



NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: November 29, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When Jesus returns on the Last Day, every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. When Jesus returns on the Last Day, every grave will be opened and the dead will be raised. When Jesus returns on the Last Day, the perishable will be clothed with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality, and there will be no more night, and we will not need the light of a lamp or moon or sun because the Lord God Himself will give us light. But today, that light comes in the form of a promise. And that is the meaning of Advent.

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! First Sunday in Advent

Communion will be celebrated at all services this weekend.

Saturday, November 29: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 30:

- 8:00 a.m.
- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 3:

- 11:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)
- 7:00 p.m.: Advent Worship



NEW! Our Advent Journey



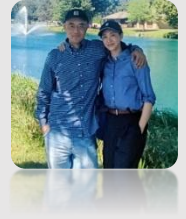
Tomorrow, Sunday, November 30, we begin a new Church Year with the penitential season of Advent. Detailed information about all our Advent activities, plus the schedule for Christmas and New Year's worship services, may be found in the [Advent at Emmanuel](#) booklet.

We will celebrate God's greatest gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, in many unique ways, including:

- Weekday Morning Prayer Services;
- Wednesday Evening Advent Services;
- Emmanuel—St. Michael School Christmas Vespers;
- [Coming Home for Christmas](#) a downloadable, daily devotion booklet. Printed copies are available through the church office;
- Weekly family devotions on our website and app.

NEW! Mission Sunday with Suzie and Tao

Deaconess fieldworker Qian Su “Suzie” and her husband Tao will serve as our Mission Sunday speakers **tomorrow, Sunday, November 30**, at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Christians from Beijing, China, Suzie and Tao have an amazing story of how the Lord brought them to faith through the work of the Holy Spirit, led them to each other, and is preparing them to proclaim the Gospel through Concordia Theological Seminary here in Fort Wayne. Don't miss this unique opportunity to grow in your understanding of the Church and see how God continues to make disciples of all nations through His saving Gospel.



***In order for our Sunday School teachers to attend this presentation, Ms. Liz will be teaching Sunday School for all kiddos from Preschool through 5th grade. Little Flock will still meet in its usual location. If parents would like their children to attend the presentation, they are welcome to do so. Otherwise, kiddos may join Ms. Liz in the gym for a large group lesson. All drop-off and pick-up will take place in the gym.*

Sunday and Weekday Christian Education for Fall 2025

- Sunday School for ages birth-Eighth Grade, 9:15-10:15 a.m.
- Sunday Adult Bible Studies
- Weekday Bible Studies for Adults

See a complete listing of all our Christian Education 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!

THANK YOU & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You from Emmanuel's Youth Group

Thank you to everyone who attended, donated gift cards, or provided food items for the Chili Cook-Off and Bingo Night! The evening was a wonderful success and a clear reminder of the strong support Emmanuel has for its youth as they prepare for their summer servant event in Pikeville, Kentucky, this June.

NEW! Special Guests from the Holy Land

On **Saturday, December 13**, and **Sunday, December 14**, we will welcome Christian families from Bethlehem during all services. They will share their story and present a beautiful display of handmade olivewood carvings—Nativity sets, crosses, ornaments, angels, and more—available for purchase in Ebenezer.



These crafts make meaningful gifts for Christmas, Baptisms, weddings, and confirmation. All proceeds directly support Christian families in Bethlehem, helping them remain in the land of Christ's birth despite ongoing hardships.

Let us join in prayer for peace in the Holy Land and show our support through these treasured works.

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](#).

2026 Contribution Envelopes Available

The 2026 contribution envelopes are available to pick up in Ebenezer Hall. They are stacked in alphabetical order. If you contribute electronically or with pew envelopes (found in the black friendship folders), you may not have an envelope packet assigned to you. If you would like an envelope packet, please call or see Jen Tweedy in the church office, or email her at jennifer@emmanuelutheran.org.

Hospital Visits

Did you know that due to HIPAA laws, hospitals no longer contact churches to inform them that a congregant is hospitalized? If you or a loved one is hospitalized and would like a visit from an Emmanuel pastor, please contact the church office, 260.423.1369, to let us know the name of the hospital and a room number. It is also helpful if you give the hospital permission to share your room number with the public so that we can stay up-to-date on when you or your loved one is discharged. It is Emmanuel’s practice to visit our hospitalized members regularly. Thank you for helping us provide this spiritual care!

GET INVOLVED

Visual Faith Workshop

Join us on **Tuesday, December 2**, 6:00–8:00 p.m., for a special evening of creativity and fellowship in Ebenezer Hall. This is a wonderful opportunity to put finishing touches on your Advent journal and begin crafting your 2026 gratitude and prayer journal. Whether you’re a seasoned journaler or just beginning, you’ll find inspiration and guidance in a relaxed, encouraging setting. Supplies will be furnished, so come ready to create and reflect as we journey through Advent and look forward to a new year of praising God. Please sign up at the Connections Counter or click [here](#). We look forward to seeing you there!



Clay & Iron: Men's Ministry at Emmanuel



Clay & Iron men's ministry is for all of our men. Please take [this survey](#) to help us better serve you.

Our Winter theme is “Here's What I HAVE to Say”—Discerning when to speak and when to stay quiet as God's servant-leaders. Consider joining us for any/all of these upcoming events:

- **Tuesday, December 2**, 7:00-8:30 p.m.: Lower Level of Ebenezer
- **Thursday, January 8**, 7:00-8:30 p.m.: Lower Level of Ebenezer
- **Saturday, February 21**, 9:00-11:00 a.m.: Brunch

Message or call Billy at 260.440.4945 to get connected. Walk humbly; stand firm.

Christmas Giving Tree

A huge thank you for the tremendous response to our Christmas giving project this year. The tags were all taken the first weekend! Enjoy selecting gifts and gift cards for our families these next two weeks and **bring them into church, unwrapped, with the tag by Monday, December 1**. If you are able, we would love to have you **join us on Friday, December 5, at 9:00 a.m. in the lower level of Ebenezer for our wrapping party**.

Emmanuel's LWM/LWML Meeting

Date: Thursday, December 4

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

Location: Lower Level Ebenezer

What is LWM?

Women of Lutheran Women in Mission support the mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). 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:

- The Perpetual Call for Pastors & Teachers—LCMS Office of Pastoral Education, U.S.: \$100,000
- Growing Together to Share Braille & Large Print—Lutheran Braille Workers, U.S.: \$100,000

What to expect at the meeting:

- A warm welcome and fellowship with other women of faith
- Bible Study: *Equipped*
- Service Project: Lutheran Social Services (LSS). We will be collecting and collating disposable diapers to give to LSS for distribution to those in need. Those who would like to donate diapers, please bring them to the church by **Tuesday, December 2**. Thank you!

Middle School Youth Christmas Party

Our 6-8th grade youth are invited to join us on **Sunday, December 7, 12:00-2:00 p.m.**, in Lower Ebenezer. We will be enjoying lunch together before the rest of the festivities. ***If your child has any dietary restrictions, please reach out to Liz Bejot.***



We will also have a white elephant gift exchange. Please plan to bring a gift that does not exceed \$10. Ideas for gifts include: random things found around your house (with candy or a gift card added to sweeten the deal), funny ornaments, random items found at Five Below or other discount stores, etc.

Please sign up for the event [here](#) to make sure we have enough food.

NEW! Christmas Lunch Bunch



Those of you around 60 or over are encouraged to join us for our annual Christmas Communion Service on **Tuesday, December 16, 11:00 a.m.**, in the Sanctuary. The Early Childhood children will be singing for us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Bev Williams will also be joining us to provide musical accompaniment.

Following the service, we will be served a special Christmas meal at a cost of \$10.00, payable the day of the lunch, in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall. Pastor Eggold will be with us to share ministry updates. Please be sure to call the church office, 260.423.1369, or stop by the Connections Counter in Ebenezer Hall to **sign up for this event by Friday, December 12**. You won't want to miss this special way to begin the Christmas season!

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

NEW! Emmanuel—St. Michael Advent Vespers

Emmanuel—St. Michael's Advent Vespers service is **Thursday, December 11, 7:00 p.m.**, at **Purdue University Fort Wayne in the Auer Performance Hall** (Rhinehart Music Center). Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for free, general admission. Earlier that day, we will have a rehearsal at 10:00 a.m., also at the Auer Performance Hall, that is open to the public and all are invited to attend! Please call the school office, 260.422.6712, with any questions. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior with you!



NEW! Job Opportunity

Emmanuel—St. Michael seeks a Student Support Specialist who will enhance academic success by supporting students through compassionate care and intervention. Please see the [Job Description](#) for specific responsibilities and qualifications. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis with a flexible start date as early as January 5, 2026. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and [application](#) to Executive Assistant Hannah Swor, hswor@esmeagles.com.

IN THE COMMUNITY

NEW! Christmas at the Wyneken House

The Friends of Wyneken will host a Christmas open house at the historic Wyneken House, 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, on **Sunday, December 7, 1:00–5:00 p.m.** The house will be decorated for the holiday season with a variety of themed Christmas villages including a Victorian town, an alpine village, and a Thomas Kinkade neighborhood.

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



The Bridge 20/30 is a Fort Wayne-based community for young adults in their 20s and 30s—single, dating, or married—seeking faith, fellowship, and friendship. We meet Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. for Bible study, devotion, service, and social events. [Join us this month!](#)

Connect with us:

- Facebook: [Bridge 20/30 Group Ft. Wayne](#)
- Instagram: [@thebridge2030](#)
- Email: dschuller@clhscadets.com

Santa Shop at Washington School

Each year members of Emmanuel help stock and volunteer at the Santa Shop at Washington School. This year we need donations of:

- \$1-\$5 gift items
- Wrapping paper
- Gift bags
- Boxes
- Bows
- Tissue paper
- Ribbon

All donations are needed by Friday, December 5. Donations may be placed in the marked bins in Ebenezer.

Volunteers are needed December 15-18, 9:00-11:30 a.m., in the Washington School Library.

To sign up to help wrap gifts for the children or for any questions please contact Diane Witzman at 260.249.1307.

Beer and Hymns Christmas Singalong

Join us on **Sunday, December 21**, from 3:00-5:00 p.m., at Chapman's Brewing Company at Electric Works, for an afternoon of [fellowship and singing](#) with members from area LCMS congregations. All ages are welcome. Please bring a snack or potluck item to share.

RESOURCES

Mental Health Moment

The holidays can be rough, if you or someone you love is struggling with substance abuse, [here](#) are some tips for navigating the holidays.



NEW! Project Connect



This week's booklet is [Helping Your Child Welcome Others](#). This booklet's Scripture verses, personal experiences, and seasoned church worker viewpoints shed light on helping parents and grandparents encourage the children in their care to be more friendly and welcoming.

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!

Advent Devotions From Lutheran Hour Ministries

God in His incomparable love has made a way for us through the wilderness. He did this by giving us His Son, our Light in the darkness. *In Born to You ... a Savior*, we embrace the Christmas joy and wonder of Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.



At Christ's birth, God the Father did a new and everlasting thing in our lives: He gave us His one and only Son for our redemption. In divine humility, Jesus joined us as a human being. Born of a woman, bearing the sins of the world, Jesus comes to us as our Protector, our Deliverer, our Savior.

Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them [delivered right to your inbox](#), listen to the [devotional podcast](#), or access them on your mobile device through the [free app](#). You can request Devotions for Advent booklets both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Perfect for personal reflection or to share with family, friends and congregations, these seasonal meditations will help prepare you to celebrate the true meaning of these seasons.

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