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## NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: August 16, 2025

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*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*1, 2, 3! All eyes on me! This is one version of the way teachers get their students' attention. This weekend our readings also grab our attention with powerful images ultimately driving us to fix our eyes on Jesus! From a storm to a whirling tempest to fire and a hammer to a cloud and division, today's Scriptures call us to repentance and dependence on our Savior who endured the cross for our sake. 1, 2, 3! All eyes on Jesus!*

*The information we've included in this newsletter is designed to help our Emmanuel family stay connected and involved. You can view our monthly calendar [here](#). Thanks for your interest and for all you do to strengthen the ministry we share.*

*Together in Christ,*

*Pastor Eggold and Pastor Sheaffer*

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## WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES, WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

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### **NEW! 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

**Saturday, August 16:** 5:00 p.m. (Holy Communion)

**Sunday, August 17:** 8:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)



### **Summer Bible Adult Bible Classes**

- ***Lutheran Christianity***

Come engage in the foundational truths of the Christian faith with a Lutheran lens.

**Leaders:** Pastors Eggold, Meyer, and Sheaffer

**Location:** Brandt Hall

- ***The Chosen***

Explore the first season of this powerful show as it helps bring the Biblical story to life.

**Leaders:** Pastors Eggold, Meyer, and Sheaffer

**Location:** Lower Level of Ebenezer

### **NEW! Pastor's Bible Study Online**



Each week, Pastors Eggold and Sheaffer lead a video Bible Study based on the Readings for the coming Sunday. Click [here](#) to view this week's study, as well as over 200 more video Bible Studies led by our pastors.

### **NEW! Christian Education Kickoff**

**Sunday, September 7**, is a big day at Emmanuel! On this day, we'll begin our Christian Education season for 2025-2026. For this day, the entire Emmanuel congregation will be invited to meet outside on Union Street for a time of fun, food, and friendship from 9:00-10:15 a.m. Donuts will be back and a coffee truck will be on site. We'll even have a bounce house! All this will help us begin our Christian Education season with great excitement! **See a preview of many of our classes in the special section below.**

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## **FALL PREVIEW**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & BIBLE STUDIES**

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### **NEW! Save the Date!**

Emmanuel's Sunday morning Christian Education classes begin **September 14**, 9:15-10:15 a.m. Here's what to expect:

- **Birth-Grade 5** have Sunday School classes that will meet weekly in the rooms of the school building.
- **Grades 6-7** have a joint Confirmation Class that will meet weekly in a room in the school building.
- **Grade 8** has a Confirmation Class that includes a family member and meets weekly in the lower level of Ebenezer.
- **Grades 9-12** have a regular, weekly Bible study that meets in the Loft, the upper level of Ebenezer.

**As part of our *I Love to Tell the Story: A Congregational Journey*, all adults will meet together in the Sanctuary:**

- **September 14:** *A Brief History of the LCMS*: Rev. Dr. Cameron MacKenzie
- **September 21:** *The Emmanuel Story*: Emmanuel Leaders Past and Present
- **September 28:** *The Story of Our Sanctuary*: Charlie Pratt
- **October 5:** *A Story of Growth*: Pastor Thomas Eggold
- **October 12:** *A Story of Ministry*: Pastor Thomas Eggold
- **October 19:** *A Story of Discipleship*: Ron Pennekamp
- **October 26:** *A Story of Stewardship*: Pastor Thomas Eggold

### **Monday Morning Moms**

Hey, mama! Have you been looking for a group to connect with here at Emmanuel? We hope you'll [\*\*join us every other Monday morning\*\*](#) as we explore what it truly means to be a Gospel mom. Drop your kiddos off in the Lower Level of Ebenezer Hall with our amazing caregivers. Then, head upstairs to the Loft to fellowship, enjoy a cup of coffee, and join us in studying 1, 2, and 3 John. You can order the study book [\*\*here\*\*](#).

**We will meet on the following Mondays, 8:30-10:00 a.m.:**

- **August 25**
- **September 8 & 22**
- **October 6 & 20**
- **November 3 & 17**
- **December 1 & 15**

Questions? Please reach out to Liz Bejot-[\*\*LBejot@emmanuelutheran.org\*\*](mailto:LBejot@emmanuelutheran.org).



### **NEW! Friends in the Word Women's Study**

Ladies, are you looking for a welcoming space to be in the Word? Join us **every other Thursday** morning in the Loft as we study the Book of Colossians, discovering the supremacy of Christ and His sufficiency "in all things." You can order the study book, *The Mighty and The Mysterious*, [here](#).

We will meet on the following Thursdays, 8:30-10:00 a.m.:

- **August 28** (Fellowship, coffee, and intro. to study)
- **September 4 & 18**
- **October 2, 16, & 30**
- **November 13**
- **December 4 & 18**

### **NEW! Wednesday Women's Bible Study**

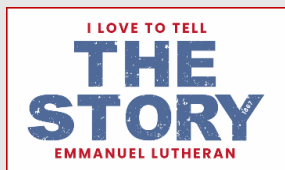
The 8:30 a.m. Wednesday Women's Bible Study will resume **Wednesday, September 3**, in Brandt Hall. We will begin our study this fall in Paul's letters to the Thessalonians.

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## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### **I Love to Tell the Story: A Congregational Journey**



"I Love to Tell the Story" will begin on **Sunday, September 14**, as we gather in the Sanctuary between services to hear a history of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, followed each Sunday by presentations on the founding of the congregation, the construction of our historic sanctuary, the growth of Emmanuel in recent years, and, most importantly, the Lord's continued call to ministry. Classes are listed above. Learn

more [here](#).

### **NEW! Heidi Wilkinson's Missionary Journey**

Missionary and Emmanuel Member Heidi Wilkinson is preparing to serve in Ethiopia. Read her newsletter [here](#).

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## **GET INVOLVED**

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### **NEW! Clay & Iron**

Summer Cookout is **tonight, Saturday, August 16**, at the Hofman house, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Call or message Billy at 260.440.4945 if you plan to attend. Bring your family if you like and a side dish to share! Fall quarter's theme is "Who Am I" and we'll meet next on **Tuesday, September 2**, 7:00-8:30p.m., Ebenezer Lower Level. Clay & Iron is Emmanuel's ministry for men: we gather monthly but are active constantly through talking, messaging, praying, and smaller connections. Reach out, we'd love to get to know you and connect! Walk humbly; stand firm.

### **NEW! Are You Interested in a Mission Trip?**

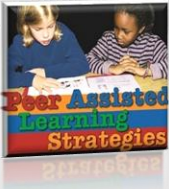
Emmanuel has a rich tradition of sending members on mission trips. Over the last 20 years, we have sent teams to Puerto Rico, Alaska, Prague, and New Orleans, but we haven't sent any teams since before the pandemic. Emmanuel's Mission Task Force meets monthly with the goal of increasing awareness in our members of local, national, and worldwide mission opportunities. The Mission Task Force is looking for individuals who have an interest in serving on a mission trip team. If this interests you and you would like to be included in our plans for future mission trips, please sign up [here](#).

### Parents with Kids Project—Bible Verse Collage Night

On **Tuesday, September 2**, 6:00–8:00 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall, we invite you to take part in a special evening of creativity and reflection. Participants will create a visual collage centered on a meaningful Bible verse—such as a Baptism verse, confirmation verse, or a favorite family passage. This event is especially suited for parents and children to work on together, but you do not need to bring a child to participate. Individuals are welcome to create a collage for themselves or as a meaningful gift for a child, grandchild, godchild, or loved one. Grandparents, godparents, aunts, and uncles are also encouraged to join. All basic materials will be provided. You are also encouraged to collect and bring items from home that you might like to include in your collage—such as family photos, greeting cards, or small mementoes. No artistic experience necessary—just bring your favorite verse and a heart ready to create! Sign up [here](#).



### **NEW!** Looking for a Way to Make a Difference? Join PALS!



Do you have a heart for connecting with kids? Are you patient, a good listener, and enjoy sharing the love of Jesus? If so, we'd love to have you join the next session of PALS! Peer Assisted Learning Strategies (PALS) is a ministry of Emmanuel that partners with Washington Elementary to support 2nd and 3rd graders. Each week, for eight weeks, these students join us in Ebenezer Hall where we share snacks, explore the love of Jesus, read, and play together. Your time and kindness can make a lasting impact. Join us in this rewarding

ministry!

**Dates:**

**September 10 (training), 17, & 24**

**October 1, 8, 15, & 22**

**November 5 & 12**

**Time:** 3:30-5:00 p.m.

**Who can volunteer?** Any adult, high school student, along with 7th and 8th graders are welcome to apply. Click this [link](#) to apply and feel free to email Liz Bejot at [LBejot@emmanuel Lutheran.org](mailto:LBejot@emmanuel Lutheran.org) with any questions.

### **NEW!** Conversations on Race

On **Saturday, September 13**, Terrie Ensley M.S.W. LCSW, will be speaking on how to communicate with someone who has differing values, morals, political, racial, and religious beliefs. This will take place in the Loft, 10:00-11:30 a.m. All are welcome!

### **NEW!** Lunch Bunch

Inviting everyone around 60 or over to join us for Lunch Bunch as we kick-off another season of food, fun, and fellowship. Our first meeting will be **Tuesday, September 16**, with fellowship beginning at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch served at noon and prepared by our familiar cook Tammy. Following lunch, our special speaker will be our very own member Joy Boutakov who will speak to us about "Stress and Ways to Handle It." Joy has worked for many years in the field of nursing and currently serves the One Mission Society as a volunteer fully committed to encouraging and walking with missionaries while in the field and on home assignment. We look forward to having her share this most appropriate topic with us as we navigate today's world. The cost for the Lunch Bunch meal is \$10.00/person, payable that day in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall. You are encouraged to stop by the Connections Counter in Ebenezer Hall to **sign up for this event or call the church office at 260.423.1369 no later than Friday, September 12**. We sure hope you will join us.



## Volunteer for Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers Are “The After People.” They are there:

- after the phone call you hoped you’d never get.
- after the funeral, when everyone leaves and emotions come crashing in on you.
- after the relationship falls apart.
- after the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing more we can do.”
- after the nursing home director says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- after the last child drives away and the house suddenly seems empty.
- after the gavel falls, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you dreamed possible.
- after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

For more information about training classes that begin **Tuesday, September 16**, contact Lana Hille at 260.417.5639.

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## IN THE COMMUNITY

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### Bridge 20/30: Where Young Adults Connect, Grow, & Belong



We’ve had an incredible summer of connection, laughter, and growing in faith every Tuesday night with our Bridge 20/30 Group! The Bridge 20/30 is a welcoming space for post-high school young adults—whether single or married—to build real friendships and deepen their walk with Christ. It’s the perfect way to stay grounded and find community during the busy seasons of early adulthood. [Join us in August](#) for a month of fun, connection, and growing together. Come as you are, bring a friend, and jump in anytime! For questions feel free to email [dschuller@clhscadets.com](mailto:dschuller@clhscadets.com). Follow us on Facebook at [Bridge 20/30 Group Ft. Wayne](#) or

on Instagram [@thebridge2030](#).

### Shepherd of the City Community Picnic

All are welcome to Shepherd of the City's Community Picnic! Enjoy a grilled sandwich and sides for \$5.00/person. This will take place on **Saturday, September 13**, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., at Shepherd of the City (1301 S. Anthony Blvd.).

### Men's Retreat at Camp Lutherhaven

Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Retreat is scheduled for **September 26-28**. Dr. Jeffrey Leininger, who is currently the pastor at First Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, Chicago, and also served 21 years in campus ministry at Concordia University Chicago, is the main speaker for this year's retreat and will focus on “Callings for Life: God's Plan, Your Purpose.” You can register for Iron Sharpens Iron [here](#).

### From Teen Heartthrob to Faithful Witness—Come Hear the Story

He played Mike Seaver on *Growing Pains*—a teen idol in suspenders and a fixture on *Tiger Beat* magazine. But behind the scenes, Kirk Cameron’s real story began when a co-star invited him to church—and a message he heard there changed everything. At 17, Kirk went from self-proclaimed atheist to passionate believer and now he’s using his platform to speak for life and truth. Come hear his incredible testimony at the [28th Annual Right to Life of Northeast Indiana Fall Banquet](#) on **Tuesday, October 14**, at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. For tickets for early seating call Carolyn Beitz, 260.433.7188.

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## RESOURCES

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### **NEW! Mental Health Moment**

September is suicide awareness month. There is an [annual event](#) in Fort Wayne for those who have lost someone to suicide. It is **Wednesday, September 10**. This event is free and Emmanuel member Jennifer Barnes will be the emcee this year. She runs the suicide loss support group, [We The Living](#), and hopes to help anyone needing some support after loss. You can email her at [jenfer86@gmail.com](mailto:jenfer86@gmail.com) for more details. If you need support and are unable to attend this event, We The Living can support you.



### **Project Connect**



Project Connect is a topical booklet ministry of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Our Project Connect booklets address a wide variety of topics, offering booklets that connect God's Word to real-life issues. PDF versions of our booklets are available in our [virtual library](#) and on our [new mobile app](#). Some booklets are even available in audio formats!

This week's booklet is [No Need to Fear: Dealing with Spiritual Anxiety](#). Spiritual anxiety can paralyze us. In this booklet you will discover how to cease focusing on perceived fears and begin tapping into an incredible Source of help and hope. To deal with your spiritual anxiety, what you may really need is a far more vigorous and meaningful relationship with the God who created you, sustains you, and loves you as you are. Then, assured of His presence in your life, you'll be able to stop brooding over your own problems and get down to the exciting task of living more for the people God has placed all around you.

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***\*\*If you would like to receive the weekly newsletter via your email, please click [this link](#) to sign up.***