposeful play. We explored hands on activities like threading beads, using tongs and tweezers, and creative art projects that build the small muscles children need for writing. We also learned about activities to strengthen children's core muscles. The ability to write begins at the core and works out to fine motor skills.

Science came alive during an engaging session with Steve Spangler, whose dynamic experiments reminded us that curiosity is at the heart of learning. We are excited to incorporate more simple, hands-on science activities. We hope to encourage students to ask questions about God's world.

A meaningful portion of the conference focused on supporting children through "big emotions." Teachers gained practical tools to help students identify their feelings and develop self-regulation skills.

We are grateful for the opportunity for us to grow professionally as individuals and a team.



UPDATE ON DOWNSTAIRS RESTROOM PROJECTS

To date, \$11,835.00 has been pledged/received to support the refurbishing of the men's and women's existing restrooms and for the installation of two new children's restrooms across from the Kindergarten room. This project will begin early June and completed before school begins in August. The total project cost is estimated at \$35,000. It is hoped that half of the cost can be raised with the remainder coming from investment monies.

The response to this fundraising effort has been tremendous. Thanks to all who have committed to this project. Immanuel is truly blessed with caring and supportive members!



The school needs MUSCLES on Saturday, May 9th, at 10:00 a.m. This work day is to remove ALL items from the future location of the school bathrooms and the bulky items from the main school storage area. We will move all items to the preschool so they can be sorted out during the weekdays.

Stefani plans to be at the school every week day during the summer break except Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. until everything is put away. If you are available to help sort and organize, please let her know. All ages of helpers are welcome. She will have a list of tasks for all age groups.

STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

Immanuel had a great April for Outreach, beginning with Easter services, Easter breakfast, and the Easter egg hunt. There were several activities for the District SHINE! project. Members worked on the inside and outside of Neighbors Helping Neighbors food pantry building.

On Saturday, April 18th, 12 volunteers met at the church to deliver and organize plates of cookies to be distributed to first responders in the Boonslick area, and both Cooper County and Howard County were served. The storage room off the kitchen was organized, and some things were moved and will be sent elsewhere. Some items that have outlived their usefulness will be passed on to other places.

Also on April 18th, a group started preparing the future Sunday School room in the sub-basement. The current Sunday School room will be a part of the school restroom project. Opportunities to help will be announced in future newsletters, after church, or in Sunday bulletins.

As 21st century electronic communication continues to improve, we, as confirmed individuals, need to receive Holy Communion on a regular basis to reinforce our faith. Contact Pastor or an Elder if there is a need outside of

worship for this important part of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Did you receive the "Helpful Information" from State Representative Tim Taylor? If not, one will be posted on our bulletin board in the hallway.

The new edition of Lutheran World Relief, which has great outreach articles, is on the table in the narthex. Warrensburg Lutheran Center located with CMSU is featured. If you attended or are looking at the campus, there is much information provided.

There were four prayer requests in March. April has had seven prayer requests at this time.



The suggested donations in the month of May for the NHN Food Pantry is paper products 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, May 5th, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
 Tuesday, May 1st, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 19th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



The Altar Guild gratefully acknowledges those who gave lilies for Easter Sunday. Your continued support is very much appreciated!

Gary Naumann, Patricia Loesing, Gary and Sharon Thoma, Tim and Wanda Derendinger, Norm and Pat Lenger, Bob and Karen Schnetzler, Julie Thacher, Tom and Sharron Toellner, Becky and Terry Ehlers, Brenda and Billy Wells, Doris Linneman, Wilbert and Nancy Meyer, Laura and Fred Loesing, Craig and Tammy Meyer, Marcella Frederick, Ed and Dawn Frederick.



If you are interested in donating the altar flowers for the Sunday service, please check the flower chart on the door across from the lounge. There are still Sundays available in 2026. Simply sign your name and supply a phone number. The Altar Guild members for that month will contact you concerning details. Thanks!



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 24 Kyle and Andrea Thacher

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 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 14** Brenden Meyer
Patricia Fuemmeler
- April 15** Darrel Leutung
- April 17** Jessica Frederick
- April 18** Craig Meyer
Tucker Kaiser
Logan Turk
- April 20** Mary Derendinger
Richard Vieth
- April 21** Emmah Franklin
- April 23** Joshua Derendinger
- April 25** Zachary Loesing
- April 27** Brady Stock
- April 29** Randall Ayers




MISSOURI DISTRICT NEWS:
Use Your Tax Dollars to Support Lutheran Education

Taxpayers to the state of Missouri—both individuals and businesses—have the unique opportunity to direct up to 50% of their state income tax to Lutheran Education. The tax credit program, MOScholars, allows the Missouri District to convert these dollars into scholarships for qualifying students attending LCMS schools throughout the state.

Taking part in this effort is simple and a blessing to many:

- Go to mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars to learn more and reserve your tax credits
- Select “The Missouri District” as the EAO you’d like to make use of your funds
- Send the funds to the Missouri District via check or electronically.
- Questions can be directed to Leah at 314-590-6211 or leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org

With no additional cost and minimal effort, being a part of this opportunity is easy. Thank you for your participation!



We are pleased to announce that President Rev. Dr. R. Lee Hagan has returned to work in the District office. He is currently working 20 hours a week, with plans to increase his hours incrementally. Following his stroke in July 2025, he attended a program of physical, occupational, and speech therapy and continues with ongoing rehabilitation.

President Hagan said, “We would like to express our gratitude for the generous outpouring of love and support we have experienced over the last nine months. I would especially like to thank Rev. Craig Otto for his faithful pastoral leadership to the District, the staff, and our family.”

In addition to President Hagan's medical leave, Assistant to the President Sarah Irwin has also been on leave. Colleen Backer has stepped into that role on an interim basis. Any correspondence should be directed to [President Hagan](#) or [Colleen Backer](#).

Please join us in giving thanks to God for President Hagan being able to return to the office, and continue to pray for his healing as well as for Sarah Irwin.



¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.^[a]

³ He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness^[b] for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,^[c]

I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely^[d] goodness and mercy^[e] shall follow me

all the days of my life, and I shall dwell^[f] in the house of the LORD

forever.^[g]

Psalm 23

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

April and May, 2026 Vol. 60, No. 4 & 5
Published Monthly
www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church

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