



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

CHRIST IS RISEN. HAPPY EASTER ... STILL!

And a Happy Mother's Day!

If you were with us in the 11:00am Service last Sunday you heard a few of our graduates give their reflection and encouragement speeches. They were great blessings to the members and the underclassmen. Here they are -- giving glory to God and thanks to you, the body of Christ. These graduates are stellar people, by God's grace. Thanks be to God!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Mike Burdick".



Moving four hours away from home to come to Western four years ago was a very hard challenge for me. Moving to somewhere where I knew no one was my worst nightmare as a shy freshman girl. I thought that everything would be different, but I quickly found that at least one thing would remain the same. My parents brought me here that first weekend to meet Pastor Burdick and see the Student Center, and after that first Sunday service, I was so happy to know that the thing that would remain the same is God's steadfast love and care. Throughout these four years I have been able to receive God's Word and Sacrament regularly. No matter what else was changing in my life, this place always felt like home.

I am and will be forever thankful for what everything the people here have done for me, Lane, my brother Andrew, my non-biological sister Sarah, and all of the other students here. This year especially has been very difficult for me, and the care that everyone here shows helped keep me on my feet. I feel that I have grown up so much these last four years, both in knowledge, maturity, and faith. This place has also given me so many opportunities that I never thought would happen. Never did I think I would get the privilege of conducting a choir, brass, timpani, and organ on such a marvelous occasion as the 50th anniversary of this Student Center. This place has given me so many other opportunities as well such as singing regularly and serving in LSF, but that 50th anniversary will forever be one of my favorite memories.

I find it fitting that my first educational setting in preschool was at an Immanuel Lutheran school, and I end my educational career (possibly) with an Immanuel Lutheran Church and Student Center. I also am so happy and blessed that on my last Sunday here as a student, I get to witness Lane being confirmed here. This place has impacted me in so many ways, and I am so excited to see how it will continue to impact Lane, Andrew, Sarah, and all the other students here. I encourage all of the students here to remember that no matter what changes in your life, you can always find comfort here in this place and with these people. Thank you again for the last four years and I look forward to coming back and visiting as an alumn.

-- Emma Kovachevich



Where should I go? What should I do? Macomb is such a new place to me. There's so much to learn but nothing to lose. The first thing I wondered was which church nearby is the one for me. I desire a church where I can be moved by a sermon and feel at ease. Preferably a church where I can feel at home, but never alone. A church that doesn't make me go "oooo is that another text that just came through on my phone." See where I came from was a place like no other. A place that even my parents were familiar with, and I shed tears over it when I thought it was the last day there. Nothing brings more joy than a full plate on an empty stomach, but be careful with what you consume because your stomach could end up rumbling the wrong way. Faith led me here. I began to understand that the place that I left can never be fully replaced by the place that I join, but with the right mindset and people in my circle, I will rise alongside my God. Coming up, Sunday school wasn't for me. I could remember getting a free bag of chips n juice, then I'd leave. This place and congregation changed

that for me. I use to think that owing someone a favor was just something that folks do, but now I get the bigger picture. Faith sometimes helps to lead us to do things for people. Sometimes questionable things and maybe things that we don't want to in tight situations, but sometimes you just don't question it. I appreciate the experiences that the Lord above has allowed me to share with you all, and I know that this won't be my last time here. I know that I am blessed even when I'm stressed because I know that what's next will be another test. If you're an early bloomer right now, just know that your petals will fall as soon as you turn your head. The Lutheran Student Center is much more than a church body. Live on and make the best of it because your time will come, too. -- Kyle Smith



Dear family, What this building has offered me is far more than shelter and warmth. Although it has given me both of those things it has also given me friendships, mentors, guidance, peace of mind, knowledge, and a family.

When I came to Macomb, I was starting a new chapter of my life. I was turning the page from a chapter that included the hardest times in my life, and I was covering it with a fresh new start. I was going home every weekend, so I wasn't seen much at the church or student center. Now I am going home very little and live here at the Student Center. I know that I am needed here, and thanks to you all, this is home too.

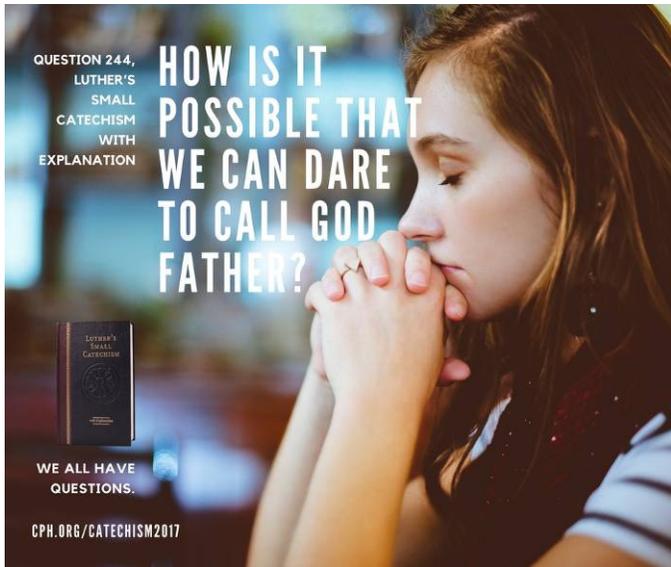
Words cannot describe how grateful I am to have the opportunities I have had here. To live here and be surrounded by such great people is a blessing far better than I ever could have dreamed. I am thankful for all of you who have helped me write an awesome chapter in my book of life.

So, I was told that this should be a little bit of reflection and encouragement. I feel I have given a brief reflection over my time here. Now these are my words of encouragement. Students: slow down and smell the roses. It is easy to get caught up in the hustle and busy life of a college student. However, we should have confidence in the Lord and be at ease with everything that happens in our life. Before you know it, you will be the one standing up here and sharing your reflections of the time that has flown by while here at the student center. And to the Congregation members, don't think that your support and work goes unnoticed. We appreciate all that you do and ask that you would generously continue your support.

(continued)

This brings me to my last point. I often wonder if I will be remembered around the student center, and I think that if I were ever to be remembered for something, I think it would be for something I said. Specifically, in regards to my first student supper here. I referred to Kathy's spinach lasagna as "life changing". While I meant it rather lightly, there was a reason, I said it. I meant that before I came to college, I would have never tried anything with spinach in it and certainly not enjoyed eating it. I meant that it was life changing in the way of opening my mind to trying new things. Needless to say, my bold statement has been used lightly in times of teasing. However, I have no regrets for saying it. Because it might have been taken lightly and maybe miss understood at the time but let me make myself clear, like that lasagna I had at my first student supper here in this building, the people in it and the students who go through it have changed my life.

Sincerely, -- Luke Daniels



Because in Christ, we have been adopted as God's children.

Galatians 3:26 In Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

Galatians 4:4-6 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying "Abba! Father!"

2 Corinthians 6:18 I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says the Lord Almighty.

1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.

As we met for our Quarterly Voters Assembly April 28 we were slightly short of our required quorum. We will hold a brief, special Voters Assembly May 19, immediately following the 8:30AM Service, to ratify five action items: reception of new voting members, election of Tom Burtch as President, Thanksgiving for the life and service of President Bill Oliver, Closure of Immanuel Lutheran Preschool and Thanksgiving for its Ministry, and Acceptance of the 2018 Audit of the Treasurer's Report.

Listen to "The Lutheran Hour" at 1:00PM Sundays on WGNX 96.7 May 12 "Home"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Dean Nadasdy With Jesus, we have a home. That's the good news for today.

(John 14:1-7) May 19 "Up Close and Personal" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler You

can't get to know a person from a distance. The same is true for knowing God. (John 15:26-16:4)

You can also listen to TLH at 7:00AM on Sundays at 92.5FM out of Beardstown!



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

Sunday, May 12

Worship Service (C) 8:30 AM
 Christian Education (C) 9:45 AM
 Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 1:00 PM

Monday, May 13

Church Council (C) 7:00 PM

Tuesday, May 14

Jr. Confirmation (SC) 3:30 PM

Thursday, May 16

Jr. Confirmation (SC) 3:30 PM

Sunday, May 19

Worship Service (C) 8:30 AM
 Voter's Assembly Meeting (C) 9:45 AM
 Christian Education (C) 9:45 AM
 Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 1:00 PM

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

Those serving on May 19: Greeters: Kathy & Abby Burdick; Counters: Maurine Moore & Miriam Satern;

Altar Guild: Chris Standard & Amy Bear; Flowers: Ken & Amy Quinn

"[I]t does not say that the honoring, serving, and obeying one's parents is conditional or in response to their earning or deserving it. No, one is to love and cherish them as well as honoring, serving, and obeying them as if they were God Himself ... The good news is that where we have obviously failed, Jesus did not. He not only honored His step-father Joseph and his mother Mary, but also His heavenly Father. He offers you His payment for your sin and a place in God's family, now and forever." *Pastor Ricky Jacob, Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Church and preschool, Winnebago – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org.*

The Outreach Committee will be preparing Neighborhood Welcome Packets. You will be able to say "welcome" to someone moving into your neighborhood by giving them this bag full of helpful info from the Community and the Church (we'd also suggest you add some homemade cookies!). We're still searching for someone who could help us with social media. If you use Facebook, Twitter, Instagram . . . and understand how they work, you could help us get our message out to a larger audience. Speak with Pastor or with Mary Strode if you would be interested in helping. Thanks!



"Baby Bottles for Birthright" Birthright of Macomb is again holding a fundraiser where baby bottles will be distributed at the back of the church on **Mother's Day, May 12**. Fill the bottles with your pocket change over the next 5 weeks and return the bottles to the church on **Father's Day, June 16**. Birthright is an all-volunteer, nonprofit agency that has helped hundreds of expectant mothers and their newborns for over 40 years. All services are free and given with a caring attitude. Birthright's mission is to support the lives of both the mother and the baby. Birthright receives no outside funding and is 100% supported by donations. Your donation can make a difference in the lives of babies and their moms.