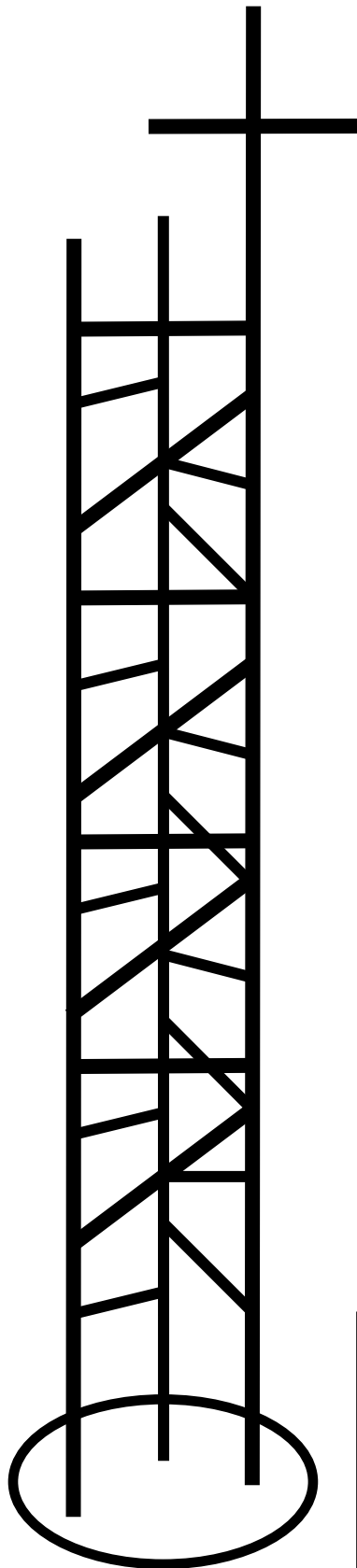


The EXPRESSION—February 2023

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL



“January was a rough month.” I overheard some say this past week. I suppose it how you look at the month? While snowfall and cold weather may be the reason for a “rough” month, I have found there is always light at the end of the tunnel! One of my favorite Beatles songs is, “Here Comes the Sun.” For some reason that song was in my head this past week. I suppose because the prospect of spring and warmer weather awaits us. But also looming on the horizon is the season of Lent and the Easter celebrations, and I must confess I am looking forward to the Cardinals Spring Training.

“Here comes the sun....” Lent is not meant to be tedious or to make us feel weighed down. It is meant to be a time of contemplation, though, not of celebration. The purple adorning the altar is dark; it evokes the long nighttime hours of winter. In the dark night of winter, there is nothing to do but to think. And our thoughts naturally wander to who we are, who God is, where our lives our going, and how we might find a true joy that is more enduring than the abbreviated hours of light on winter days. This season has traditionally been a time for giving something up, which frees our time and energy for this contemplative work.

But the season of Lent is not an end in itself. The purpose of the season of Lent is to prepare for Easter. We receive this testimony at Easter of the power of the new life God gives us, and that testimony is most effective if we realize that we cannot get that new life all on our own. We work our way through Lent knowing that at the end, we can expect the sun to come.

I hope that you will make a special effort to join us on February 22 for our Ash Wednesday service and throughout the Lent Season. I pray that you will also take some time before then to commit to preparing yourself. Commit yourself to prayer and worship and Bible Study. And go ahead and sing along....

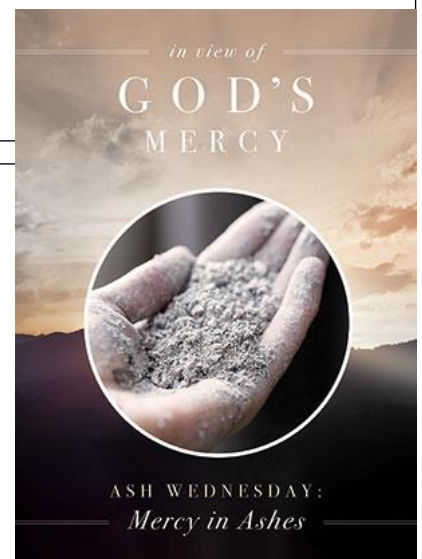
*Here comes the sun, here comes the sun
And I say it's all right
Here comes the sun, here comes the sun
It's all right, it's all right*

Rev. James T. King, Pastor
Isaiah 43:2

Lenten Services

**Ash Wednesday – February 22nd at
4:00 pm and 6:30 pm**

**Meals served between services –
Freewill offering**



Why Lutheran School?

I feel like this is a topic of discussion each January and February as we start our enrollment and marketing for the upcoming school year. How exciting it is to see new faces and know that the children we know and love are coming back again. Even more exciting is to know we have a “well-seasoned” staff who have accumulated over 95 years of teaching experience! And the BEST part of preparing for another year at Immanuel Lutheran School is knowing that we have completed 140 years of bringing Christ to the children of this congregation and community. God is Good – Amen!!!

A wise, retired educator said to me this past week, “We cannot stop encouraging our students to learn more than maybe we set out to achieve with them if they are ready to learn, because ... In Kindergarten through 2nd grade, kids learn to read. In 3rd grade and on, kids read to learn.” As a parent and an educator I thought about the amazing truth of that statement and just how important the job of teaching our students (and children) is when it comes to reading. This conversation came because her grandson’s preschool told the parents they are going to lessen what they teach because when their preschool kids go to the public school they are bored. This was **not** in Gaylord – Immanuel has a wonderful working relationship with the teachers and public school here, but it made me sad to think they are going to stop teaching things when the kids are ready to learn. I encourage all parents and grandparents to see what we have to offer here at Immanuel and experience the blessings God has to give to you here.

Michelle L. King, Principal



Shaped by Immanuel
your child will...

Embrace their identity as a
Loved Child of God
Academically excel
Grow in Godly Character
Learn the joy of Serving
Others
Engage in life-enriching arts
and athletics

At Immanuel your child will become an
E-A-G-L-E!

“Blessed to be Making Disciples for Life for 140 years”

Silent and Live Auction

March 17, 2023

5:00 Doors open and Silent Auction Begins

6:00 Dinner- Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes,

Vegetable, Fluff Salad, Bread and Fancy Cupcakes

7:00 Silent Auction Ends and Live Auction Begins



Donations are being accepted.

*Please contact the school office
for more information or to
reserve your seating.*

*We look forward to you joining
us for a wonderful night!*

Dear Friends in Christ,

You are such a blessing to our family! We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the ways you have loved and supported us during the past months since the accident. God is so good! Through you He is working to help us through a difficult time. Words seem so inadequate to express our true appreciation for all the gifts of love we have received. Your prayers and words of encouragement have moved our hearts. Your generous financial gifts have overwhelmed us. Your gifts of time and talent in helping build Micah's shop has given us great joy and encouragement. There are so many other ways you have shown love to our family. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

May God continue to bless and keep you always!

Ben, Jeanne, Micah, Rachel, Rebekah, and Ruth Holten

Thank
you ☩



Hello all

We are getting back into the swing of things again.

It's amazing how quickly January flew by! In devotion time at Sunday School we talked about bullying...how it hurts & that Jesus never wants us to hurt one another. We all need to remember that we should never look down on people unless we're picking them up! Last Sunday we discussed how Jesus lights our path. We told the kids to go home and turn off all the lights in their house and walk around... it is almost a guarantee you'll bump into something, just like without the Light of the Lord, you will always stumble.

We are gearing up for the Lenten season, learning of the Lord's ultimate sacrifice for us. The sacrifice that won us eternal life and forgiveness.

Blessings

Tyler & Julie



Feb. 22 – Altar Guild – Scalloped Potatoes and Ham

March 1 – Sunday School – Pork Chops

March 8 – Immanuel School – Hamballs and Pie

March 15 – Church Council – BBQ's on Bun

March 22 – Youth Group – Cheesy Chicken

March 29 – Immanuel School – Pulled Pork or Turkey with Crepes



Each Sunday During February at 12:30pm listen to the Lutheran Hour over radio station KDUZ 1260 AM or online at www.lhm.org. This month you will hear the following program topics:

February 5 - "Your Time to Shine"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes
Light is necessary for life; God's light, even more so. (Matthew 5:14-16)

February 12 - "Shine Like Stars"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A social media star with a million followers can't possibly know all one million of them. However, there is one really famous Person with billions of followers Who knows--and loves--each one. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)

February 19 - "Table Manners"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (Exodus 24:11)

February 26 - "It Begins with Who I Am"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy
Our identity defines us. Every decision we make, every action we take, and every temptation we face begins with who we are. In Christ we receive an identity uncompromised and secure. (Matthew 4:1-11)

CHURCH WEBSITE

<https://immanuelgaylord.org>

CHURCH EMAIL

Immluth55334@aol.com

CHURCH PHONE #

507-237-2380

DOUBLE DOWN REPORT:

Congregational Giving: \$24,350
Matching Funds: \$11,000
Funds to Mortgage Principal: \$35,350 (sent to LCEF)
(Any current gifts given to "DD" are now applied to our monthly mortgage payment account.)

Employee Retention Credit (ERC) Allocation of nearly \$200,000

(as voted on at the November Special Congregational Meeting):
Allocated to Home Purpose: \$25,000.00 (used 12/18/22)
Allocated to Mortgage Principal: \$150,000.00 (sent to LCEF)
Allocated to Capital Account: \$25,000.00 (sent to LCEF)

Balance of Mortgage Loan (as of 1/23/2023):

\$1??,000

Balance of Budgeted Home Purpose (as of 1/23/2023): - \$12,925.48

Balance of Budgeted Monthly Mortgage (1/23/2023): \$6,174.44



Do you have information for the church newsletter or Facebook page? Something you think everyone should be aware of? Email your info to the church office at immluth55334@aol.com and we will do our best to get it out in a

Your Invited

Please join the family and friends to celebrate Sandy Schulte's 80th birthday on Saturday, February 11th from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm here at Immanuel. RSVP to 507.841.2180 or 612.819.5153 by February 4th.



7th – 12th Grade Youth - Please join us for a fun afternoon on February 12th from 3-5pm at ILS gym. We will have pizza, play some volleyball and do some planning of our next few months of Bible study and activities. We hope to see you there.

Parents are welcome too. 😊

Always be looking forward to the summer of 2025 and the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA! Youth need to be between 14 and 19 years old at the time of the gathering to attend.

Parents who are interested in attending should get involved so you have a good relationship with youth that are going.