

"God With Us"



And they will call Him
Immanuel -
"God With Us"
Matthew 1:23

Immanuel Lutheran Church

We, the people of Immanuel Lutheran Church, in joyful response to all that our gracious God has done for us, seek to glorify God by bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people.

We have GOOD NEWS! Jesus is ALIVE and LOVES YOU!



Immanuel Lutheran School

Where Faith & Education Meet

A **Child** nurtured in a **Christian** Lutheran setting will be **Prepared** to live a **Joyful**, productive, God-pleasing **Life**.

*Quality Christian education open to all children
Preschool through
Grade 8*

A monthly newsletter from Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

Immanuel Messenger

From Pastor Vrudny

May, 2015



Dear Brothers and Sisters
in Christ,

In our Easter Service in church we heard about the three women who went to the Garden Tomb early in the morning. St. Mark records that they encountered the angel, heard the good news, "He has risen; He is not here!". BUT they 'fled' from

the tomb in trembling and astonishment, and were afraid to say anything to anyone!

The other Gospels record that when their fear subsided, they DID deliver the angel's message to the Disciples. Thankfully, they did

not let their emotions rule their lives; they let the Word of God overrule their fear, and others were blessed. John records that Mary Magdalene, while she fled out of the tomb, did not wander very far; she stood outside the

tomb weeping.

I'm sure she felt very much alone, sobbing at the resting place of Jesus, her Rabbi (teacher) and healer, whom she hoped in to be her Lord & Messiah. Now her heart was

doubly heavy, not only because he had died, but now his body was missing! She turned and saw a man through

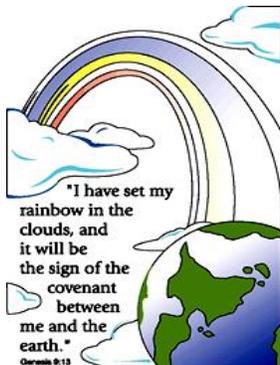


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Contact information for Pastor Vrudny: pastorvrudny@gmail.com or
Cell: 612-390-4935 and Home: 218-547-4720

Remember ...

And God said, "When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." Genesis 9:16



The month of May has so many special days that it is hard to know where to focus! It's interesting that each of those days involves remembering! First there is Mother's Day. Whether you are a mom, or if you have a mom with you or in heaven, it's a perfect time to celebrate life and thank God for the precious memories with our moms!

And then there is Memorial Day, where we remember those who died to give us our freedom. However you celebrate this day, surely we will want to explain to this generation about the sacrifices that our forefathers made on our behalf—and teach them to thank God for their sacrifices.

We also will be celebrating Confirmation Sunday here at Immanuel. At confirmation, we remember our baptism—and thank God for faithful parents, and for His precious grace. Along with that, we celebrate Communion, as we remember the body and blood that Jesus gave for the forgiveness of sins! What greater remembrance can there be?

But did you know that God actually gave Himself a reminder? I love the verse above where God puts down his bow (his rainbow) in the cloud as a reminder—not for us—but for HIM! God surely wants us to remember how He has worked, is working, and will work in our lives as time continues. What a grand celebration is awaiting us at that heavenly feast where we will be remembering it all! And I say HALLELUJAH to that!



Opportunities For Worship

Sunday Worship—We worship God each Sunday at 9:00 AM and celebrate The Lord's Supper the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. Remember to invite your family member, your new neighbor or a friend to worship with you. You are welcome, wanted and needed!

Lutheran Hour Ministries—Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on Sunday mornings at 6:05 AM on WCCO 830, 12:30 PM on KDHL 920, or 5 PM Sundays on KTIG 102.7.

The Lutheran Hour Ministries has expanded into additional markets. The Lutheran Hour is now available: online, MP3, Podcast, Sirius XM Satellite Radio. For local broadcast information visit www.lutheranhour.org

College Students—Students don't leave home without Him! Connect with your Campus Church now or contact: www.lcmscampus.org.

Opportunity For Bible Study

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Join us for Sunday morning Bible study choices! First—a study on the morning Gospel reading prior to worship at 8:30 am in the back of the church. Then fill up your coffee cup and join a group right after Sunday Worship from 10:30—11:30, in the Fellowship Hall. Your input is valued. You will be blessed and be a blessing to us!

Youth Study: 5th—12th Graders meet by the Church Library after church each Sunday—except during summer months.

Men's Bible Study each Thursday morning at 8 am in the

back of the sanctuary. All men are encouraged and invited to attend.



Women's Bible Study every Thursday morning at 8 am, meeting now at the church library. We would love to have you join us as we share God's Word and fellowship with one another.

E-DiBS will electronically deliver to you a daily Bible study where we will go book by book, verse by verse and have a short explanation and application for better understanding. Sign up by contacting the Church office by phone, email or in person. This service is free because of a generous donation. For more information visit: www.e-dibs.org.

Opportunity For Supporting Our Church



would like to ask the rest of the congregation, "Will You Help, too?"

The Endowment Fund for Immanuel Lutheran

Church and School has been set up at the First National Bank in Walker. If you are interested in contributing to this fund, serving on the governing board for this fund, or want more information, stop in the office.

LCEF introduces the new PartnerPLUS Fixed Rate

Term Note! This new term, fixed rate note is for current investors and non-investors. PartnerPLUS is available to individuals, LCMS ministries and organizations and for IRAs. PartnerPLUS is for anyone who is looking to be a Minister Partner! PartnerPLUS features:

- 2% fixed rate on 2-year note. 2.5% fixed rate on 4-year note
- \$500-\$25,000 initial investment amount
- Second-tier rate on balances over \$25,000 (1.000%)
- \$500 minimum to open
- Additional investments of at least \$25 allowed

The church could use: Coffee and paper towels

Continued from page 1

her tear-obscured eyes. He asked her: "Woman, ...why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" (John 20:15)

Why was she crying? She was crying because she didn't understand what Jesus had done, or was still doing. She was still thinking that evil people had done so much to Him in His suffering and crucifixion; and now they couldn't even leave Him alone in death! But her thinking was mistaken – incomplete. The body was missing from the grave because He was alive! There was no stolen 'corpus' -- His corpus was no longer a 'corpse!' God was at work doing far greater things than she realized.

Our view of some events in our life can also be limited in scope. We let disappointment crush us when God still has a far greater work around us to be accomplished. And at the very least, one event does not finish our story! Our Lord asks US, "Why are YOU crying?"

He points us to His Word, and calls on us to trust Him. His Spirit's work in our lives is big; maybe not 'world-wide' big, like with Mary-from-Magdala; but far greater than

what our puny minds can grasp. The Easter Event is 'electric' with life and vitality, and it has become a central

"His Spirit's work in our lives is big;... far greater than what our puny minds can grasp."

part of our living faith. In it there is hope and God's promise for life everlasting.

How? Because the cross overflows with His forgiving blood. And Easter is not the 'end.' Another blessing is that He uses us to bring the message of the empty tomb to others. God is doing great 'kingdom' things in us and through us; even when we feel alone, everything seems hopeless, and our spiritual sight is clouded by tears.

It's okay to cry; there's a time for mourning, and sorrow has its proper earthly place in the Christian's life. But remember that tear-obscured eyes will not be able to see everything clearly. Crying is not the end-game or the finale. God raised Jesus Christ from the dead,

didn't he? Because He lives, you will live also; you *already* are! **Why are YOU Crying ?**

+ + +

Thank you to ALL of you who found a way to participate in this Lent & Easter season ! There were many who helped with our Wednesday suppers -- sometime more than once. Thank you to Angela for her wonderful accompaniment, to Eve for helping, and to Kristina for playing her trumpet! We are always glad to see the lilies adorn our chancel, and to join in the Easter breakfast time provided by the Men's group. Your extra efforts help set apart the important focus of our Lent & Easter season. It's very much appreciated !

--- pastor vrudny

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Prayer Corner

Health Concerns & Other Issues:

- ✚ Bob Beelow (family of Tim & Sue Anderson, surgery)
- ✚ Bruce Crandell (brother of Sharon Gutheridge)
- ✚ Pat Finney (friend of Della Lembke on kidney dialysis)
- ✚ Joe Glassman (Hip surgery)
- ✚ Kay Hoffman (friend of Karla Schmidtke)
- ✚ Delores Kastning (mother of Wayne & Pat)
- ✚ Carla Morgenstern (friend of Darin & Corina Bronczyk)
- ✚ Paul Nagel (brother of Mike Nagel)



- ✚ Deborah Peterson (Mike Keske's sister)
- ✚ Randy Schmidtke
- ✚ Leroy Strand
- ✚ Leona Strand (at Golden Living Center, room 110)
- ✚ Mary Tetzloff (cataract surgery)
- ✚ Brad Zubke (heart attack and surgery)

Prayer of Thanksgiving: Pastor Bitz & family

Prayer of Remembrance: For the families who have had loved ones who have passed away.

Missions: Immanuel Lutheran School, Missions of the LCMS Church, Men of Immanuel

From the Congregation President

We had a fantastic Easter celebration with a delicious breakfast served that day. Did you notice Bill Sellner operating the new dishwasher which made cleanup quicker and easier?

Pastor Vrudny and Leroy Strand (our lay delegate) are at our Minnesota North District convention this week. We will look forward to a report on what occurred.

We had a good Church Council meeting this month. The most exciting news is the effort by our Board of Education to form a group to address the issue of shortage of space for our church/school facility. With 60 students learning about Jesus Christ, plus all of our regular activities, there is a significant strain on the space we have available. Do you think that is why Jesus fed the 5,000 people outside? Watch your mailbox for an opportunity.

Our Elders and Council have continued to work on formalizing job descriptions and procedure manuals for our administrative positions. The administrative assistant job description has been completed. Peggy Schmidtke has now chosen the compensation package which best fit her situation and selected option A that pays a higher wage without benefits. She and a couple volun-



teers will be working on developing a procedure manual to formalize how to do all the needed tasks she performs. The Financial Secretary and Treasurer positions are also now being addressed. Whenever an illness fill in is needed or an elected position term expires, it is extremely helpful to have this documentation on what to do and how to do it.

Our Council is also formalizing a policy on what to do about our Federal and State governmental politics. As we gear up (already?) for another Presidential election, this will become a more timely topic and the position of our and any church becomes important.

Recall that at our March special meeting, our congregation recommended that the Administrator of the Estate take IMMEDIATE action to bring about a conclusion. We heard through Duane Payne that Foreclosure proceedings on the property are now being instituted.

Spring is here. Our risen Savior said he will make all things new. Spring is another example of His promise.

Continue to keep your church in your daily prayers.

In His and your service, Tim Duin

Men of Immanuel

Men of Immanuel will meet on Saturday, May 2nd (instead of the 2nd Saturday in May which is the Fishing Opener) in the fellowship hall for breakfast and fellowship at 8 am. Cooks for the morning are Vern Black and George Johnson. All men of Immanuel Lutheran Church are invited and encouraged to come! The coffee will be on!



We often try to fix problems with WD-40 and duct tape. God did it with a nail.

First English of Dorsett has invited all men of Immanuel to share a time of Bible study at their church and then golf at a course near Park Rapids. The date is May 22, 2015. The men that participated last year had a great time. This also promises to be a lot of fun. MEN : Please put the date on your calendar!

LWML Update

Ladies—You really should come and join us for a meeting! Our April meeting was held at Bonnie Vrudny's home and we accomplished a great Bible Study, "Seedy Characters", discussing the sowing of the seeds of God's Word (...and sow forth and ... sow on).

Fall Retreat Planning: Our annual ladies mini-retreat is being planned for September 22. It is going to be a SUPER evening with the highly acclaimed Karen Pitkin.

ABC Sale Style Show Tea: Be watching for details on this fun event! Plan on shopping at the ABC Sale for your apparel to be modeled at this special "tea"! Oh—so fun! Can't wait to see

these fashions!

Mission Projects: We will be selecting our next mission in the May meeting! Be sure to come with your suggestions!

Next meeting: ALL WOMEN INVITED! Next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 19 at 1:00 pm at Phyllis Eklund's home. Being a part of LWML allows us to watch how "little becomes much" right before our eyes! COME!!



Stewardship

Stewardship and Youth

It was just before one of the great battles of the World War. Near a main artery of communication in the rear of the allied battle lines stood two army chaplains observing the preparations being made for the impending attack. The troops moving into position for the bloody work were passing by in a seemingly endless stream. "What an impressive sight," said one of the chaplains, "and how depressing, too," he went on, "to think that this great mass of superb young manhood must be sacrificed to the War Monster!



Give. Save. Spend.

"Something else comes to my mind," said the other. "There goes the flower of American youth. Why is it that our country can command its young manhood for service and sacrifice while the kingdom of God so often vainly calls upon its young people for assistance, cooperation, and loyalty? These thousands of young men marching by are willing to bleed and die for their country if need be; but I venture to say that very few of them are ready to

work and live for their church, if they are church members at all. Something is wrong," he added, "either with our churches or with our young people, or with both; and when once again I am back with my home congregation, I shall consecrate my life to the winning of youth for the kingdom of God."

The principles of stewardship will not generally prevail in the Church unless they are accepted, and put into practice, by the Church's young people. There is no good reason young people should be exempt from the obligations of Christian stewardship, why even

little children—and we shall include these in the term youth—should not and could not be taught the fundamentals of stewardship life and trained in the simpler forms of stewardship practice. Is not the plight in which so many treasuries are at the present time due, perhaps, largely to the fact that today's generation of adults was given little or no childhood

training in the details of Christian stewardship?

Good stewards are trained, not born. And stewardship training, like all other instruction, to be efficient, must be given during the years of childhood and youth. If Johnnie is not taught how to be a good steward, how can he be one when he has become John? Solomon's well-known maxim: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it," may be paraphrased thus: "Keep a child from the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not get into it." If stewardship training is neglected in youth, nothing in later life can every fully make up for it.

Blessings on your stewardship journey!

Finances

Church Finance

General Offerings:
 March Offerings = \$10,137.50
 Total Expenses = 12,942.54
 Shortage = \$ 2,805.04

Building Fund:
 March Offerings = \$707.00
 Mortgage Payment = \$2,227.63
 Shortage = \$ 1,520.63

It was necessary to transfer \$4,800 from the Steward Account (Sale of Parsonage) to the General and Building Fund in March to cover the expenses.

The Steward Account balance is \$37,776.71 as of March 31.



Mercy Fund Update

Mercy Fund Beginning Balance = \$1,747.00
 Donations to Mercy Fund = \$106.00
 Donations to Members = 500.00
 Current Balance = \$1,353.00

School Finances

3/1/15-3/31/15 income \$14,325.77
 3/1/15-3/31/15 expense \$7,885.25
 (Actual income & expense – loan amounts removed)
 Lines of credit balance owed as of 4/6/15 \$22,000

Some thoughts from one of our Circuit Pastors:

"50 Shades of Grey?! No, It's Black & White!"

I truly believe that most people have no idea the amount of influence the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh have on them. This has become evident once again as I hear about women all over the country (including those who bear the holy name of Christ) reading the books and going to see the movie, *Fifty Shades of Grey*. I know a woman who told her church friends that they should not go and see the movie and she was made out to be the bad guy ...the judgmental one. These are women who are very active in their church ...who teach Release Time classes and Sunday School classes; they are mothers and wives, and they see nothing wrong with this. I even know a wife of a Missouri Synod pastor who has read the books and calls them "graphic but educational." I wonder if she would consider her husband visiting a prostitute as "educational." {or him reading an issue of Playboy}

Now, don't get me wrong. I am not being a 'moralist.' We are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone, not by our own works so that no man can boast. Even faith itself is a free gift (see Eph.2:8-9). But as those who have been called out of darkness into the marvelous light of forgiveness in Jesus Christ (1Pet.2:9), we are not to openly and unrepentantly sin (see Romans 6:1-14), or pretend that sin doesn't matter. We are sinners who need forgiveness daily, but we can't sin openly – without repentance – pretending there are no consequences.

In Luke 13:5, Jesus says, "No, I tell you; unless you repent you will perish." *Fifty Shades of Grey* is nothing more than pornography and abuse wrapped up in a pretty package and labeled "fantasy." "Oh, it is just fantasy," I hear woman claim. Yet would they want their daughters to see that kind of behavior? Would

they want their daughters to be involved in such behavior? How about their sons? And if it is wrong for their children, how can it be okay for them as adults? Is it no longer a sin because we are grown up?

Just think about the premise of the story. A young college girl – a virgin – meets an older man who gets her to sign a contract that allows him to have abusive, sadistic sex with her...sex without love or commitment. Compare that with the image of a loving marriage portrayed in Ephesians 5:21-33. There, husbands and wives are taught to put the interests of the other ahead of their own wants and desires. There, husbands are encouraged to "Love their wives the way Christ loved His bride the Church." In other words, husbands are supposed to selflessly ('agape') love their wives sacrificially and completely. Yet young women so often claim to be offended by the teachings in that text that says "wives submit to your husbands." What a paradox! Submitting to a husband that loves you as Jesus loved the Church is somehow misogynistic and chauvinistic, but allowing a man to handcuff you, spank you, cause you pain, and use your body for his own pleasure is somehow liberating and empowering!

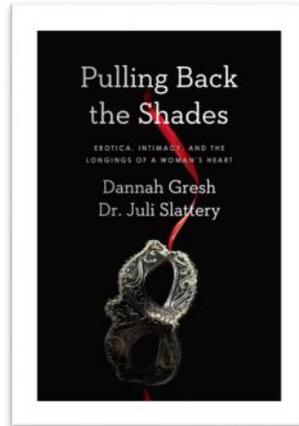
Fifty Shades of Grey isn't just about the Sixth Commandment; it's about the Fifth Commandment as well. We need to teach our young men to be protectors of women not predators. We need to teach our young women to expect the men in their lives to treat them with respect and to never hurt them in any way. We need to teach our young people what godly relationships are all about, and what God has designed marriage to look like. *Fifty Shades of Grey* may be a clever attempt to blur the lines between good and evil and right

and wrong, but this isn't a grey area ...it's black and white. How can we teach our children this, if we don't understand it ourselves?

In Christ, Pastor Davis

+ + +

Some interesting thoughts. Not long ago, I heard on the radio of an effort by a group of women encouraging others to send them their copy of *Fifty Shades of Grey* to accomplish two things: To get rid of it(!), and to trade it for a book that has an accurate & godly message about real intimacy in a woman's life.



Two women, Dannah Gresh, an author and Dr. Juli Slattery, a clinical psychologist, have written a book titled: "*Pulling Back The Shades.*" On your computer you can search for that title, or you can search "trade in your shades" and you will be able to see their website where you can read about them and their effort to inform and counteract the lies and deception of Satan

and our world involving "erotic literature." At their site you can also read the first chapter of their book to get an idea of how they present 'authentic intimacy' in a Christian way.

If you were persuaded or coerced into reading the '*Fifty Shades*' poison, I encourage you to trade it in, and give your mind a cleansing antidote from some Christian women who really have your best interest at heart in the area of intimacy. At the very least, check out their site and give them a chance to convince you that God has in mind a far better expression of love for His holy people!

--- pastor vrudny

Cookbook Update

The order for the new cookbook has been placed. We are very excited about it. It is a hard cover, 3 ring cookbook with 430 wonderful recipes. It has nice, heavy dividers with tabs. The selling price of the cookbook is only \$15.00. They will not be here for Mother's Day but we do have gift certificates available that can be purchased. This cookbook will be a great gift for birthdays, showers and weddings, graduations, hostess gifts,



or a "just because" gift. A nice and easy gift for any occasion. Tell everyone you know about our cookbook! We have also applied for a 90 day credit which means instead of having to pay for the whole order before we get it, we pay for half of the order 30 days from the invoice date and then have 90 days to pay the remainder. We have **Advance Sale Coupons** if you want to reserve and pay for your book/books now. Checks can be made out to Immanuel Lutheran Church, please note "Cookbook" on your check.



Acolyte Jeffrey Schmidtke

The congregation is invited:

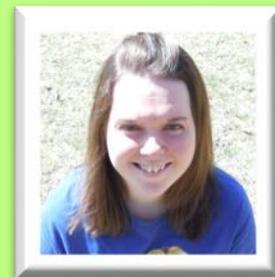
Darrin & Corina Bronczyk are proud to announce the Graduation, with honors of Magna Cum Laude, of their daughter

Nicole Ann Bronczyk

from Bemidji State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance and a minor in Fraud Examination.

Commencement exercises are on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 2pm at the Sanford Center in Bemidji, MN

Open House is on Saturday, May 9, 2015 from 1-5 pm at the Bronczyk home 33685 County Road 38, Walker, MN
RSVP: 218 224-3116



ABC SALE- New this year..

The past few years God has blessed us with an abundance of donations and very successful ABC Sales! This has been exciting for the school, but overwhelming for volunteers. To be prepared, we are revamping the donation process. We encourage donations to be dropped off whenever possible. We believe we can use our volunteer time most wisely by scheduling any needed pickup days ahead of time. When calls come in for the loads, we can let them choose from the dates that also work well for us. To date, we are looking for a storage device to bring to the church. As soon as we have a unit, we will put out a schedule of pick up dates. We will need volunteers to sign up ahead of time to make this new process a success. Check the school events page: "www.immannuellutheranwalker.com", school Facebook page, and in the church bulletin for updates.

Thank you in advance for helping make this year's ABC Sale a successful fundraiser for our school!

Note: A storage unit is in place! Thank you, Lord!

Mark your calendar!

ABC Sale

ATTIC Basement CLOSET

June 11th, 12th & 13th

Thursday & Friday 8 am-6 pm
Saturday 8 am-noon

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Located 1/2 mile East of the "Y" Junction on Hwy. 200, South of Walker

WATCH THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

All proceeds go to Immanuel Lutheran School preschool through 8th grade

Opportunities to Help the School

RECYCLING: Immanuel School can now recycle your old cell phones. Just drop them at the office or deposit them with the ink jet cartridges.

On-Line Search: Immanuel School has signed up as a charity on www.goodsearch.com. Every time you use this search engine, they donate 1 cent to our school. Please choose Immanuel Lutheran School as your charity when it asks you, "Who do you "Goodsearch" for?"



Amazon Smile: Take advantage of the Amazon Smile Program with your Amazon orders and help the school! Simple. Anyone who signs up for Amazon Smile and chooses the school for their charity will automatically contribute 0.5% if their purchase of most items to the school! You can sign up at: <http://smile.amazon.com>

Scrip Orders: The school's scrip program is a great way for parents, grandparents, family and friends to help pay for tuition! 50% of each scrip order's profit may be designated toward a student's tuition. Many retailers participate in the gift card program and also offer ScripNow, where certificates can be downloaded from your account through orders placed online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Scrip packets are available by the office. New order deadline: 10th of each month. Contact Angela Bitz (547-1330) or Kelly Schmidtke (547-1080) with any questions.

Walker Area Pregnancy Support Center

LIFE. Something beautiful.

The Walker Area Pregnancy Support Center exists to provide physical and spiritual life affirming choices for women and families facing an unplanned pregnancy.

THANK YOU! Because of your prayers, your attendance, and your contributions, our annual Spring Fundraiser was the biggest success ever! We praise God and thank you for your part.

Please be in prayer for women making the toughest decision of their lives...and one that will affect them for the rest of their lives, no matter what they choose.

Pray for them to come to know and trust God with their future and their child's life.

Other Prayer Requests:

☞ Look for the Baby Bottles! Our 2015 Baby Bottle Campaign runs from Mother's Day through Father's Day! A perfect way to contribute by saving your change—and making a difference! We will collect the bottles on Father's Day!! Thank you!

☞ Advertising 2015 - We are working on a plan to have some smaller size billboards on our main highways so more young people will be made aware of our confidential ser-

vices.

☞ Looking forward to many more opportunities to speak to area church groups, and to present our message of 'hope' to those we serve.



Attention Anyone Who Shops at any Teal's Market Location! PLEASE give us your original receipts, we send them in and Teals will make a 1% donation to the Walker Area Pregnancy Support Center. An AMAZING gift to us!!!!

Amazon Smile: Anyone who signs up for Amazon Smile and chooses us as their Charity, will automatically contribute 0.5% if their purchase of most items to our Cen-

ter. You can sign up at: <http://smile.amazon.com>

"LIKE" us on Facebook: Please find us on Facebook for ministry updates and then be sure to "Like" us.'

Prayer Partner: If you would like your email to be included in our list of Monthly prayer calendars (and impromptu prayer concerns throughout the month) please email: walk-erpssc@arvig.net.

Location: The pregnancy center is located at 507 Front Street in Walker. Hours: Monday through Thursday, 11 AM to 4PM. Our phone is: 218-547-LIFE (5433) and our email is: walk-erpssc@arvig.net.

Broken Dreams, Author Unknown - Shared by Angela Bitz

As children bring their broken toys,
With tears, for us to mend,
I brought my broken dreams to God,
Because He was my friend.

But then instead of leaving Him
In peace to work alone,
I hung around and tried to help
With ways that were my own.

At last I snatched them back
And cried, "How can You be so slow?"
"My child" He said, "What could I do?
You never did let go."

Secret Servant

Leroy Stand for making the wood and glass case that displays the defibrillator. (It is in the entryway of the church near the sanctuary.)

Joel Vinkemeier for always looking for ways to help. He was last seen vacuuming the Fellowship Hall after Bible Study Sunday morning!

Bonnie Vrudny for cleaning up and helping out every where she goes!

Pat Kastning for continually making use of her connections for the good of the church and school. (Latest—securing the storage unit for the ABC sale!

Yes, God is keeping track of the "good deeds" you do in private. However, if you see someone doing something "in secret", let the church office know so we can all say thank you! The smallest thing you do is GREATLY appreciated! YOU are appreciated!



May Celebrations

Anniversaries

5/28 Chad & Gina Zubke (4)



Birthdays

5/1 Katie Swanson-Strangel

5/3 Wade Bakker

5/6 Linda Kolar

5/6 Noah Lindahl (4)

5/8 Kathi Hopen

5/8 Leroy Strand

5/9 Peggy Schmidtke

5/10 Bev Johnson (84)

5/11 Glenn Bakeberg (84)

5/11 Gordy Dahn

5/19 Janna Kietzman

5/19 Jamie Zahn

5/21 Angela Bitz

5/21 Stacie Lindahl

5/22 Cindy Schmidtke

5/23 Mike Keske

5/27 Karen Sellner

5/30 Tanner Kastning



Quilting Ministry
Tuesday, May 12 & 26
9:00 am

**Spring Musical for
Immanuel School**
Thursday, May 14th
1:00 & 7:00 pm



Confirmation Sunday
May 24, 2015



Membership Updates

We welcome new member Scott Hoseth to Immanuel Lutheran Church. Welcome to Immanuel's family Scott!



Scott Hoseth

Ralph and Barb Jankovich have transferred to Emmanuel of Backus. We wish them God's Blessing at their new church home.



Thursday Bible Study Note:

Both Men's and Women's Bible Study has been moved to 8:30 am.

Church Website: "www.immanuellutheranwalker.org"
School Website: "www.immanueallutheranwalker.com"

You can also find Immanuel Lutheran Walker on Facebook!



We want to include YOU!

Please let the office know your special days so we can celebrate with you!

Thanks from Jim & Phyllis Eklund

Jim and Phyllis say THANK YOU for all your prayers during Jim's recent recovery!!



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, June 7, 2015

Men of Immanuel "Annual Chicken Dinner"
supplied by Charlie's Up North 11am- 1pm

Thursday-Saturday, June 11-13,
Immanuel School Annual ABC Sale

Sunday, August 30, 2015

Men of Immanuel "Annual Hog Roast Dinner"
supplied by Charlie's Up North 11am- 1pm

Sunday, October 4th, 2015

100th year Anniversary Celebration

Immanuel Lutheran School—Where Faith and Education Meet

A Letter from the Board of Education to Church members and School parents:

April 16, 2015

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church members and Immanuel Lutheran School parents,

The Lord's grace and peace to you! We have an interesting and challenging issue facing us. The school and church, working together, do not have enough room. We are bursting at the seams! How is it that we have come to this? Let us lay out a brief history for you.



With the Lord's blessing, Immanuel Lutheran Church opened its doors in its present location in 1997 and Immanuel Lutheran School opened, just as a preschool, in 1998 with 14 students. The school has grown to its current enrollment of 60 students in preschool thru 8th grade and is filled to capacity, and at times has a waiting list of students. Most would definitely agree that it is over filled for the amount of space we have. There are many times when the activities of the church and school conflict/overlap because of space and we are seeking some solutions.

So where do we go from here? We are asking each and every one of you to pray about our blessing and challenge. God has the answers that we seek! With the approval of the church council, we are currently forming a committee that will specifically assess the situation/space issues, come up with solutions, set goals and implement plans to reach those goals. We would like 6 or more people on this committee.

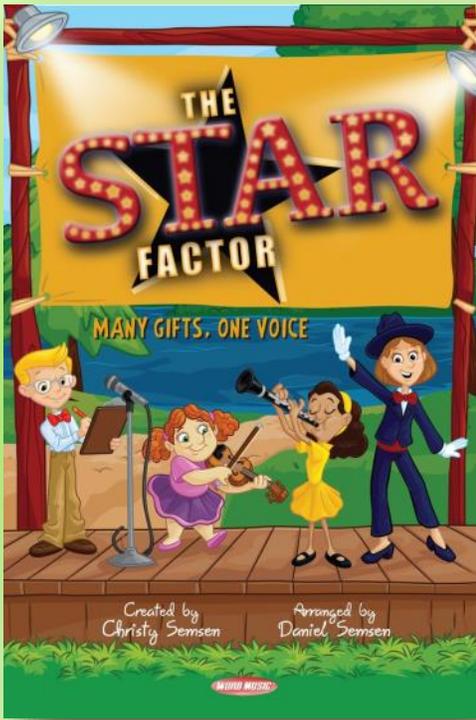
Let's be reminded of the gospel purpose our Lord has put before us as stated in our mission/vision statements: The school's vision is: "A child nurtured in a Christian Lutheran setting will be prepared to live a joyful, productive, God-pleasing life." The vision/mission of the church is: "We the people of Immanuel Lutheran Church, in joyful response to all that our gracious God has done for us, seek to glorify God by bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people."

God has blessed our church with a wonderful school ministry! Little lives are being touched with God's love daily. We have a top notch group of teachers, staff, and volunteers. For all these things we are so thankful to God!

If YOU are interested in this exciting adventure please look for the sign-up sheet in the church office or call the church at 547-3156 to sign up. Our first meeting will be soon.

Joyfully in Christ,

Immanuel Board of Education



**PRE-K—8TH GRADE STUDENTS PERFORMING:
"THE STAR FACTOR"
THURSDAY, MAY 14
1:00 & 7:00**

Places! Lights! Curtain up!

It's time for *The Star Factor*, and you have a front row seat. The setting is Camp Heart & Soul, a summer arts camp that features a talent showcase with an exciting twist: this year, the showcase winner earns the opportunity to compete on a national TV show, "The Star Factor"! As everyone excitedly prepares for the performance, their initial group cooperation begins to crumble as their celebrity coach tells them that, "looking out for yourself is the only way to become a star!" The kids eventually learn that every part of the Body of Christ is important, and every person has a special and unique role to play.

Dates to remember:

- May 4 Preschool/Pre-K Mom's Tea 10:30
- May 14 K-8 Spring Musical 1 & 7
- May 15 K-8 Track Meet in Perham
- May 19 Preschool/Pre-K Awards 6:30
- May 21 Graduation / Awards/ Picnic 5:30
- May 22 Last Day of School



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
8TH GRADE GRADUATE!
JESSICA SCHMIDTKE**

Colossians 3:17— "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Jessica as you begin this new chapter in your life remember that you are uniquely created by God and a valuable member of the "Body of Christ"! He has created you, He has redeemed you, and He has called you by name. God placed you here for a purpose and promises to always watch over you. He loves you so much that He died for you so that you may live with Him. He will guard and protect you. He will strengthen you and in Him you will find peace and comfort.

We will miss you at Immanuel School. We are proud of all you've accomplished with us, how you've grown and matured both spiritually and intellectually. You have been a blessing to the staff and students at Immanuel. Remember your Christian education, stand firm in your faith and share the love of Christ through example and witness to all that you meet.



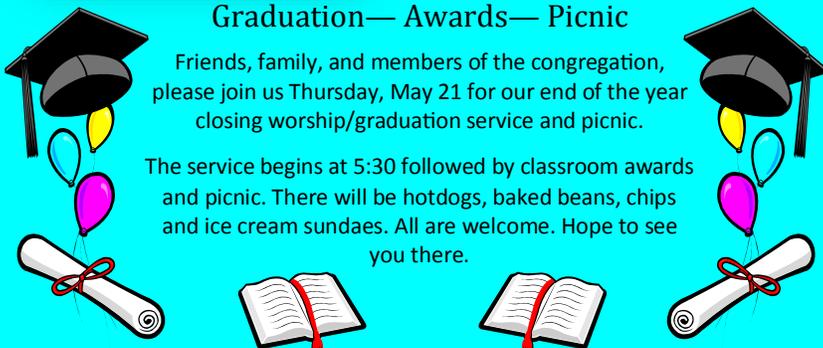
Ken Erlandson from Lutheran Island Camp and Pastor Kollie from Cottontree, Liberia visited with staff and students.

**PRESCHOOL & PRE-KINDERGARTEN
AWARDS NIGHT
TUESDAY, MAY 19
AT 6:30**

Graduation— Awards— Picnic

Friends, family, and members of the congregation, please join us Thursday, May 21 for our end of the year closing worship/graduation service and picnic.

The service begins at 5:30 followed by classroom awards and picnic. There will be hotdogs, baked beans, chips and ice cream sundaes. All are welcome. Hope to see you there.



Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

4656 State 200 NW
P O Box 307
Walker, MN 56484



Join us for worship on Sundays at 9

Forwarding Service Requested

Immanuel Messenger
May, 2015



And they will call Him
Immanuel

"God With Us"

**Immanuel
Lutheran Church
The Missouri Synod**

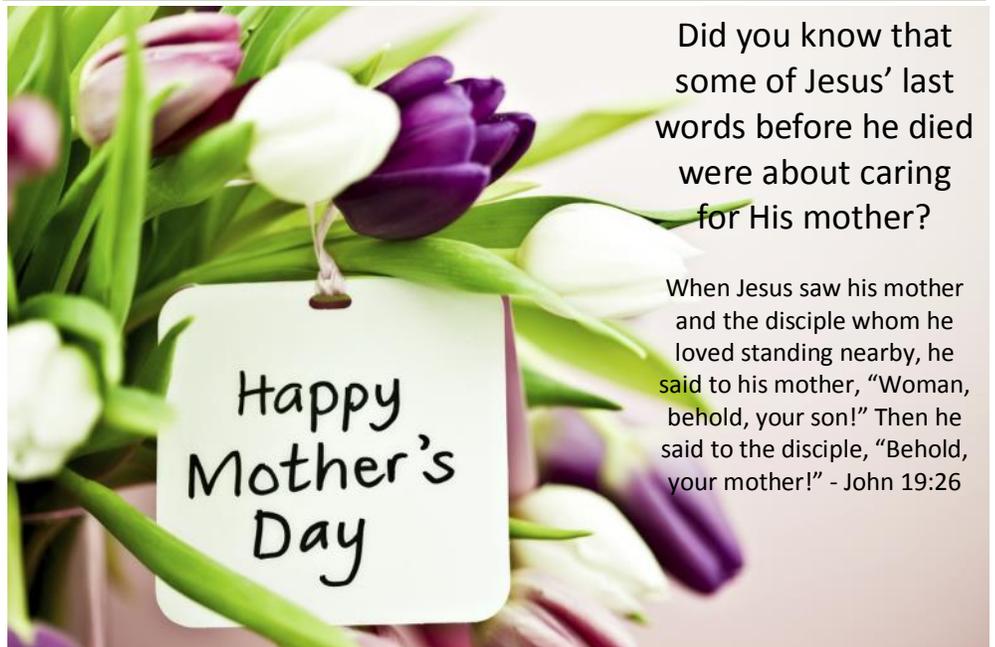
Office:
218.547.3156
Pastor's Private Line:
218.547.3580

School/Fax:
218.547.4139

Church Website:
ImmanuelLutheranWalker.org
School Website
ImmanuelLutheranWalker.com

Join Us for Worship!

You are welcome, wanted and needed!



Did you know that some of Jesus' last words before he died were about caring for His mother?

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" - John 19:26

Whether it's a happy or sad day for you—you can celebrate the life that gave you life!
Happy Mother's Day!

Put your business card here and help pay for this publication!
Check in the church office for details!



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Whatever you do, work heartily as for the Lord, and not for man. Colossians 3:23

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Servants in the Lord's House for May

Greeters

5/3 Glenn & Marilyn Bakeberg
5/10 Marie Bakker & Phyllis Eklund
5/17 Vern & Marilyn Black
5/24 Darrin & Corina Bronczyk
5/31 Gordy & Liz Dahn

Acolytes

5/3 Johnathon Myers
5/10 Randi Nielson
5/17 Andrew Salvhus
5/24 Mark Salvhus
5/31 Matthew Salvhus

Fellowship Servers

5/3 Helen Paulson
5/10 Bonnie Vrudny & Marilyn Bakeberg
5/17 Mary Tetzloff & Phyllis Payne
5/24 Barb Vinkemeier & Marie Bakker
5/31 Clara Gerwick & Joann Loewen

Ushers

5/3 Jim Kolar & Gordy Dahn
5/10 Will Pehling & Bill Sellner
5/17 Will Pehling & Bill Sellner
5/24 Vern Black & Glenn Bakeberg
5/31 Vern Black & Glenn Bakeberg

Altar Duty: Kathy Pinsonneault

Elder: 5/3 & 5/10 Joel Vinkemeier—5/17, 5/24 & 5/31 Dick Kruger



A huge **THANK YOU** to all who continue to serve our congregation! Bless you!

Congratulations to our 2015 Confirmands! Immanuel Lutheran Church, May 24, 2015

Randi Micah Nielsen



Born: August 11, 2000
Baptized: December 17, 2000
Parents: Randy & Lashawnda Nielsen
Sponsors: Trudy & Rick Anderson
and Andrea Degrange

Confirmation Verse: John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.



Johnathon Lloyd Myers

Born: January 8, 2000
Baptized: January 18, 2000
Parents: Kim Myers, Tim Myers
Sponsors: Jason & Jen Kuester and John Bendix.
Confirmation Verse: 1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.



Jessica Michele Schmidtke

Born: March 10, 2001
Baptized: March 25, 2001
Parents: Mike & Kelly Schmidtke
Sponsors: Jon & Michele Faugstad
and Josh & Becky Howe.

Confirmation Verse: 2 Timothy 3:14,15

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.



Immanuel Lutheran Church			MAY 2015		"God With Us"	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 26 <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study	1	2 8 am Men of Immanuel Breakfast
3 <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> 9 am Worship w/Communion 10 am Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Bible Study	4 10:30 am Preschool/Pre-K Mother's Tea Council Agenda Due 10 am Elders Meet 7 pm Board of Ed Council Agenda & Finance Due	5	6 6 pm 2nd & 3rd Yr Confirmation	7 <i>National Day of Prayer</i> 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study	8	9
10 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Mother's Day</i> 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Bible Study Scrip Deadline	11	12 9 am Quilting  9:30 Pastor at Winkle in P.R. 7 pm Council meeting	13 6 pm 2nd & 3rd Yr Confirmation	14 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study 1 & 7 pm School Spring Musical	15 <i>The Ascension of Our Lord</i> School Track Meet in Perham	16
17 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> 9 am Worship w/Communion 10 am Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Bible Study	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19 1:00 pm LWML at Phyllis Eklunds 6:30 pm Awards for Preschool/Pre-K	20 6 pm 2nd & 3rd Yr Confirmation	21 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm School Closing Graduation/Awards/ Picnic	22 Last Day of School	23
24 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 9 am Worship w/Communion 10 am Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Bible Study	25 <i>Memorial Day Observed</i>	26 9 am Quilting 	27	28 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study	29	30
31 <i>Holy Trinity</i> 9 am Worship w/Communion 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Bible Study	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study	June 5	June 6