



Rev. Eric Obermann
Pastor

Mr. Dean Jennissen
Principal

Supporting the Ministry
of the
Lutheran Church –
Missouri Synod
at home and abroad

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Minnesota South  
District

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Immanuel Lutheran
Church and School

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# The Newsletter

of Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Lakefield, Minnesota

December 2025

Volume LXIII, Issue 11

## December



### *Immanuel's Statement of Mission*

***"We Love Because He First Loved Us" - 1 John 4:19***

*Acknowledging with gratitude all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus, we the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School dedicate ourselves to educating, equipping (2 Timothy 3:17) and building one another up in love as part of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:16) and to the furthering of His kingdom in and around the city of Lakefield and throughout the world. (Acts 1:8)*

**JOINT BOARDS AND CHURCH COUNCIL** meet on Tuesday, December 23rd at 7:00 p.m. All Board Members are asked and encouraged to attend. Communication between our Boards is a vital key in helping our congregation grow. Joint Boards meets in the church basement. Meetings prior to Joint Boards are:

- Board of Congregational Services: Monday, December 8th at 5:15 p.m.
- Board of Elders: Tuesday, December 23rd at 6:00 p.m.
- Board of Finance: Tuesday, December 23rd at 6:00 p.m.
- Board of Trustees: Thursday, December 18th at 5:30 p.m.
- Board of Ed: Tuesday, December 16th at 5:30 p.m.

**OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED** on Wednesday, December 24th, Thursday, December 25th, Wednesday, December 31st, and Thursday, January 1st so our staff can spend the Christmas holiday with their families.

**REDCROSS BLOODMOBILE** is in Lakefield at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Tuesday, December 2nd from 1:00-6:00. For appointments call 800-733-2767 or schedule online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

**UPDATE ON BLOODMOBILE LOCATIONS:** Due to school security concerns, the bloodmobile will no longer be here at Immanuel in the Activity Center, but will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church instead.

#### PROPOSED BALLOT -

Elder - (vote for 2)  
Jim Berkevich\*  
Shane Rossow\*

Trustees - (vote for 2)  
Jeff Frantsen\*  
Travis Dennis Rossow\*  
Albert Henning

Congregational Services -  
(vote for 4)  
Monette Berkevich\*  
Lola Gunther\*  
Beth Carlson  
Dory Poppe

Finance - (vote for 1)  
Josh Swanson

Congregational Chairman  
Kurt Swanson\*

(\* incumbent)

## Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

### Advent Services

Wednesday, December 3  
Wednesday, December 10  
8:30 AM & 7:00 PM

### ILS Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 17  
12:30 PM & 6:30 PM

### Sunday School Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 24  
4:00 PM

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24  
8:00 PM

### Christmas Day Service

Thursday, December 25  
9:00 AM



**VOTERS MEETING** will be on Sunday, December 14th right after church around 10:15 a.m. in the church basement. On the agenda is the election of officers. The ballot is listed to the left. If interested in running for any office, please contact Jim Berkevich, Luke Henning, Steve Matasovsky, Joel Poppe, Shane Rossow, or Amy in the office.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE PRACTICE** has started. We are practicing during Sunday School every Sunday until the service, which is on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome!

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING GIFTS FOR THE LAKEFIELD SHARING TREE** may find tags on the tree in the narthex, the tree at City Hall, or on the tree at the Lakefield Library. All you need to do is pick a tag, buy the gift, tape the tag to the gift, and place it under the tree in the narthex or under the tree at City Hall. Gifts need to be under the trees by December 12th. You do not need to wrap the presents.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONS** from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available in both regular and large print on the welcome center in the narthex. This year's devotions are called "Born to You... a Savior". Please help yourself to a copy. There are also Advent Devotions available from Martin Luther High School, Northrop. This one is called "There's More To It" and the devotions are written by Martin Luther High School staff and students. Please help yourself.



Dear Redeemed and Loved Saints of Immanuel!

Merry Christmas!

This is my second favorite season in the year. I love everything about Christmas. The music, the traditions, food, and of course the snow! Oh, there is so much that makes Christmas one of my favorite seasons.

Importance: Christmas is the fulfillment of God's promise to be with man. In the book of Revelation, John hears God's claim that the dwelling place of God is with us. The gospel of John, the evangelist writes, that Jesus came to tabernacle or dwell on earth. This is huge! God through His Son, came to be here with you and I.

Promise: From the beginning, God reminded us that he was going to send His seed to be the Savior of the world. He used one family, the family of Abraham, to be the blessing for the nations. From whom, Jesus lineage is traced, the lion of tribe of Judah.

Today: It saddens me that we try to limit Christmas to 30 days. All of the unwritten rules that no Christmas music till the Friday after Thanksgiving. Of course Christmas needs to be pack away before the turning to a new year. But Christmas isn't a season, it's a reality.

Something New: The world forever changed when the angels announced to Mary and Joseph, that Mary would be carrying and become the mother of the Christ child. The world forever changed, when after the pain of labor and childbirth, Mary gently cradled her son. The world forever changed, when the angels announced to the shepherds, God's Son was here. In flesh, the Son of God is fulfilling His Father's promise.

Continued Reality: Jesus tells His disciples that He is not leaving us as orphans. But that He must go to the Father so that the Holy Spirit may dwell with us. It's the reality of what Christmas is. God being with His people. First through His Son, and now through the given Spirit.

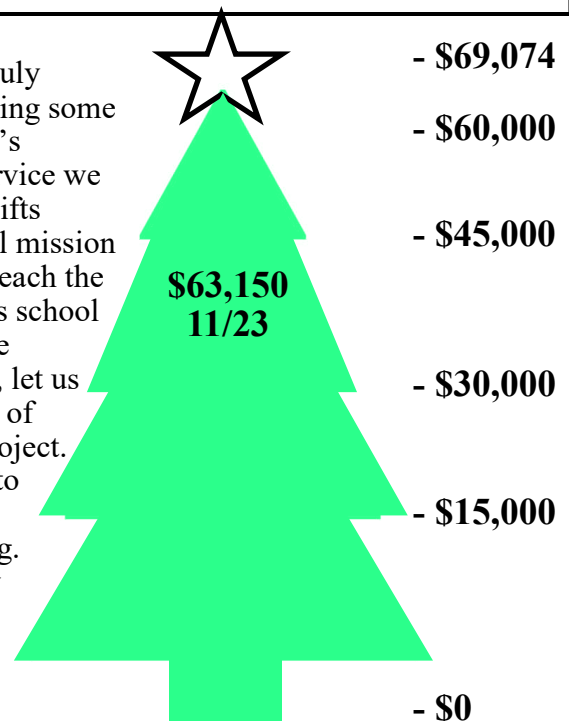
I pray that you all have a blessed Christmas Season, as we celebrate the promise that Father made to us!

In the service of Jesus

Pastor Eric

**CHALLENGE FROM THE FINANCE BOARD:** The Christmas in July Service is always a special service for our congregation. We sing some of our favorite Christmas hymns, worship outside in our Lord's creation, and gather together afterwards for a meal. At this service we also get the opportunity to show support for our school with gifts toward the Teacher Salary Fund. The gifts towards this crucial mission go towards providing payroll to our outstanding faculty who teach the young students of Immanuel to grow in Christ. The end of this school year marked our 126th anniversary. As a gift to ensure that the mission of the school in Immanuel is as eternal as God's love, let us challenge ourselves to give 12.6% of our salaries and benefits of school faculty in the amount of \$69,074 as a special giving project. There has been an anonymous donor who has gifted \$25,000 to this fund leaving a remaining balance of \$44,074. Please consider making a gift above and beyond your normal offering. There will be a tracking thermometer in the Narthex to follow along with as we work towards this goal.

We will be tracking our progress on this Christmas tree!



## OFFICIAL ACTS FOR NOVEMBER 2025

Membership: Baptized: 595

Communicants: 430

ENTERING IMMANUEL...

LEAVING IMMANUEL

...Entering Church Triumphant –

Doris Rossow received her crown of glory on October 22nd, 2025 and was given a Christian burial on November 1st, 2025. Burial is at Immanuel Cemetery

**PORTALS OF PRAYER** for January through March are now available on the welcome center in the narthex in both regular and large print. Please help yourself to a copy. Did you know that Portals of Prayer are also available in digital format through an app? Cost is \$9.99 for the year. Not only can you read the daily devotion in whatever size print you like, but an audio option is also available. You also have access to over 10 years Portals of Prayer archives. Meaningful daily and special occasion prayers can also be found on the app. If you're interested go to the app store and search for Portals of Prayer.

**VALET PARKING:** We would like to invite those of you who have a problem walking a distance to drive your car up to the carport when you come for worship and we will have an usher or an elder park your car for you. Following services, we will return your vehicle to the carport. We especially encourage you to take advantage of this during icy, snowy, winter weather.

**COMMUNION FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES:** Anyone who is not able to join us for worship services, but would like to receive communion please contact Pastor Obermann directly. He will schedule a time to meet you. Pastor's cell is 563-321-0032 and email is [pastor@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:pastor@immanuellakefield.com).

## SPECTACULA VIRTUOSO CHRISTMAS CONCERT



on **DUELING PIANOS**

**Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School  
in Northrop**

**Sunday, December 7th at 2:00 p.m.**

Concert features the talents of Jayson Matasovsky (our organist & Martin Luther High School Senior) and Glenn Henriksen (member of the Galaxy 500 Band & keyboard entertainer) who will perform together! Be carried away by the amazing debut performance of these 2 pianists.

Come and sing along, enjoy Christmas treats, and walk in a winter wonderland.

Online advance tickets can be purchased for \$15 at [martinlutherhs.com](http://martinlutherhs.com). Children age 12 and under are free. After November 30th, tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in person at the school.

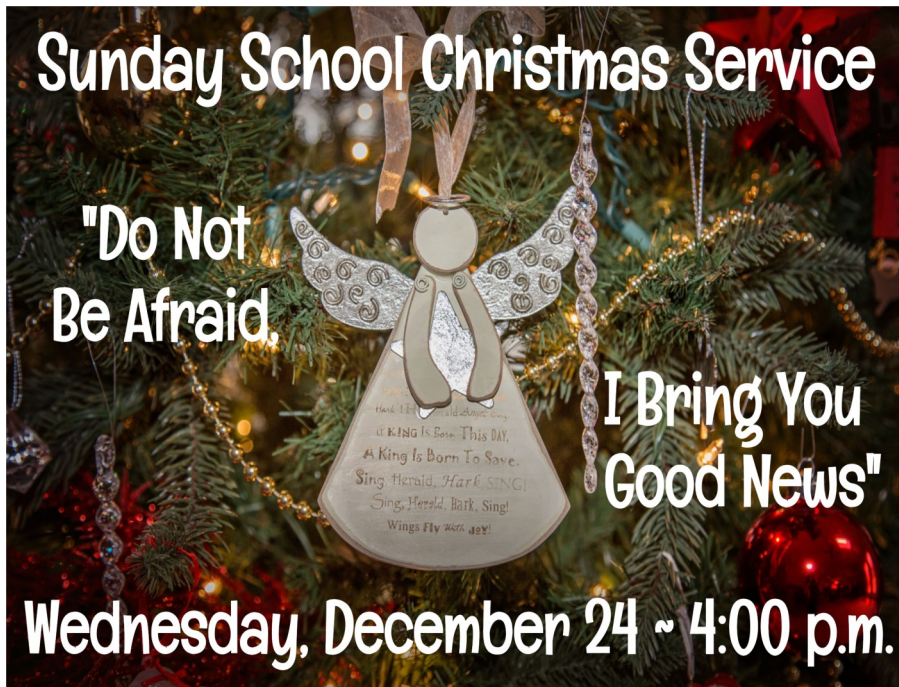
Concert is a benefit for the student tuition fund at Martin Luther High School.

The school is located at 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.



### *Stewardship Moment...*

**Matthew 1:21 – “She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”** What our good works could never do, Jesus has done: He has saved us from our sins, paid our debt, set us free. How can we not give thanks to Him with lives of generosity and godliness? What God's Law could not do — truly motivate us to truly good works — Jesus' love has done!



# Sunday School Christmas Service

"Do Not  
Be Afraid."

"I Bring You  
Good News"

Wednesday, December 24 ~ 4:00 p.m.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who came to our ILS Shopping Night. It was a huge success and is a great fundraiser for our school. Thank you also from the 7th-8th grade class for supporting their Chili/Soup supper that night. All proceeds from the meal will go towards their class trip.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** are now available at the bookstore. Come check out the wonderful selection. You can either pay Amy in the church office or leave your money in the empty box by the cards. *There is also a variety of Christmas gift bags with a religious theme available. Stop and take a look!*

**"A NOT SO SILENT NIGHT"** Christmas Cacophony Concert is at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop on Saturday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m. Elementary and high school band students will be performing and the high school choir will sing. Students are under the direction of Phil Schult and Hanna Northwick. Admission is a free-will donation. Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School is located at 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop. *Our ILS band students will be performing with the elementary band.*

**FESTIVAL OF TREES** at the Jackson County Historical Society is December 1st-30th with an open house on Saturday, December 6th with holiday refreshments. Throughout the month, the public is welcome to visit the museum, see the trees, and vote for their favorite tree by donating \$1. The highest vote getter at the end of the month will receive half of the total proceeds, with the other half going to the historical society. Immanuel Lutheran School and our LWML both have decorated themed trees for the Festival of Trees. The museum is located at 307 North Highway 86 in Lakefield.

**BETTY HUSSONG SOUP & DESSERT LUNCHEON** is on Friday, December 5th from 11:00-2:00 at Dudley's Garage. Suggested donation of \$15. All proceeds will go to local food shelves. Also accepting donations of hats, gloves, and/or canned foods for the sharing tree. Dudley's Garage is located at 103 Main Street in Lakefield.



ILS Christmas  
Service

"Joyfully, Ring Out  
the Good News!"

Wednesday  
December 17

12:30 p.m.  
6:30 p.m.

## Lutheran Hour Ministries

The Lutheran Hour may be listened to on Sunday –

KICD – 1240 AM, Spencer, IA at 10:30 AM

WCCO – 830 AM, Minneapolis, MN at 6 AM

KSUM – 1370 AM, Fairmont, MN at 11 AM

KJLY – 104.5, Blue Earth at 6 PM

**KDOM, 103.1 FM at 10 AM**

KDCR, 88.5 FM at 1 PM

You may also listen anytime on their website: [lhm.org](http://lhm.org)

### December 7

#### "Chosen for What?"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*God calls believers to trust and follow Jesus--chosen, but chosen for what?*

(Romans 15:7)

### December 14

#### "Pictures of Patience"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*Patience can be practiced, tested, strained, and lost. Christians are called to return the patience God in His mercy has shown us, in Christ.*

(James 5:7-8)

### December 21

#### "Everybody Is Somebody"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*God sends His people--the Church--to be His letters to the world, delivering His Word of promise.*

(Romans 1:7)

### December 28

#### "Get Ready for the Best"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Germán Novelli Oliveros

*Christ will return--maybe this year, maybe even today! Pastor German Novelli helps us to prepare for the blessings and challenges of a new year.*

(Luke 12:36-37)

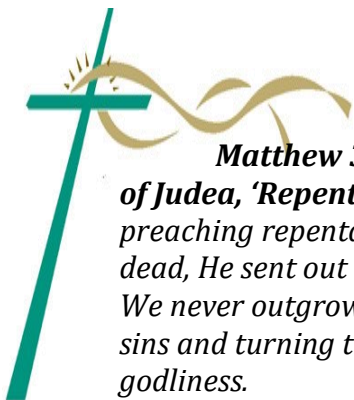
**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE** you may contact Pastor Obermann directly ([pastor@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:pastor@immanuellakefield.com) or 563-321-0032) or speak to one of the elders. This includes visits, prayer requests, communion for home bound members, among others.

**LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH:** Please keep the men and women you have entrusted to lead our congregation in your prayers as they serve in the ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church in their official capacity as an officer or board member.

**LAKEFIELD MEAL SITE** is serving in-house and home delivered meals. Meals served at 11:30. Have you been down to see our new curtains, chairs and paint? Really brightens up the site!! Call 507-662-6714 to reserve.

- Tuesday, December 2: Bingo at 12:30 with prizes provided by Thrivent.
- Monday, December 8: 1/2 Price Meal sponsored by Worthington Federal Savings Bank, Lakefield Branch. Menu: chicken & dumplings, green beans, cheesecake brownie
- Tuesday, December 9: Pinochle at 12:30.
- Wednesday, December 10: Game Day. Bring your own or play one of ours
- Wednesday, December 17: 500 at 12:30.
- Thursday, December 18: Christmas Meal. Menu: roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed veggies, gingersnap.
- Tuesday, December 23: Frozen meals only for those already reserved
- Thursday, December 25: Closed for Christmas
- Monday, December 29: 1/2 Price Meal sponsored by Worthington Federal Savings Bank, Lakefield Branch. . Meal: baked pork chop, gravy, scalloped potatoes, cookie
- Wednesday, December 31: Pinochle at 12:30.

Call Marless (507-662-5254) for card Details and to schedule playing. All card games cost 10 cents to play.



### Stewardship Moment...

**Matthew 3:1-2 – "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach "repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.**

# *Immanuel Lutheran School Highlights*

*"We love because He first loved us." -1 John 4:19*



- **2ND QUARTER CHAPEL OFFERINGS** will go to our school's Lunch Assistance Program.
- **JENNIE WILLIAMSON CONCERT:** All students will go see Christian recording artist Jennie Williamson in concert on Monday, December 8th at St. Paul's Truman.
- **WILD COMPASS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION** is here on Wednesday, December 10th from 2:15-3:45 for 3rd-6th grade students.
- **ILS BAND STUDENTS** will perform in the "A NOT So Silent Night" Christmas Cacophony Concert on Saturday, December 13th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop. They will be joined by other elementary band students.
- **PTL CHRISTMAS CAROLING** is on Sunday, December 14th at 2:00. We'll meet at the church basement and head out from there.
- **ILS CHRISTMAS SERVICE** is on Wednesday, December 17th, at 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. This year's service is titled "Joyfully, Ring Out the Good News!"
- **NO SCHOOL—CHRISTMAS BREAK—DECEMBER 22 through JANUARY 2**
- **DECEMBER BASKETBALL GAMES & TOURNAMENTS**
  - Monday, December 1 at 4:15: B at home vs. St. John Vianney
  - Friday, December 5 & Saturday, December 6: A tournament at Zion Alexandria
  - Thursday, December 11 at 4:00: A & B at St. Paul's Truman
  - Friday, December 12 & Saturday, December 13: B tournament at St. John Vianney Fairmont
  - Monday, December 15 at 4:15: B at home vs. St. Paul's Fairmont

*From the Principal:*

## *Calling Your Own Fouls*

I grew up with eight brothers, so when it came to sports, wrestling was an obvious activity we all embraced... like we had a choice! Wrestling ended up being my favorite sport, but I loved basketball as well. I recall back "in the day", players would call their own fouls. They didn't wait for the referee to signal or head to the scoring table to report a foul, the player simply raised a hand indicating, "it was me" and their number was entered into the scorebook. As I've watched basketball in the years since then, I don't recall seeing much "calling your own fouls." Maybe like a lot of things, it just drifted away.

I got to thinking about how this might apply to our spiritual lives. No doubt, on any given day, I commit lots of fouls, sins, that would have me raising my hand quite a bit! But, we don't like to admit our mistakes do we? I know I don't. Martin Luther wrote that, as followers of Christ, we should "lead a life of repentance." This would be defined by calling our own fouls. When we



choose not to, our "bones waste away through groaning all day long" as it says in Psalm 32. Not a fun place to find oneself if you've been there. The Good News, God made a way through Jesus to unburden ourselves from the sin that weighs us down. 1 John 1:8-9 reads: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." When we think of gifts we'd like to receive for Christmas, we probably won't think of cleansing, but what a gift from the greatest gift ever given - Jesus, the Light of the World!

*Dean A. Jennissen, Principal*

**FOR LIABILITY REASONS** *and safety issues we need to know who is in the church and when, especially as we host benefits and other events. All building use needs to be scheduled with Amy in the church office. Many groups and individuals for whom we are very thankful use our building, but we do need to remember to schedule rooms. Please call the church office to schedule an event or meeting.*  
*Thank you for your consideration.*

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY?

- "Libraries Spark Your Imagination" Winter Reading Program for adults and teens (grades 8-12) is from January 1st through March 31st. Registration begins December 31st. Register online or at your library.
- Holiday Book Bundles are back! Unwrap and enjoy children's holiday books!
- Library is closed on December 24th & 25th and January 1st.
- Story Time for kids is on Thursdays at 10:00
- Bedtime Story Hour is Thursday, December 18th at 6:30
- Elementary After School Program for K-4th grade is "Winter & Christmas Fun" on Thursday, December 11th at 3:45. Registration required by calling 507-662-5782.
- Tween & Teen Scene for 5th-12th grade is "Escape Room" on Tuesday, December 16th at 3:45 p.m. Registration required by calling 507-662-5782.
- Homeschool Connection meets weekly at the Jackson Library on Thursdays at 10:30. They will not meet on December 25th. Call the Jackson Library for more info 507-847-4748.
- Adult Program is "Christmas Card Making with Kris Heutink" on Thursday, December 4th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Registration required by calling 507-662-5782.
- Adult Monthly Movie Matinee is on Friday, December 19th at 2:15 p.m.
- Book Club meets on Wednesday, December 3rd at 3:00 to discuss one of your favorite books.

**SCRIP ORDERS** are taken weekly. Please turn in your orders to Amy in the church office by 8:00 a.m. on Monday and it will be ready for you to pick it up the following Monday. Order forms can be found on the welcome center in the narthex (they're blue). Any questions ask Amy in the office by calling 507-662-5718 or send an email to [immanuel@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:immanuel@immanuellakefield.com).

This is a great way to support Immanuel!

**MARTIN LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL, NORTHROP** has an on-going business selling "This is Most Certainly Brew" Gourmet Coffee. Their coffee beans are hand-selected from the country of origin, then custom-roasted in Minnesota.

Flavors include:

"Pastor's Study Blend" Euro Dark Blend  
"Church Basement Brew" Honduran Medium Roast  
"Bible Study Blend" Sumatra/Mexican Medium  
"Eternally Yours Blend" Italian Roast Decaf—3 Bean  
"Christmas Joy" Velvet Hammer  
"Heavenly Hazelnut Cinnamon" Single Brazilian Bean  
"Garden of Eden Rain Forest"  
"Katie's Kup" Jamaican Me Crazy  
"Sunrise Special!" Maui Yellow Caturra

The coffee is available in 12 oz. bags grounded for \$10-\$13. Bible Study Blend and Pastor's Study Blend are also available in 12 oz. bags whole bean for \$10. Pastor's Study also comes in a 5 pound whole bean for \$50. It is available to buy in person at the MLHS office, Hy-Vee in Fairmont, or at Kiehl's Bakery in Lakefield. You may also order on-line at [www.thisismostcertainlybrew.com](http://www.thisismostcertainlybrew.com). They ship nationwide. This is an on-going enterprise supports the MLHS Ministry.

## **LWML Happenings**

### **Lutheran Women In Mission**

Serving on Altar Guild for the month of December are Dawn Rossow, Deb Salzwedel, Sue Salzwedel, and Cheryl Ulferts. We thank them for taking care of the altar duties during this busy month.

Visit the Jackson County Historical Society Museum in Lakefield during December for the Festival of Trees. One of the trees has been decorated by the Immanuel LWML and displays that "Jesus is the Reason for the Season".

We will begin our next monthly meeting with a Christmas Potluck on Wednesday, December 10 at 5:00 in the church basement, with ham sandwiches provided. Bring your ideas for topics/activities for the 2026 meeting agenda. We will also write out cards to send Christmas greetings to some of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

God sent Jesus, the perfect gift, to redeem us through His death and resurrection. At Christmastime, we celebrate when this perfect gift came to earth. Let's share the Good News of Jesus as the perfect gift for everyone!

**Serve the Lord with Gladness ~ Psalm 100:4**



# DECEMBER

## *birthdays*

- 1 ~ Holly Barkeim  
Jeremy Luebben
- 2 ~ Ronald Gettler  
Soriah Scholten
- 5 ~ Leah Lunde
- 6 ~ Lori Henning
- 7 ~ Kristofer Altman  
Ozzton Inman
- 8 ~ Jessica Brouwer  
April Kraft  
Steve Matasovsky  
Darvin Oelke  
Darrin Somnis
- 9 ~ Alton Gentz
- 10 ~ Willow Oelkers  
Ted Pederson  
Berniece Pauling
- 11 ~ Debra Burmeister  
Crystal Dafoe  
Victoria Rossow
- 13 ~ Delaney Krumwiede
- 14 ~ Jean Bass  
Jolene Krumwiede
- 15 ~ Tami Bale  
Kenneth Pohlman
- 16 ~ Tyler Henning
- 17 ~ Leann Henning  
Lori O'Connor
- 18 ~ Oakley Lariviere  
Scarlett Webb
- 19 ~ Ethan Palmer  
Brittany Poelaert
- 20 ~ Hunter Timko
- 21 ~ Carolyn Hansen  
Joshua Henning  
John Lindquist  
Nellie Nyborg
- 22 ~ Timothy Rossow
- 24 ~ Abby Klobberdanz  
Braelyn Boogerd
- 25 ~ Nicholas Altman
- 27 ~ Ryan Place
- 28 ~ Nicole Dagel  
Sherrill Frantsen  
Dewayne Hage
- 30 ~ Amelia Pauling

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR NAME ON THE PRAYER LIST,  
PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 507-662-5718  
OR EMAIL [immanuel@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:immanuel@immanuellakefield.com)

—  
We would rather hear it two or three times  
than not at all. Also because of privacy issues  
we need your permission.

**LUTEFISK DINNER** is at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lakefield on Wednesday, December 3rd from 5:30-7:30. Lutefisk, Meatballs, and Gravy are on the menu. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$12 for kids age 12 and under. Tickets available at the door. The church is located at 401 7th Avenue North in Lakefield.

**LIVING NATIVITY** is at the American Lutheran Church in Windom on Wednesday, December 10th from 4:30-7:30. It can be viewed on foot or by car along 10th Street east and turning south on Prospect Avenue. Ride the horse drawn carriage, pet the animals, listen to live seasonal music, enjoy cider & popcorn, and checkout the holiday bake sale. Soup and Chili supper will be served in the fellowship hall from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Cost for the supper is \$8. Food and cash donations are also being collected for the Windom Sharing Center. The church is located at 906 Prospect Avenue in Windom.

**THE DINNER DATE** is a free meal for everyone in the community. It is on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Lakefield Legion Hall. This month's date is Tuesday, December 9th from 5:00-7:00. All are welcome! Meal is sponsored by St. Peter Lutheran Church, rural Lakefield. Lakefield American Legion is located at 413 Main Street.

**RADA CUTLERY FUNDRAISER:** Immanuel Lutheran School is doing a RADA Cutlery Fundraiser. These are the knives, kitchen utensils, and food products that ILS had done as a fundraiser years ago. All shopping is done online and shipped directly to you. Here is the RADA shopping link:  
<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=7714827.f00d30>  
It will be open for the whole school year. Orders can be submitted anytime and will be shipped right to you. Thank you for supporting Immanuel Lutheran School.

### CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER...

*A serious illness or death in your family; a personal crisis;  
a time of major decision making; a time of great joy;  
all of these times when pastoral care is vitally important.  
If you or a family member or a friend is experiencing any  
of these, please contact the church office. We, here at  
Immanuel, welcome the opportunity to provide spiritual  
care and guidance in difficult times, as well as to rejoice  
with you in times of joy.*

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
NO YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY  
NO BIBLE CLASS  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28**

**ELECTRONIC OFFERING PROGRAM:** We have been utilizing the online giving program, Joyful Response, for quite a few years now here at Immanuel. Joyful Response is a simple and easy program to use that is available through Lutheran Church Extension Fund. This program means you can give your offerings through an electronic funds transfer from your checking or savings account. There are no charges associated with Joyful Response. Here's why you may want to try Joyful Response:

- You won't have to write checks or remember your offering envelope.
- It can help with your budgeting as you can plan your giving throughout the year.
- You can set it up so your offering is given automatically – be it weekly, monthly, bi-weekly, or whatever works best for you and your family.

The Benefits for our church are a more consistent and reliable cash flow for meeting obligations, especially during the summer months, and better information for the budget planning and decision making. Many of us already pay our bills and other obligations electronically. These are obligations we intend to pay, but we set them up for automatic withdrawal for convenience, peace of mind, and simply so we don't forget to pay them.

Maybe this giving option for your offering could be a tool to help you meet your giving goals. Signing up is simple. The form can be found on the welcome center in the Narthex and in the church office. Take the completed form to Amy in the church office and she will get you enrolled.

If you ever want to change or stop the withdrawal, Amy can do so in the church office. Remember, there is no charge to you or the church for using this option, thanks to LCEF and their Joyful Response program. All offerings given using Joyful Response will be for the current fund.

All other budget items-building, mission, memorial, and special project giving should be done through an offering envelope.

Ask any member of the Board of Finance, the Elders, or Amy if you would like more information. We encourage you to try it, even with a small amount, to see how it works and you may find it makes your gifts easier to give. We hope the Joyful Response program will help you, as well as our ministry and mission at Immanuel.



12/3/94 Joel and Dory Poppe  
12/15/84 Ted and Julie Pederson  
12/22/82 Gary and Geraldine Burmeister  
12/27/80 Dennis and Janet Laabs  
12/29/17 Mark and Emma Thaemlitz  
12/29/00 Wes and Amber Liepold  
12/29/84 Luke and Lori Henning  
12/31/01 Kayle and Jamie Koep  
12/31/85 Kim and Louise Riets  
12/31/84 Tim and Dellynne Monson


**ANNUAL REPORTS:** December is here and January is right around the corner. Amy would appreciate having the reports in the church office by January 10th. Thank you!

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** With our offering envelopes not being date specific, please continue to use them until they are gone. When you are getting low ask Amy in the church office or an elder for a new box and they will get one for you. Remember, your number will never change and we do have an extra box with your number on it.

**DISHES WANTING TO GO HOME...**

Please check out the counter in the church basement to see if one of the cake pans or Tupperware containers belong to you. There's also a black crate that someone brought cherry tomatoes in that can go back home. Thank you for your help in supplying food for our many meals and activities. It is very much appreciated.

?? ?
Bible Quiz
? ??



Who told Mary that her child would be called "the Son of the Most High"?

A. Zechariah  
B. Gabriel  
C. Simeon  
D. Joseph

# Count Your Blessings!

The Lakefield Food Shelf is again having their annual fall Food Drive. As you count your many blessings that you have received this past year, please consider those who are in need of some support.

November and December are the months of our annual drive and you may bring your food and/or hygiene items to your church anytime during this time or during the week at any of the designated areas in Lakefield – such as the Lakefield Library and Maynards, where there will be a grocery cart for you to put your items in.

Items that are appreciated and needed are the following non-perishable food items, such as:

- ♦ Macaroni & Cheese
- ♦ Canned Meats [*Spam, Chicken, Tuna*]
- ♦ Fruit Juices
- ♦ Fruit Sauces in Juice [*Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail, Applesauce, Pineapple – large and small cans*]
- ♦ Vegetables [*Carrots, Peas, Mixed Vegetables, Green Beans and Corn*]
- ♦ Peanut Butter
- ♦ Stews such as Dinty Moore and Chunky Soups
- ♦ Pork 'n Beans, Kidney Beans, Chili Beans
- ♦ Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce
- ♦ Tuna, Chicken and Hamburger Helper
- ♦ Pancake Mix [*complete*] and Syrup
- ♦ Soups [*Chicken Noodle, Tomato, Vegetable Beef, and Cream Soups – large and small cans*]
- ♦ Boxed Potatoes [*Mashed, Scalloped, AuGratin*]
- ♦ Cold Cereal and Oatmeal
- ♦ Pasta [*Shells, Elbow, Rotini, etc.*]

Monetary donations are also welcome. These donations are used to purchase perishable foods such as – Milk, Eggs, Margarine, and Bread for the baskets. The donations may be mailed in care of the Lakefield Food Shelf, P.O. Box 115, Lakefield, MN, given to a Food Shelf member, or placed in the donation box at City Hall.

*The Lakefield Food Shelf thanks the community of Lakefield and the surrounding area for their support. You are what keeps the Food Shelf active and well-supplied. The recipients also thank you. Your generosity is what puts a meal on their tables for Christmas and also the months throughout the year.*



Hygiene products are also appreciated –

- Shampoo and Conditioner in one
- Deodorant, Shaving Cream
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Body Wash and Soap
- Paper Supplies such as Tissues, Paper Towels
- Cleaning Supplies such as Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, etc.

Questions, please call Connie at 507/841-3350



# Spectacula Virtuoso Christmas Concert



On Dueling  
Pianos

Featuring  
the talents  
of



**Glenn Henriksen,**  
Member of Galaxy 500 Band  
& keyboard entertainer

**Jayson Matasovsky,**  
Martin Luther Senior

*Amazing debut performance of Christmas melodies*

**Sunday, December 7 2:00 p.m.**

**Enjoy Christmas Treats ~ Apple Cider ~ Coffee**



**Fesitval of Trees**



**Tickets:**

Online Advance \$15.00 at [www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com)

After November 30-\$20.00 in person at MLHS



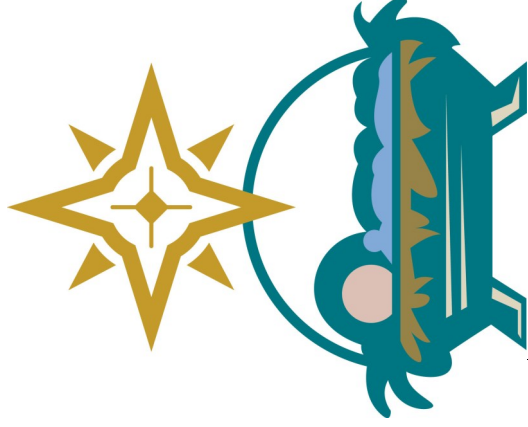
**A benefit for the student tuition fund at:**

**Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School,**

**315 Martin Luther Drive  
Phone: 507-436-5249**

**Northrop, MN  
[www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com)**

**Honoring Christ...Welcoming All**



# December 2025

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Mon                                                                                                                               | Tue                                                                                                | Wed                                                                                                                                        | Thu                                                                                                | Fri                                                | Sat                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 2nd Sunday in Advent<br>9:00 Worship with Communion<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>2:00 Jayson Matasovsky performing in Spectacula<br>Virtuoso Dueling Pianos<br>Christmas Concert at MLHS Northrop | 1<br>4:15 B BB at home vs. St. John Vianney<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                                                     | 2<br>8:30 Advent Chapel<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>7:00 Advent Worship                                | 3<br>8:30 Advent Chapel<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>2:15 Wild Compass Environmental Ed—grades 3-6<br>5:00 LWML<br>7:00 Advent Worship          | 4<br>4:00 A & B BB away at St. Paul's Truman                                                       | 5<br>A BB tournament at Zion Alexandria            | 6<br>A BB tournament at Zion Alexandria                                                      |
| 14 3rd Sunday in Advent<br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Voters Mtg<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>2:00 PTL Christmas Caroling                                                                                | 8<br>Jennie Williamson Concert at St. Paul's Truman—grades PreK-8<br>5:15 Bd Cong. Services Mtg<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir | 9<br>5:30 Bd Ed Mtg                                                                                | 10<br>12:30 ILS Christmas Service<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>6:30 ILS Christmas Service                                                       | 11<br>5:30 Bd Trustees Mtg                                                                         | 12<br>B BB tournament at St. John Vianney Fairmont | 13<br>B BB tournament at St. John Vianney Fairmont<br>7:00 ILS Band Concert at MLHS Northrop |
| 21 4th Sunday in Advent<br>9:00 Worship with Communion<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class                                                                                                                    | 15<br>4:15 B BB at home vs. St. Paul's Fairmont<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                                                 | 16<br>6:00 Bd Elders Mtg<br>6:00 Bd Finance Mtg<br>7:00 Joint Boards & Church Council              | 17<br>24 Christmas Eve<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED<br>4:00 Sunday School<br>Christmas Service<br>8:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | 18<br>25 Christmas Day<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED<br>9:00 Christmas Day Worship with Communion | 19<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED                  | 20<br>10:30-12:30<br>Pastor and Emily Open House at the Parsonage                            |
| 28 9:00 Worship                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 22<br>NO SCHOOL<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                                                                                 | 23<br>NO SCHOOL<br>6:00 Bd Elders Mtg<br>6:00 Bd Finance Mtg<br>7:00 Joint Boards & Church Council | 24<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED<br>4:00 Sunday School<br>Christmas Service<br>8:00 Christmas Eve<br>Candlelight Service                  | 25<br>Christmas Day<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED<br>9:00 Christmas Day Worship with Communion    | 26<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED                  | 27                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 29<br>NO SCHOOL                                                                                                                   | 30<br>NO SCHOOL                                                                                    | 31<br>NO SCHOOL<br>OFFICES CLOSED                                                                                                          |                                                                                                    |                                                    |                                                                                              |



Peace on Earth

GOOD WILL TO MEN

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School  
P.O. Box 750, 604 Bush Street  
Lakefield, Minnesota 56150  
507-662-5718

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Lakefield, Minnesota 56150  
Permit #21

*Worship Schedule —*

Sunday Morning Services  
9:00 AM

Sunday School  
Youth Group Bible Study  
Bible Class  
10:15 AM

Communion Celebrated  
1st and 3rd Sunday

Merry Christmas to:

*DECEMBER Monthly*

When they **saw the**  
*they* **STAR,**  
rejoiced with  
**exceeding great joy.**

---

Matthew 2:10, KJV

