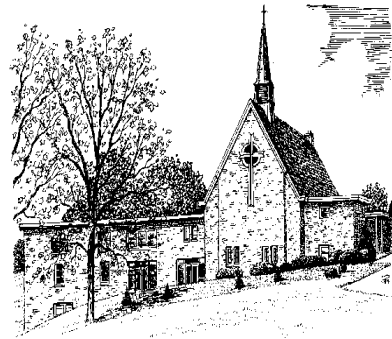


The King's Business

September, 2026

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 60, NO. 9



The Pastor's Page

We're all aware of how contentious politics have become in recent years. Disagreements over political issues can quickly become personal. And political opponents are sometimes treated not merely as people who are wrong, but as enemies who must be destroyed. In the midst of this climate, the 2026 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod passed Resolution 4-07, "To Condemn Political Violence and Encourage Participation in Public Life." And one of its resolves encourages pastors and congregations "to affirm the importance of peaceful engagement in the public square."

That may sound like a fairly simple statement, but it rests on some important Lutheran convictions about government, citizenship, and the Christian's vocation in the world.

First, Scripture teaches that government itself is a gift and institution of God. Jesus' familiar words, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21), recognize the legitimate authority of the civil realm. Likewise, Romans 13 teaches that governing authorities exist by God's ordering, and St. Paul describes those who serve in government as having a God-given vocation. The Lutheran Confessions affirm the same thing, teaching that Christians may rightly serve in civil government and that civil authority is a good and necessary institution.

This means Christians should not regard participation in public life as somehow beneath them. Government is one of the ways God provides for the temporal needs of our neighbors. Police officers, judges, legislators, soldiers, elected officials, and countless other public servants can serve their neighbors through their vocations. The resolution therefore encourages our congregations not merely to tolerate Christians serving in

government, but to "identify, encourage, and raise up" people from within the church who have the gifts and abilities to serve their neighbors through public service.

But if Christians participate in public life, how should they do so? The answer begins with the same command that governs every other Christian vocation: love your neighbor. Christians are free to have strong political convictions. We can advocate for laws and policies that we believe serve the common good. We can vote, speak publicly, contact our representatives, campaign, serve in office, and participate in peaceful demonstrations. We don't have to pretend that every political disagreement is unimportant.

But we also can't let disagreement become an excuse for hatred, contempt, or violence. The Christian's neighbor remains his neighbor even when he votes differently. The politician with whom we vehemently disagree remains someone for whom Christ died. Political opponents are not our enemies in the spiritual sense. Our true enemies are sin, death, and the devil.

The Large Catechism reminds us that the devil delights in disrupting the peace God gives through earthly government and human society. Luther specifically warns that Satan seeks to produce "contention, murder, sedition, and war." The resolution points to the disturbing examples we have seen in recent years: assassination attempts against public figures, violent confrontations between civilians and law enforcement, and bitter divisions fueled by political opinions. Such things contradict the church's peaceful witness.

Christians therefore have a particular opportunity to model something different. We can disagree without dehumanizing. We can argue vigorously without

becoming hateful. We can pursue justice without embracing violence. We can defend our convictions while remembering that our political opponents are human beings created by God. They're our neighbors whom we're commanded to love.

And above all, we can pray. St. Paul urges Christians to offer prayers "for kings and all who are in high positions" (1 Timothy 2:2), regardless of whether we voted for them or approve of their policies. That's an especially important reminder in a politically divided society. We pray for those who govern us because they've been entrusted with a God-given vocation, and because their work affects the lives and well-being of our neighbors.

Christians don't need to withdraw from the public square, nor should we surrender our Christian character when we enter it. We're called to serve our neighbors faithfully in whatever vocation God has given us, including the vocation of citizenship and public service. We speak, vote, serve, and disagree as Christians: people who have been forgiven by Christ, who are called to love our neighbors, and who trust that Christ remains Lord even when the political world around us is anything but peaceful.

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 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.

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

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. They are on break for the summer.

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. They are on break for the summer.

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.

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**August 16, 2026**

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

Opening Prayer: Pastor Ketelsen opened with prayer.

Acceptance of New Assembly Members: Mason Frieling was recognized as a new member. Craig Meyer motions to accept him as a new member. Kyle Thatcher seconds the motion, and it carries.

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

Approve Minutes from May 17, 2026 Congregational Assembly Meeting: Diane Cummins motions to approve the May 17 meeting minutes; Craig Meyer seconds. The motion carries.

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

- a. A parent-student meeting will be arranged in September for the confirmands
- b. The Synod Convention went well with several new rules and resolutions being adopted. He will begin a series overviews of the resolutions in the monthly newsletter.

Reports of Officers:

President: No report.

Vice President: No report.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Treasurer Kim Toellner is not present; written financial reports are presented and reviewed.

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

- a. Mason Frieling was accepted as a transfer of membership from Zion Lutheran.

Board of Property: Chair Adam Templemire is not present, a verbal report is presented:

- a. The fire extinguisher in the pulpit area has been replaced.

- b. The cost of the inoperable ice maker was refunded; a new unit was purchased and installed.
- c. The school sign has been moved.
- d. Roof fasteners have been installed and no new leaks have been detected.
- e. A bid has been requested for painting the exterior lower doors.
- f. The mini-AC units located in the narthex and the sub-basement need to be replaced.

Board of Christian Education: Chair Jasmine Campbell is not present. Glenda Gerhardt reports the VBS was a great success.

School Board: Chair Gayle Linneman is not present. Glenda reports there are 7 confirmed students for kindergarten, 13 for the Mon-Wed-Fri class, and 12 for the Tuesday-Thursday class.

Board of Stewardship/Outreach: Chair Gaven Linneman is not present. Pastor reports there will be a Fifth Sunday Fellowship on August 30 with brunch and back-to-school water activities for the youth. The church picnic is coming up in September.

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

Unfinished Business:

- a. **Restroom update:** After \$15,000 was paid as a down payment for the restroom project, the final bill was \$19,000, for a total cost of \$34,000. The original estimate was exceeded due to plumbing issues in the new restrooms. After donations, the total cost to the church for the project is \$21,000. Emergency lighting is still needed and will be installed.
- b. **Landscaping update:** The Council approved a bid for mulch removal from the South entrance area and around the West side of the building. It will be replaced with decorative river rock. Two donations have been made toward this project. Those funds, combined with the savings from the masonry sign repair, will leave \$4,500 to be applied to landscaping.
- c. **Church directory:** Brenda Wells reports several options are being considered for producing the directory. Stefani Ketelsen will work on an

announcement to be mailed to members and placed in the newsletter & bulletins.

- d. **June transfer of \$25,000:** A transfer of funds from the investment account to the general fund was necessary to cover the restroom renovation and school expenses.

New Business:

- a. **None**

Announcements:

- a. Pastor Ketelsen is congratulated on the 10th anniversary of his installment at Immanuel.

Louis Stock motions to adjourn. Christian Stock seconds the motion. The motion carries and the meeting is adjourned.

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

Attendees: 17 members and one guest were in attendance.

Craig Meyer; Mason Frieling; Kyle Thacher; Christian Stock; Patty Mangels (guest); Diane Cummins; Louis Stock; Billy Mac Wells; Brenda Wells; Don Meyer; Gene Cummins; Sharon Strough; Glenda Gerhardt; Terry Ehlers; Stefani Ketelesen; Tim Fahrenbrink; Pastor Joshua Ketelesen; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer
Church Council Secretary

PRESCHOOL NEWS

School is back in session. We had an amazing Open House. The children and parents were excited. We took pictures of everybody for our Bulletin Board (All About Me) and our Attendance Chart. We have new bathrooms for the school children. The children liked them very much and the parents thought they were very cute. We are so excited to learn during play. Below you will read about what is coming up and what we have learned so far. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Glenda Gerhardt or Stefani Ketelsen.

Our upcoming units for August & September:

All About Me Feelings

My Friends
My Family

Colors
Farm Animals

Upcoming chapel stories for Aug. & September

When God Made the World

The First Sin

The Flood

The Birth of Isaac

Joseph Forgives His Brothers

The Birth of Moses

Pastor Ketelsen's upcoming chapel stories:

Introduction to the Ten Commandments

First Commandment (Fiery Furnace)

Second Commandment (David & Goliath)

Third Commandment (Jesus in the Temple)

Fourth Commandment (Joseph Good Son)

Fifth Commandment (Good Samaritan)

Upcoming Events in September

September 7th NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)

September 22nd School Pictures taken

September 23rd School Pictures taken

Children August & September Birthday

Hattie, Kylie, Ellie, Kingston,

Judith, Bo, Waverly

KEEPING UP WITH KINDERGARTEN

The start of the school year always feels like a New Year's Day of sorts. We are starting with fresh goals, never before used school supplies, new rules, and new faces. Each child comes with their own unique personality. We learn how to be part of a classroom community.

We thank God for each of these precious children and the opportunity to guide them. Please keep our kindergarten class in your prayers as we continue to grow in knowledge, confidence, and faith throughout this school year.

In HIS name,
The Kindergarten Team



STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

The annual Church Picnic will be on Sunday, October 4th. Following the worship service will be games and activities for the children until lunch time, between 11 and 11:30 a.m. This year's picnic will be a fish fry, hosted by the Fellowship committee. There will be chicken strips available, as well.

Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish or dessert. If your last name starts with A – L, please bring a side dish, and if your last name starts with M – Z, please bring a dessert. Join us for fun and fellowship.

There were three prayer requests in July, and in the month of August there were four prayer requests.



The suggested donations in the month of September for the NHN Food Pantry is soups, saltine crackers, and canned beans (suitable for chili or other homemade soups). 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, September 1st, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 8th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 15th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



EMERALD CROSSING - VBS

We had an amazing VBS. There were so many blessings throughout the week. The children learned all about Psalm 23. In a world filled with worry and confusion, children need to know there is a God who cares for them. At Emerald Crossing they'll go on a journey and discover the life of shepherd-king David and

will learn how to cross from worry to peace, from fear to faith and from uncertainty to a firm foundation in God's Word through a relationship with the Good Shepherd.

I am listing all the helpers we had over the week-long event. The names listed are people who donated time and money, led an area of the VBS (crafts, lessons, games, snacks and opening and closings), led the children around to the various areas, set-up and take down. We had people from our congregation, people from our community and people from our preschool. God blessed us richly.

Adam Templemire

Susan Templemire

Jasmine Campbell

Kelsey Saunders

Trina Derendinger

Abby Gann

Caitlin Pendergraft

Tim Derendinger

Rebekah Schneider

Norman & Pat Lenger

Deborah Burgess

Rhonda Lane

Hevana Cook

The Ketelsen Family: Pastor, Stefani, and Emi

The Thatcher Family: Andrea, Kyle, Sam, and Will

Glenda Gerhardt

Audi Templemire

Lacey Edwards

Emma Scott

Kim Toellner

Becky Class

Callie Gann

Jeanie Pendergraft

Christine Schneider

Terry Ehlers

Gary Naumann

Sharon Strough

Harper Cook

Emily McNeal

Special Thanks to:

Sonic for Corn Dogs & Juice & Water

Maggie's for Hot Dogs and Chips

Breadaux for Pizza Discount

Sno Biz for Snow Cones

Everybody who donated money written on Shamrocks

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study will meet starting September 15th every Tuesday at 1pm in the meeting room at the end of the hall. We will continue with our study of Joseph with the book, "Meant for Good" by Donna Snow. New ladies are always welcome. Books for our new friends can easily be purchased, just let Stefani Ketelsen know.



2026 - SEPTEMBER - 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
8/30 9a Worship 10:15a 5th Sunday Fellowship & Back to School Splash 12p Frieling Family Reunion	8/31	9/1 7p Elders <i>Pastor to Circuit Meeting</i>	9/2	9/3 7a Breakfast Bible Study	9/4	9/5
6 9a Worship/HC 10:15a Bible Study & Sunday School	7 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>No School</i> <i>Office Closed</i> <i>4-7p Fellowship Hall reserved</i>	8	9 6p Bibles & BBQ Men's Group	10 7a Breakfast Bible Study	11	12 <i>All Day - Bridal Shower in Fellowship Hall</i>
13 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study & Sunday School	14	15 1p - Ladies Bible Study	16	17 7a Breakfast Bible Study <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	18	19
20 9a Worship/HC 10:15a Bible Study & Sunday School	21	22 1p - Ladies Bible Study	23 6p Bibles & BBQ Men's Group	24 7a Breakfast Bible Study	25 <i>Kindergarten half day - Homecoming</i>	26 <i>8a-4p - Baby Shower in Fellowship Hall</i>
27 9a Worship 10:15a Bible Study	28	29 1p - Ladies Bible Study	30	10/1 7a Breakfast Bible Study	10/2	10/3

Those Serving the Church

Service:	Organists:	Readers:	Security Team	Acolyte
9/6	Tammy Poulsen	Sharon Strough	Adam Templemire	Lane Toellner
9/13	Diane Cummins	Tim Derendinger	Matt Scott	Emi Ketelsen
9/20	Tammy Poulsen	Brad Toellner	Gary Naumann	Jagger Templemire
9/27	Gladys Moore	Christian Stock	Penny and Gordon Cain	Will Thacher
Altar Guild	Brenda Scott	Stefani Ketelsen	Elder: Craig Meyer	

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

Matthew 5:15

CHURCH STATISTICS

Date	Worship	Sunday School/Youth/ Adult Bible Class
7 / 5	79	NA/NA/16
7/12	78	NA/NA/13
7/19	82	NA/NA/14
7/26	70	NA/NA/16
YTD Income with and Other Income as of 7/31/26		\$177,088.94
YTD Expenses as of 7/31/26		\$135,554.04

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 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

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Transfer out: None **Transfer in:** Mason Frieling
Reaffirmed: None
Confirmed: None
Baptism: None **Deceased:** None

2026-2027 Officers

President – Gene Cummins
Vice President – Billy Wells
Secretary – Tammy Meyer
Treasurer – Kim Toellner
Chair of School Board – Gayle Linneman
Chair of Board of Property – Adam Templemire
Chair of Board of Stewardship/Outreach – Gaven Linneman
Elders:
Craig Meyer, Tim Derendinger, Jason Linneman, Kyle Thacher, and Louis Stock

ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

September 5 Crag and Tammy Meyer
September 6 Michael and Jodee Stock
September 14 John and Phyllis Barnes
September 19 Norman and Patricia Lenger
September 26 Edward and Dawn Frederick
September 29 Bradley and Kimberly Toellner
September 30 Ethan and Chrystal Williams

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

September 1 Denise Meyers
Howard Embry
September 2 Penny Cain
Brittany Myers
September 3 Paige Peterson
Cullen Walk
September 4 Lance Franklin
Christopher Rowden
September 5 Julia Thacher
Melody Vieth
September 6 Ethan Williams
September 7 Carol Kollmeyer
September 8 Georgia Davis
September 9 Aaron Templemire
Patricia Lenger
September 10 Brenda Scott
September 12 Richard Stock
Gena Loesing
Cynthia Twillman
September 13 Gena Campbell
Blendia Humphrey
Jack Maggard
September 14 Dylan Imhoff
September 17 Glenda Schnuck
Nancy Voss
Gabriel Kaiser
Miriam Herman
September 20 Debra Straatmann
September 22 Braden Lammers
September 23 Christopher DeWall
September 25 Rowan Stock
September 26 Jessica Shay
September 29 Lane Smallwood
Carlee Leutung
Sharon Embry
September 30 Kyle Fairfax
Hunter Cordray

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**September, 2026 Vol. 60, No. 9
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***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!*

