



NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: August 30, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Shotgun! Growing up this was the phrase we'd use to claim the front passenger seat in the car. There was this unwritten rule that whoever spoke this phrase first won the right to sit up front. This simple game uncovers the deeper reality that all of us are looking to climb life's ladder to the best place possible. Yet, our readings this weekend, especially the Gospel reading, reveal to us that life's best place is truly with Jesus in all humility. Today and always, let us humbly walk with our Lord and Savior!

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 Sheafer

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

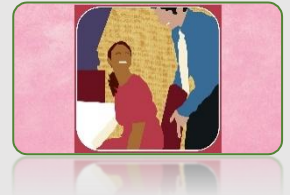
NEW! 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion will be celebrated at all services this weekend.

Saturday, August 30: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 31: 8:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 3: 11:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)



NEW! Sanctuary Doors

For security reasons, all of our Sanctuary doors, including the west side door, will be locked following the Opening Hymn/Song of each service. Please use the main doors of Ebenezer Hall (circle drive entrance) to enter the church after this time. Thank you for your understanding!

NEW! Pastor's Bible Study Online



Each week, Pastors Eggold and Sheafer 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.

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.**

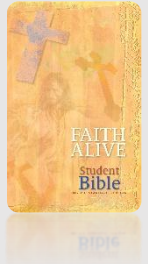
Bibles and Devotions for Second Graders

In the past, second graders have received a Bible as a gift from Emmanuel. This year, we are excited to add something new! Each second grade student will also receive a devotion book to use at home.

Students enrolled at Emmanuel–St. Michael (ESM) already received their Bible at Opening Chapel on the first day of school. If your child is a second grader **not** attending ESM, we would love to give them a *Faith Alive Student Bible* along with the devotion book.

We invite you to celebrate this milestone in your child's faith journey during **Education Sunday, September 7**, at the 10:30 a.m. service. At that time, you and your child will be invited to the altar to receive a blessing and their devotion book.

If your child is entering second grade this year, please let us know so we can include them. Call the church office at 260.423.1369 or email Liz Bejot, LBejot@emmanuel Lutheran.org.



Catechisms for Sixth Graders

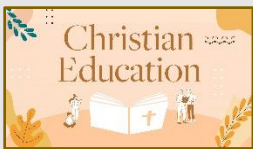
In previous years, families of sixth graders were asked to purchase a Catechism as part of the Confirmation process. This year, we are delighted to gift each sixth grade student their very own Catechism as they take this important step in their faith journey. It's our joy to place this resource in their hands and walk alongside them as they continue to grow in Christ.

We invite you to celebrate this milestone in your child's faith journey during **Education Sunday, September 7**, at the 10:30 a.m. service. At that time, you and your child will be invited to the altar to receive a blessing and their Catechism.

If your child is entering sixth grade this year, please let us know so we can include them. Call the church office at 260.423.1369 or email Liz Bejot, LBejot@emmanuel Lutheran.org.

FALL PREVIEW CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & BIBLE STUDIES

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. **Pre-register for Sunday School by clicking this [link](#).**
- **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.:

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

Questions? Please reach out to Liz Bejot-LBejot@emmanuelutheran.org.

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.:

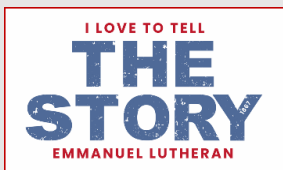
- **September 4 & 18**
- **October 2, 16, & 30**
- **November 13**
- **December 4 & 18**

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.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANK YOU

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! Order Your Church Merch Today!

This fall, we will celebrate the story of Emmanuel through what we say, do, and wear! Click [here](#) to order your very own "I Love to Tell the Story" t-shirt. Order by **Friday, September 12**, to have your shirt ready for our October activities in the neighborhood. If you want to check out the t-shirts before you order, visit the Connections Counter.

NEW! Heidi Wilkinson's Missionary Journey

Missionary and Emmanuel Member Heidi Wilkinson has arrived in Ethiopia. Read her newsletter [here](#).



NEW! Thank You to All Who Made This Year's Golf Outing a Success

Emmanuel's 40th Golf Outing was held on Saturday, August 23, and was a great day!

Many thanks to our golfers, sponsors, donors, and especially to Jeff Huffman at Eel River Golf Course, who is always so kind and accommodating.

This year's outing was blessed with a day full of beautiful weather, fun, laughter, and fellowship. It ended with a delicious meal, raffle of prizes for our golfers, and a presentation of gifts to our winners. Pastor Art Klausmeier gave a short talk after our meal about the history of our outings, as he was the founder 40 years ago.

We had 20 teams that played in the outing. Special prizes were given for the following:

- **Winning Team:** Steve Bell, Chris Dennison, Luke Starnes, Eric Steele
- **Longest Putt:** Chris Dennison
- **Longest Drive (Men):** Bill Brace
- **Longest Drive (Women):** Michelle Hoffman
- **Closest to the Pin (Men):** Mike Reuille
- **Closest to the Pin (Women):** Diane Straessle

The proceeds from this outing will go to The Heidbrink Scholarship fund which offers financial assistance to our Emmanuel members, specifically, graduating students who are pursuing careers in church work, and to provide need-based grants to our students wishing to attend Concordia Lutheran High School. Thank you again for your support and prayers.

NEW! Lutherans For Life

Thanks to all who pledged for our latest A Hope Center walkathon. Our Lutherans for Life team raised the greatest amount. [Here](#) is an inspirational note from Michele Schonefeld, Executive Director, A Hope Center.

GET INVOLVED

NEW! Support Emmanuel's Food Pantry

Emmanuel's Food Pantry thanks you so much for your continued support. Our pantry is open to the public who live in the 46802 zip code area, on the third Thursday of each month 3:30-5:00 p.m., and to our members during office hours Monday-Friday. The pantry could use a few strong volunteers on Food Pantry Day. If you are able to help, please contact Antia Kuker at 260.414.2258. Also, the Food Pantry is looking for donations of adult Depends (large size and up), toothpaste, and toothbrushes. If you are able to donate these items, please bring them to the church office. Thank you!

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](#).

Clay & Iron Men's Ministry

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! Fall quarter's theme is "Who Am I?" We'll meet on **Tuesday, September 2**, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the lower level of Ebenezer. Walk humbly; stand firm.



Emmanuel's LWM/LWML Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 4

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Ebenezer

What is LWM?

Women of Lutheran Women in Mission support the mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Through prayer, Bible study, and service, women at LWM make a difference in people's lives worldwide.

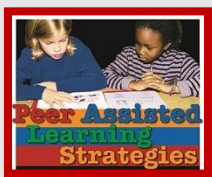
Organizations helped in the last year by LWM grant support include:

- Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry, Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, Nebraska: \$50,000
- Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students, Our Place After School Care, Inc., Nebraska: \$20,000

What to expect at the meeting:

- A warm welcome and fellowship with other women of faith.
- Bible Study: *Here I Am, Send Me*
- Service Project: Christmas Ornament project for our missionaries in Puerto Rico, the Neuendorfs

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@emmanuelutheran.org with any questions.

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!

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.

NEW! Volunteer for Stephen Ministry



On **Tuesday, September 16**, we will begin 50 hours of training in Stephen Ministry. The purpose of our class is to equip men and women to be more effective caregivers and servants in the kingdom of God. For more information about Stephen Ministry, contact Lana Hille at 260.417.5639.

EMMANUEL—ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

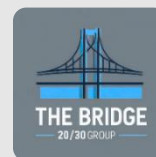
NEW! Big news from Concordia Lutheran High School: Groundbreaking Set for September 23!

The A Bold Step capital campaign, renovating the academic building and auditorium, has reached a major milestone with financing secured, and construction on Project 1 is set to begin after Labor Day. But we're not done yet: campaign fundraising continues so that Project 2, the auditorium renovation, can be included in this historic effort. In the coming weeks, Concordia will host public meetings in congregations and community venues to share how this campaign will bless generations to come, and your attendance and participation will make the difference—pray, attend, and spread the word!

IN THE COMMUNITY

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

Bridge 20/30 is a group for young adults in their 20s & 30s to connect in faith and fellowship. We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. [Join us this month!](#) Questions? Contact Dawn Schuller at dschuller@clhscadets.com.



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.).

RESOURCES

Mental Health Moment



Sometimes, the way our loved ones want to cope with things in life can get out of hand, or they are not the healthy coping tools we hope they would choose. If you care about someone who may have a substance abuse issue, you can start [here](#) for some ways to support them.

NEW! 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 [30 Days of Household Devotions](#). Are you interested in starting a devotion in your home, but don't know where to begin? The *30 Days of Household Devotions* booklet opens with several tips on doing devotions in your home before leading into 30 daily devotions that can be used consecutively or occasionally per time and topic based on your household's needs.

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