

Divine Service at 5:00



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

917 West Jefferson Boulevard, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: 260/423-1369 Website: www.emmanuel Lutheran.org

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Here are a few things we'd like you to know...



CHILDREN IN WORSHIP



We are so happy you are here!

We've got tot bags and children's bulletins that are located in the east and west rear entrances of the church. Also, check out our Visual Faith page in the back of the bulletin.

Please feel free to bring your kids up during the distribution of Holy Communion for a personal blessing.

The unstaffed Church Nursery is available for children three years of age and younger and is located in the lower level. If you need help finding it, please ask one of our ushers who will gladly guide you.

PRAYER REQUESTS



If you have a prayer request that you would like announced to the congregation, you will find a prayer request card on the tables located near each entrance into the sanctuary. Drop the completed card into one of the boxes located at each entrance, or simply hand it to an usher.

CONNECTIONS COUNTER



Visit the Connections Counter located in Ebenezer Hall. We've been expecting you and have a gift for our visitors. You can also pick up information on all we have to offer and sign up for events too!

SPECIAL NEEDS



We offer a hearing loop, large print bulletins and printed copies of today's sermon. If these would be helpful, please ask one of our ushers who would be delighted to assist you.

GATHERING TIME



Join us for coffee, donuts and fellowship on Sunday mornings, after the early service and before Sunday school and Bible classes begin.

EMMANUEL APP



emmanuel Lutheran.org



Found in the gathering space we call Ebenezer Hall.

BUILDING FAITH IN THE CITY

“Repentant Fruit Bearing”

AS WE GATHER

The problem with good works is not that we should do them but why. Our works reflect what it is we believe and hold dear. Works are the fruit of repentance and faith and do not add to what Christ has done in His mighty work of redemption. The call to bear the good fruit of repentance is not to work harder to be saved but to manifest in our everyday lives that we are saved, that we belong to the Lord, and that He has accomplished all things for our salvation. John faced a generation impressed with their works and empty of faith in God’s mercy. We should know that doing works is not a choice. Hearts of faith will produce the good fruits of repentance. This is the calling of Christians and the mark of the work of the Spirit in our lives.

THE GATHERING TIME

We encourage our members to greet each other with God’s peace and to warmly welcome visitors into our fellowship. Kindly turn off all cellphones and please sit toward the center of the pew so there is room for all who worship.

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Bethlehem Candle

Leader: As we light the second candle on our Advent wreath, the Bethlehem Candle, we remember how God chose the little town of Bethlehem to be the birthplace of our Savior, fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy and making great what was small. We pray:

People: We give You thanks, our heavenly Father, that You exalt the humble and bring down the proud. Grant that as we travel once more to Bethlehem to greet our Savior and King, we may be humbled in His presence and blessed to serve Him well; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE GATHERING SONG: “Bethlehem”

Starlight in a mother’s eyes, a Holy Child is born.

Kings and shepherds on their knees adoring Christ the Lord.

(Chorus)

Bethlehem, Bethlehem, behold Your beautiful Savior!

Fall down, worship Him, the King born in Bethlehem.

He knew the secrets of the world; His lips could not yet speak.
Heaven wrapped in flesh and blood: the Son of Majesty. (Chorus)

Fall down, worship the Hope of Israel.
Come and adore Him, Jesus, Emmanuel!
Fall down, worship the Hope of Israel.
Come and adore Him, Jesus, Emmanuel! (Chorus)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

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(Please stand as able)

THE INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (Psalm 72:2, 4, alt.; Philippians 1:6)

Leader: May God judge His people with righteousness and justice.

People: May He defend the poor, deliver the needy, and crush the oppressor.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection)

Leader: Holy and gracious God,

People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

(Chorus)

Rejoice, rejoice. Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
(Chorus two times)

(Interlude)

O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
(Chorus two times)

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THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." ¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED (Spoken together)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"
Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us. Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art.
Dear desire or ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King.
Born to reign in us forever. Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal spirit, rule in all our hearts alone.
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

(Solo)
You draw the hearts of shepherds, You draw the hearts of kings.
Even as a baby, You were changing ev'rything.
You called me to Your kingdom before Your lips could speak.
And even as a baby, You were reaching out for me.
And now we are awaiting the day of Your return
When ev'ry eye will see You, as heaven comes to earth.
Until the sky is opened, until the trumpet sounds,
The bride is getting ready, the Church is singing out.

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us. Let us find our rest in Thee.
Come, Thou long expected King.

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THE SERMON

Pastor Dan Sheafer

THE GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please take the black binder at the end of each pew, and fill out the appropriate info. We encourage our members to greet our visitors after the service.

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: "Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)"

Light of the World, Treasure of Heaven,
Brilliant like the stars in the wintry sky.
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness,
Shine across the earth, send the shadows to flights.

Light of the World, from the beginning
The tragedies of time were no match for Your love.
From great heights of glory, You saw my story.
God, You entered in and became one of us.

(Chorus)

Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah.
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done!
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him.
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World.

Light of the World, crown in a manger,
Born for the cross, to suffer, to save.
High King of Heaven, death is the poorer.
We are the richer by the price that He paid. (Chorus)

Light of the World soon will be coming.
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own.
Through clouds He will lead us straight into glory.
And there He shall reign forevermore. (Chorus)

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(Please stand as you are able)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the Holy Church, that God would continually feed her with His Word and Sacraments as she looks for Christ's return, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For families, that they would faithfully fulfill their vocations to love and forgive one another, even as they grow in the fear, love and trust of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For civil authorities, that they would govern with justice and righteousness as leaders appointed by God to protect the innocent, punish the wicked and work for the common welfare of all, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the sick and suffering, that as the day draws near when the wolf will dwell alongside the lamb and pain and destruction will be no more, God would grant them patience, comfort, and healing according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who commune this day, that their hearts would be stirred up to make ready the way of the Lord Jesus, who comes in His body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Grant, heavenly Father, that we may be kept in joy and sustained in hope through every trouble and trial of this mortal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE PREFACE (Spoken responsively by the Congregation)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

Leader: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. Trusting in Your promises, we bless You for Your abiding presence in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has come to this earth and has taken upon Himself the sins of the world. By His sacrificial death and His glorious rising from the grave, He has opened to us the very gates of heaven. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

“SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)”

Holy, Holy, Lord God of Heavenly Hosts,

Holy, Holy, Lord God of Heavenly Hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Blessed is he who comes,

Blessed is he who comes, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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THE LORD’S PRAYER (spoken together)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION (Served by stations)

When Jesus said, “This is My Body...This is My Blood,” He really meant it. As Lutherans, we believe in the real bodily presence of Christ in the Sacrament, not merely in a figurative or symbolic sense. This means that Jesus’ body and blood are actually present in the bread and wine received in Holy Communion. In this meal our faith is strengthened and forgiveness is assured. This gift is an act of God’s love, which we don’t deserve, cannot explain, and don’t even fully understand. We humbly believe it. It is a request of our congregation that anyone who wishes to commune with us would share this faith. If you are not receiving the Lord’s Supper today but desire a blessing, approach the Pastor

with your arms crossed over your heart. The individual cups located in the center of each tray contain non-alcoholic wine for those having that medical need. Individually packaged gluten-free communion wafers are available. Please ask the Communion Assistant if you have this dietary need.

THE DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Waiting Here for You"

If faith can move the mountains, let the mountains move.
We come with expectations, waiting here for You, waiting here for You.

You're the Lord of all creation, and still You know my heart;
The Author of salvation, You've loved us from the start.

(Chorus)

Waiting here for You, with our hands lifted high I praise.
And it's You we adore, singing Alleluia.

You are ev'rything You've promised; Your faithfulness is true.
We're desp'rate for Your presence; All we need is You. (Chorus)

We will wait for You, Lord, in step with You, Lord.

We will sing alleluia. Singing: Alleluia; Alleluia.

Singing Alleluia; Alleluia. (Chorus)

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"Even So Come (Come Lord Jesus)"

All of creation, all of the earth,
Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord. Jesus is coming soon.
Call back the sinner, wake up the saint.
Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame. Jesus is coming soon.

(Chorus)

Like a bride waiting for her groom,
We'll be a church ready for You.
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing.
"Even so, come. Lord, Jesus, come.
Even so, come. Lord, Jesus, come."

There will be justice. All will be new.
Your Name forever, faithful and true. Jesus is coming soon. (Chorus)

So we wait. We wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon!
So we wait. We wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon.

Like a bride waiting for her groom, we'll be a church ready for You.
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing.

Like a bride waiting for her groom, we'll be a church ready for You.
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing.

"Even so, come. Lord, Jesus, come.

Even so, come. Lord, Jesus, come."

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THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING SONG: "He Shall Reign Forevermore"
In the bleak midwinter; all creation groans
For a world in darkness, frozen like a stone.
Light is breaking in a stable for a throne.

(Chorus)

And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
Unto us a Child is born, the King of kings, the Lord of lords.
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.

If I were a wise man, I would travel far.
And if I were a shepherd, I would do my part.
But poor as I am, I will give to Him my heart. (Chorus)

(Bridge)

Here within a manger lies the One who made the starry skies.
This Baby born to sacrifice; Christ, the Messiah.
Into our hopes, into our fears, the Savior of the world appears.
The promise of eternal years; Christ, the Messiah.

He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
Unto us a Child is born, the King of kings, the Lord of lords.
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore.
He shall reign, He shall reign, He shall reign.

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THE POSTLUDE

THE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Is. 35:1-10; Ps. 146; James 5:7-11; Matt. 11:2-15

THE CHRISTMAS GREENS adorning His altar were given to the glory of God.

USHERS: Dale and Pat Bultemeier

COMMUNION: Gary Meredith

The Prayers of the Church

Prayer Requests

- Our congregation continues to care for one another through a faithful prayer ministry. Please pray for the following people this week:
 - Pray for strength, healing, peace and comfort for Pam Carmichael (sister of Deb Percy), Steve Herman, River Garcia (grandson of Raquel Klug), Carlton Grotrian (father of Karla Neeld), Colsen Gage (nephew of Annalissa Smith), Ricky Carmickle (brother-in-law of Deb Percy), Alycia Williams, Dick Reinking, Gene Franklin (father of Sandy Behling), Vickie Kidwell (mother of Sandy Behling), Phil Arthur, Deb Percy, Ed Braun, Norv McClure, Janine (friend of Lauryn Longworth), Gracelynn Anderson (granddaughter of Tim and Cindy Anderson), Lynn Williams (mother of Steve Williams), Randi Gramling (cousin of Deb Percy), Stan Thompson, Deb Epperson, Salem Lee Hilty, Faith Behling, William Rush, Kathy Schweyer, Don Heckber, Wayne McClure, Mason Longworth
 - Pray for the following people recovering from surgery: Jan Reche, Jan Werth, Jan Rathge, Steve Mueller, Myra Schmidt, Ivy Harkenrider, Anne Kelly, Wes Harless, Jan Hoffman
 - Pray for healing, comfort and peace for the following people with cancer: Bonnie Havener (sister-in-law of George and Becki Elonzae), Karen Burtch (sister-in-law of Lori Richey), Amy Krontz (daughter-in-law of David and Karen Wyss), Mary Grosjean, Peg Davis, Ashley Edge (niece of Barb and Gary Lesh), Barb Hambrock, Julie McMichael (niece of Deb Percy), Bob and Jenny Hobby (brother-in-law and sister of Chris Murphy), Shelly Koenig (friend of Matt & Amy Konow), Rob Howe, Judi Brunow, Josh Walters (friend of Patty Rouse), Judy Baumgartner (mother of Kristin Smith), Tina Bennett, Dennis McFadden, Lisa Toth (Pepple), Laura Herrick (Caroline Eber's niece), Art Klausmeier, Roger Kuehnert, John Jennings (friend of Dave and Tammy Bair), Bruce Williams, Herb Schumm, Rob Roehm, Ann Schwartz, Hazel Krenzke (Brian and Anna Snodgrass's niece), Robert Burmeister (Hannah Swor's dad), Roxanne Moore, Marsha Sappenfield, Jenny Nehrenz (niece of Charlene Hess), Rick Bair (brother of Dave and Tammy Bair)
- Join our staff in praying for the following members:
 - Carri Bartkowiak, Nicholas, Gavin, Braden and Alec
 - Connor Bartkowiak, Judah
 - Gina and Jamie Barton, Julyan and Hayden
 - Tony and Jill Bauermeister, Rachel and Caleb
 - Jon and Jen Bay, Thomas, Makinzie, Christopher and Andrew
 - Kelly Beall
 - Ruth Beall

- Diane Beaman
- Blake Bear
- Ron and Lynda Bear
- Please pray for the missions supported by Emmanuel's congregation:
 - Rev. James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf – Ponce, Puerto Rico
 - Lutheran Agency for Missions to Burmese (LAMB)
 - Rev. Michael Paul - Taiwan
 - Heidi Wilkinson – Ethiopia
 - The Lutheran Heritage Foundation
 - Luther Academy
 - Lutheran Senior Care Ministry (LSCM)
 - Lutherans For Life (LFL)
 - Lutheran Bible Translators

If you have a prayer request that you would like to make known to our Emmanuel family, please email me at taeggold@hotmail.com. If you would like to join the Emmanuel Prayer Chain, please email Marsha Sappenfield at marshasappenfield@comcast.net or call 260-616-0679.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Baptism: Thank God for the baptisms so far in 2025.

Dolores Harper	Parker Schultheis	Mason Gilliom	Atlas Arnold
Renae Smith	Rafael Alberto	Lois Altheide	Lincoln Griffin
Virginia Miller	Amelia Adair	Forrest Clarke	Brandon Cirilo
Charlotte Schmotzer	Lilyth Tittman	Anna Vandercar	William Vogt
Bennett Hoyle	Liam Hill	Rowen Lomont	Owen Light
Kollin Vanderford	Klaire Vanderford	Khloe Vanderford	Walter Vanderford
Wilma Vanderford	Vada Gillum	Valerie Miller	Gary Keller
Terry Buffington	Desirae Rider	Payton Caudill	Benjamin Rider
Alice Gynn	Quinn Brimmer	Parker Hall	Kirstin Lobozzo
Jordyn Christlieb	Devon Jewell	Izaiah Christlieb	Iyla Christlieb
Elyjun Christlieb	Amira Christlieb	Nevaeh Christlieb	Atreus Layman
Theodora Kendrick	Salem Lee Hilty	Austin Dillion	Nova Dillion
Daniel Schindler			

The Teaching of the Church

Want Help Growing in the Word? Regularly visit Pastor Brunow's website <http://www.genesbrunotes.com>. The website offers notes on each chapter of Scripture, Bible studies, tips for preparing for worship, and a weekly devotion based on the Gospel reading for the coming week. You can find these devotions under the "Sermon Notes Plus" option.

Sunday School and Bible Class 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

CLASS	LOCATION
Little Flock (Birth – Age 3)	School Room A5 (Extended Care)
4-5 Year Olds	School Room A3
K-1 st Grade	School Room A1
2 nd -3 rd Grade	School Room B3
4 th -5 th Grade	School Room B5
6 th -7 th Grade	School Room D3
8 th Grade	LL Ebenezer
High School	Loft
“The Kingdom of God is Coming”	Sanctuary
“I Believe”	Brandt Hall

Weekday Bible Classes...

CLASS	LOCATION	DAY	TIME
Monday Morning Moms	Loft	Monday (every other)	8:30 a.m.
LifeLight: Luke	Ebenezer Hall	Mondays	3:30 p.m.
LifeLight: Luke	Ebenezer Hall	Mondays	5:30 p.m.
Study the Psalms	Chapman's	Tuesday	6:00 p.m.
Men's Lectionary Study	Ebenezer Hall	Wednesdays	6:30 a.m.
Women's Bible Study	Brandt Hall	Wednesdays	8:30 a.m.
Pastor's Bible Study	Ebenezer Hall	Wednesdays	10:00 a.m.
Friends in the Word	Loft	Thursday (every other)	8:30 a.m.
Bible Study & Fellowship	Chapman's	Thursdays	6:00 p.m.
@917 (Ages 25-45)	Ebenezer Hall	Thursdays	7:00 p.m.
This Is Most Certainly Brew	Brandt Hall	Fridays	6:30 a.m.

The News of the Church

Middle School Youth Christmas Party! - 6-8th grade youth are invited to join us in Lower Ebenezer at Emmanuel from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 7. We will be enjoying lunch together before the rest of the festivities. We will also have a white elephant gift exchange. Please plan to bring a gift that does not exceed \$10.

ESM's Vespers Service is on Thursday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for free, general admission. Earlier that day, we will have a rehearsal at 10:00 a.m. that will be open to the public, and you are all invited to attend! The morning open rehearsal and evening service will both be at Purdue University Fort Wayne in the Auer Performance Hall (Rhinehart Music Center). Please call the office with any questions. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior with you!

Watch Suzie's Mission Sunday Presentation - On Sunday, November 30, at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary, Qian Su "Suzie" shared her and her husband Tao's remarkable journey of faith. Thanks to all who braved the weather to attend this Mission Sunday presentation. If you missed it, or would like to watch it again, you can view a video of the presentation by scanning this QR code.



Lutherans for Life will meet on December 12 at 9:30 a.m. There will be a tour of Turnstone (3320 N. Clinton) and lunch at Concordia Seminary (6600 N. Clinton). If you need a ride, please meet us at Emmanuel by 9:00 a.m.

Holy Land Christians Visit - Join us on December 13 and 14, during all services, to hear from Christian families of Bethlehem and view their handmade olivewood carvings in the Narthex. Proceeds support Christian families in the Holy Land.

Lunch Bunch (60+) - Please join us for our annual Christmas communion service at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary on Tuesday, December 16. The Early Childhood children, accompanied by Bev Williams, will be singing for us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Following the special service, we will be served a special Christmas meal at a cost of \$10.00 (payable that day) in Lower Level Ebenezer Hall. Pastor Thomas Eggold will be with us to share ministry updates. Please sign up for this event before Friday, December 12.

Beer and Hymns Christmas Singalong - Join us on Sunday, December 21 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Chapman's for an afternoon of fellowship and singing with members from area LCMS congregations. All ages are welcome. Please bring a snack or potluck item to share.

Clay and Iron: Men's Ministry at Emmanuel - Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another . . ." Therefore, men of Emmanuel, please take this opportunity to share your interests and give us some feedback on our men's ministry "Clay & Iron" where we seek to find ways to help connect, build, and sharpen ourselves for service to Christ and the world. You can take the survey by scanning the QR code.



The Piecemakers were able to deliver 60 quilts to the Lutheran World Relief this year. Thank you to those who sewed the tops of the quilts. We are now looking for those who are willing to sew together squares for this year's quilts. The squares are provided. If you are willing, call Jan Werth at 260.452.4769.

Volunteers Needed for Santa Shop at Washington School - Washington School Santa Shop gift wrappers are still needed for December 16, 17, 18, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. To volunteer, please call Diane Witzman at 260.249.1307.

Don't Miss Stars and Promises with Peter Mayer - As we head into the final month of 2025, we continue to see a generous and faithful response to the "In All Generations" campaign. On Monday, December 15, we will celebrate this remarkable blessing with a special Christmas concert in our sanctuary by recording artist Peter Mayer. Learn how to receive a free ticket by scanning the QR code.



The Friends of Wyneken will host a Christmas open house at the historic Wyneken House on Sunday, December 7 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. The house will be decorated for the holiday season with a variety of themed Christmas villages including a Victorian town, an alpine village and a Thomas Kinkade neighborhood. (11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, IN)

Bridge 20/30 is a space for post-high school young adults (single or married) to connect, grow, and have fun in community with others who share similar values. We are doing a 3-Week Advent Series: "What Are You Waiting For?" with Pastor Chad Vanmeter (Dates: December 2, 9, 16 at 7:00 p.m.; Location: The Greenhaus, 3504 N Anthony Blvd)

The Stewardship of the Church

EMMANUEL'S MINISTRIES

Supports the ongoing mission and ministry efforts of Emmanuel congregation.

Year to Date: \$2,045,046	Anticipated Need Thru December, 2025: \$2,155,838
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DISTRICT AND SYNOD

Used for local, national and world mission efforts.

Last Week: \$105	Year to Date: \$13,466
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CUP OF KINDNESS

Distributed by Lutheran Social Services to local families who have crisis needs.

Last Week: \$130	Year to Date: \$4,237
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IN ALL GENERATIONS

Supports the renovations of the Emmanuel campus school building.

"IAG" Total Received: \$6,224,583	Mortgage Balance: \$1,296,923	Total Cost* \$7,431,837
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*Total Cost = Mortgage Interest Paid to Date + Construction Cost

The Calendar of the Church

Monday, December 8

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice

Tuesday, December 9

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. Property Meeting
6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Christmas Party
6:00 p.m. Study the Psalms at Chapman's
7:00 p.m. West Central Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 10

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
7:30 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
8:30 a.m. ESM Chapel
9:00 a.m. Homeschool Religion
10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Communion Service
5:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 11

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:30 a.m. Thursday Guys
9:00 a.m. Piece Makers
10:00 a.m. Vespers Dress Rehearsal at Auer Performance Hall
6:00 p.m. Bible Study at Chapman's
7:00 p.m. Vespers Service at Auer Performance Hall

Friday, December 12

ESM No School

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

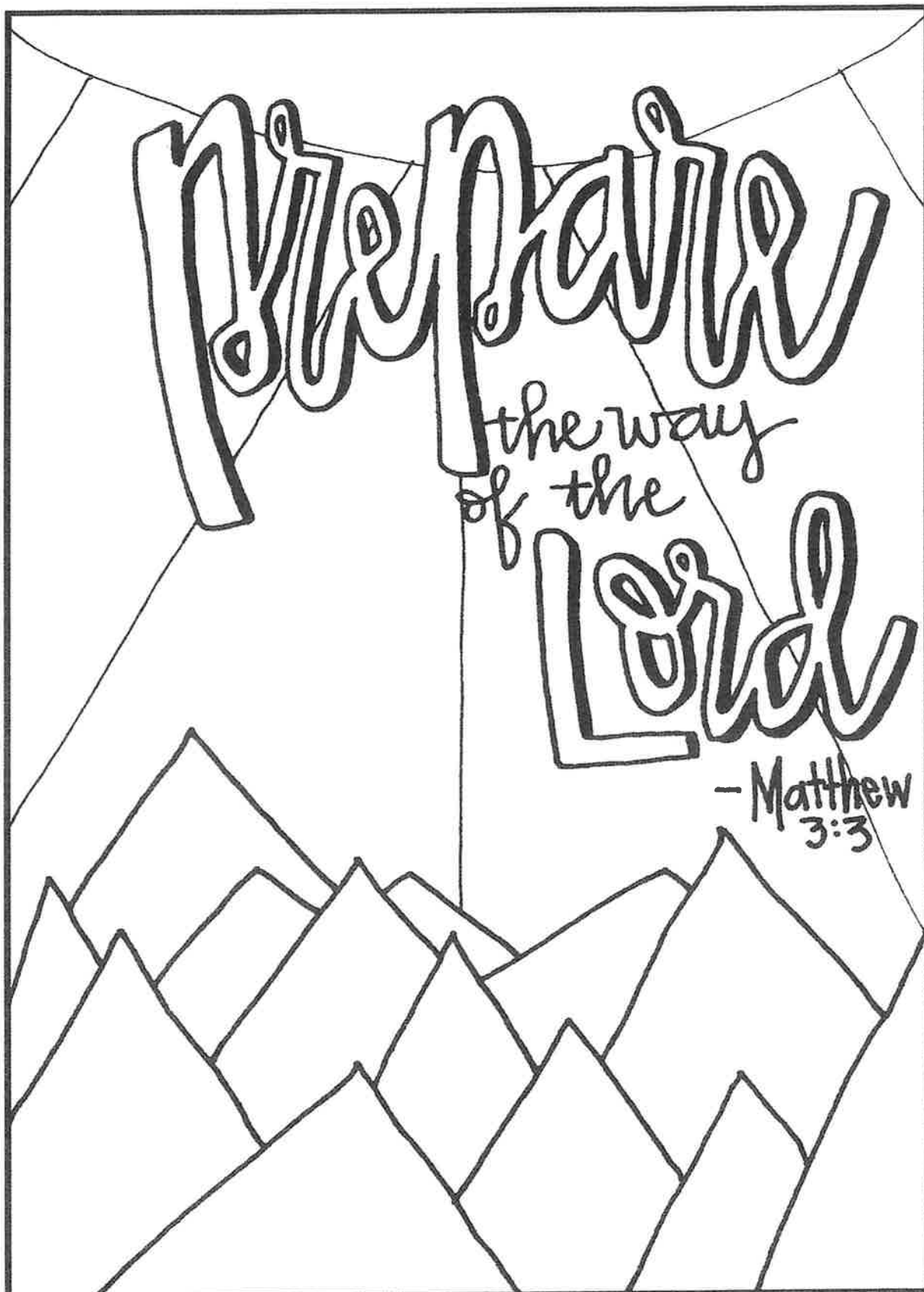
Saturday, December 13

10:00 a.m. Conversations on Race
5:00 p.m. Divine Service

Sunday, December 14

8:00 a.m. Divine Service w/ Communion

9:15 a.m. Journey to Bethlehem and Adult Bible Classes
10:30 a.m. Divine Service



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This Visual Faith resource is designed to help visual and tactile learners take worship into the week. You can find more Visual Faith resources at <https://www.visualfaithmin.org>.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

We are a caring family of baptized Christians bound together in the forgiveness which God has provided all people through His Son, Jesus.

This family exists to announce this gift of forgiveness to individuals of all nations and cultures through the preaching of God's Word and the administration of the Sacraments. Emmanuel instructs young and old according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and reaches out through forgiving relationships, working to connect all members of the family through caring friendships.

Emmanuel serves as shepherds of the sheep; seekers of the lost; friends of sinners; and caregivers to the poor, lonely and broken-hearted. It is a family that cares for all people and reaches out to witness to the love and forgiveness found in Jesus Christ.

Emmanuel Worship Services are designed to share God's love and forgiveness through the ministry of Word and Sacrament. We offer a variety of worship styles and we encourage you to worship in the liturgical style that best meets your needs.

Saturday Evening Divine Service—This service offers a contemporary setting and is held on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning Divine Services—These services are held on Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. and feature worship in a traditional liturgical setting.

Church Staff

Thomas A. Eggold, Senior Pastor
Dan Sheafer, Associate Pastor
Matt Johnston, Dir. of Music Ministry
Lana Hille, Dir. of Congregational Care
Sarah Pennekamp, Dir. of Discipleship
& Youth Ministry
Liz Bejot, Dir. of Children's Ministry
Jennifer Tweedy, Dir. of Admin.
& Finance
Arthur Klausmeier, Pastor Emeritus
Dan May, Pastoral Assistant
Herb Schumm, Pastoral Assistant

Mark Sheafer, Pastoral Assistant
Ryan Tietz, Pastoral Assistant
Dan Dahling, Pastoral Assistant
Myra Schmidt, Organist
Dick Shively, Business Manager
Becki Elonzae, Office Manager
Randy Thompson, Maintenance Supervisor
Carolyn Meyer, Administrative Assistant
Brad Larson, Seminary Fieldworker
Caleb Swor, Seminary Fieldworker
Qien "Suzie" Su, Deaconess Fieldworker

Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School

Dr. Ben Stellwagen, Principal

1123 Union Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Website: www.esmeagles.com