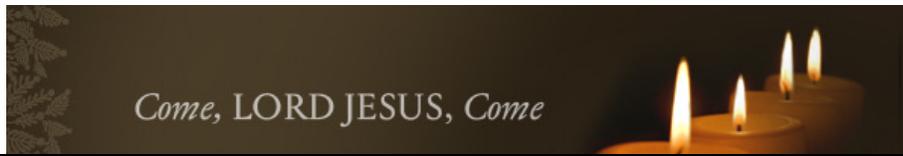




News for and through Immanuel
Lutheran Church & Student Center
(LCMS), Macomb, IL.



Advent Evening Prayer Wednesdays December 5, 12, 19 7:00pm at Immanuel Church, 906 E Grant St

From our Pastor

This has been a week of fun reminiscing. Last Sunday we decorated the Church for Advent and Christmas, and I thought about how Nate, Ammon, Ben, and Abby used to help with these same tasks here. Abby's still here, but the others are worshiping in other LCMS churches throughout the nation. But -- what joy! -- Ammon and Troy were visiting last Sunday and not only did they help, but their boys got in on the action. Knox and Hank really enjoyed serving with you, folks. I mean it. Thanks for welcoming them and giving them something to do!

We continue to receive notes and thankofferings from alumni of our Student Center. Many of you will remember dear people like Jim Ellefson (1968!) and Anina Rupe (2011!) and Phil Kaminski (2007!). They worshiped with us, served with us in New Orleans and New York, studied with us in the basement lounge, and moved on after graduation. The parting was sorrowful, but the fellowship was sweet. No, the fellowship is still sweet. They -- and countless others -- are still in fellowship with us. Worshiping, studying, and serving in LCMS congregations in Chicagoland, Mississippi, and California. As we wrote "thank you" notes for their gifts and their updates it was fun to reminisce.

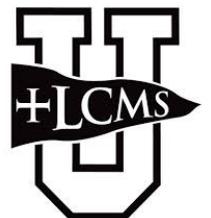
Then on Wednesday our Bible Study group at the Student Center decorated the Chapel. At the end, we got out the paper crosses that have adorned the tree for about ten years and we read some of the names of students who had signed those crosses through the years. It was heart-warming to read "Coleman Briggs," "Ryan Sutera," "JJ Stefanic,"

Same story. They have moved on, and we are still in fellowship. In fact, the only way to be in true fellowship is to be in the Church, united in confession and confidence in Jesus.

I'm glad you're here today. I'm glad I'm here today with you, as the Body of Christ. Better than reminiscing, we're remaining -- remaining grafted into Christ, The Vine (John 15). Bearing fruit for the glory of His name, and the good of our neighbor. I love, in the Lord,

Students!

- ✓ God bless the remainder of your semester! Use the Student Center as a place of study and relaxation.
- ✓ If your group is looking for a place for an event or meeting, consider the student center! Come see pastor for the Facility Use Policy and Form. We're glad to help.
- ✓ Come to the Simple Supper at CHURCH this Wednesday at 6:00pm, and worship at 7:00pm.
- ✓ BRINNER is Monday, December 10 at 6:00pm. Bring a friend to Breakfast for Dinner in Finals week. Free and open to all. Pancakes. French Toast. Eggs. Meat. "Pecos Bill!"
- ✓ Interested in a "March for Life" locally? We're planning a positive and life-affirming walk through campus on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.



We have at least one WIU Graduate this semester: Stephanie Bergland! We're planning a little Grad Luncheon for Saturday, December 15 at 11:00am in the Student Center Library area. Like we do in the Spring, we ask members to sing up to bring dishes to share. Sign up and celebrate!



Sunday School today for kids and adults: **"Paul's First Missionary Journey"** (Acts 13-14)

ADVENT

Our worship theme in Advent midweek services will be **"Advent Encounters Preparing The Way."** The first encounter will be with the Apostle John, and the agenda will be Revelation 21:1-7. Simple Supper will be at 6:00pm. Evening Prayer will be 7:00-7:35pm. Both at the Church, 906 East Grant St ... it's a great meeting place. Bring your problems!

Christmas Services at Immanuel CHURCH, 906 E Grant St:

- ❖ 12/24 Christmas Eve Candlelight at 7:00pm
- ❖ 12/25 Christmas Day Holy Communion at 10:00am
- ❖ 12/30 First Sunday of Christmas at 8:30am.

Jr. Confirmation class meets next Sunday, Dec 9 at 12:30pm in the Student Ctr Library. Holy Baptism is our focus!

Advent Evening Prayer Services will be held at the CHURCH on Wednesdays, December 5, 12, and 19 at 7:00pm! Suppers will be held at 6:00pm, too, in the Church Fellowship Hall.

- Lutheran Student Fellowship will serve the "Simple Supper" on December 5th at 6:00pm (to support their trip to Indiana in January for the "Witness" Conference).
- December 12 and 19 Linda Standard is coordinating the simple suppers to a love-offering for Cathi, our occasional organist, who fell last month.

simple
SUPPERS



7:30am Sundays on WGNX 96.7 FM ... sponsored by Immanuel Dec 9 "Redeemer with a Capital R" When people use the word "redeem" outside of religious context, they tend to use it in a commercial sense-redeeming points from purchases or casino tokens for cash. In the Bible, the word "redeem" is used in a family setting. In the story of Ruth, Boaz is a "kinsman redeemer," who points to Jesus, our capital-r Redeemer. Jesus has done more than pay our points. He redeems by bringing us into his clan, his people, his household, that we might be with him forever. (Ruth 3-4) & December 16 **"In Anxious Times -**

Rejoice! " Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. With anxiety on the rise, the Apostle Paul's call to "rejoice always" seems all but unobtainable. While there are many helpful ways to cope with society's increasing anxiety, Paul points us to a frequently overlooked source of joy and peace, God's grace in Christ. (Philippians 4:4-7)

Advent is about Return—the Lord's Second Coming, our return to Him, which is another way of saying 'repentance.' Repentance requires memory, for return requires memory. The Prodigal did some mental research and remembered the facts about his father's house from his personal history. Informed by a paternal history, he struck a new course, which was to return. And the Homecoming was sweet, like the marriage supper in paradise, when all history will be fulfilled, and the guests live happily ever after. Advent reminds us, based on history that we know, that He is coming, which should remind us, Repent!" *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •*
www.lutheransforlife.org

THE LORD WILLING, THIS WEEK THROUGH IMMANUEL ... IN THE NAME OF JESUS

Sunday, December 2

Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 7:30 AM
 Worship Service (C) 8:30 AM
 Sunday School (C) 9:45 AM
 Worship Service (SC) 11:00 AM

Tuesday, Dec 4

Circuit mtg (St. John, Quincy) 9:00 AM

Wednesday, December 5

Simple Supper (C) 6:00 PM
 Advent Vespers (C) 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 9

Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 7:30 AM
 Worship Service (C) 8:30 AM
 Bible Class (C) 9:45 AM
 Worship Service (SC) 11:00 AM

SC=Student Center (303 N Clay) C=Church (906 E Grant)

Those serving on December 9: Greeters: Ken & Amy Quinn;

Counters: Michelle Wenndt & Diny Burnell; Altar Guild: Chris Standard & Amy Bear; Altar Flowers: Michelle Wenndt

ALTAR FLOWERS: It's time to sign up for altar flowers to enhance our worship at Immanuel for 2019. The cost is \$25.00 to provide flowers for two Sundays. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at Immanuel. If you have questions, contact Miriam Satern at 309-837-2808 or MN-Satern@wiu.edu.

POINTSETTIAS We will have 10 red pointsettias purchased from the Macomb Choir Boosters at the Church and Student Center during the Christmas season. If you would like to purchase one, the cost is \$10. Please pay Miriam Satern or put a check made out to Immanuel Lutheran Church in the collection plate. You are welcome to take one home with you after the Christmas Day service on Tuesday, December 25.

SAVE THE DATE -- Sunday, March 3, 2019 -- Five Alarm Chili Supper and Silent Auction at the Student Center from 5:00-7:30



Thank the Lord for the women and men who formed Immanuel Lutheran Church in 1956 ... and who trusted God, loving us, to begin building the Church in 1957. Can you figure out which part of the building is seen here? Can you see that the Church is looking at a picture of the church?

We are the Church, gathered around His truth and grace in the Word and Sacraments.

Yes, thank the Lord for the men and women who handed this ministry to us. And thank the Lord that He'll still be the only Savior of the Church when we handed down to the next generations. **Praise God!**

Use your Advent Devotions with your Advent Wreath starting today! Our free "The Coming King" booklet is in the narthex. →



There is no compulsion. There is freedom in Christ -- freedom to respond to His gift of salvation with joy and discipline. There is freedom in being Christ's disciples. A 10% "tithe" is simply a great target, or a great place to start. Thanks be to God. Always.

