



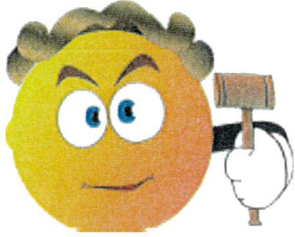
Immanuel Lutheran Church
1013 Franklin Grove Road
Dixon, Illinois 61021

Church Staff & Council

Pastor – Mark Juliot
Office Manager – Joyce Heaton
Youth & Family Director
Somar Bryson
President—Scott Johnson
Vice President—Janet Beiler
Treasurer—Carol Fisher
Secretary – Jessica Friday



THE TORCH
This Month at Immanuel
January 2024



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1013 Franklin Grove Road, Dixon, Illinois 61021

Phone (815)284-2804 – Fax (815)284-2809

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From the Desk of Your Council President

God's Work Our Hands

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas celebration. I know that this time of year can be tough for some and for all of you who have lost loved ones this year I pray that God fills your sorrows with the wonderful memories and wish you peace and happiness in the coming year.

Now that the holiday season is almost over, we can turn to thinking about the year to come. I honestly believe that this coming year is one of the most important to Immanuel and St. Paul ever but certainly in the recent past. We are prepared for the process of hiring a shared Pastor for both congregation and that process will hopefully begin soon.

To help prepare for the next year, we have extended the contract of Pastor Mark for another 6 months to lead us as the transitional Pastor for Immanuel until a new Pastor has been called. We truly are blessed to have Pastor Mark's guidance and leadership over the last several months and look forward to continuing to collaborate with him for the next several weeks.

We are living in a challenging and scary world. We can listen to the news reports, and we can easily get caught up in all the negativity that surrounds us. The one place that we can always look to for shelter, encouragement and sanctity is our Immanuel church home.

The church needs as much as we need the Immanuel. We need everyone's time, talents, and treasures as we navigate through the changes that God has in store for us. I want to issue everyone a challenge for the next year to give more in the following areas:

1. Give more of yourself with your time and talents. If everyone made a pledge to give one extra hour a week that would be like having two extra employees. We need help in cleaning the church, serving on committees like the property and worship teams.
2. Invite old and new friends to join us in church. All of us know someone who used to attend our services but for some reason they are no longer attending. Please reach out to them and invite them to come back home to Immanuel.
3. Finally, please give as much as you can financially so that we can continue to fund and grow the services of our church.

Imagine if all of us for 1 year would give all we could financially, physically, and spiritually what our church would look like in December 2024.

Please help us grow and thrive in the coming year of transition!!!

Scott Johnson

Council President

From the Pastor

Reverend Mark Juliot, Transition Pastor



An Observation

As you walk down the steps from the entryway to the fellowship hall, there is a banner hanging on the wall. Have you noticed it lately? Do you know what is on it?

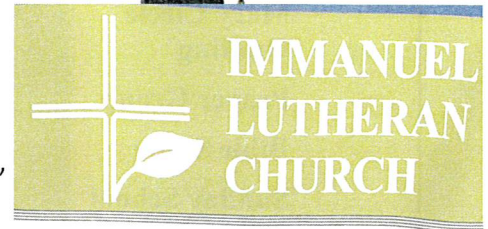
At the top of the banner in white letters with a green backing it says, "Immanuel Lutheran Church". Then, underneath it reads: "Purpose: Nurturing the Inside to Show Christ on the Outside." That's a pretty awesome purpose! My understanding is that a number of years ago much time, effort and conversation went into determining this purpose statement and the principles that support it.

However, I don't hear this statement nor the principals talked about. Having a vision/purpose as a community of faith, keeping it ever before you, and taking practical steps to live it out is essential to the vitality and future of God's work in and through a congregation. While I don't hear this intentionality talked about, I do see evidence of Immanuel living out this purpose statement, and that is encouraging.

As we begin 2024 and a new Church Season, that of Epiphany, which refers to the revealing of Jesus' identity and mission, let's engage in a conversation about our identity and mission.

Does our stated purpose still drive us? How are we living out the principles? In what ways is God challenging us to live more into our purpose? How does this impact our individual lives?

Also, on Sunday, January 28th following worship we will hold our annual meeting. This is an important part of our continued ministry together. Look for more information regarding our annual meeting to come out in the weeks leading up to it.



PURPOSE

*Nurturing the Inside to
Show Christ on the Outside*

PRINCIPLES

1. *We grow in our relationship with God in Christ.*
2. *We love and care for people.*
3. *We live with a generous spirit.*
4. *We welcome all people and build authentic relationships.*
5. *We serve as Christ for each other and our neighbors.*
6. *We partner with others in God's work.*



Epiphany Series: Rediscovering Our Purpose

January 6/7, 2024: "Exploring Identity" - Question: Who are we?

January 14, 2024: "Exploring Community" - Question: Whom do we serve?

January 20/21, 2024: "Exploring Values" - Question: What do we stand for?

January 28, 2024: "Exploring Purpose" - Question: What are we called to next?



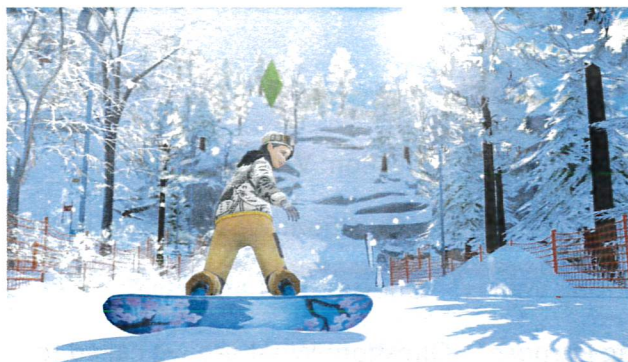
JOIN US IN 2024!

Mary Circle	9:00am	1 st Thursday of each month
Quilting	8:00am	Every Tuesday
Prayer Group	8:30am	Every Wednesday
Bible Study	9:00am	Every Wednesday
Sunday School	9:00am	Every Sunday
Adult Forum	10:15am	Every Sunday
Yoga	10:00am	Every Tuesday
Digging Deeper	6:30pm	Every Tuesday
Women's Lunch	11:30am	1 st Wednesday of each month @ Galena Steak House
Women's Lunch	11:30am	2 nd Wednesday of each month Las Palmas
Men's Lunch	12:00pm	2 nd & 4 th Wednesday each month @ Red Apple
Parish Ed	5:00pm	3 rd Wednesday of each month
Property Meeting	5:00pm	1 st Thursday of the month
Life Recovery	6:00pm	Every Sunday

Any questions on any activities, call Joyce @ 815-284-2804

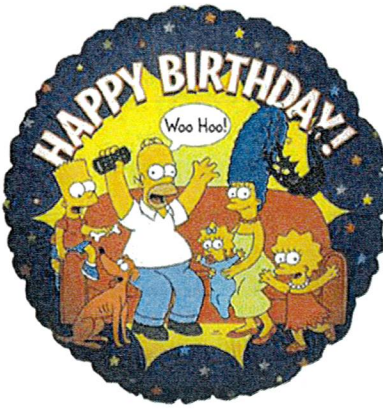
AND DON'T FOR GET THE UP COMING EVENTS

Snowtubing Day at Snowstar in Andalusia, IL.—January 14th





January



2024



Marilyn Bodmer	January 2	Rick Humphrey	January 5
Jerry Scheffler, Jr	January 6	Eugene McBride	January 9
Duane Burkhart	January 10	Scott Johnson	January 11
Nancy Reglin	January 14	Dianna Toms	January 15
Dave Schoenholz	January 16	Shaw Sperfslage	January 16
Peggy Ulferts	January 21	Glen Hart	January 23
Duane Dickison	January 25	Barb Schmiedebush	January 26
Jon Mandrell	January 27	Carla Anderson	January 28
		Stephanie Englund	January 30



Janet & John Beiler	June 6, 1992
Jessica & Trenton Friday	January 5, 2018
Jeffrey & Tammy Kelly	January 1, 1989
Eugene & Wanda McBride	January 24, 1976

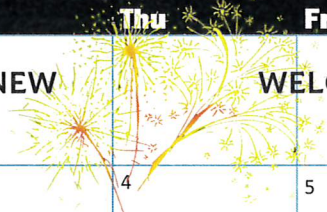
If you see any error in birthday or anniversary dates, please let the office know so it can be corrected.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

DIXON, ILLINOIS

January 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW			WELCOME 2024			
	1. HAPPY NEW YEAR 	2 8:00 Quilting 10:00 YOGA 6:30 Digging Deeper	3 8:30 Prayer Team 9:00 Bible Study 11:30 Lady's Lunch Galena Steak House	4 9:00 Mary Circle	5	6 5:30 Worship Service @ Immanuel
7 9:00 Worship Service & Live Stream 9:30 Radio Worship 10:15 Adult Forum 1:00 Confirmation @St Paul 5:00 Life Recovery	8 3:00-5:00 Youth Group	9 8:00 Quilting 10:00 YOGA 5:00 Finance meeting 5:30 Exec Meeting 6:30 Digging Deeper	10 8:30 Prayer Team 9:00 Bible Study 11:30 Ladies Lunch @ Las Palmas 12:00 Men's Lunch @ Red Apple	11	12	13 5:30 Worship Service @ St Paul
14 9:00 Worship Service & Live Stream 9:30 Radio Worship 10:15 Adult Forum 5:00 Life Recovery	15 3:00-5:00 Youth Group	16 8:00 Quilting 10:00 YOGA 6:30 Digging Deeper	17 8:30 Prayer Team 9:00 Bible Study 5:00 Parish Ed 6:00 Council Mtg	18	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20 5:30 Worship Service @ Immanuel
21 9:00 Worship Service & Live Stream Sunday School 9:30 Radio Worship 10:15 Adult Forum 1:00 Confirmation @St Paul 5:00 Life Recovery	22	23 8:00 Quilting 10:00 YOGA 6:30 Digging Deeper	24 8:30 Prayer Team 9:00 Bible Study 12:00 Men's Lunch @ Red Apple	25	26	27 5:30 Worship Service @ St Paul
28 9:00 Worship Service & Live Stream Sunday School 9:30 Radio Worship 10:15 Adult Forum 5:00 Life Recovery Annual Meeting	29	30 8:00 Quilting 10:00 YOGA 6:30 Digging Deeper	31 8:30 Prayer Team 9:00 Bible Study			



Worship Helpers Needed

On the kiosk, in the entry of the church, there is a sign-up sheet for worship helpers. It takes many hands to do God's work. Please give to your church by using your talents. Whether it be reading or greeting, we need your help. Thank you!



ALTER FLOWERS & SPECIAL VASES

Glen and Bridgit Hart	12/3
Marilyn Bodmer	12/10
Joe and Abbey Kelly	12/17
The Tim Schutz family	12/24
Doris Helander	12/31

SPECIAL VASES

Joyce Heaton	12/31
Roger Asplund	12/31

WHAT'S COMING FOR THE YOUTH!

JANUARY 14TH SNOWTUBING IN ANDALUSIA, IL.
SEE SOMAR FOR THE DETAILS.

JANUARY 21ST SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS @ IMMANUEL

JANUARY 7TH & THE 21ST CONFIRMATION CLASSES
WILL BE HELD AT IMMANUEL.

LSSI HOLIDAY HOPE CHEST

As you will recall, we had the LSSI Hope Chest tree up again this past Christmas Season. This helps many who are less fortunate than ourselves fulfill a few wants and needs and puts a smile on the face of many children.

I recently received a thank you from LSSI. In part, as follows:

Thank you for your contribution of \$650.00 to LSSI'S Holiday Hope Chest. At LSSI, we believe that we are called to care for our neighbors in need and with the help of friends like you, we will be able to purchase gift cards and/or gifts for our clients this Christmas.

LSSI is blessed many times over by faithful friends like you. Thank you again for the generosity you have shown to the individuals and families we serve.

Kathy Hall

Assistant VP for advancement

Worship Helpers Needed

On the table in the entry of the church there is a sign-up sheet for worship helpers. It takes many hands to do God's work. Please give to your church by using your talents. Whether it be reading or greeting, we need your help.

Unfortunately the sheet has disappeared from the table. So, if you put your name done on the sheet, please call me or stop by and put your name on the new sheet.

I would appreciate it if the sheet is not removed. Your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you!

Attention Please



The news letter, Torch, will be put out the first weekend of each month unless otherwise noted. As with this months, the holiday has interfered With getting the Torch out on the 1st. Will try Not to let his happen often.

If you have an article or notice that you would like to appear in the publication, please have it turned in by the 24th of the month you would like it to appear. I appreciate your cooperation.



January 15th—19th & January 22nd—26th

MEALS ON WHEELS needs more hands to help serve those in need. There is a signup sheet in the front entrance to the church on the kiosk, as well as on the bulletin board by the office.

TIME TO UNDECORATE



Undecorate?

On Saturday, January 6th, at 12:45pm, we will gather to take down Christmas decorations. The more hands we have the quicker it gets done and the more fun it is. So, crawl out of bed, put a smile on your face, and come join your brothers and sister on Saturday afternoon.
See you there!



Many hands make light work!

Together we will leave no
task undone...

For the Record

Roll Call

Average attendance for the month of December was 90



Offerings for December	\$53,333.50
Weekly Budget 2023	\$ 5, 499.90



"You can't be an usher
because you think offering
plates are Frisbees®."

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kevin@kevinspear.com

WORD SEARCH

Men Named in The Bible Starting With A

R	A	D	A	A	B	I	D	A	H	A	E	A	A
A	A	O	B	B	B	A	B	I	J	A	H	H	A
H	B	O	D	C	I	D	B	A	E	B	A	T	B
T	I	A	I	N	D	S	E	D	A	I	B	G	O
A	S	B	A	C	O	A	H	E	O	D	I	A	O
I	H	I	B	D	A	H	A	U	L	N	M	B	G
B	U	M	A	A	A	B	B	U	A	A	A	A	E
A	R	E	B	B	A	B	I	G	I	B	E	O	N
B	A	L	E	I	D	O	N	H	E	H	L	I	D
I	B	E	L	N	H	P	A	S	A	I	B	A	E
T	I	C	A	E	D	E	D	A	D	I	U	D	B
U	A	H	A	R	A	I	A	D	A	B	L	I	A
B	M	A	B	B	I	A	B	B	A	B	I	H	U
I	R	E	Z	E	I	B	A	A	A	B	I	A	H

ABIGIBEON

ABDI

ABDA

ABDON

ABIASAPH

ABINADAB

ABINER

ABISHUR

ABIJAH

ABISHUA

ABITUB

ABAGTHA

ABIMELECH

ABDEEL

ABIEZER

ABIDAH

ABIATHAR

ABIMAEI

ABIHU

ABIHAIL

ABEL

ABEDNEGO

ABIAH

ADIUD

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3900060/>