

THE VOICE OF IMMANUEL

October 2015

Chicken Little cries out: "The sky is falling! The sky is falling!" It made sense. All the data pointed in that direction. Something had fallen and it bonked him on the head. The chick decides to tell the King and on its journey meets other animals: Henny Penny, Cocky Locky, Ducky Lucky, Drakey Lakey, Goosey Loosey, Gander Lander, Turkey Lurkey and Foxy Loxy. The chick decides to tell the King and on its journey meets other animals which join it in the quest. After this point, a fox invites them to its lair and there eats them all. As it turns out, it was just an acorn that had fallen on Chicken Little. Panic was their fateful error.

Now, when you are a chicken standing under a mighty oak tree, an acorn is no laughing matter. It needs to be taken seriously. (If you are crazy good with math, you can figure out how fast it would be traveling if it fell from a 100 foot tree. Please let me know if you find out.) But if we over compensate, and draw the conclusion that everything is lost and there is no future, we would be badly mistaken.

Much has changed since June when the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution guarantees every person the right to marriage. By doing so, it redefined what marriage is. We can cuss and discuss the decision. I firmly believe that the decision was wrong. But at this point, there is little that can be done. The question is: "How do we continue to practice our faith in a way that is consistent to what we believe?"

Now, the decision is nothing to be taken lightly. In a recent presentation, Eric N. Kniffin, an attorney focusing on religious liberty cases, compared the changes in law over the last 50 years regarding sexual relationships to a tsunami. It is no small thing. The SCOTUS ruling is simply the latest event in society's tidal wave. There are far reaching implications. A federal official has said,

"There can be a conflict between religious liberty and sexual liberty, but in almost all cases the sexual liberty should win." The Dean at a prominent law school said, "For some issues where the values of this country conflict with religious views, if they can't live with it, they should leave." One presidential candidate stated, "Religious beliefs ... have to be changed" when contrary to abortion rights.

The worst thing we can do is to overreact. This is no small matter, but we do have some recourse. The council has been discussing this situation. We will continue to do so. Here are four areas that give us protection. First, we are part of the North American Lutheran Church which has taken a stand supporting the traditional understanding of marriage. Second, one core value of the NALC is that it is "Traditionally Grounded." In part, it means that our faith is still defined by what the Church has understood and taught down through the centuries. Third, Immanuel's Constitution says in part, "***The canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of its proclamation, faith and life, according to which all doctrines should and must be judged.***" Fourth, our wedding guideline booklet states, "***We at Immanuel understand and believe that marriage is a sacred union between a man and a woman. Therefore, no "marriage" or "blessing of a same-sex union" will be performed at Immanuel.***" We will continue to find ways to bolster the position so that there can be no confusion about where we stand.

When the sky does fall, it will not be from an acorn or societal shifts. The sky will fall when our Lord returns. That will be a glorious day. Until then, take heart!

Pastor Jim Lehman 575

PARISH NURSE

October – Dental:

“The fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children’s teeth are set on edge.” Jeremiah 31:29

NIV We all want to prevent heart disease. The usual recommendations for prevention of cardiovascular disease are to lose weight if overweight, eat a healthy variety of foods, exercise regularly, and don’t smoke. There is one more that may surprise you. Research shows a correlation between gum disease and heart disease because infection can travel from the mouth to the heart muscle. Who would have thought that brushing your teeth and flossing regularly might help prevent heart disease?

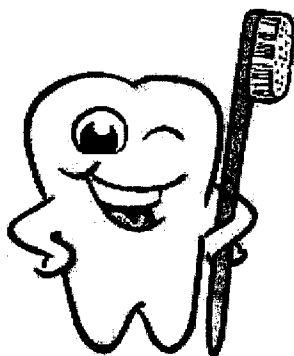
Some people are genetically more prone to gum disease, but everyone can be vigilant in keeping their mouths healthy. Healthy gums are pink, firm and elastic. Conditions of the mouth that may be related to heart disease include: • Gingivitis: bacteria builds up around gaps between gums and teeth and causes mild symptoms of redness, swelling and sometimes bleeding. • Periodontitis: advanced gum disease where infection goes deeper.

Toxins from bacteria are released that cause pockets to form between teeth and gums. Eventually this can cause damage to the bone that supports teeth. Gums recede from the teeth and bleeding is common. •

Cavities, abscesses, missing teeth: mouth problems that can lead to inflammation and possible heart disease.

Some medications can cause dry mouth that can lead to gum disease. Illnesses like diabetes or arthritis can also affect the immune system causing gum problems. These need to be discussed with the doctor and dentist to find a solution.

Prevention is the key. Brush your teeth twice a day and floss at least once a day. Brushing should be in a circular motion. Back and forth brushing can actually cause damage to the gums. Flossing also needs to be done properly to be effective. At your next visit check with the hygienist or dentist to be



sure that your technique is correct. Visits for cleaning and checkups should be at least every six months. Anyone with existing gum problems will need more frequent cleanings. Caring for your teeth and gums takes little time when you consider the benefit it may give your heart. (Source: MedlinePlus, www.nlm.nih.gov)

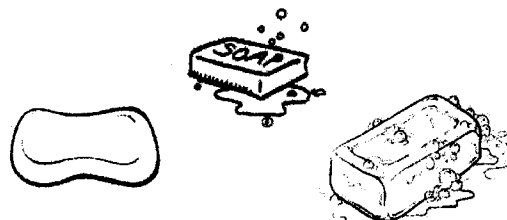
women^{of}faith
Unwrap the BIBLE

Ladies, join us Tuesday night, October 27th at 7:00 p.m. as we listen to Sheila Walsh share with us the story of Esther and how this brave queen’s example can help us find courage.

Join us for a night out of Fun-Faith and Fellowship.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

The Immanuel Church Women’s project for October will be collecting bars of soap for LWR. All new bars of any brand soap in their original wrapping are acceptable; however, bath size bars (4 to 5 oz.) are highly preferred. Thanks also to the Sunday School Department for helping pack the school kits for LWR.



Thank you for all the support you have shown for the LWR projects.



**Council Minutes
September 8, 2015**

Devotions were given by Tim Clink and refreshments were provided by Ranae Buck.

Pastor's Report

Barry & Sandy Maury transferred in from Prince of Peace, St. Joseph. Pastor Bisser mailed first Childrens Newsletter on August 27. A new member class will begin on Sept. 20.

Evangelism

New church brochure has been printed.

Fellowship

Oct. 30 and 31, 2015, Immanuel will host the Great Rivers Mission District events.

Property

Kaufman's Concrete will replace some curb and sidewalk on the south side of church and a small section on the north side. Mike Jansen will repair a section of sidewalk on the south side.

New Business

Pastor Lehmann distributed the proposed amendments to the NALC Constitution Amendment Ratification. The information will be presented at the annual meeting for a vote. Shepherds for All Saints on Sunday, November 1, 2015. Council members will participate in the post-service activity.

EUCHRE

September 20, 2015
High Score: Darlene Johnson
Low Score: Liz Page
Most Pokes: Dave Wolken
Most Loners: Darlene Johnson
Gery Maury



We had 23 players join us for Euchre. Next Euchre Tournament will be Sunday, October 18th at 3:00 p.m. Men will provide refreshments. Please join us for some fun!

HYMN SING

Hymn sing will be at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 25th at Country Health.



DEVOTIONS

Devotions with Pastor Barbara Busboom will be on Sunday, October 25th at Country Health.



Joy Bells will continue to practice on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 p.m.



Tyler Sage and Jillian Meyers were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 19, 2015, here at Immanuel, officiated by Pastor James T. Lehmann.

SPECIAL DATES

World Communion Sunday, *October 4, 2015*
Columbus Day Observance, *October 12, 2015*
Reformation Sunday, *October 25, 2015*
Reformation Day, *October 31, 2015*

OCTOBER



ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Donna Wiltshire (Chair) 893-1715
Casey Flesner 369-7763
Brenda Barr 582-2071
Bev Heiden 568-7114
Denise Wolken 202-2663
Teri Travis 694-4526 Cell:369-4538
Mary Huls 377-5215

YOUTH CHOIR

Every Wednesday evening the Youth Choir will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. for practice. There will be singing every third Sunday of the month, starting in October. Grades 3-8 are welcome. We hope to see you all then! Thanks! Erin Siuts

Cathedral Choir will practice the 1st and last Wednesday's of the month at 7:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter deadline for November will be Thursday, October 15th, 2015. If you have any notes, minutes, or newsworthy items you would like included in this newsletter, please get them to Katie by this deadline.

HOLY COMMUNION AT COUNTRY HEALTH

Holy Communion at Country Health will be Thursday, October 8th, at 1:30 p.m. Come and join us whether or not you have a family member residing there.



HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

- 10/1 Rosetta Suits
- 10/12 Harold Wilken
- 10/21 Alfred Ideus
- 10/26 Janice Duitsman
- 10/26 Gary Maxwell
- 10/27 Donna LaBorg
- 10/28 Hilda Swanson

SHUT-INS

Keep our homebound and shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers. They would all enjoy calls or visits:



Prayer Requests

Brookstone Estates

- Ann Duitsman
- Dora Ehmen
- Norma Flesner
- Dorothy Fruhling
- Lela Huls
- Emilie Steffey

Country Health Nursing Home

- Alma Ackerman
- Emma Bergman
- Abbie Demien
- Albert Ehmen
- Hilda Huls
- Melvin Huls
- Arlene Peavler
- Margie Wolken

Brookdale Urbana

- Norma Reitmeier

Knights Templar Home

- Margie Huls

Riverview Assisted Living, East Peoria

- Donna Flessner

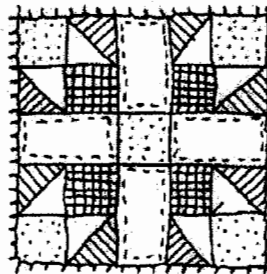
Homebound

- Elvin Ackerman
- Clara Graham
- Arnold Hinrichs
- Marguerite McDonald
- Hilda Swanson - in Arizona

**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF
INGATHERING**

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering will be Friday, October 30, from 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. It's time to box up all the beautiful quilts you've enjoyed displayed in church this past month as well as all the other quilts and kits the sewing groups and others have completed this past year. We would appreciate some willing hands and strong backs to help load them on the semi. Flatville is the collection point for area churches so hopefully there will be many boxes to load. The ladies always have treats available for those who

help (if you need a little incentive) and several helpers will make the work go quickly. Please call Lois Maury or the church office if you can volunteer.



LWR SEWING

We would appreciate any volunteers to help. You do not necessarily need to know how to sew, whether it's tying a knot or cutting material. Stop by and join us!

GIGGLES
*Girls In God Growing, Loving, Eating,
 Sharing*

GIGGLES will meet on Mondays (October 5, 12 and 19) at 7:00 p.m. for Bible Study and fellowship.

CALL THE PASTOR

You may be sure of this: Your pastor is willing to come to the hospital or your home, the jail, the street corner, or anywhere at any hour of the day or night when he/she is needed. Call them if you need them. Otherwise he/she will not know of your need until it is too late. Do not trust the grapevine to get the message to them. "Everyone already knows" is seldom true and the messages coming through the grapevine are often incorrect. Call the pastor. It is better that they receive the same message several times than to not know of the need at all.

ATTENDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER

	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Sun.</u> <u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>Sun.</u> <u>10:15 a.m.</u>	<u>Totals</u>
9/6	24	134	(8:30 a.m.)	158
9/13	25	143	52	220
Sunday Evening				88
9/20	22	110	92	224



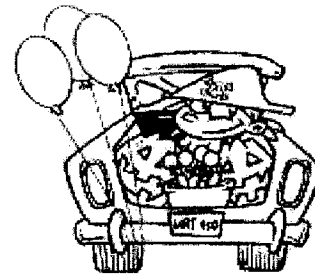
AREA REFORMATION SERVICE

The area Reformation Worship Service will be Sunday, October 25, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., location is at St. John's Lutheran, Royal. Please see the bulletin for further details and join us in offering our praise to God.

GREAT RIVERS MISSION DISTRICT

The Great Rivers Mission District Convocation will be held on October 30th & 31st, at Immanuel Lutheran, Flatville. Friday will be casual conversation starting at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing how the Supreme Court ruling on marriage affects congregational ministry. Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Pastor David Wendel will be present to share information from the North American Lutheran Church and will discuss the challenges to religious freedom in America.

Please begin making plans to attend our district convocation. Our congregation is invited to attend both meetings. Let us know if you plan to attend. You will enjoy it!



TRUNK OR TREAT

Join us Sunday, October 25th from 2-4 for Trunk or Treat. Please see the attached flyer with more information.

October 2015 CALENDAR-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:30 a- LWR Sewing	2	3 5:00 p- Worship & Holy Communion
4 8:00 a- Worship & Holy Communion 9:15 a- SS/New Member Class 10:15 a- Worship & Holy Communion	5 8:30 a- LWR Sewing 7:00 p- Giggles Bible Study	6 9:30 a- Pastors' Study and Worship	7 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 9:30 a- Bible Study 6:15 p- Joy Bells 6:30 p- Youth Choir 7:00 p- Cathedral Choir 7:00 p- Confirmation	8 1:30 p- Communion at Country Health	9	10 5:00 p- Worship
11 8:00 a- Worship 9:15 a- SS/Adult SS/New Member Class 10:15 a- Worship	12 7:00 p- Giggles Bible Study	13 9:30 a- Pastors' Study and Worship 6:00 p- Council	14 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 9:30 a- Bible Study 6:15 p- Joy Bells 6:30 p- Youth Choir 6:30-8:30 p- LYO 7:00 p- Confirmation	15 8:30 a- LWR Sewing NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 5:00 p-Mennenga/Grider Rehearsal	17 3:30 p- LYO 5:00 p- Worship and Holy Communion 6:00 p- Mennenga/Grider Wedding
18 St. Luke, Evangelist 8:00 a- Worship & Holy Communion 9:15 a- SS/Adult SS/New Member Class 10:15 a- Worship & Holy Communion 1:00 p- Ostfriesian 3:00 p- Euchre	19 8:30 a- LWR Sewing 7:00 p- Giggles Bible Study	20 9:30 a- Pastors' Study and Worship 7:00 p- Parish Ed	21 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 9:30 a- Bible Study 6:15 p- Joy Bells 6:30 p- Youth Choir 7:00 p- Confirmation	22	23	24 5:00 p- Worship & Holy Communion
25 Reformation 8:00 a- Worship & Holy Communion 9:15 a- SS/Adult SS/New Member Class 10:15 a- Worship & Holy Communion 1:30 p- Hymn Sing @ Country Health 2:00 p- Devotions @ Country Health 2-4:00 p-Trunk or Treat 7:00 p- Reformation Service at St. John's Royal	26	27 9:30 a- Pastors' Study and Worship 7:00 p.m. Women of Faith Bible Study	28 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 9:30 a- Bible Study 6:15 p- Joy Bells 6:30 p- Youth Choir 7:00 p- Cathedral Choir 7:00 p- Confirmation	29 8:30 a- LWR Sewing	30 4:15-5:15 p- LWR Ingathering 7:00 p- Great Rivers Mission District Casual Conversations	31 10:00 a- Great Rivers Mission District 5:00 p- Worship & Holy Communion

Acolytes, Lay Readers, Communion Assistants, Greeters, Ushers

October, 2015

Date	Acolytes	Lay Readers	Comm Assistants	Greeters	Ushers
Sunday, 10/4					8:00 AM Emie Sjuts (Captain) Keith Sjuts Ray Rademaker Judy Rademaker
5:00 PM			Lois Harms		
8:00 AM	Jessica Palmer Daniel Scott	Mike Stark	Sharon Emkes Julie Hedrick	Bob Tuller Julie Hedrick	
10:15 AM	Karstyn Wayland Rhyane Bushman	Robyn Camp	Carleen Lantis Jerrod Lantis	Jake and Marla Goff Family Leo and Judi Studer	10:15 AM Gary Busboom (Captain) Dirk Harms Rick Wolken Jodi Wolken
COMMUNION					
Sunday, 10/11					
5:00 PM					
8:00 AM	Josh Burkhardt	Nicole Crites		Andy and Missy Buhr Ray and Elaine Uken	
10:15 AM	Kale Goff	Ellen Blue		Janine Standifer and Hailey Quinlan Bev Heiden	
Sunday, 10/18					
5:00 PM			Peggy Blue		
8:00 AM	Austin Cotter Anna Crites	Karon Currie	Karon Currie Diana Sjuts	Darius and Lois Harms Emilie Steffie	
10:15 AM	Makayla Learned Tyler Scott	Judi Studer	Bonita Kopmann Amy Jones	Lawrence and Clarissa Schluter Janice Duitsman	
COMMUNION					
Sunday, 10/25					
5:00 PM			Joyce Romine		
8:00 AM	Denley Heller Rhyane Bushman	Wilma Suits	Robyn Camp Lois Harms	Mark and Kim Wood Donna Garrell	
10:15 AM	Daniel Scott Abby Harms	Sue Calhoun	Denise Wolken Coley Wolken	Mary and Devin Wolken Jeff and Shari Hovel	
COMMUNION					

If you are not able to attend at a time scheduled, please attempt to find a substitute, if possible. If unable to do so, please contact Robyn Camp, rcamp@illinois.edu, or 217.493.7090. Thank you!

AUGUST 2015 TREASURER'S REPORT

Fund Balance Information

GENERAL FUND			BUILDING FUND				
Fund Balance	7/31/2015	\$ 166,937.67	Fund Balance	7/31/2015	\$ 51,168.89		
Offerings	\$ 28,924.50		Offerings	\$ 6,970.15			
Dedicated & Other Fund Receipts	2,459.47		Memorials	30.00			
Total Income		\$ 31,383.97	Total Income		\$ 7,000.15		
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 20,198.56		Real Estate Taxes	275.12			
Worship & Service	3,986.56		Building & Repair	856.00			
Our Church Home	2,561.54		Landscaping	355.00			
Dedicated Fund Expenses	1,886.85		Utilities	1,823.90			
Total Expenses		\$ 28,633.51	Total Expenses		\$ 3,310.02		
Total Fund Balance	8/31/2015	\$ 169,688.13	Total Fund Balance	8/31/2015	\$ 54,859.02		
Less Dedicated Fund Total		63,201.30	<i>Building Fund Invested as:</i>	<i>Checking</i>	\$ 54,859.02		
Total Unobligated Balance		\$ 106,486.83					
 			Other Fund Balances				
<i>General Fund Invested as:</i>			Endowment Capital	\$ 44,864.71	Memorial	\$ 26,392.83	
<i>Money Market</i>	<i>\$5,053.54</i>	<i>CD</i>	<i>\$ 12,845.26</i>	Endowment Common	\$ 14,501.81	Endowment Interest	\$ 313.69
	<i>\$ 41,382.34</i>		<i>\$ 110,406.99</i>				

Offering & Attendance August 2015

By Category

General	\$ 28,924.50
Benevolence	\$ 6,901.00
Building	\$ 6,970.15
Total	\$ 42,795.65

August Attendance

902
Average Weekly Attendance
180

Benevolence Offering Includes

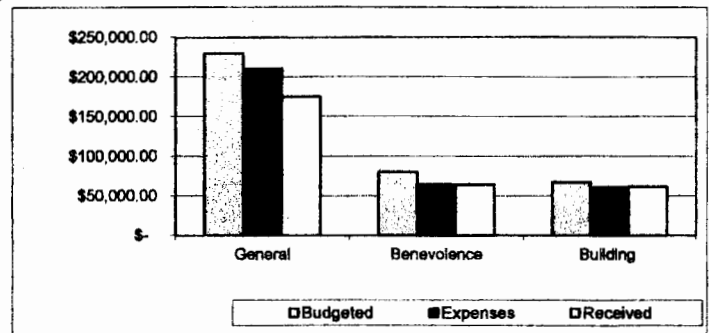
Gen Benevolence	5,466.00	Food Bank	250.00
NALC Seminary	770.00	Lutheran CORE	40.00
LWR	245.00	FOTCOH	30.00
Mission Festival	100.00		

Additional Offerings Received

Sunday School	311.00	Parking Lot	550.00
Altar Flowers	35.00	Historical Books	100.00
Endowment Fund	129.75	CD's	4.00

Stewardship Progress Year to Date

	Budgeted	Received	Ahead/(Behind)
General	\$ 229,398.00	\$ 174,748.89	\$ (54,649.11)
Benevolence	80,000.00	64,176.36	(15,823.64)
Building	67,466.68	61,956.50	(5,510.18)
TOTAL	\$ 376,864.68	\$ 300,881.75	\$ (75,982.93)
	Expenses	Ahead/(Behind)	
General	\$ 210,018.90	\$ (35,270.01)	
Benevolence	64,076.36	100.00	
Building	60,602.98	1,353.52	
	\$ 334,698.24	\$ (33,816.49)	



Immanuel Lutheran Church
2498 County Road 2100 E
Thomasboro IL 61878-9699

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PERMIT NO. 2



Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville
Pastor James T. Lehmann, sts
Pastor Cindy Bisser, sts
Pastor Barbara Busboom, Visitation

Telephones (Area Code 217)

Church Office 694-4156
Dial-A-Devotion 694-4711 Fax 694-4155E-Mail: flatville@wigi.us
Web Site: www.flatvillechurch.com

Church Officers

Keith Sjuts, Pres.
Maynard Duitsman, V.
Pres.
Ranae Buck, Sec.
Tim Clink, Treasurer

Congregation Council

Ranae Buck
Robyn Camp
Tim Clink
Maynard Duitsman
Derek Harms
Blake Hedrick
Callie Heidbreder
Kyle Johnson
Keith Sjuts

Cathedral Choir Co-Directors Marilyn Buhr/
Darla Rubarts

Cathedral Choir Pianist Lois Harms

Bell Choir Director Laveda Clem

Youth Choir Directors Erin Siuts, Megan Siuts

Organists: Irene Buhr, Janice Siuts, Brenda
Anderson, Linda Pein, Laveda Clem, Shirley
Wyatt

**Parish Education
Committee**

Judi Studer - Chairman
Audrey Harms
Edgar Hovel
Marie Reitmeier
Diana Sjuts
Alisyn Franzen
Todd Wilson
Denise Wolken
Sharolyn Worley

Building & Grounds

Justin Franzen
Marvin Rademacher
Daniel Wilson

Youth Committee

Audrey Harms
Diana Sjuts
Denise Wolken
Sharolyn Worley

**Vacation Bible
School Committee**

Alisyn Franzen
Casey Flesner

Sunday School Staff

Todd Wilson, Supt.
Sue Calhoun, Asst. Supt.
Leo Studer, Treas.

Custodian/Groundskeeper:
Deon Ramm

Church Secretary:
Katie McKinney
flatvillesecretary@wigi.us

Financial Secretary:
Jo Ann Duitsman
flatvillefinance@wigi.us