



The Tower Chimes

Immanuel Lutheran Church

909 South Market Wichita, KS 67211

316-264-0639

secretary@ilchurch.org

Website: www.ilchurch.org

Pastor Mark Lovett: 620-292-7098

pastor.mdlovett@gmail.com

Secretary Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:45-1
Friday, 7:45-Noon

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Special Dates in June 2024

Flag Day	June 14, 2024
Father's Day	June 16, 2024
First day of summer	June 20, 2024
Nativity of St. John the Baptist	June 24, 2024

PASTOR'S PEN

Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up."

~ St. Matthew 15:11-13 ~

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.

The Church is entering the Season of the Church, the Sundays after Pentecost. The readings and propers in the services focus our attention on the life of Christ lived out through His Church, among His people, by the power of the Holy Spirit, which has been being poured out on all flesh since the Day of Pentecost some 2,000 years ago when the apostles sat in the upper room waiting for the Promise from on high.

During the Season of the Church (the Sundays after Trinity) we hear the familiar parables of the Rich Man & Lazarus, the Wedding Feast, the Wedding Guests, the Sower of Seed, and many, many others. These parables of our Lord are given to us that we would hear with ears to hear and see with eyes that are opened to the Kingdom.

So why do some hear and not understand? Why do some see but do not perceive? It is because their hearts are far from Him. Even if they bless Him with their mouths their hearts are far from Him. Never mind the world of unbelievers. It is the unbeliever in our midst of which the Lord speaks when He says, "Well did Isaiah prophecy of hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me'" (Mark 7:6).

But how would it be that a person is among us and yet their heart is far from the Lord? How could it be that those who go out from us and not among us (1 John 2:19)?

In John 6, after the Bread of Life discourse, many who were disciples of Jesus said, "This saying is too hard for us, who can believe it?" and they departed. The Bible says that they were disciples, yet His words were too hard for them and they left. Jesus turned to the Twelve and said, "Do you want to go too?" To which the Blessed Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!" (see John 6:66-71). Note that Jesus didn't go after those disciples who left. He didn't soften His words or try to explain them in a different way (and even if He did, the Holy Spirit did not think it good to record such for us).

Jesus let them go. They had heard His word, even followed Him, yet when His word became too difficult, they left Him and His apostles.

So it happens today. John 6 is not just a nice chapter of the Bible that fills us with thoughts of the Lord's Supper and the importance of believe on Jesus. It is the life of Jesus that is still lived today in His Church, as the Book of Acts makes clear (cf Acts 1:1-3). It is still the life of Jesus that is lived today – He is risen from the dead! – and it is by the Spirit of God that we participate in His life (cf. 2 Peter 1:4). So His preaching – the preaching of the Spirit – still offends some who seem to be disciples and yet find the sayings too hard and so leave.

What remains for us is to say with Peter, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!” And where are we when the Lord is among us, preaching to us, teaching us, where the Father is pouring out the Spirit through the Son, except in His divine gathering where two or three are gathered? So it is written, “We must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it” (Hebrews 2:1) and also, “let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near” (Hebrews 10:24-25). We can hardly “stir one another up to good works” if we are not around one another.

The Season of the Church is not *our* season, it is the Lord's Church and so it is His season. It is, however, the season in which the Lord more closely examines us and more closely teaches us what it means to be His disciple. “Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 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. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

I look forward to seeing all in our Father's house.

Peace be with you all.

+Pastor

Dear Members of Immanuel:

Through your generous gifts, we sustain, grow, and pursue excellence in worship. We are also able to maintain our facility, which is a blessing to our congregation. We are so very grateful for your past generous support, not only towards the Annual Work Plan, but also toward a number of additional funds which we refer to as our "Dedicated Funds". The Stewardship Committee has been asked to provide the congregation with an updated list of Dedicated Funds.

Should you choose to make an additional gift, in addition to your normal tithe, to one of these Dedicated Funds, it is important that you make a notation in the "Other" section of your offering envelope. In the absence of a notation your gift will be directed toward the Annual Work Plan.

Please be aware that this list of available Dedicated Funds will change from time-to-time as the need, or circumstances change.

Currently, the list of Dedicated Funds is below:

- Organ Fund
- Sacred Embellishments
- Love Fund
- Education Fund
- Immanuel Church Missions
- Youth Fund
- Property Improvements Fund

Yours in Christ,

The Board of Stewardship

Contribution Statistics		
<i>Needed Each Sunday to meet Workplan: \$5,882</i>		
Year-to-Date Through May 19, 2024		
Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under Budget
\$117,631	\$128,359	\$10,727
Total Offerings Received* Year to Date through May 19:		\$144,221
(*Includes Dedicated Funds, Workplan offerings, and property insurance reimbursement)		

BOARD OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Submitted by Rob Smith, Chairman
Repair report by Kevin Stuewe

- The railings and gutter projects are delayed but still planned for this summer. We could use some more help when it comes time to mount those rails. Volunteering now will speed up the rail project.
- Altar work is set for this summer. The altar and steps may have the carpet removed for a time at some point for investigating the quality and integrity of the wood floor underneath.
- The west undercroft door has been left open three times in the past two weeks (viewed on camera). All three doors into the sanctuary building are fire doors and must be closed when the building is empty. An alarm contact will be scheduled to be added to that door soon to eliminate this issue (the alarm won't arm then if it's open).

In the last month the Board of Property Maintenance has continued to repair items.

- The sanctuary air conditioner received an adjustment after I found that our heating and air company did not change over all the valves correctly in my absence. Andrew Stuewe also helped out by finding a setting for the fellowship hall that was incorrectly set.
- We also seem to have a continued need to replace trash cans outside our back door when others take one, unfortunately we have to pay to replace it! We will probably start locking them up together.
- Microphones have required attention. In the fellowship hall the new cordless microphone just required a new battery. In the sanctuary the amplifier is out for repair. (Thanks Stirling.)
- The main sewer was cleaned out.
- The dishwasher is up and running.
- Several light bulbs have once again needed to be replaced.
- Also a pew kneeler here and there is also always ready for some maintenance.
- The yard crew is beginning its season of maintaining the church yard and Flowers have been planted in the courtyard (Thanks Lisa and David Bromlow.)
- The vestry and sacristy stairwells received a new coat of paint. The stage back wall was painted by the staff of CAW.
- Toilet seats have also been tightened

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.

Praise be to the Lord for the public confessions of Hayden Brown and Emma Dafforn during the Rite of Confirmation at Immanuel. May his Church continue to increase both in numbers and the faithfulness of the Body of Christ.

We also give thanks for Zigmas Kisielius, Hunter Kinnison, and Gabriel Hallock and his family (wife Annelise, and children Jacob and Made-lynn), who are with us this month For the Sake of the Elect. Make sure to say hello to them during the fellowship period after the Divine Service, and if you would be interested in sharing a piece of Wichita with them for an evening or hosting them for a meal you can let Pastor Lovett or Eric Stuewe know. We also give thanks for those who have welcomed our visitors into their homes.

Thank you to all who have given donations and prayers for the sake of these men, Immanuel, and the evangelism of Christ's church in the world.

Peace be with you!
Eric Stuewe
Board of Evangelism



Congratulations, Emma and Hayden!

Women Better Together and Men's Gemütlichkeit

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.

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, June 7th. Come and get to know your sisters in Christ! Karen Woodward is heading this group, so ask her to tell you all about it.

Men's Gemütlichkeit meets on the second Friday, June 14th of each month at Immanuel at 7:30 pm. Again, no agenda, no study. Come discuss all things great and small with your brothers.



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.



Please pray for our youth this summer. We have two youth who will be attending Christ Academy in June. We also have two youth who will be traveling this summer.

Please pray for safe travels and Godly experiences.

*Father's Day
is Sunday,
June 16th!*



CHANGE FOR LIFE for Embrace—Wichita

Every Life, Born And Unborn, Has Value Because Of Its Creator.

Men and women at Embrace hear the truth and hope of Jesus Christ in every service empowering them to choose life for their unborn children and eternal life in Jesus Christ. Many clients have never even heard the gospel before coming to Embrace!

85% of those considering abortion changed their minds after seeing their baby on an ultrasound. When they feel alone and afraid, your Change for Life gifts help moms and dads in Wichita find hope.

Pick up a bottle from the church narthex or office starting on Mother's Day, fill it with change and return it on Father's Day and save a life! Your gift will impact the lives of generations to come.

Notes from the:



We were singing *Jesus Loves Me* with the kids on a Sunday. It is such a simple song, with so much meaning. We know Jesus loves us, we know He loved us so much that He dies so that we may live with Him in eternity, but can we really fathom how much love that really is. I know this analogy that I am about to use isn't the best, but it popped into my mind as I was driving this weekend. I was driving out in the country in an area with those really big windmills. I was looking at them from afar and thought "those are really big and there are so many of them." It was a simple thought similar to the simple song, but as I got closer to them and realized the true size of not only the windmill, but each blade on the windmill. It was mind blowing to me how big they were and it made me think of the love of God. As we get closer to God, His love for us is more "obvious." We see His blessings in not only the big stuff, but the little stuff. Remember, Jesus loves you, this we know. For the Bible tells you so. We belong to Him.

Thank you to our many musicians. Your dedication to leading and enhancing the service is appreciated.

During June, we will not have regular rehearsals. Small groups and solos are volunteering to fill our spots. Please see the calendar in the choir room if you would like to volunteer for the special music or during the offering.

Musically Yours in Christ,
Becky Schmidt



After Memorial Day and ending the day before CAW is back in session, the church office will be open from
9am - 2pm,
Monday - Friday.

Summer Matins will be held at 9am and Vespers will be moved back to 3:30pm.



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

June Greetings,

The ladies will meet for tying quilts on June 11th and the 25th. We will collect for Mites on the 11th. If anyone would like a mite box to collect change in, please let us know. The LWML uses the funds from Mites for different projects around the country.

Also, if anyone would be interested in cutting quilt blocks, we use 8.5", 6.5," 5.5" and 4.5". There is loads of material in the room next to the choir room. Feel free to get creative. If you have any questions, just ask.

Have a safe and fun summer---remember to use sun screen!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Phyllis Ioerger

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

King Ahab, assisted by his conniving wife Jezebel, appropriated for himself something belonging to a man named Naboth. What did he take?

- A. Naboth's oxen
- B. Naboth's farm
- C. Naboth's vineyard
- D. Naboth's house

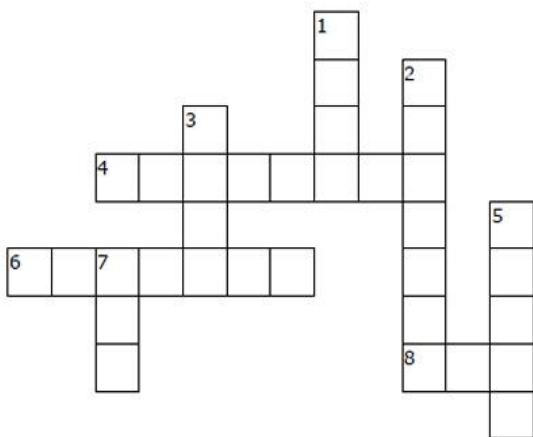


Answer: C (See 1 Kings 21:1-16.)

Father's Day

Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. Proverbs 4:1

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you." Exodus 20:12



ACROSS

4. Comfortable shoes that dad wears around the house.
6. A gift that father wears around his neck.
8. Our Heavenly Father.

DOWN

1. Dad tells these to make us laugh.
2. What dad likes to do at the lake.
3. Something you give to dad to show him you love him.
5. Another word for father.
7. What your dad drives.

DADDY
NECKTIE

FISHING
CAR

JOKE
SLIPPERS

GIFT
GOD



Concordia Academy

Summer has started for CAW! The school is in open enrollment and already has 6 new confirmed students for the 2024-2025 school year. If you know of any incoming freshmen (or their parents!) who may be looking for a classical Christian high school experience please have them call the school at 316-202-8989 or visit their website at cawichita.org.

The school office will be open through the summer on Mondays-Wednesdays from 9 am to 2 pm.

The first day of the 2024-2025 school year will be August 19th.



Congratulations to Ella Filipek, the first of prayerfully many graduates of Concordia Academy.

Ella is the daughter of Pastor Aaron and Amy Filipek of Trinity Lutheran Church.

What are Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations?

June 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.

June Feasts and Festivals

- June 11 *St Barnabas, Apostle*
June 24 **The Nativity of St. John the Baptist**
June 29 *St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles*

June Commemorations

- June 1 Justin, Martyr
June 5 Boniface of Mainz, Missionary to the Germans
June 12 The Ecumenical Council of Nicaea
June 14 Elisha
June 25 Presentation of the Augsburg Confession
June 26 Jeremiah
June 27 Cyril of Alexandria, Pastor and Confessor
June 28 Irenaeus

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

Lutheran Confessions Series

Rev. Michael Brockman will be the keynote speaker at this 28th installment of the LCS, held at Trinity Lutheran, Wichita, on Saturday, June 1st. His topic will be "Body Burial."

The day will start at 12:30 pm with the Divine Service, and then a Beer/Brat supper will follow the lecture.

The full schedule is on the news bulletin board downstairs.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The annual Immanuel voter's meeting on Sunday, **June 9th** during the Sunday School hour.

We will be electing several council officers: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, and two Elders.

Bring a dish to share for the potluck following the meeting.

Monday, June 24th Nativity of St. John the Baptist

The Divine Service for this feast day will be held at Immanuel at 5:30 pm.



Bethany Dafforn	6/6
Kathy Loesing	6/7
Aretta Gordish	6/14
Tony Beaver	6/16
Mike DeLapp	6/16
Nathaniel Snyder	6/21
Elaine Todd	6/21
Joe Doubrava	6/24
Karen Bitner	6/26
Rob Smith	6/27
Austin Awtrey	6/28
Ron Schlesener	6/29

Rob & Terri Smith	6/1
Tom & Peg Clark	6/2
Garry & Karen Woodward	6/3
Pastor Mark & Kristi Lovett	6/9
Dan & Tracee Snyder	6/9
Seth & Naphtali Garfield	6/17
Kevin & Joyce Stuewe	6/20
George & Jane Huenergardt	6/22
Ken & Linda Wabel	6/22

Official Acts during May 2024

Hayden Brown and Emma Dafforn were confirmed on Sunday, May 19th.

Vicar Gabriel Hallock was installed on Sunday, May 19th, and Vicars Zigmas Kisielius and Hunter Kinnison were installed on Sunday, May 26th.

June's Acolyte Schedule

June 2 – Hayden, Kristopher, and Rylen

June 9 – Kristopher and Emma

June 16 – Clark

June 23 – Joshua L. & Clark

June 30 – Hayden, Rylen, and Clark

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Immanuel's Tower Chimes


June