## The King's Business

## October, 2024

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 58, NO. 10



#### The Pastor's Page

President Millard Fillmore once said, "Religion and politics should not be mingled." In seminary, this was a principle I was strictly taught. Don't bring politics into the pulpit. Don't mix your theological facts with your political opinions. Don't endorse princes, sons of men in whom there is no salvation. Religion and politics should not be mingled.

Yet, there are those who disagree with this approach. Those who find it a rather spineless way to avoid controversy. Those who believe pastors should be outspoken in supporting those laws and candidates. Those who insist that clergy have a responsibility to encourage and guide their parishioners to vote wisely.

Because, whether we like it or not, religion and politics are often mingled. "Politics," after all, is simply large groups of people making decisions within a framework of laws. And those decisions can be good and wise and just. And those decisions can be evil and foolish and sinful. Good and evil, wisdom and foolishness, justice and sinfulness... these are questions of religion, but they happen within our political system on a daily basis.

Thus, while the separation of church and state may exist, the separation of religion and state definitely does not. We all live, work, and make choices based on our worldview. Our elected leaders all live, work, and make choices based on their worldview as well. How any person votes will always be guided by what they believe to be good and evil, wise and foolish, just and sinful. It will always be guided by their religion.

So, does that mean I'm going to type up a handy voter guide for election day? Nope. Why not? Because, frankly, that's not what I'm called to do. When you called me as your pastor, you sent me a stack of papers known as the "call documents," outlining your expectations of me as your pastor. Nowhere in those call documents was I asked to provide voter guides before election day.

Nor should I have been asked to provide such a thing. It's not what I'm trained to do and it's not the purpose of my office. I am called here to preach God's Word and to administer the Sacraments. And when I am engaged in public ministry, that is what I will do. Want to talk to me one-on-one about politics? Go right ahead! I'll gladly give you my opinions. But it won't be coming from the pulpit, nor in a widely disseminated newsletter article like this. That's not my job.

That being said, I can give you some pastoral advice as we approach election day in this country. Because we do have some important decisions to make. And those decisions do need to be guided by God's Word. So, here's my "voter guide" for the upcoming election:

Read the 10 Commandments. Read Luther's Explanations to the 10 Commandments in the Small Catechism. If you can, read Luther's Explanation to the 10 Commandments in the Large Catechism too. When faced with questions of good and evil, wisdom and foolishness, justice and sinfulness, there is no better guide than the 10 Commandments.

Why just the 10 Commandments? Why not the whole catechism? Go ahead and read the whole catechism, if you want. But the 10 Commandments are the most relevant in this situation. Civil government falls under what Luther called the "left-hand kingdom." And the left-hand kingdom is fundamentally a kingdom of law, where sin must be curbed and justice is paramount. As both St Peter and St Paul describe it, the left-hand kingdom wields the sword and exists to punish those who do evil (Romans 13:1-7 & 1 Peter 2:13-17).

Read the 10 Commandments and vote for laws that are in accord them. Read the 10 commandments and vote for candidates who will uphold them.

 Vote for candidates who do not despise the preaching of God's Word.

- Vote for candidates who do not despise parents and other authorities.
- Vote for candidates who do not hurt our neighbor's body... not even the unborn child.
- Votes for candidates who encourage a sexually pure and decent life among husbands and wives
- Vote for candidates who will help their neighbor improve and protect his possessions and income.
- Vote for candidates who do not engage in lies or slander.
- Vote for candidates who are not driven by ambition and covetousness, but are content and encourage others to be content.

And then, once you have done all this, pray. Pray for the Father's provision. Pray for Jesus' forgiveness, should you make a foolish decision. Pray for the Spirit's guidance in all that you say and do.

And, at that point, maybe go back to the catechism and read the rest of it. Read how the Son has redeemed you from this corrupt and sinful world, and from your own corrupt and sinful flesh. Read how the Lord hears and answers all our prayers. Read how you are washed clean in Holy Baptism and strengthened by the Lord's Supper. Read and be refreshed.

For, as I said earlier, we do not put our trust in princes, sons of men in whom there is no salvation (Psalm 146:3). We put our trust in the Lord. In He who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever. As our nation's motto still proclaims, in God we trust. In Him do we put our hope.

God's blessings to you this election day and always, - Pastor Ketelsen

## Immanuel has another way

## 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: <a href="mailto:lmmanuel.Boonville@gmail.com">lmmanuel.Boonville@gmail.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.lmmanuelBoonvilleMO.church">www.lmmanuelBoonville@gmail.com</a>

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

Sue Diesher

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.

<u>Fellowship Time</u> - Fifth Sundays 10:15 a.m. as announced <u>Lord's Supper</u> - 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**

<u>Sunday School</u>: for age 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade is meeting in the Sunday School Room.

<u>Youth Class</u> for junior and senior high meets in the youth room in the sub-basement.

<u>Adult Bible Study:</u> meets Sunday Mornings at 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

<u>Tuesday Ladies Bible Class</u> meets on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. in the large classroom on the main floor.

<u>Bibles and Bar-B-Q Men's Bible Discussion Group</u> meets the second and fourth Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

<u>Thursday Morning Breakfast Bible Study:</u> meets on Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at 87 Diner. Please join us for food, fellowship, and study.

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **September 17, 2024**

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

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

Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda: President Cummins called for any amendments to the agenda; there being none, the meeting proceeded.

**Approve Minutes of 07/23/24:** Jason Linneman motioned, and Gayle Linneman seconded for approval of the July 23 council meeting minutes. The motion carried.

#### Pastor's Report:

- a. Pastor reported he and the Board of Christian Education Chairwoman Andrea Thacher have begun discussions about Lent. The Elders have approved the Lenten series and a children's program will be planned.
- b. Pastor will attend the Pastor's Conference on October 20-22. This has been approved by the Elders.
- c. Pastor explained the LCMS works in a triennial cycle with the district convention in one year; the Synod convention in the next year; and no convention in the third year. There is an effort to make the third year (this year) a circuit level meeting. The intent is to bring together congregations within a geographical area to work on solving local issues and pooling resources. The meeting will be held on October 13 in Columbia and the focus will be evangelism. Stewardship Chairwoman Sharon Strough is asked to present on behalf of our congregation. Pastor would additionally like as many of the church leadership members to attend as possible.
- d. There has been a request from the school staff for a crosswalk to be painted on the parking lot extending from the church sidewalk and leading to the playground. Gary Nauman motioned for the painting of a sidewalk and Gayle Linneman

seconded. The motion carried. Gene will make some phone calls to arrange the work.

**President's Report:** No report. **Vice President's Report:** No report. **Secretary's Report:** No report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Not present; no report.

**Elder's Report:** Gary Nauman appears in Elder Chairman Craig Meyer's absence.

- a. The east door to the church has been locked during church services for the last two years. This requires anyone arriving after service begins to enter through the front double doors. The Elders have decided the service Elder will remain in the narthex during the entire service both to greet anyone who enters the church after service has begun and to provide any assistance needed to those coming out of the service into the narthex.
- b. The Elders have approved the Lenten series.
- c. The playground surface is being examined for replacement.

**Board of Property:** Not present; no report. Pastor mentioned the backflow inspection was completed.

**Board of Christian Education/LYF:** Chair Andrea Thacher presented a verbal report:

- a. Sunday school has resumed.
- Andrea inquired about confirmation and she and Pastor agreed to evaluate the schedule and the number of upcoming eligible candidates.
- Pastor and Andrea will begin planning for anyone interested in attending the July 2025 youth gathering.

**School Board:** Chair Gayle Linneman presented a verbal report:

- Wanda Derendinger and Leann Williams have agreed to serve as board members. There have been no meetings yet.
- The school board budget will be presented for approval at the next Congregational Assembly meeting.
- c. Gayle is working on establishing the bank account for scholarship funds.

**Board of Stewardship/Outreach:** Chair Sharon Strough reported the picnic will be held Sunday, September 29. Gary Nauman motioned to approve the board minutes; Sharon Strough seconded. The motion carried.

**Unfinished Business:** None. **New Business:** None.

#### **Announcements:**

- a. Gene announced that the Brotherhood Mutual insurance premium is due October 25. He is waiting for the invoice but expects a significant increase. The company has already informed him there will be a 1% deductible increase for wind and hail. He may explore a quote from Church Mutual.
- **b.** Gene also announced that \$30,000 of the \$35,000 in Pelacio memorial funds have been moved into an 11-month CD, earning 5.4%. He also renewed a \$175,000 CD at 4.25% for 3 years.

**Adjournment:** Jason Linneman motioned to adjourn, and Gayle Linneman seconded. The motion carried.

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor asked everyone to join in praying the Lord's Prayer.

**Attendees:** Pastor Ketelsen; Gene Cummins; Jason Linneman; Gayle Linneman; Gary Nauman; Sharon Strough; Andrea Thacher; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted, Tammy Meyer Church Council Secretary

#### **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

Our September was very busy. We have started on our alphabet. So far we have made an <u>A</u>lligator, <u>B</u>ulldozer, <u>Cat</u>, <u>Dog</u>, <u>E</u>lephant and a <u>F</u>lower. 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. We have colored and put puzzles together. We love to dance and listen to books.

We have been to chapel to learn about the 10 Commandments from Pastor Ketelsen. The 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment was the story of Shadrach, Meshach and

Abednego. 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment was about David and Goliath. 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment was about 12-year-old Jesus at the Temple and the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment was about Joseph and his brothers.

In chapel with Ms. Gerhardt, we have learned about Creation, the Fall into sin, Jacob & Esau, Jacob's Ladder and Crossing the Red Sea. We learn that God loves us and He is with us all the time. We have fun playing outside. We love eating snack. We really like reading and dance. We are still learning the days of the week, months of the year and counting and recognizing the numbers in the month.

WE SANG for church at Immanuel. We did a really good job and we loved it. We had our school pictures taken. We did a great job smiling (Ms. Janell was really fun). We get our pictures posted on a private Facebook page. Ms. Trina takes really good pictures of us. We love our Preschool and want to say Thank You!

#### Upcoming Dates in October

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Firefighter Visits Us!

18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> NO SCHOOL

30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Fall Festival Party-10 am

#### **KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN**

We seem to have a good routine down, which makes everything go smoother.

This crew has quite the imagination. Some variation of family is their favorite to play during free time.

This class had their first substitute teacher. Special thank you to Mrs. Luanna Carpenter. Mrs. Ketelsen was able to go on a cool field trip with her daughter's school.

Thank you for all your support. We appreciate every prayer.

In HIS Service, The Kindergarten Team

#### STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

By now, Immanuel's annual picnic has occurred. Besides good food, there were activities to help keep everyone entertained while the committee was getting the food ready to serve. Many played bingo and the winners got to choose a prize out of the basket. Pulled pork, chicken tenders, and many side dishes and desserts were enjoyed. Thank you to everyone who helped make the picnic a success!

As Immanuel progresses into our fall activities, use our resources that are available to all. In person is the best way. We also have online events that are available. Our outreach continues throughout the calendar year. Check this newsletter and the weekly bulletin for more outreach opportunities.

There were ten prayer requests in July. In August there have been four prayer requests.





The suggested donations in the month of October for the NHN Food Pantry cash donations for Thanksgiving 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, October  $1^{st}$ , 8:00 - 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, October  $8^{th}$ , 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, October  $15^{th}$ , 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

\*Please note that the distribution dates for 2024 have changed. Beginning in January, the distribution will be on the first Tuesday of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and the second and third Tuesdays from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Fall Festival and Bazaar &
German Brat Dinner
Campus Lutheran Church
304 S. College Ave.,
Columbia, MO
Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>
Bazaar at 9:00 a.m. – Dinner from 4-7
p.m.

Please join us for fellowship, food, and crafts! There will be a large selection of handmade items, delicious baked goods, homemade candies, baby items, fall and Christmas home décor and ornaments, candles, knitted and crocheted items, etc.

All donations will support international missionaries serving in Brazil and the Dominican Republic. Check the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.



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.





#### **COMPETITIVE DIVISION:**



\$60/TEAM 1ST PRIZE - \$1000 2ND PRIZE- \$500 3RD PRIZE- \$250

## Knights of Columbus

1515 Radio Hill Rd, Boonville

#### **RECREATION DIVISION:**



\$40/TEAM 1ST PRIZE- \$250 2ND PRIZE- \$100 3RD PRIZE- Money Back

### **BAGS FLY AT NOON**

Silent Auction, Raffle, Bake Sale, Concessions and More Preregister at scoreholio.com or with UOI Employees



## **Benefitting Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Saturday, October 19th at 7:00pm; doors at 6:30pm

## Isle of Capri Casino

100 Isle of Capri Blvd, Boonville

\$10/person ~ \$100/table 50/50 Raffle; Silent Auction; Dead or Alive Sponsorships available

## Sponsored by: Isle of Capri Casino

Jessica Ellison – Alliant Bank
Team registration drop-off location
A-Bow-K Florist & Gifts
Silent auction items drop-off location

Contact Jacqueline Chenault for sponsorship information or general questions: 573-882-8065; <a href="mailto:ChenaultJ@missouri.edu">ChenaultJ@missouri.edu</a>

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**

Ron & Sara Fannin 730 7th Street Boonville, MO 65233

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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.