Divine Worship at 5:00



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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

emmanuellutheran.org



Found in the gathering space we call Ebenezer Hall.

BUILDING FAITH IN THE CITY

“Stay Awake”

AS WE GATHER
God’s desire is to forgive. God’s desire is to save. God’s desire is that we would repent of our sins, turn from our pride, and receive the gifts that Christ died to give us. God wants us to be with Him in heaven. He has done everything to make it happen, and because He died in our place and took the punishment we deserved, today He pleads with us to repent, stay awake, and watch as God’s promise is kept.

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 PROPHECY CANDLE

Leader: As we light the first candle on our Advent wreath, we recall with thanksgiving the vivid and courageous words and actions of the prophets. Called by God and overtaken by the Word, they spoke forth God's truth and pointed to the coming of the Messiah. Their words still call us to faith and to action. We pray:

People: Lord Christ, come among us, and by Your Spirit, grant us courage to speak and to act as those who have been called to carry Your Word to our world. Raise up among us wise and faithful messengers of your grace and peace. In Your name we pray, Amen.

THE GATHERING SONG: “Light of the World”
O Jesus, Son of God, so full of grace and truth,
The Father’s saving Word; so wonderful are You.
The angels longed to see, and prophets searched to find
The glory we have seen revealed.

You shone upon the earth, but who would understand?
You came unto Your own, but who will recognize?
Your birth was prophesied, for You were the Messiah
Who came and walked upon the earth; Your glory we have seen
The One and Only King, and now You’re living in our hearts.

(Chorus)
Light of the world, Light of the world, Light of the word,
You shine upon us.
Light of the world, Light of the world, Light of the word,
You shine upon us.

In You, all things were made, and nothing without You,
In heaven and on earth all things are held in You.
And yet You became flesh, living as one of us
Under the shadow of the cross, where through the blood You shed
You have made peace again – peace for the world that God so loves.
(Chorus two times)
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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 25:1, 3–4, 14; Zechariah 9:9b)
Leader: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
People: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Leader: Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.
People: The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them His covenant. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection)

Leader: O God our Father, since You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son, we confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.
People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: Forgive us the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibility in Your service, and our imperfect stewardship of Your gifts.
People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: Forgive us that so little of Your love has reached others through us, that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.
People: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

Leader: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

Leader: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.
People: Amen.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

(Please be seated)
THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: **"The Advent of Our King"**
(Chorus)
Rise up, the Lord is coming!
Rise up, this is the day;
Rise up, and see the Light!
O, Rise up, O Church of Faith!

The advent of our King our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing in strains of holy joy. (Chorus)

O Zion's daughter, rise to meet your lowly King,
nor let your faithless heart despise the peace He comes to bring. (Chorus)

As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again a
nd His true members all unite with Him in Heav'n to reign. (Chorus)
(Interlude)

All glory to the Son, who comes to set us free, with Father, Spirit,
ever one through all eternity. (Chorus)
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THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1–9
Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence— 2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! 3When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. 5You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? 6We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. 8But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 9Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

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

THE SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [4]I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, [5]that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— [6]even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— [7]so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [8]who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9]God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 13:24–37

[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, [25]and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. [26]And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. [27]And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. [28]"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29]So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30]Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. [31]Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. [32]"But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [33]Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. [34]It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. [35]Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— [36]lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. [37]And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

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

THE NICENE CREED **(Spoken together)** Inside back cover of hymnal

(Please be seated)

THE RESPONSE: **"Blessings"**

We pray for blessings. We pray for peace,
comfort for family, protection while we sleep.
We pray for healing, for prosperity.
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering.
And all the while You hear each spoken need,
yet love us way too much to five us lesser things.

(Chorus)
What if Your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
are what it takes to know You're near?
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear.
We cry in anger when we cannot feel You near.
We doubt Your goodness. We doubt Your love,
as if ev'ry promise from Your Word is not enough.
And all the while You hear each desp'rate plea,
and long that we'd have faith to believe. (Chorus)

When friends betray us, when darkness seems to win,
we know that pain reminds this heart that this is not,
this is not our home. It's not our home. (Chorus)

What if my greatest disappointments or the aching of this life
is a revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy?
And what if trials of this life, the rain, the storms, the hardest nights
are Your mercies in disguise?
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THE SERMON Pastor Thomas A. Eggold

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 OFFERING: "Born That We May Have Life"
No reputation, no stately bearing, no palace bed for royalty:
But a star in the heavens, a sign full of wonder,
Announcing the coming of the King of Kings.

(Chorus)
Rejoice! O world, your savior has come
Miracle from a virgin's womb.
Son of God, Son of man, born that we may have life,
You were born that we may have life.

A throne in the manger, a cross in the cradle,
The hidden revealing this glorious plan
Of a Child who would suffer, the Child who would conquer,
The sin of every woman, the sin of every man. (Chorus three times)
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(Please stand as you are able)
THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord: For the Lord's grace and peace as we enter another Church Year, that God who is faithful would confirm the

testimony about Christ among us as we wait for His revealing, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: That the Lord would renew the faith and quicken the love of all Christians, that we may be enriched in all speech and knowledge, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the blessing of marriage and the faithfulness of husbands and wives; for the children entrusted to their care; for the loving care of children who have suffered abuse or neglect; and for those who open their homes to children in foster care, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For our nation, its leaders and our armed forces, that God would take them under His care and let His blessing rest upon them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Lord God, we, are filled with emotions and anxiety at the frightening events occurring in the world around us. We do not understand everything that we see happening and we long for speedy and complete solutions to the increasing conflicts. Lord, as we run to You for answers and action, please strengthen our faith with the knowledge that You remain in control. Give us patience with Your timing, trust in Your eternal plan, hope in Your faithfulness, and peace in Your ongoing presence, even in these troubled times. Anchor us in Your Word, give us courage to proclaim the good news of the Gospel and guide us to best serve our neighbors in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the sick, troubled, grieving and dying, that they may receive grace according to God's merciful will, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all who await the second advent of Christ, that their shouts of "hosanna" might be answered now through Word and Sacrament and soon by Jesus' return, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Gracious Father, You have made us glad to enter into Your presence to hear the good news of our Savior and receive Your gifts. Preserve Your Church against all her enemies, and lead us to walk in Your ways and to follow Your paths, that when Jesus returns in His glory we may welcome Him with glad hosannas; through the same 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, Lord, our God, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son, the long hoped-for Messiah, to bring us salvation. Pour out on us the gift of Your Spirit, that we receive Your blessings with thankfulness. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

"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

"Here Is Bread"

Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, He is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

(Chorus)
In this bread there is healing in this cup is life forever.
In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.
Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, He is with us.
Know His grace, find His peace, feast on Jesus here. (Chorus)

Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, He is with us.
We'll proclaim till He comes Jesus crucified. (Chorus)
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"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

Oh, come, oh, 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 you O Israel!

Oh 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)

Oh 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)
Lutheran Worship

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING SONG: "Not to Us"

The cross before me, the world behind, no turning back,
raise the banner high. It's not for me, it's all for You.
Let the heavens shake and split the sky,
let the people clap their hands and cry.
It's not for me, it's all for You.

(Chorus)
Not to us, but to Your name be the glory;
Not to us, but to Your name be the glory.

Our hearts unfold before Your throne, the only place for those who know
It's not for us, it's all for You.
Send Your holy fire on this offering,

let our worship burn for the world to see.
It's not for us, it's all for You. (Chorus)

The cross before me, the world behind, no turning back,
raise the banner high. It's not for me, it's all for You.
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THE POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Is. 40:1-11; Ps. 85; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

THE CHRISTMAS GREENS adorning the altar were given to the glory of God in loving memory of Nina Vorich and Jeff Peterson from Larry and Becky VonGunten, Jason Lester and Jacob Lester.

USHERS: Laura Miller, Andy and Jennifer Barnes

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: 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 Carlton Grotrian (father of Karla Neeld), Alycia Williams, Gene Franklin (father of Sandy Behling), Vickie Kidwell (mother of Sandy Behling), Phil Arthur, Deb Percy, Norv McClure, Janine (friend of Lauryn Longworth), Gracelynn Anderson (granddaughter of Tim and Cindy Anderson), Stan Thompson, Deb Epperson, Faith Behling, LuAnn Reichhart (mom of Brent Reichhart), Renee Bleke, Mark Wasson (brother of Cheri Maxwell), Laura Herrick (Caroline Eber's niece), Kevin Hoffman, Jeff Springer, Jodie Karrick, Jen Harless, Matt Bennett (Ty Bennett's brother), William Kieser (godson of Caleb and Hannah Swor)
    - Pray for the following people recovering from surgery: Linda Barnes, Caroline Eber, Renee Bleke, Mary Gynn, Bob Dietrich, Pam Bryan, Edna Heckber, Bob Klausmeier, Jen Harless, Karen Wyss, Ed Davis, Nikol Christlieb
    - Pray for healing, comfort and peace for the following people with cancer: Karen Burtch (sister-in-law of Lori Richey), Amy Krontz (daughter-in-law of David and Karen Wyss), Mary Grosjean, Sherry (friend of Barb and Gary Lesh), Ed and Barb Hambrock, Julie McMichael (niece of Deb Percy), Bob and Jenny Hobby (brother-in-law and sister of Chris Murphy), Rob Howe, Judi Brunow, Josh Walters (friend of Patty Rouse), Judy Baumgartner (mother of Kristin Smith), Dennis McFadden, Roger Kuehnert, John Jennings (friend of Dave and Tammy Bair), Bruce Williams, Rob Roehm, Ann Schwartz, Hazel Krenzke (Brian and Anna Snodgrass's niece), Robert Burmeister (Hannah Swor's dad),

Roxanne Moore, Jenny Nehrenz (niece of Charlene Hess), Rick Bair (brother of Dave and Tammy Bair), Gary Thompson (father of Carly Bennett), Carol McGuigan (mother of Kevin McGuigan), Linda Raatz, Jeff Dunham (brother-in-law of Scott and Christi Everson), Doug Bennett (father of Ty Bennett), Sean Breininger, Herb Schumm, Karen Bickhart (daughter of Barry Doege), Tara Bustos (sister of Sean Breininger), Jeff Bennett (father of Faith Harless), Carol Yeoman (friend of Dave and Joni Scheppele), Amy (daughter of Bruce and Linda Novak), Mark Schmotzer (father of Jacob Schmotzer), Tyrone Woods (friend of Chris Smith), Beverly Fox (Christi Everson's mom), Judy Kalb

- Join our staff in praying for the following members:
  - Nick and Kendall LaBrash, Will, Ophelia, and Emma
  - Lindsay Lackland, Paityn and Bryson
  - Micah Lackland
  - Mark LaForest
  - Ben and Kassee Lamm, Maya and Easton
  - David and Denise Lampkins, Brandy
  - Lindasue Landis
  - Dawn Languell
  - Gene and Susan Languell
  - Larry and Valerie Lankenau
- 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 at marshasappenfield@comcast.net or call 260.616.0679.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Baptism: Thank God for the baptisms so far in 2026:

Callaghan Miller	Austin Hayward	Calvin Chess	Michael Flanagan
Sean Flanagan	Morgan Flanagan	Mordecai Austin	Theodore Vachon
Emerson Ross	Esther Burns	Cameron Etzler	Niyanni Berry
Callum Dan	Natalie Sheafer	Jacob Wiehe	Shaylee Epperson
Willow Hoffman	Endsley Gabet	Hadley Brimmer	Michael Lasley

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)
3-5 Year Olds	School Room A4
K-1st Grade	School Room A1
2nd-3rd Grade	School Room B3
4th-5th Grade	School Room B5
6th -7th Grade Confirmation	School Room D3
8th Grade Confirmation	Cafeteria
High School	Loft
Lutheran Christianity	Brandt Hall
Ephesians	Sanctuary
Faith, Life, and Worship	LL Ebenezer

Weekday Bible Classes…

CLASS	LOCATION	DAY	TIME
Clay & Iron Devotion	Brandt Hall	Monday	6:30 a.m.
Monday Morning Moms	Loft	Monday (every other)	8:30 a.m.
Lifelight	Ebenezer	Monday	5:30 p.m.
Lifelight	Ebenezer	Tuesday	3:30 p.m.
David – The Anointed One	LL Ebenezer	Tuesday	6:00 p.m.
Men's Lectionary Study	Ebenezer Hall	Wednesday	6:30 a.m.
Women's Bible Study	Brandt Hall	Wednesday	8:45 a.m.
Pastor's Bible Study	Ebenezer Hall	Wednesday	10:00 a.m.
Friends in the Word	Loft	Thursday (every other)	8:30 a.m.
@917 Bible Class	Ebenezer Hall	Thursday	7:00 p.m.
This Is Most Certainly Brew	Brandt Hall	Friday	6:30 a.m.

The News of the Church

Advent Resources

This year, our daily Advent devotional from Lutheran Hour Ministries is entitled "Love's Pure Light." Through Gospel passages and selections from the Nicene Creed, it points us to Jesus, the Light of the world, in whom the Father has made His love known. You can subscribe to receive this daily devotion, by scanning the QR code.

The weeks leading up to Christmas can get busy! This Advent, we invite your family to slow down and intentionally prepare your hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Prepare Him Room: Rhythms for Advent is a free resource offering simple ways to create meaningful family rhythms through God's Word, prayer, and everyday moments. Scan the QR code to get started!

Chili Cook-Off Update - Special thanks to everyone who prepared chili, donated gift cards, and joined us for this year's Chili Cook-off and Bingo event! Congratulations to our top three chili chefs: Kelly Daseler (1st place), Andy Barnes (2nd place), and Becki Elonzae (3rd place)! Thanks to your generosity, we raised $3,004.32! All proceeds will benefit students participating in the 2027 EYG servant event in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. We are grateful for everyone who helped make this event a success!

Upcoming Events & Ministries

Game On is a group of fun-loving people who enjoy playing no stress games. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in Ebenezer Hall. This month, on December 2, our game will be Team Christmas Trivia. We always enjoy adding new people to our group! If you have any questions, contact Diane Campbell at newmoon312@gmail.com.

Visual Faith – Join us on Tuesday, December 1, 6:00–8:00 p.m. in Ebenezer Hall as we continue creating our 2027 Gratitude & Prayer Journals! Building on last month's workshop, we'll spend the evening getting creative, enjoying fellowship, and preparing our journals to help us grow in gratitude and prayer throughout the coming year. We'll also sprinkle in a little Christmas cheer! Missed last month's workshop? No problem! Everyone is welcome, whether you're continuing your journal or just getting started. All supplies are provided! Please sign up at the Connections Counter or use the QR Code. We look forward to a relaxing, creative evening together!

Emmanuel's LWM/LWML –Our next LWM meeting will take place on Thursday, December 3 in LL Ebenezer. Judy May will lead bible study from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and will be followed by a service project. We hope to see you there!

Christmas Lunch Bunch - Those of you around 60 or over are encouraged to join us for our annual Christmas Communion service at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary on Tuesday, December 15th. We look forward to having the Early Childhood Children sing for us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, and Matt Johnston who will provide our musical accompaniment for this service. Following the special service, we will be served a Christmas meal at a cost of $10.00, payable the day of the lunch in the LL Ebenezer Hall. Call the church office or stop by the Connections Counter in Ebenezer Hall to sign up by Friday, December 11th. You won't want to miss this special way to begin the Christmas season!

Clay & Iron Fall Family Brunch - Men, bring a friend and your family to our brunch for fellowship, encouragement, and a short recap of our Fall theme: "Balance … in Life" on Saturday, December 5, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the school cafeteria. **Please sign up by scanning the QR code!** All of you should be getting weekly devotions as well as updates about upcoming gatherings, service projects, prayer requests, special needs, and more. If you are not receiving these and you wish to be added, please email Billy at will.hofman@gmail.com.

Missions & Outreach

Diaper Donations - Please help LWM support Lutheran Social Services by donating diapers for families in need. Anyone in the congregation wishing to participate is invited to bring a package of diapers (sizes 4, 5, or 6) to the Emmanuel office by December 2. Your generosity will help provide an important resource to those served by Lutheran Social Services. Thank you so much for your support!

Christmas Giving Tree Update - Thank you for your amazing generosity! All of the Giving Tree tags have been selected, and we are grateful for the tremendous support shown by our Emmanuel family. If you would still like to contribute, cash donations are always welcome and will be used to provide additional food and paper products. Simply use the "Other" line on your offering envelope and mark it "Christmas Giving Tree." For those who took a tag, please return all unwrapped gifts with their tags securely attached by Monday, November 30, and consider joining us for our Wrapping Party on Friday, December 4, at 9:00 a.m. Thank you for helping make Christmas brighter for those in need!

Santa Shop for Washington Elementary School – Santa Shop offers students at Washington School the opportunity to "shop" for items that they can gift to family members for Christmas. The shop is seeking donations of $1 to $5 gift items, as well as gift bags in all sizes. Please bring your donation(s) to the church by Friday, December 4. To sign up to help wrap gifts (Monday, December 14 – Thursday, December 17), please contact Diane Witzenman at 260.249.1307. Thank you for your support, kindness and generosity to Washington Elementary School!

King's Community Outreach Christmas Food Distribution – Once again, Emmanuel is partnering with Rev. Lewis King and King's Community Outreach to help provide Christmas meals for families in our community. Last year, Emmanuel generously donated more than 1,000 cans of green beans! This year, we hope to collect 1,000 cans of green beans and 500 boxes of instant mashed potatoes. These donations may be dropped off in Ebenezer Hall throughout November. Volunteers are also welcome to help with the food distribution on Saturday, December 19, at 9:30 a.m., at McMillen Park Community Center. Thank you for helping share Christ's love with our neighbors this Christmas season!

Wellspring's Child's Full Plate Initiative - For many local children, winter break means losing access to the breakfast and lunch they receive at school. Wellspring's Child's Full Plate initiative helps fill that gap by providing free boxes of nutritious, kid-friendly food that children can prepare themselves. Just $50 provides a box of food for one child, helping ensure they have meals throughout winter break. Please consider supporting this important ministry and helping make sure no child goes hungry this holiday season. Donations can be made online at Child's Full Plate or by mailing a check to Wellspring, 1316 Broadway, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

Emmanuel-St. Michael News & Opportunities

ESM's Vespers Service will take place on Thursday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at Purdue University Fort Wayne's Auer Performance Hall (Rhinehart Music Center). Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. Please join us as the children proclaim the birth of our Savior, the Light of the World! Contact the school office with any questions. We look forward to bringing ESM, Emmanuel, and St. Michael together in Word and worship.

Community Connections

Visit the CTSFW Bookstore on December 5 – On December 5, the CTSFW Bookstore will host its first Fort Wayne Community Shopping Day from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Browse our selection of CPH bestsellers, Christian children's books, Christmas books and cards, and Bibles and devotionals. Admission will also lead campus tours—where you can see the new windows in Kramer Chapel (11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.) Visitors can also enter to win a free book and enjoy refreshments courtesy of CTSFW Advancement. We hope to see you there!

Bridge 20/30 is a Christian group for adults in their 20s and 30s focused on building community, friendships, faith, and fellowship through social events, devotion, and activities throughout the Fort Wayne area. New participants are always welcome! The next event is on December 1 at 7:00 p.m.: Advent Experience 1 with Pastor Chad at The Garden (3308 N. Anthony Blvd.)

Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School (11565 N US HWY 27, Decatur, IN) is hosting a craft show on Saturday, December 5, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. All proceeds are directed

towards the Washington D.C. class trips. Vendor booths are still available. If you are interested in a booth or would like more information, please email craftshow@wyneken.org.

The Stewardship of the Church

EMMANUEL'S MINISTRIES

Supports the ongoing mission and ministry efforts of Emmanuel congregation.

Year to Date: $2,176,850	Anticipated Need Through November: $2,199,305

DISTRICT AND SYNOD

Used for local, national and world mission efforts.

Last Week: $120	Year to Date: $13,010

CUP OF KINDNESS

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

Last Week: $135	Year to Date: $4,937

IN ALL GENERATIONS

Supports the renovations of the Emmanuel campus school building.

"IAG" Total Received:	Mortgage Balance:	Total Cost*
$7,175,605	$300,000	$7,482,494

*Total Cost = Mortgage Interest Paid to Date + Construction Cost

The Calendar of the Church

Monday, November 30
6:30 a.m. Clay & Iron Weekly Devotion
7:30 a.m. Advent Morning Prayer
8:30 a.m. Monday Morning Moms

Tuesday, December 1
7:30 a.m. Advent Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m. Mission Meeting
6:00 p.m. Visual Faith
6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 2
6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
7:30 a.m. Advent Morning Prayer

8:30 a.m. ESM Chapel
8:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Homeschool Religion
9:30 a.m. ESM Preschool Chapel
10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Communion Service
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Advent Service with Evening Prayer

Thursday, December 3
7:30 a.m. Advent Morning Prayer
8:30 a.m. Thursday Guys
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Piece Makers
1:00 p.m. LWM
7:00 p.m. @917 Bible Class

Friday, December 4
6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
7:30 a.m. Advent Morning Prayer
8:30 a.m. Christmas Wrappers

Saturday, December 5
10:00 a.m. Clay and Iron Men's Fellowship
11:00 a.m. Funeral – Pastor Gene Brunow
5:00 p.m. Divine Service

Sunday, December 6
8:00 a.m. Divine Service w/ Communion
9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Classes
10:30 a.m. Divine Service
4:00 p.m. American Heritage Girls
6:00 p.m. EYG Christmas Party

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2026

Weekdays at 7:30 a.m.
Advent Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m.
Advent Worship with Evening Prayer

Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m
Advent Worship with Evening Prayer
Junior Chorale

Thursday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
ESM Christmas Vespers at Purdue Fort Wayne

Sunday, December 13, at 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School's Journey to Bethlehem

Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.
Advent Worship with Evening Prayer
Handbell Choir

Thursday, December 24, at 5:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Family Worship Service

Thursday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Worship Service
Junior Chorale, Chancel Choir, and Festival Orchestra

Thursday, December 24, at 11:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
Chancel Choir and Festival Orchestra

Friday, December 25, at 10:00 a.m.
Christmas Day Worship Service
Chancel Choir

Friday, December 25, at 12:00 p.m.
Christmas Caroling at Lutheran Life Villages
(9802 Coldwater Road)

Thursday, December 31, at 7:00 p.m.
New Year's Eve Worship Service
Celebration of Holy Communion

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
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
Caleb Swor, Seminary Fieldworker
Zachary Jacob, Seminary Fieldworker
Warner Mehl, Seminary Fieldworker

Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School

Dr. Ben Stellwagen, Principal
1123 Union Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 **Website**: www.esmeagles.com