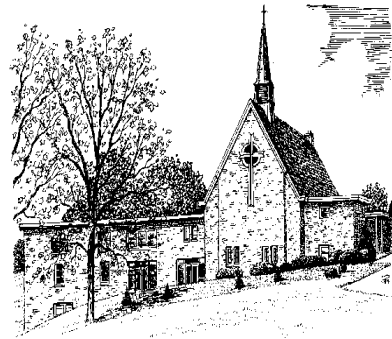


The King's Business

November, 2025

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 59, NO. 11



The Pastor's Page

November is a month for giving thanks. In a few weeks, we will gather around our tables with family and friends, enjoy the harvest's bounty, and recount the blessings God has given us. Yet for Christians, thanksgiving is not merely a yearly holiday. Every time we gather at the Lord's Table, we take part in a meal whose very name means *thanksgiving*.

The English word *Eucharist* comes directly from the Greek word meaning "to give thanks." When the Church calls the Lord's Supper the Eucharist, it reminds us that thanksgiving lies at the very heart of this holy meal. From beginning to end, the Supper is a gift that moves us to gratitude: gratitude for the body and blood of Christ given and shed for us, gratitude for forgiveness received, and gratitude for the fellowship we share as one body in Him.

It's striking how often the Gospels tell us that Jesus *gave thanks* at mealtimes. Before the feeding of the 5,000, Jesus took the loaves and fish, *looked up to heaven, and gave thanks* (John 6:11). Again, before the feeding of the 4,000, He *gave thanks* and broke the bread (Mark 8:6). At the Last Supper, "He took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you'" (Luke 22:19).

Why this repeated mention of giving thanks? Because Jesus' thanksgiving shows us what true gratitude looks like. Even knowing that His path led to the cross, Jesus gave thanks. Even on the night He was betrayed, He lifted His eyes to His Father and spoke words of blessing. He gave thanks not merely for bread and wine, but for the chance to fulfill the Father's saving will. His thanksgiving was not based on comfort, abundance, or ease. It was grounded in faith, obedience, and love.

When we come to the Lord's Table, we enter that same spirit of thanksgiving. We don't come with full hearts because life is easy, but because Christ is faithful. We give thanks not because we are satisfied with the things of this world, but because we have been fed with the very body and blood of our Savior. In the Supper, Jesus gives us Himself, and that gift turns every heart toward gratitude.

There's a beautiful connection between the Lord's Supper and our own Thanksgiving celebrations later in the month. On Thanksgiving Day, we gather to eat, remember, and rejoice. We give thanks for the food before us and for the hands that prepared it. We recall God's faithfulness in providing for our needs. Around those tables, we experience community, joy, and the goodness of God's creation.

The Eucharist is all of that and infinitely more. It is a meal of remembrance, for Jesus says, "Do this in remembrance of Me." It is a meal of community, for "we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:17). And it is a meal of joy, for in it, heaven and earth meet. The crucified and risen Lord sits at the head of the table, feeding His people with forgiveness that never runs dry.

Our Thanksgiving tables, wonderful as they are, point us back to this greater feast. The turkey and potatoes. The laughter and conversation. All are small foretastes of the perfect thanksgiving yet to come: the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Each time we receive the Lord's Supper, we have a foretaste of that eternal banquet, where there will be no hunger, sorrow, or tears. Only unending joy and gratitude in the presence of Christ.

As we approach Thanksgiving this year, I invite you to join us for our **Thanksgiving Eve worship service**,

where we will gather around the Lord's Table in true thanksgiving. In the Eucharist, the Giver of every good gift gives Himself to you. In bread and wine, He delivers forgiveness, life, and salvation. And as He fills you with His gifts, He fills your heart with thanks.

God's blessings to you in this season of thanksgiving,
-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!

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

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.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**September 23, 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 an item under new business for Glenda Gerhardt's recognition. Agenda was accepted with amendment.

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

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

- A new member class started with the first class convening last Sunday.
- The Johnson wedding will be held October 25th.
- Acolyte training is ongoing.
- A pre-confirmation class is being formed.
- Pastor and Craig Meyer will attend the Circuit Forum on October 5 in Columbia.

Reports of Officers:

- a. **President's Report:** No report.
- b. **Vice President's Report:** No report.
- c. **Secretary's Report:** No report.
- d. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kim Toellner not present; financial reports were made available for review.
- e. **Elder's Report:** Chair Craig Meyer presents written report.
- f. **Board of Property:** Chair Darren Linneman not present. Pastor Ketelsen reports Signature Construction presented a bid for construction of two new bathrooms, totaling \$36,048. Additional bids will be sought. The issue is tabled for further discussion. Gene reports the property insurance premium will increase \$1000 when it renews. Craig shares that Shay Plumbing contacted him about having the boiler valve repaired before winter; Specialized Mechanical Services will be contacted since they did the original install.
- g. **Board of Christian Education/LYF:** Chair Jasmine Campbell not present; Pastor Ketelsen

reports Sunday school has not yet resumed but is being planned.

h. **School Board:** No report.

i. **Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** Chair Gaven Linneman not present; Gayle reports the picnic will be Sunday with meats provided and everyone is asked to bring a side dish.

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

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- a. **Board Budgets for 2026:** Gene reminds everyone to submit budgets.
- b. **Old fencing and finishing of playground:** Pastor Ketelsen will check on the order for the remaining bags of mulch that are needed to complete the project. Gene thanks Gary Naumann & Craig for loading up the old materials and hauling them off.
- c. **Possible donation for Cash Stock:** Following discussion, Gayle motions to accept free will donations during the picnic for the benefit of Cash Stock's recovery. Craig seconds the motion and it carries.
- d. **Walmart Community Card discontinuation & approval to join Walmart's new program "Pay by Invoice":** Pastor explains the church currently takes advantage of Walmart's Community Card for Walmart purchases. This program is being discontinued and replaced with a new invoicing program that requires payment each month. Craig motions to allow the church to register and participate in the new purchase program. Jason seconds the motion and it carries.
- e. **Service Recognition:** Following discussion, Jason Linneman motions that the church award Glenda \$250 in recognition of her 25 years of service to the church. Craig seconds the motion and it carries.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: Jason 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; Craig Meyer; Gayle Linneman; Tammy Meyer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer
Church Council Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

October 26, 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: With no amendments offered, Craig Meyer motions to accept the agenda as presented. Gayle Linneman seconds the motion and the agenda was accepted without dissent.

Approve Minutes of September 23, 2025: Gayle motions to approve the minutes of the September 23 council meeting; Gaven Linneman seconds. The motion carries.

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

- The new member class continues.
- Advent materials have been received. The series will revolve around traditions of Christmas and how they connect to Christ.
- Acolyte training will resume with Elders assisting.
- There have been some insects noticed in basement. Steve's Pest Control is investigating the type of insect to determine the best treatment approach.

Reports of Officers:

- j. **President's Report:** No report.
- k. **Vice President's Report:** No report.
- l. **Secretary's Report:** No report.
- m. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kim Toellner presents written report. Financial reports are discussed. Kim makes a motion to pay \$1500 to Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Jasmine Campbell seconds and the motion carries.
- n. **Elder's Report:** Chair Craig Meyer presents written report. Pastor reports he was selected as the pastoral delegate to the Synodical

Convention next July. He will miss a Sunday service to attend.

- o. **Board of Property:** Chair Darren Linneman not preset.
 - i. Craig reports Jason Mathis is working on a quote for the new bathrooms.
 - ii. Specialized Mechanical came to look at radiators in the Fellowship Hall, and they are working. While onsite, they found an overload protector issue with the boiler that was repaired.
 - iii. Chair Darren Linneman has requested to step down from his Chair position. Gene will appoint a replacement to fill his term, and an election will be held at the Voter's Assembly in May.
- p. **Board of Christian Education/LYF:** Chair Jasmine Campbell presents verbal report.
 - i. She is interested in sending youth to a summer camp. She will continue to research available camps. Pastor will send camp literature he receives to her for consideration.
 - ii. She would also like to put on Christmas play. A possible date would be December 21. Pastor Ketelsen advises there may be some resources in the Advent series materials that she could use.
- q. **School Board:** No report.
- r. **Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** No report. The Advent mid-week meals were discussed. A sign-up sheet will be put out to gauge interest.

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

Unfinished Business:

- a. **Review of ongoing projects and budget:** The playground project is complete. Bids are forthcoming for bathrooms. Pastor reports we need to replace the door mats. Craig will source new mats.
- b. **Board Budgets are due:** Proposed board budgets were presented and discussed. Jason Linneman motions to approve the proposed budgets for presentation to the Congregational Assembly. Jasmine seconds the motion and it carries.

New Business:

- f. **Replacement of ceiling tiles:** Following discussion, all tiles on the east aisle of the

sanctuary will be replaced. Gene will ask the new Property Board Chair to assist with this task after appointment.

- g. **Christmas bonuses:** After discussion, Gayle motions to pay \$200 in Christmas bonuses to all full-time staff and the organists and \$100 for part-time staff. Gaven seconds the motion and it 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; Craig Meyer; Gayle Linneman; Gaven Linneman; Kim Toellner; Jasmine Campbell; Tammy Meyer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer
Church Council Secretary

PRESCHOOL NEWS

October Highlights!

October was a busy and fun-filled month. Boonville Fire Department came to visit us. We saw the big firetruck and all the things in it. We learned about fire safety and we even got to see Sparky the fire dog. We crawled under fake smoke out of the. We were very brave. We each got our own Junior Fire Badge and a sticker book to remind us of fire safety. 911 staff came and visited our school also. We were able to make a call to 911 and talk to the dispatcher. We learned when it was okay to call 911 and when it is not okay.

We had a Fall Festival party and our parents joined us. We handed out treats to all our friends and played a couple of games.

We were able to play outside and we loved it. We celebrated three birthdays and had yummy snacks. We did a lot of dancing, singing and playing. We also learned more stories about God. Pastor taught us about Commandments 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The stories were about the Good Samaritan, Adam & Eve, Zacchaeus, David & Jonathan. Ms. Gerhardt taught us about Gideon, David as a boy, David as a king and Elijah.

We continue to learn out alphabet, numbers, colors, shapes, opposites and sorting objects! We love school!

Upcoming in November:

Nov. 4	No School
Nov. 24	Grandparent Cooking Day
Nov. 25	Grandparent Cooking Day
Nov. 26-28	NO SCHOOL

KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten has been busy and full of learning this fall! We're working hard on blending sounds together to become confident readers. Our math skills are excelling as we practice counting, money, and shapes in hands-on ways.

With the cooler weather, we're enjoying recess outside again—running, playing, and exploring God's beautiful creation.

In Chapel we're learning Old Testament accounts and seeing how God's promises and love have guided His people through every story.

What a joy it is to learn and grow together each day!

In HIS Service,
The Kindergarten Team



The suggested donations in the month of November for the NHN Food Pantry is cash donations for Christmas 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, November 4th, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, November 11th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 18th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

It is time for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing. On the table in the narthex is the signup sheet for bell ringing. We are scheduled for Saturday December 6th from 10 AM to 2 PM. Sign up for the amount you can provide, even 30 minutes or more. If possible, recruit a partner.

A year ago, this writer wrote on leaves in a variety of ways, mostly negative. This year the theme is sticks. I had to pick up a lot of them last Friday before I could mow and other types of fall yard work. As I was gathering the sticks, I started thinking that trees need to eliminate these dead branches so new ones can grow and create new leaves. In our lives we also have to release things in order to move on with our own lives. Keep working on your studying in our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. In the last days of 2025, we have many examples provided to the readers, listeners, and viewers that can help sort out the most useful of all the opportunities available. Stay safe during the holiday season.

Thank you to the members of the congregation who responded to the request for plastic sacks for Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) food distribution. The NHN food donation barrel was overflowing with bags! Please continue to bring plastic bags as this is an ongoing need for NHN.

Prayer requests in September were three. In October we have had eight.



Becky (Shaver) Ehlers and Terry thank the congregation for their cards and donations in memory of Becky's mother Ruby. They will go to outreach programs in her church and the Liberty community.

Tom and Sharron Toellner are again helping The Community Action Center with their Christmas Baskets. Items needed are: laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, facial tissues, toothpaste and tooth brushes, shampoo and conditioner, bar and hand soap, dish soap, and deodorant.

All items are needed by Sunday, November 23rd. Thank you for any help you can give us.

Thrivent shirts are available on the back table for those who want them.

Join us December 6 for *Christmas at Heit's Point!!*

We will start at 10:30 am with a welcome time and ice breakers, followed by a marvelous presentation by Dr. Marsh's Kinderchor choir from Concordia, MO. We will have an excellent ham luncheon followed by a virtual devotion by Dr. Kari Vo from Lutheran Hour Ministries. Then we'll take some time to celebrate our wonderful staff, volunteers, donors and all God has done here at Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries in 2025! We'll end by 2 pm after singing some Christmas carols together.

Following the Christmas Celebration, we will have our annual Friends of Heit's Point Business Meeting in the dining hall at 2:30 pm and vote on our two new board of director members. If you are interested in being a part of the board, please call Janine at 620-795-2008.



Missouri District Open House

Missouri District Office, St. Louis

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Friday Dec. 5

Christmas is right around the corner and we'd love for you to celebrate it with us!

Join us for the Missouri District Open House Friday, Dec. 5, at our office. This drop-by event is all about food, fellowship, and festive cheer. Whether you're reconnecting with familiar faces or meeting our team for the first time, we welcome you to stop in, enjoy some holiday treats, and take part in the joy of the season.

No RSVP needed — just save the date and drop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.!

Location

Missouri District Office
660 Mason Ridge Center Dr.
Suite 100
St. Louis, MO 63141

Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri "Season of Hope Tree"

Lutheran Family and Children's Services is proud to be working with your congregation once again. Our mission at LFCS is to empower children and families to overcome challenges today so they can build a better tomorrow. With the generous donations that we receive, we can continue our vision where generations of families across Missouri are safer and stronger together. Last year, in 2024, the Parenting Education and Pregnancy support department with LFCS as an entire statewide agency were able to serve 4,328 clients and families! Over half of our clients improved stress management skills and 93% improved parenting skills.

We know that not every child has a safe warm place to spend their Christmas. We want children to feel the sanctuary of a parent's love and the security of a place to call home, especially as we remember the story of the birth of our Savior. Your support of LFCS allows the children and families in our community the opportunity to have safe and stable homes, offers essential items for families, and helps families obtain the things they need.

This Christmas we will put up a "Season of Hope Tree" with tags representing items we need to help our families. If you would like to contribute to helping LFCS families, feel free to take a tag(s), add the items to your shopping list, and place them under the tree – WE GRATEFULLY THANK YOU! If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please place your donation in an envelope marked with LFCS on the front and place it in the offering. All items collected will be given to the clients that we serve from the Columbia office.

We thank you in advance for joining our mission and making a difference in the lives of families in need.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to learn more about our organization at lfcsmo.org or call 866-326-LFCS (5327). Our local Facebook page can be found at Lutheran Family and Children's Services-Columbia & Mid-Mo.

With love and blessings to you,
Donna J. Weber, LFCS Office Coordinator
916 Bernadette Drive
Columbia, MO

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

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