



The Tower Chimes

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Special Dates in July 2024

The Visitation—July 2

Independence Day — July 4

St. Mary Magdalene—July 22

St. James the Elder, Apostle—July 25

PASTOR'S PEN

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

~ Hebrews 10:22 ~

Dear Saints and Friends of Immanuel,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ who is blessed forever. Amen.

No doubt you have wondered often why the wicked seem to prosper. It could be an unscrupulous politician or businessman, a conman, or the lazy one who cares only for his or her own pleasure and good. It could be one who is full of wrath and self-righteousness. Why do they get to keep doing what they're doing? Why do they succeed in their schemes and prosper in their self-love? Is there no justice?

I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek. They are not stricken like the rest of mankind. (Psalm 73:3-4)

Not only do the wicked get away with their wickedness, the righteous suffer! The man who attends to his family and loves the brothers is often ridiculed, maligned, and mistreated by those very same self-righteous ones. Vanity! the Preacher calls it (Ecclesiastes). What good does it do to be righteous and do what is right? It ends the same way as those who are wicked and do what is evil. They both end in death. It seems better to dabble in wickedness – even if just a little – to get some blessings in this life. Look out for number one. Store up for yourself something for yourself.

Except that's what the Rich Man did (Luke 16:19-31).

Looking out for number one is the wickedness of lawlessness. It is the wicked and those filled with wrath that look out for number one. One can feed the hungry and give to the poor, sing hymns on Sunday, and give a healthy tithe, but if they have not love

they are noising gongs and clanging symbols. Love is the keeping of the law which means the law cannot be kept if the object of love is our own self, for no one lives to himself or dies to himself (cf Romans 14:6-8).

The 73rd psalm poses the question asked above and it gives the answer:

when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end. (vv. 16-17).

At the beginning of the psalm the psalmist says, “Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.” He is saying that he almost stopped believing that God is good to His people. He had nearly stumbled in trusting that God is good to Israel. After all, as we’ve seen, the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer. Or so it seems. But when he went into the sanctuary of God – the holy place – he discerned the end of the wicked. It is they who are set in slippery places and fall to ruin (Psalm 73:18).

When we come into the sanctuary of God we discern the lot of the wicked and we are comforted with the comfort of the Comforter. When we come to the Holy Sacrament we know that the Lord is good to us and will prosper us, not with the wealth and treasures of this life – which is what the wicked seeks and yammer after – but with the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness of God. If we come into the sanctuary of God to get what’s coming to us or to glory in ourselves, then we have received our reward. But if we come in His sanctuary to call upon His name in the day of trouble (and what day is not the day of trouble?) then the Lord hears us and answers our pleas for mercy.

Let the wicked have the world and all therein, let us call upon the name of the Lord and in love for one another forgive as we have been forgiven. Blessed are those who dwell in the house of the Lord, singing praise to His holy name! (Psalm 84:4)

Peace be with you all.
+Pastor Lovett

Hear the history and status of the Lutheran Church in Russia

Wednesday, July 10th at 11:00 AM - Immanuel Lutheran Church

The guest preacher at Immanuel Lutheran Church will be Rev. Dr. Alexey Streltsov. Dr. Streltsov was the first Russian student to enroll at CTS in 1996. He earned two Master of Theology degrees while simultaneously working with the CTS Russian Project to establish a new Lutheran Seminary in Novosibirsk in 1997. An astonishing accomplishment. He now serves as the Rector of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, Siberia, Russia.

At 5:00 PM - Trinity Lutheran Church

Please join Rev. Dr. Alexey Streltsov, Rev. Dr. Timothy Quill, and Rev. Dan Johnson for a presentation and light dinner. It will highlight the establishment of the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, and the training of new pastors today.



If you are able to help provide ham/turkey for sandwiches or chips/veggies for the dinner, please let Karen Woodward or Aretta Gordish know.

Trinity is providing cheese and beverages.

At 7:00 PM - Trinity Lutheran Church - Rev. Dr. Timothy Quill, Fundraising Director of the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society will preach at the Evening Prayer Service.

The Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church remains faithful to the historic confession and is crying for more pastors. The Siberian Church ignores the current political lines drawn by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and simply sees brothers and sisters — regardless of their nationality — yearning for the sustenance of God's Word and Sacrament.

The seminary in Novosibirsk is one of just two confessional Lutheran seminaries still fully operating in Russia. Its professors are working to supply pastors for the Siberian Church, but it needs help to keep answering that call.

BOARD OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

June 2024

Submitted by Rob Smith, Chairman

- The outside railings for the choir steps are planned for mid-late July. We could use some more help when it comes time to mount those rails. Volunteering now will speed up the rail project.
- Immanuel had a break-in on June 18. Strong winds pulled open the big wooden doors on the north side of the sanctuary (bell tower) that afternoon, as the old latches are very worn. A person entered the building at some point and spent time collecting items around the balcony and narthex. A member was there working during the early evening, they heard noises and 911 was called. Police found that individual hiding in the balcony. They were arrested on felony trespassing. All church materials were recovered. That door is currently secured shut and cannot be used until we get the door fittings repaired/replaced. It is not designated as an emergency exit.
- The altar sound system has been intermittent due to a faulty amplifier. The amp was sent to a company for repair a month ago and unfortunately has not yet been returned. Another old amp was located in the church and installed as a backup until the original is fixed. At this writing the speaker in the Mothers' Room is not working.
- One of the kitchen windows was broken from the outside last month. It has been repaired.
- The upstairs hallway water cooler has been leaking and is currently unplugged. We are looking at replacing that unit.
- CAW plans on waxing the floors in the Fellowship Hall and a couple classrooms after the July rummage sale.
- The outside irrigation system for the yard and courtyard had a faulty part replaced by Kevin Stuewe, and the system is back up and running.

As you can see it takes all of us to help maintain the facility. THANK YOU ALL! As always if you see something that needs attention please let Rob Smith or the church office know. We have put up a white board by the church staff mailboxes in the office to help communicate needs.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

Greetings to all of you in Christ.

Thank you to all of you for your support of vicars Zigmas Kisielius, Hunter Kinnison, and Gabriel Hallock and his family (wife Annelise, and children Jacob and Madelynn). How great a thing that the Lord would use the Saints of Immanuel and the gifts He bestowed here to further His kingdom and those to be placed in the office of the ministry.

We also celebrate the joining together of Ryan Turnipseed and Aubrey Critchfield in Holy Matrimony. They were married during the Divine Service on June 23, 2024.

The board is also continuing to work on the church directory.

Peace be with you!

Eric Stuewe

Board of Evangelism

Men's Gemütlichkeit & Women Better Together

Immanuel has two social opportunities for her members. Both groups meet monthly and are for the purpose of encouraging our members to get to know their church family better. There is no set schedule for these groups, just time for fellowship.

Men's Gemütlichkeit meets on the second Friday, this month July 12th, of each month at Immanuel at 7:30 pm. Again, no agenda, no study. Come discuss all things great and small with your brothers.

Women Better Together is for women of all ages. They meet at Spangles the first Friday of each month at 5:30 pm. In June this is Friday, July 5. Come and get to know your sisters in Christ! Karen Woodward is heading this group, so ask her to tell you all about it.

It's no secret that you can't bribe your way into heaven. No amount of good works will impress God enough to open heaven's door for their sake. "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23) and the person who "keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it" (James 2:10). Rather, salvation is "the free gift of God ... in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:23).

So, your good works won't earn you the reward of heaven. But does that mean that there are no rewards at all? Consider what the Small Catechism says in the "Close of the Commandments":

What does God say about all these commandments?

He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments." (Ex. 20:5–6)

What does this mean?

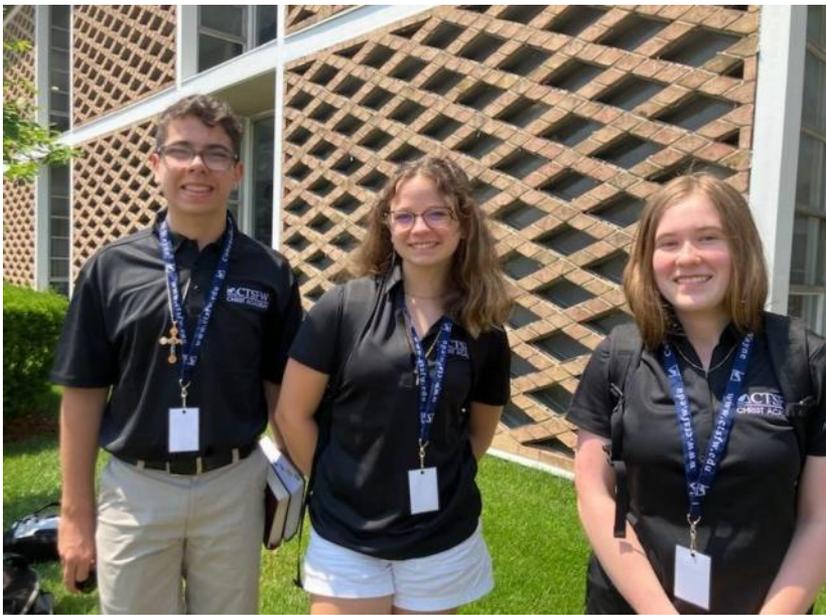
God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands. (SC II)

God promises to bless you in keeping His commandments. What might these blessings be? Well, consider what Paul says about keeping the Fourth Commandment: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' (this is the first commandment with a promise), 'that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land'" (Eph. 6:1–3).

And think about what your life would be like if you went around stealing (breaking the Seventh Commandment), telling lies about people (breaking the Eighth Commandment), and generally being cruel to those around you (breaking all the commandments!). That is obviously not a blessed way to live. In fact, you'd be miserable living that way.

And Jesus says more about what is in store for those who make sacrifices for His sake: "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life'" (Matt. 19:28–29).

So don't grow impatient in doing good. Follow the Lord who has freely given you everlasting life.



Sarah and Kristopher Lovett, pictured below with Esther Postier from Newton, Kansas, attended Christ Academy at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana the last two weeks of June.

Hymn of the Day for July 7—Trinity 6

All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall

Text: Lazarus Spengler (1479-1534)

Tune: Louis Bourgeois (1510-1561)

From “The Singing Church”

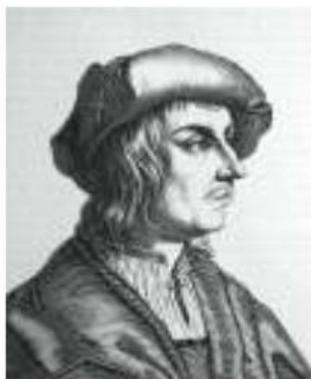
<https://www.epiphanydorr.org/the-singing-church.html>

Lutherans confess that our hymnody is more than just a time to sing. When we sing hymns, we are singing the faith. This confessional role of hymnody has always been acknowledged by the Church. As proof that our hymns truly make a confession, even the Book of Concord, the Confessions of the Lutheran Church, use a hymn to assert a point in the Formula of Concord’s article on Original Sin. The hymn honored as confessing so succinctly that it deserved a place in the Book of Concord is “All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall.”

This hymn was written by Lazarus Spengler. Spengler was born March 13, 1479, the ninth of 21 children born to his parents, Georg and Agnes. His father was the Clerk of the Imperial Court of Justice in Nürnberg. Spengler entered the University of Leipzig in 1494. However, when his

father died in December 1496, he returned to Nürnberg and began working in the town clerk's office. By 1507 he advanced to the position of Town Clerk and by 1516 was the Rathsherr, a position equivalent to the chairman of the town council.

In 1518, when Martin Luther was passing through Nürnberg going to Augsburg, Spengler and Luther met. Spengler eagerly adopted the Reformation doctrines, and in 1519 authored an extensive work in Luther's favor, and in that way became one of the leaders of the Reformation work in Nürnberg. When Pope Leo X issued *Exsurge Domine*, the Bull excommunicating Luther, in June 1520, Spengler was also included by name. Though Johannes Eck, Pope



Lazarus Spengler

Leo X's emissary, urged the Town Council of Nürnberg to hand over Spengler, they ignored the Bull and Eck and sent Spengler to represent them at the Diet of Worms in April 1521. In 1525, Spengler worked with Luther and Philipp Melancthon to convert Nürnberg's monastery into a Lutheran gymnasium (the equivalent of an honors high school).

Spengler was very interested in the Church's Liturgy. After much work with Luther, in 1532 Spengler was able to have an authorized Liturgy and Agenda (book of Church Rites; a *Kirchenordnung*) printed. He was also a prolific writer of poetry, both sacred and secular, though only two known hymns are ascribed to him.

The version of "All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall" that Spengler wrote and what we know today are very different. The modern equivalent of this hymn was a translation by Matthias Loy, for the 1880 Lutheran Hymnal of the Ohio Synod. When Loy translated the hymn, he made a free translation, a translation that is more of a paraphrase, capturing the essence of the hymn, rather than a literal translation. Nevertheless, it is still a superb hymn. On it, Julian's Dictionary of Hymnology writes, "During the Reformation period it attained a wide popularity as a didactic and confessional hymn of the Evangelical faith. It is one of the most characteristic hymns of the time, conceived in the spirit of deep and earnest piety, eminently Scriptural, and setting forth the Reformation teachings in concise form."

"All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall" is very catechetical, teaching the severity of our Original Sin, the bane that descends from sire to son (st. 1). But from this Original Sin flows Actual Sin, sin that proceeds "from hearts depraved, to evil prone" (st. 3). Mired completely in sin, we neither find nor seek heaven, but rather seek our own pleasure. But into this world of sin, "to bear our sin and woe and shame" came Christ, the second Adam (st. 4). Just as, "by one man all mankind fell," "by one Man, who took our place, we all received the gift of grace" (st. 5). By Christ's death and resurrection, forgiveness is ours, and He attends us with His grace "until we reach our journey's end" (st. 6).



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

Greetings,

It is hard to believe that it is already July. But, step outside and feel the heat and you know it is JULY! School will be starting next month, so we will be planning for the annual drive for school supplies. The list of needed items will be coming soon. We work with Orphan Grain Train and collect the items they want in their kits.

We will be tying quilts on the 9th and the 23rd in July. Mites will be collected on the 9th, so plan accordingly. So far we have sent \$312.15 into the Kansas District.

Have a safe and fun 4th as we stop to thank God for our homeland. May God continue to Bless America.

Yours in Christ,
Phyllis Ioerger

On Christian symbols



CATHEDRAL FLOOR PLAN —

Traditionally, a cathedral is laid out in the shape of a cross. The lower section or nave (from Latin for *ship*), along with the transepts (the arms of the cross), is where the congregation sits. The choir sits on either side of the chancel. Despite our common terminology, the sanctuary (from Latin for *holy*) isn't the full worship space but the area right before the altar. The location of the lectern, from which Scripture is read, and pulpit, used for preaching, may vary.

Puzzle!

THE WATER OF LIFE

A cold drink helps us beat the summer heat. Complete this puzzle for a reminder of what Jesus offers to quench our thirst.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

" $\overline{6+6}$ $\overline{7-2}$ $\overline{9+11}$ $\overline{23-3}$ $\overline{12-4}$ $\overline{8-3}$ $\overline{9+6}$ $\overline{18-4}$ $\overline{1+4}$ $\overline{18+5}$ $\overline{10-2}$ $\overline{10+5}$

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$\overline{0+1}$ $\overline{7+7}$ $\overline{9-5}$ $\overline{5+7}$ $\overline{8-3}$ $\overline{7+13}$ $\overline{5+15}$ $\overline{11-3}$ $\overline{4+1}$ $\overline{12+3}$ $\overline{5+9}$ $\overline{16-11}$

$\overline{12+11}$ $\overline{10-2}$ $\overline{6+9}$ $\overline{10+13}$ $\overline{2+7}$ $\overline{12+7}$ $\overline{11-3}$ $\overline{1+4}$ $\overline{24-5}$ $\overline{11+9}$ $\overline{4-3}$ $\overline{6+5}$ $\overline{11-6}$

$\overline{4+16}$ $\overline{5+3}$ $\overline{14-9}$ $\overline{9-3}$ $\overline{9+9}$ $\overline{2+3}$ $\overline{9-4}$ $\overline{15-8}$ $\overline{5+4}$ $\overline{7-1}$ $\overline{18+2}$

$\overline{9+6}$ $\overline{10-4}$ $\overline{27-7}$ $\overline{4+4}$ $\overline{8-3}$ $\overline{18+5}$ $\overline{8-7}$ $\overline{6+14}$ $\overline{4+1}$ $\overline{13+5}$

$\overline{6+9}$ $\overline{14-8}$ $\overline{7+5}$ $\overline{18-9}$ $\overline{2+4}$ $\overline{2+3}$ "

Revelation 22:17, NIV

Answer: "Let the one who is thirsty come, and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life." Revelation 22:17, NIV

Congratulations!

Ryan and Aubrey Turnipseed were united in Holy Matrimony during the Divine Service on June 23, 2024. We were blessed to have close to 85 friends and family of the couple at the service.



May
God
Bless
Your
Marriage

Contribution Statistics

Needed Each Sunday to meet Workplan: \$5,882

Year-to-Date Through June 23, 2024

Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under Budget
\$147,039	\$155,145	\$8,106

Total Offerings Received* Year to Date through June 23: **\$177,208**

(*Includes Dedicated Funds, Workplan offerings, and property insurance reimbursement)

What are Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations?

July may be a quiet month for activities at Immanuel, but it is a month full of Church Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations. You can find this list at the front of the Lutheran Service Book on page x, and can also find readings for these Festival Days on page xxii so you can incorporate these special days into your prayer life. We also try to include the feast days in our monthly calendars.

July Feasts and Festivals

July 2	The Visitation
July 22	St. Mary Magdalene
July 25	St. James the Elder, Apostle

July Commemorations

July 6	Isaiah
July 16	Ruth
July 20	Elijah
July 21	Ezekiel
July 28	Johann Sebastian Bach, Kantor
July 29	Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany
July 30	Robert Barnes, Confessor and Martyr
July 31	Joseph of Arimathea

From the LSB, page xii: Commemorations

“Our churches teach that the remembrance of the saints is to be commended in order that we may imitate their faith and good works according to our calling.” Augsburg Confession 21

The Lutheran reformers understood that there was great benefit in remembering the saints whom God has given to His Church. The Apology of the Augsburg Confession (Article 21) gives three reasons for such honor. First, we thank God for giving faithful servants to His Church. Second, through such remembrance our faith is strengthened as we see the mercy that God extended to His saints of old. Third, these saints are examples by which we may imitate both their faith and their holy living according to our call in life.

The calendar of commemorations given here lists a number of men and women from both the Old and New Testaments and from the first 19 centuries of the Church’s life. Their defense of the fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith and/or their virtuous living have caused these individuals to stand out over time as persons worthy of recognition. In every case, the purpose of our remembrance is not that we honor these saints for their own sake, but as examples of those in whom the saving work of Jesus Christ has been made manifest to the glory of His holy name and to the praise of His grace and mercy.



Events at Immanuel

NO VESPERS IN JULY!



Immanuel's Annual Rummage Sale July 11-13

Start cleaning out those closets!
Remember, one man's junk is another man's treasure.

You may bring your donations to the church any time before July 10. Tell your friends who are doing their Spring Cleaning that we are accepting donations. Please make sure that appliances are in working order. Thank you for supporting the various missions of the church.

We will also need volunteers for the sale set up the week prior and help during the sale. Please let Becky know if you can help, even if it's just for a few hours.

Pastor Lovett will be on vacation from Monday, July 15th– Sunday, July 21st. Daily Offices (Matins, Vespers, and Evening Prayer) and the Wednesday Divine Service are canceled.

Pastor Gordish will preach at the Divine Service on the 21st.



Kristi Lovett	7/2	Tony & Bev Giammasi	7/11
Erin Muller	7/2	Todd & Bethany Dafforn	7/15
George Huenergardt	7/10	Mike & Sarah Carpenter	7/16
Seth Garfield	7/14	Doug & Sally Hermann	7/24
Becky Schmidt	7/15	Daniel & Karen Bitner	7/25
Brenae Stuewe	7/18	Mike & Wanda DeLapp	7/25
Wanda DeLapp	7/22		
Pat Engelken	7/22		
Michael Muller	7/25		
Barbara Dilli	7/26		
Phyllis Ioerger	7/30		

Official Acts

Transfers:

Pastor Allen and Sue Hoger (4/9) to Ascension Lutheran
Phyllis Jenish (5/21) to Ascension Lutheran
Jean Ruedi (6/24) to Ascension Lutheran

A Voter's Assembly was held on June 9. The following officers/elders were elected:

President: Mike Carpenter
Vice President: Stan Kenny
Recording Secretary: Joyce Stuewe
Financial Secretary: Ken Wabel
Elder: Brent Ostgren
Elder: Adam Schmidt

Ryan and Aubrey Critchfield were joined together in Holy Matrimony on Sunday June 23, 2024 during the Divine Service.

July's Acolyte Schedule

July 7: Kristopher & Clark
July 14: Kristopher & Emma
July 21: Kristopher & Clark
July 28: Emma & Rylen

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Change Service Request

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Immanuel's Tower Chimes

Judy