



NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: September 20, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Though we try to justify ourselves “before men,” God knows our sinful hearts and calls us to repentance (Luke 16:15). Though we are “not strong enough to dig,” and we are “ashamed to beg” (Luke 16:3), He justifies us by His grace and welcomes us into His “eternal dwellings” (Luke 16:9). In His radical mercy, He calls His people to bestow forgiveness freely as we have been forgiven.

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

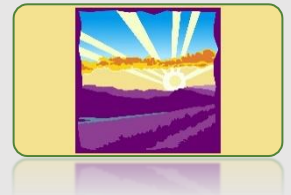
WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES, WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

NEW! 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Saturday, September 20: 5:00 p.m. (Holy Communion)

Sunday, September 21: 8:00 a.m., Emmanuel—St. Michael Second-Third grades sing;
10:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)

Wednesday, September 24: 11:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)



NEW! Prayers for PALS

This week, we are praying for all PALS volunteers as we begin our Fall program.

NEW! Giving Thanks for Dennis McFadden, Jennifer Tweedy, and Randy Thompson

Emmanuel means God with us, and one way this promise is profoundly met is in the extraordinary staff He has provided for our congregation. Sunday, we have the opportunity to join our hearts and voices in thanksgiving to God for three special people who have played significant roles in shaping the ministry we share. Pastor McFadden, Jen Tweedy, and Randy Thompson are living examples of God's abiding presence in our “life together.”

This weekend, in the 10:30 a.m. service, we will pause to celebrate and give thanks for:

- Dennis McFadden, who retired earlier this year;
- Jen Tweedy as she marks 10 years of service to Emmanuel; and
- Randy Thompson for 30 years of service on staff.

Join us in praising God for these gifts of His grace.

Sunday and Weekday Christian Education for Fall 2025

- Sunday School for ages birth-Eighth Grade, 9:15-10:15 a.m.
- Sunday Adult Bible Study: *I Love to Tell the Story*, 9:15-10:15 a.m., in the Sanctuary
- Weekday Bible Studies for adults

See a complete listing of these opportunities [here](#).

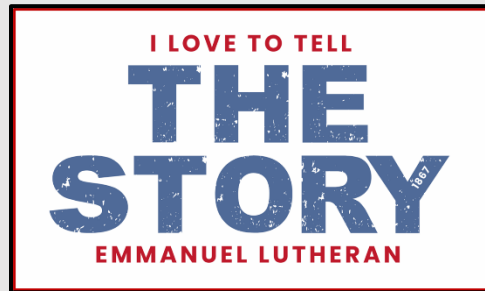
NEW! Pastor's Bible Study Online



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.

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! Sunday Adult Bible Study

Join us for *I Love to Tell the Story*, **tomorrow, Sunday, September 21**, 9:15-10:15 a.m., in the Sanctuary. Charlie Pratt will lead a presentation on the history of Emmanuel through stories of mission, sacrifice, courage, and grace. Judge Pratt will be joined by former Emmanuel pastors Art Klausmeier and Arnie Piering, and current staff members Lana Hille and Becki Elonza. **If you'd like to view last week's presentation, *A Brief History of the LCMS*, click [here](#).**

NEW! *I Love to Tell the Story* Prayer Walk

We are looking for volunteers to join us on **Saturday, October 4**, for a Prayer Walk in the West Central Neighborhood. The purpose of the Prayer Walk is to be a praying presence in the neighborhood and to distribute invitations to our NeighborFest, which will take place on Saturday, October 18. We will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary for a brief orientation and opening prayer. We will walk in the neighborhood from 10:00-11:15 a.m., then gather at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. Please register [here](#).

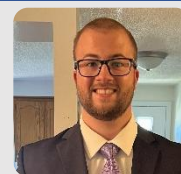
NEW! *I Love to Tell the Story* Service Weekend

On **Saturday, October 11, and Sunday, October 12**, Emmanuel members will "Tell the Story" as we serve in our community. We need many volunteers for the projects we will be completing and we would love your help! Volunteers can expect to serve a three-hour shift. Please register [here](#) for the service day and you will be contacted with more information about your project.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! Meet Our New Fieldworker

Hello! My name is Caleb Swor. It is a pleasure to begin my fieldwork at this congregation. I cannot wait to get started and begin serving you. A little background about myself, I was born and raised in Allen, Texas, where I lived for 21 years. I grew up playing Ice Hockey and I love doing really any outdoor activity. I just finished my bachelor's degree at Concordia University Nebraska where I earned a degree in Art Therapy. My wife Hannah and I have been married for a little over two years. Her family lives in Houston, Texas. I look forward to meeting you!



NEW! Greeting and Update from Seminary Student Wes Williams

The Williams family is getting back into the routine of Seminary/school life now that the 2025-2026 school year has begun. Read an update from them [here](#).

Celebrating A Successful Capital Campaign with Peter Mayer



As we head into the last few months of 2025, we continue to see a generous and faithful response to the "In All Generations" campaign. At this point, the Lord has provided more than \$6 million of the \$7.4 million it cost us to renovate our Union Street school building. On **Monday, December 15**, we will celebrate this remarkable blessing with a special Christmas concert in our sanctuary by recording artist Peter Mayer. Learn how to receive a free ticket [here](#).

GET INVOLVED

NEW! Middle School Youth

Attention all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders! We are excited to welcome you for monthly events hosted by Emmanuel where we can grow in faith, build friendships, and have fun together. Please click [here](#) and add the dates to your calendar. **Please note: For our first event, tomorrow, Sunday September 21, we will meet at Moody Park, on Wilt Street, near Emmanuel at 2:00 p.m.** If you have any questions, please reach out to Liz Bejot at LBejot@emmanuel Lutheran.org.



First Impressions

Ladies of Emmanuel, our next FIRST IMPRESSIONS gathering is off-campus! Join us at Ruby Moon flower farm (7535 E 400 S, LaOtto) for U-Pick flower bouquets, wine and lemonade slushies, and fellowship around the fire pit on **Wednesday, October 1**, 6:00-8:00 p.m. The cost is \$25. Please RSVP to Sarah Pennekamp at 260.486.6740 or pennekamp6@yahoo.com by **Monday, September 29**.

NEW! Emmanuel's LWM/LWML October Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 2

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm

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:

- Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School, Cullman, Alabama: \$50,000
- Showering Love on the Least of These, Mercy Holistic Ministry, California: \$100,000
- Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit, Camp Restore, Detroit: \$58,988

What to expect at the meeting:

- A warm welcome and fellowship with other women of faith.
- Bible Study: *Beauty Marks*
- Service Project: Towels for Cross Borders

NEW! GAME ON Is On

GAME ON is a group designed for those who like to play tables games. We play a different game each month. Sometimes we play as individuals, other times we play with partners and sometimes we divide into teams. The game for October is Left Center Right, a fast moving dice game. No experience is needed. Everyone is an expert. Please join us for fellowship, fun, and food. GAME ON will meet **Tuesday, October 7**, 1:00-3:00 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall. Please join us and bring a friend. We love to meet new people. Sign-up is located at the Connection's Counter. If you forget to sign-up, come anyway.

NEW! Visual Faith Ministries



Join us **Tuesday, October 7**, 6:00–8:00 p.m., as we prepare our hearts for Advent. Christmas will be here before we know it, and it's easy to get swept up in decorations, shopping, and plans. Visual Faith invites you to pause, refocus, and center your heart on Christ. At our next two workshops—October 7 and November 4—we'll create Advent Devotional Journals that align with Emmanuel's Advent devotions. No prior experience is needed; supplies and guidance are provided. Come for fellowship, fun, and creative prayer practices that help the Word dwell richly in you. Sign up [here](#).

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!

EMMANUEL—ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL (ESM) CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL (CLHS)

NEW! Craft Fair

Come out and support Emmanuel—St. Michael 8th graders at the Craft Show here at Emmanuel, **Saturday, October 25**, 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. There will be handmade candles, jewelry, soaps, home decor, candies, treats, and more. If you're interested in becoming a vendor, reach out to craftfair@esmeagles.com.

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!

Concordia Lutheran High School 50th Year Reunion

Please join us on **Sunday, September 28**, at 10:00 a.m. for a special Alumni Worship service. The service will take place in the CLHS auditorium and is open to all alumni, family, and friends. The service will be led by 1975 classmates Pastor Dan Dahling, Pastor Steven Ensley, and Pastor Steven Schlund. After the service there will be tours and time to hear about exciting plans for the future of the campus.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Germanfest at the Historic Wyneken House

The Friends of Wyneken will host a Germanfest at the historic Wyneken House on **Saturday, September 27**, 5:30-9:00 p.m. There will be German and American food and beverages, a silent auction, music by the duo String Theory, and plenty of *gemutlichkeit*. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call or text 260. 437.0420 for information or to reserve tickets. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur.

NEW! 2025 LWML Fort Wayne Fall Zone Gathering

Join us here at Emmanuel on **Saturday, October 4**, for *Sharing the Love and Hope of Jesus* (based on Matthew 25:40). Mary Ann Mings, Executive Director, InAsMuch Ministry, will be the guest speaker. Learn more and see the schedule [here](#).

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.



RESOURCES

NEW! Mental Health Moment



Want to be more empathetic? Sometimes it is hard to know the difference between empathy and sympathy. Brene Brown describes the difference in [this](#) short and fun clip.

NEW! Project Connect

This week's booklet is [First-Class Faith Sharing](#). Sharing our faith can be challenging. God's message of love and forgiveness is timeless and life-changing—and it's for everyone! Read on to find motivation and joy in your witness.



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!

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