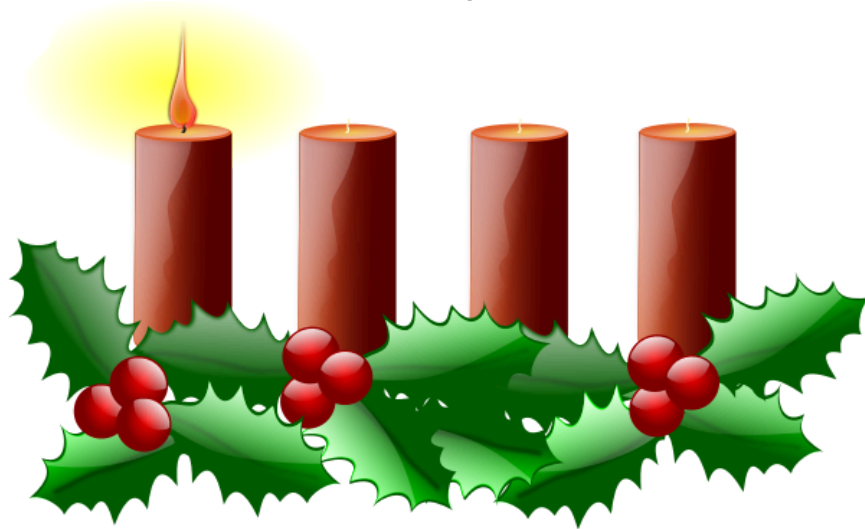


First Sunday in Advent



December 1, 2024

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS

Pastor Craig Nehring

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We welcome you to our worship today!

The Mission Statement of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, White Clay Lake, is to provide for the Christian welfare of all God's people through the administering of the Sacraments, worship services, gatherings of Christ-centered groups, caring for the sick and needy, offering the forgiveness of sins through the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and reaching out to the unchurched, showing love and concern.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until he comes.

Because these who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed (confirmed), in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34. "Please refer to pg 329 in the hymnal to prepare for the Supper."

Serving God at Immanuel

	December 1	December 8	Wed - Dec. 11	December 15
Elder	Steve Daskam	Steve Daskam	Steve Daskam	Steve Daskam
Greeters	Wendy & Sheila	Orlando's	Stu Schmidt Family	Stanek's
Accolyte	Cheyann Smith			Cannon Kowalczyk

Today's Worship Service

Divine Service 1 ~ p. 151

Opening Hymn	#343	<i>Prepare the Royal Highway</i>
Sermon Hymn	#322 v. 1-4	<i>Savior of the Nation, Come</i>
Communion	#624	<i>The Infant Priest Was Holy Born</i>
Hymns	#335	<i>O Bride of Christ, Rejoice</i>
Closing Hymn	#322 v. 5-8	<i>Savior of the Nation, Come</i>

*Please remember to sign the fellowship pad each week. Thank you.
There are large print hymnals available in the narthex.*

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 1 8:30 AM Worship w/LS 9:10 AM - Sunday School (SP) 9:30 AM - Tree Decorating 10 AM Worship w/LS (SP) 1 PM Advent by Candlelight 3 PM Cantata Rehearsal
Monday, December 2 7 PM Choir
Tuesday, December 3 9 AM PC at Winkel 6 PM Cantata Rehearsal
Wednesday, December 4 9 AM Matins 9:30 AM Romans Study 7 PM Joint Advent Worship at SP
Thursday, December 5 8-12 Pastor at SP 9 AM Matins (SP) 6 PM Chimes

Friday, December 6 5-7 PM Bell Ringing at Charlie's
Saturday, December 7 9-11 AM Sunday School Practice 9-11 AM Bell Ringing at Charlie's
Sunday, December 8 8:30 AM Cantata 9:10 AM Sunday School (SP) 9:30 AM Dinner 10 AM Worship (SP) 1-3 PM Open House at Parsonage 4 PM Adult Education 5:45 PM Evening Prayer 6 PM Confirmation Class
Upcoming Dates
Joint Midweek Advent Services Wednesday at 7 PM Dec. 11 at Immanuel Dec. 18 at St. Paul

Attendance - Nov. 24 - 48

Givings for Nov. 17 - 24

General - 1673.00 Fuel - 20

Mission - 72.00 TIM - 5

Today we begin the season of Advent, a time spent at the beginning of the church year reflecting upon the coming, the "Advent," of our Lord Jesus. That we spend this time preparing our hearts and ears to celebrate the greatest event this world had ever seen from its creation-the Incarnation, the taking on human flesh by God Himself, the eternal Son entering into history so that He might bring an end to sins condemnation and death's destruction of His good creation.

Because of that, like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, a season of reflection and prayer and confession, where we slow ourselves down, strip away aspects of the Liturgy, and become more deliberate in directing our ears to that simple manger where once laid the Creator of the world. This is hard to do in our world, where December 1 becomes "25 Days of Christmas," a world that is just as ready to be rid of the season as soon as the 26th arrives. But for the Church, December is just the beginning, leading up to our 12 days of Christmas, a time of joy and celebration as we come out of our Advent preparations.

So it is practice to remove aspects of the Liturgy like we do at Lent, primarily the Hymn of Praise. Our starkness isn't as severe as Lent-Luther Reed states that Lutherans "*regard it as a time of sober penitence mixed with holy joy.*" Instead, we are to spend these four weeks gaining in anticipation of what Christmas declares: that indeed, Immanuel, God is with us, coming from the lowliness of the manger, all to die on the humbleness of the cross, and doing it, all of our salvation.

Church Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Immanuel Members: Rebecca Bonnin, Mary Ellen Fischer, Judy Manthei, Steve Olson, Troy Westphal, Al & Tammy Manthei, Bill Voelz, Bob Hoppe, & Brice Huntington

Sunday School Students: Logan, Merrik & Chris Brede, Caylee Caldwell, Karson Fletcher, Kaylee, Morgan & Hudson Kornaus, Letty Krueger, Jayden Manthei, Grady Rosenlund, Sawyer & Ella Schmidt, Cheyann & Deanna Smith, Nevaeh & Addison Stanek, MacKenzie & Aaron Stanke, Amelia Tauchen

St. Paul Members: David Korth & Lois Weisnicht

Expectant Mothers: Jamie Cannon, Tonya Rosina & Katherine Krause

Friends: Emie Pelky, Pam Beilfuss, Lucille Tess, Marvin & Judy Kostka, Parker Koeppin, Bo Halla, Carissa Baker, Ginger Heller, Marlin Wiskow, Luke Torbeck, Bryan Poirier & Lavern Styczynski

Grieving: the family of Ricky Retzlaff

Church Announcements

Thanks to all of you who donated **25 bags of groceries** to the food pantry for November.

Today is our 3rd **Annual Advent-by-Candlelight** at 1 PM. The theme this year is "Women of Faith." All women of our dual parish, as well as family and friends are invited. There is no charge for this event. This is an opportunity for women to gather together and spend some time focused on Jesus and the real meaning of Christmas.

Please let PC know the date of the kids school **Christmas concerts** (band & choir) so he can get on calendar, trying to attend as many as he can. Also, please let him know if they are playing any winter sports and schedules so he can do the same.

We will jump things off today at both Immanuel & St. Paul with a **parish tree trimming and church decorating party** today, after worship at each congregation. Join together as we prepare for Christmas. Snacks and music will accompany our time together. There will be no Sunday School today or next Sunday, Dec. 8.

Similar to last year, PC has an **Advent devotional** produced by 1517 for you if interested. Let him know and he will print off a copy for your devotions. Also on the table in the narthex is a printed guide to **A Year in the Confessions** to read the formula of Concord in 2025.

Everyone is invited to join us on Sunday, December 8, at 8:30 AM for our **“Love Came Down at Christmas”** Cantata which will be followed by a dinner.

Pastor and Wendy invite you to an **open house** at the parsonage on Sunday, Dec 8 from 1-3 pm. Come and see the work done to update and renovate. No gifts please-we want just your presence.

St Paul is assigned to work at the **LCFS Thrift Store** on Sat Dec 14, 9:30am - 3pm. Anyone interested in helping or just see what we do, pop in or call Nancy Baumgartner [715-851-7070](tel:715-851-7070).

On Thursday, December 5, at 6 PM, Faith United-Gillett will be holding a Women’s Evening. **“Guarding the Gift”** with whimsical music duo Wendysue & Miranda.

Here is the start (more may be added) of our **Advent & Christmas events** at our parish, gathering to share the joy of our celebrations of Christ's birth, as well as seeking to serve others:

- Dec. 6: Ringing Bells for Salvation Army @ Charlie's- 5-7 pm
- Dec. 7: Ringing Bells for Salvation Army @ Charlie's- 9-11 am
- Dec. 8: Christmas Cantata @ IM- 8:30 am
- Dec. 22: Shut-in Caroling (tentative date)
- Dec. 24: Children's Christmas Program @ SP-4 pm
Children's Christmas Program @ IM-6 pm
"Silent Night" Worship @ IM-9 pm
- Dec. 25: Christmas Day Worship @ IM- 9 am
- Dec. 29: Christmas Light Trip to Chippewa Falls

Check out the **Weekly Devotions** mailbox for this week’s devotions for you to use at home in the narthex, produced from Around the Word Journal.

Please have bulletin information turned in by Noon on Thursday. You can email the information to IMWCLsec@gmail.com or tashatreptow@gmail.com. They can also be left on my desk or in my mailbox. Thank you!

The Lutheran Hour for December 8 "Completely Ordinary Human" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler Everyone has a story to tell and yours can be one through which Jesus is working to make the world new again. (Malachi 3:7) The Lutheran Hour can be heard on Sundays at 10 AM on 102.7 FM WRVM.

Wolf River Lutheran High School NEWS

SHADOW DAY OPPORTUNITIES - Wolf River welcomes any 8th grader interested in a shadow day or a tour of Wolf River, this invitation is also extended to any possible high school transfer students. Wolf River is always open to providing a tour per request. Mr. Steinhaus would be honored to set up an individual or family/group tour(s). Any 7th grader interested in Wolf River is invited to join us on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 for our 7th Grade Visit Day. Please call the office at 715-745-2400 for more information.

Sheepshead Card Party on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 1:-3:30 PM, cost is \$3.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA - Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 7th from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Wolf River. Save money by purchasing your tickets early. All are welcome!

FAMILY FUN EVENT - Saturday, December 14th, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Wolf River. Game night and build your own pizza. RSVP to Sarah 920-475-8619. No cost.

Proud supporter of Wolf River Lutheran High School