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

“The King Returns for His Sheep”

AS WE GATHER
The end of the Church Year is filled with both mystery and revelation. We do not know when the Last Day will be, nor when Jesus will return. The Last Sunday of the Church Year turns our attention to what we do know. We know that the Lord Himself will search for His sheep and will rescue them (Ezekiel 34:11–12). We know that Christ has been raised from the dead and that all things will be put in subjection under Him (1 Corinthians 15:20, 27). We know that Jesus will sit on His glorious throne and welcome His sheep into His kingdom (Matthew 25:31, 34). We know that death, the final enemy, will be destroyed (1 Corinthians 15:26). We know that all will be made alive in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:22). We know that the Lord is a great God and a loving King (Psalm 95:3)!

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 OPENING SONG: “Beautiful One”
Wonderful, so wonderful, is Your unfailing love,
Your cross has spoken mercy over me.
No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart could fully know
How glorious, how beautiful You are.

(Chorus)
Beautiful One I love, beautiful One I adore,
Beautiful One my soul must sing.

Powerful, so powerful, Your glory fills the skies,
Your mighty works displayed for all to see.
The beauty of Your majesty awakes my heart to sing;
How marvelous, how wonderful You are. (Chorus)

You opened my eyes to Your wonders anew,
You captured my heart with this love
‘Cause nothing on earth is as beautiful as You. (Repeat, then sing chorus)
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(Please stand as you are able)

THE INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION (Ezekiel 34:11–12, adapt.)

Leader: The Lord Himself will search for His sheep and will seek them out.

People: He will rescue them from all the places where they have been scattered.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God, who seeks us out.

People: Most merciful God, we cry out to You from the places that our sin has scattered us. We have sinned against You in ways that we know and in ways that only You know. There are strangers we have not welcomed, the hungry we have not fed, the naked we have not clothed, the sick and imprisoned we have not visited. Deliver us from all our transgressions. Forgive us, bind up our injuries, and strengthen our weaknesses, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

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

(Please be seated)

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: "In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save;
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.

For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.
There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine!
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!
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THE FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24
"For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. [12]As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. [13]And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. [14]I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. [15]I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. [16]I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . . [20]"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. [21]Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, [22]I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. [23]And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24]And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

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

THE SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. [21]For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. [22]For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. [23]But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. [24]Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. [25]For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. [26]The last enemy to be destroyed is death. [27]For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. [28]When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

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

(Please stand as you are able)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31–46

[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. [32]Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33]And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. [34]Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. [35]For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36]I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' [37]Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? [38]And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? [39]And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' [40]And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' [41]"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. [42]For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, [43]I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44]Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' [45]Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46]And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

THE APOSTLES' CREED (spoken together) Inside back cover of hymnal

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: "Beautiful Savior"

Beautiful Savior, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.
Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer, than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be Thine!

Lutheran Service Book

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: "Holy Forever"

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb,
And all who've gone before us and all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb.

Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest,
Your name stands above them all.
All thrones and dominions, all powers and positions,
Your name stands above them all.
And the angels cry, "Holy." All creation cries, "Holy."
You are lifted high, Holy, Holy forever.

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed,
Sing the song forever to the Lamb.
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name,
Sing the song forever to the Lamb. We'll sing the song forever and amen.

(Chorus)
And the angels cry, "Holy." All creation cries, "Holy."
You are lifted high, Holy, Holy forever.
Hear Your people sing. "Holy." To the King of Kings, "Holy."
You will always be Holy, Holy forever.

Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest,
Your name stands above them all.
All thrones and dominions, all powers and positions,
Your name stands above them all.
Jesus, Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest,
Your name stands above them all.
All thrones and dominions, all powers and positions,
Your name stands above them all. (Chorus)

You will always be Holy, Holy forever.
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(Please stand, as you are able)
THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Dear heavenly Father, You promise to seek the lost. We pray for all those who have wandered away from Your Church. We pray that You would strengthen us to reach out to them, to receive them with open arms and open hearts when they return home. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, You promise to strengthen the weak. Send Your strength and courage to all those who need it, to the aging, the lonely, the tired, and the vulnerable. Protect and defend them from the wolves of this world. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, You promise to feed Your sheep with good pasture. Raise up faithful servants and shepherds to share the nourishment of Your Word and Sacraments with all Your sheep. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, our world is filled with violence, destruction, and death. Every day we see heartbreaking images of suffering that create anxiety and hopelessness. Help us to bring our despair to You, trusting in Your promise that You are in control and that in Your time You will deliver us from evil and, in Christ, restore this broken world. Lord in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, You promise to bind up the injured. Bring Your healing to all those who suffer now through injury, illness, and oppression. Heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, by Your Word You have told us that the last enemy to be destroyed is death. As we await the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead, we still grieve and mourn when the enemy of death strikes our friends and family. Be near all those who are mourning the death of loved ones. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER **(Spoken together)**

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING SONG: **"I Stand Amazed"**

I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me a sinner condemned unclean

(Chorus)
How marvelous, How wonderful and my song shall ever be.
How marvelous, How wonderful is my Savior's love for me.

For me He was in the garden; He said, "not my will but Thine."
He had no tears for His own griefs, But He sweat drops of blood for mine.

Indeed, the angels beheld Him and came from the world of light
To comfort Him in the sorrow He bore for my soul that night. (Chorus)

He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them His very own
He bore the burden to Cal'vry and suffered and died alone. (Chorus)

When with the ransomed in glory His face I at last shall see
'Twill be my joy thru the ages to sing of His love for me. (Chorus two times)
Arr. George Ogg/Craig Dahlkamp

THE POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Is. 64:1–9; Ps. 80:1–7; 1 Cor. 1:3–9; Mark 13:24–37

THE FLOWERS adorning His altar were given to the glory of God in loving memory of Steve Igney and Beverly Payne from their families; and in honor of the 58th Wedding Anniversary of Ken and Jan Hoffman.

USHERS: Kathy Lash and Catherine Peterson

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:
    - Joel and Camryn Kuehnert

- Roger and Tamera Kuehnert
- Robert and Alyssa Kuhmichel, Ethan, Asher, and Nolan
- Dave and Anita Kuker
- Erin Kuker
- John Kuker
- Diane Kurtz
- Natalie Kurzhal, Jacob Forte
- John and Kristen Labahn, Nolan and Nathan
- Bill and Jewell LaBrash

- 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	

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

The Story Continues: A Renewed Vision for Emmanuel - Our annual **Congregational Voters' Assembly** will be held Sunday, November 22, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service, where members will vote on the 2027

budget, elect congregational leaders, and consider approval of the vision plan. Please see the weekly newsletter for details, registration information, and access to the vision plan. As God continues to bless Emmanuel's ministry, we invite you to join us in celebrating His work and discerning the next chapter together. If you would like a paper copy of The Story Continues: A Renewed Vision for Ministry, please request one from the church office.

Upcoming Events & Ministries

Decorating the Church for Christmas – On Saturday, November 28, we will decorate the sanctuary beginning at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers are welcome to join us as we prepare the church for the Christmas season. For safety and efficiency, we ask that only those participating in the decorating be present.

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!

The Piecemakers thank all the ladies who sewed quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief. We delivered 88 quilts this year. If you are interested in sewing at home for us, call Jan Werth at 260.452.4769. We are also in need of ladies on Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. to knot the quilts. Come join us!

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!

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 Lif on Saturday, December 5, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. in LL Ebenezer Hall. 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!

Washington School is in need of winter coats ,gloves, hats, and pants for both boys and girls, sizes of 5 to12. Thank you for your generosity!

Shepherd's Hand Blessing Bags - This Thanksgiving season, you can help provide a complete holiday meal for a local family in need through The Shepherd's Hand Blessing Bags. A donation of $25 supplies a family of four with Thanksgiving meal essentials, including canned turkey, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, cranberries, gravy, cornbread mix, and brownie mix. Your support is a simple way to share Christ's love and bring hope to families in our community. Scan the QR code to donate. Thank you for helping make Thanksgiving a blessing for others!

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

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 November 24: Friendsgiving & Anchor Devotion Night at The Garden (3308 N. Anthony Blvd.) Bring a dish to share!

Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School (11565 N US HWY 27, Decatur, IN) is hosting a craft show on Saturday, December 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 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: $2,091,999	Anticipated Need Through November: $2,199,305

DISTRICT AND SYNOD

Used for local, national and world mission efforts.

Last Week: $85	Year to Date: $12,890

CUP OF KINDNESS

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

Last Week: $165	Year to Date: $4,802

IN ALL GENERATIONS

Supports the renovations of the Emmanuel campus school building.

"IAG" Total Received: $7,173,927	Mortgage Balance: $300,000	Total Cost* $7,482,494

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

The Calendar of the Church

Monday, November 23
ESM E-Learning Day
6:30 a.m. Clay & Iron Weekly Devotion
6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Church Council

Tuesday, November 24
ESM E-Learning Day
6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry
6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 25
ESM No School
6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Communion Service
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 26
Church Office Closed
ESM No School
10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Service

Friday, November 27
Church Office Closed
ESM No School

Saturday, November 28
5:00 p.m. Divine Service w/ Communion

Sunday, November 29
8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Classes
10:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Communion
4:00 p.m. American Heritage Girls

Advent 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, November 29, we begin a new church year with the season of Advent, preparing our hearts to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ.

Throughout Advent, we will gather in worship, prayer, and reflection on God's greatest gift: His Son, our Savior. Our Wednesday Advent services will follow Holden Evening Prayer and draw us into the promises of Isaiah.

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!

We also invite you to begin each weekday of Advent with Morning Prayer at 7:30 a.m. This brief time of Scripture and prayer offers an opportunity to prepare for the Lord's coming amid the busyness of the season.

The following pages outline our special Advent and Christmas worship opportunities, including Emmanuel–St. Michael School Christmas Vespers on Thursday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. May God bless us with His peace as we rejoice in the birth of His Son.

In Christ,

Pastor Eggold

Pastor Thomas A. Eggold

Pastor Sheafer

Pastor Daniel M. Sheafer

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

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