



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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Church  
507-662-5718  
School  
507-662-5860  
Fax  
507-662-5820  
Email Address  
immanuel@  
immanuellakefield.com

# The Newsletter

of Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Lakefield, Minnesota

February 2026

Volume LXIV, Issue 2

## February



### *Immanuel's Statement of Mission*

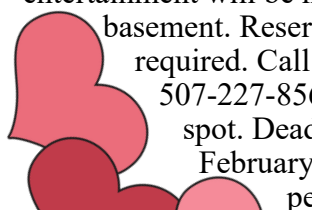
***"We Love Because He First Loved Us" - 1 John 4:19***

*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** meets on Tuesday, February 24th 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:

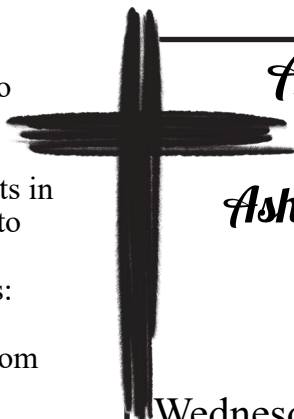
- Board of Congregational Services: Wednesday, February 18th while they're serving the Lent supper from 5:30-6:30
- Board of Elders: Tuesday, February 24th at 5:30 p.m.
- Board of Finance: Tuesday, February 24th at 6:00 p.m.
- Board of Trustees: Thursday, February 19th at 5:30 p.m.
- Board of Ed: Tuesday, February 24th at 4:30 p.m.

**VALENTINE'S DATE NIGHT:** Spend an evening with your special someone here at Immanuel on Friday, February 13th from 5:30-8:30 where a 4-course meal (pasta and chicken inspired) along with comedy entertainment will be held in the church



basement. Reservations are required. Call Pat Pohlman at 507-227-8564 to reserve your spot. Deadline to register is February 11th. Cost is \$25 per person.

You will not want to miss this evening!



## *Ash Wednesday & Lent Worship Services*

### *Ash Wednesday Worship Service*

Wednesday, February 18  
8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

### *Lent Worship Services*

Wednesdays, February 25 through March 25  
8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONS** from Lutheran Hour Ministries will be available soon. Devotions start on Ash Wednesday which is February 18th this year. This year's devotions are titled "Behold Your King!". Both regular and large print copies can be found on the welcome center in the narthex. Please help yourself to a copy.

**SAVE THE DATE:** VBS planning meeting is on Sunday, March 1st, after Bible Class and Sunday School, so starting around 11:15 in the church basement. VBS is always a fun time for the kids! Come help plan it!

**PROCLAIM CHOIR** from Free Lutheran Bible College will perform in concert on Friday, February 6th, at 7:00 p.m. here at Immanuel Lutheran Church. This is part of their "The God of Hope" Winter Tour. Their Women's Trio and Women's Ensemble will also sing. Eli Hedstrom, son of Pastor Dale and Mary Hedstrom from Lakefield, is a member of the Proclaim Choir. A freewill offering will be taken for the choir.



## **DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR SUPER BOWL SUBS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8!**

**Our LWML is doing this fundraiser for the  
Teacher Salary Fund.**

**ORDER FORM IS A YELLOW INSERT IN THE BULLETIN  
OR TOWARDS THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER**

**Gluten free option available (may be a bun or wrap) –**

**Please note on the form if you'd like gluten free.**

**PLACE YOUR COMPLETED ORDER FORMS AND  
PAYMENT IN THE BLUE RUBBERMAID CONTAINER ON  
THE WELCOME CENTER IN THE NARTHEX OR GIVE TO  
AMY IN THE OFFICE BY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1.**

### **JOIN US FOR LENTEN SUPPERS**

on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Suppers will be served prior to our Ash Wednesday and Lent services which are at 7:00 p.m. Our boards at Immanuel plus our LWML will each be hosting a Lenten supper this year. A freewill donation will be taken. Here is a list of Lenten suppers for February:

- February 18: Soup served by the Board of Congregational Services
- February 25: Tater Tot Hotdish served by the LWML



Dear Redeemed and Loved Saints of Immanuel!

Lent is just right around the corner. This gives the church time to pause and reflect on the wideness of God's mercy. That in our place, God sent His Son Jesus to bare our sins. Instead of giving us the deserved punishment for our sins, Jesus takes the punishment for us. This the story the church speaks during lent.

This is also the story God tells us throughout scripture. Albeit in a different form and fashion. But God tells us a story of His mercy and protection. During lent we will be looking the theme of the wilderness. Not just the 40 years that Israel spent wandering after exodus Egypt. But the many times that God met His people in wilderness type environments and how He guide and protected them through His divine love and provisions.

Because it is in our wilderness type experiences where we learn to trust God's instruction and receive life as a gift that only God can give.

I pray that you are able to join us each Wednesday night throughout lent, following our journey through the wilderness to hear of the wideness of God's mercy.

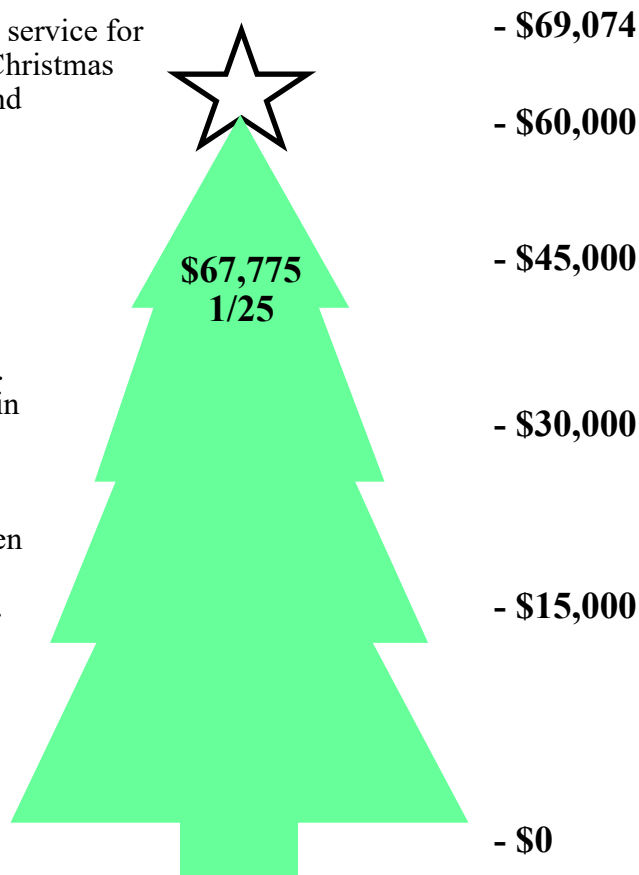
In the service of Jesus

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 along plus this Christmas tree in the bulletin.

Don't forget to mark your offering envelopes "TSF or Teacher Salary Fund" when giving.





## YOUTH CHESS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

Immanuel Lutheran Lakefield Activity Center

Grades: Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup>

Check in: 8:30-8:45 a.m.

Round 1 begins: 9:00 a.m.

Cost: \$10

Pre-Register:

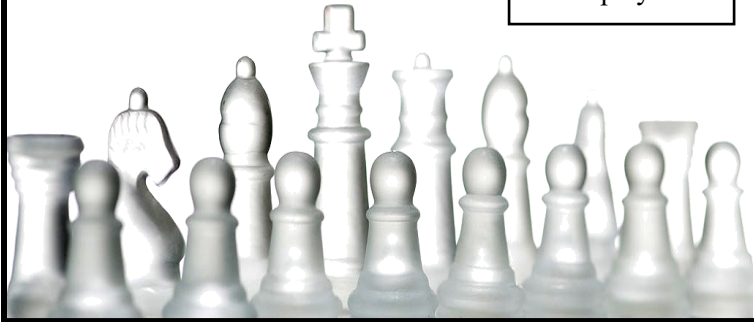
online at [immanuellakefield.com](http://immanuellakefield.com)

click on chess tournament

call 507-662-5860 (ask for Amy)

Players who do not pre-register will need to register between 8:15-8:30 that morning.

Lunch available:  
All players will receive a slice of pizza and a beverage.  
Additional pizza will be sold in our concession stand for parents and players.



## OFFICIAL ACTS FOR JANUARY 2026

Membership: Baptized: 598

Communicants: 430

ENTERING IMMANUEL...

LEAVING IMMANUEL

...Entering Church Triumphant—

Larry Miller took the hand of his Lord on December 30th, 2025 and was given a Christian burial on January 2nd, 2026. Burial is at Immanuel Cemetery.

LeeAnn Bauer received her crown of glory on January 4th, 2026 and was given a Christian burial on January 12th, 2026. Burial is at Immanuel Cemetery.

Marilyn Bauer took the hand of her Lord on December 24th, 2025 and was given a Christian burial on January 24th, 2026. Burial is at Immanuel Cemetery.

**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, February 10th, from 5:00-7:00. All are welcome! While the event is organized by St. Peter Lutheran Church, this meal is sponsored by our Immanuel LWML group. Lakefield American Legion is located at 413 Main Street.

## REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL

**YEAR** here at Immanuel Lutheran School will be opening soon. Current families watch fastdirect and the school newsletter to find out when it will open. Interested families, once registration opens, it will be publicized in the church bulletin, monthly newsletter, and on Facebook. Any questions please contact the school at 507-662-5860.

**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.

## Immanuel Lutheran School Early Childhood

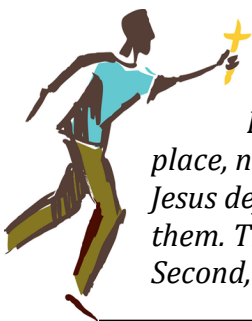
### Open House

Preschool ~ PreK ~ Kindergarten

Monday, March 2

4:00-6:30 p.m.

- Meet the teachers
- Check out the classrooms
- Open Gym



## Stewardship Moment...

**Matthew 4:7** – “Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written.’” Jesus defeats Satan in our place, not by using His power as God, but by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity. Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to them. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone.

## 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)

### February 1

#### "Rotten Tomatoes"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*Boasting gone wrong—it's the rotten fruit of rightful praise. It happens when we forget that everything we have is a gift, even the things we think we've earned and deserved.*

1 Corinthians 1: 30-31

### February 8

#### "Type C"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*In the Bible, the Holy Spirit meets us, gives us the mind of Christ, and leads us back into the world as children of God.*

1 Corinthians 2:12

### February 15

#### "Up and Down the Mountain"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Schutz

*Many voices compete for our attention, but above all, listen to the voice of Jesus and hear what He's done for you.*

Matthew 17:1-9

### February 22

#### "As Through Fire"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*To be baptized into Christ, to trust in Him, is to die with Him, to be raised by Him, to pass through the fire under His shelter.*

1 Corinthians 3:13

**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.

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

It's that time again for those with an account through Thrivent to direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars. Your Thrivent Choice Dollars can be given to Immanuel Lutheran Church or Immanuel Lutheran School. This can be done online at [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or by calling 800-847-4836 and when prompted saying "Thrivent Choice". Any questions can be directed to Curt Baumgard at the Lakefield Thrivent office at 507-662-5455.

**LAKEFIELD MEAL SITE** is serving in-house and home delivered meals. Meals served at 11:30. Birthday parties are held quarterly. The next birthday party is in February. Call 507-662-6714 to reserve.

- Tuesday, February 3: Bingo at 12:30 with prizes provided by Thrivent.
- Thursday, February 5: 1/2 Price Meal sponsored by Kozy Heat. Menu: tater tot hotdish, apple crisp
- Tuesday, February 10: Pinochle at 12:30.
- Wednesday, February 11: Game Day. Bring your own or play one of ours
- Friday, February 13: Valentine's Day. Menu: chicken alfredo, peas & carrots, hot spiced apples
- Wednesday, February 18: 500 at 12:30.
- Thursday, February 19: 1/2 Price Meal sponsored by Kozy Heat. Meal: diced turkey/gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing
- Tuesday, February 24: Frozen meals only for those already reserved
- Wednesday, February 25: Pinochle at 12:30.
- Thursday, February 26: Birthday Party for January, February, and March birthdays. Meal: scalloped potatoes/ham, corn, and cookies

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

## Stewardship Moment...

**Matthew 5:17 – "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."** We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.

# *Immanuel Lutheran School Highlights*

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



- **2ND QUARTER CHAPEL OFFERINGS** totaled \$195.75 and went to our school's Lunch Assistance Program.
- **3RD QUARTER CHAPEL OFFERINGS** will go to Hearts for Jesus which is a service project of the Minnesota South District. This year each school is choosing where they would like to donate to. We have chosen Jehovah Lutheran Church (an LCMS church in St. Paul) to support their mission of helping the homeless. Along with monetary donations, we are also collecting winter coats, sweatshirts, gloves, hats, and scarves. Items can be gently used or new. Keep in mind that 75% of the homeless population are adult males. There is a collection box in the school hallway for donations to be put into.
- **CHESS CLUB** meets on Mondays from 3:15-3:45 p.m. in the church basement. Chess Club is for students in Kindergarten through 8th grade.
- **WILD COMPASS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION** is here on Wednesday, February 11th from 2:15-3:45 for 3rd-6th grade students.
- **NO SCHOOL—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th and MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16th**
- **FEBRUARY BASKETBALL GAMES & TOURNAMENTS:**
  - Monday, February 2nd at 4:00: A & B at home vs. Worthington Christian
  - Friday, February 6th and Saturday, February 7th: B tournament at St. Paul's Fairmont
  - Friday, February 13th and Saturday, February 14th: A tournament at Immanuel Courtland

*From the Principal:*

## *I Can Do Hard Things*

Repeat after me: "I can do hard things." This was the culmination of a conversation between a student and myself recently. The student was struggling with handwriting and between frustration and tears the student and teacher decided a little time with Mr. J might help. We talked about it. The student calmed down and we repeated, "I can do hard things" a few times before the student returned to class.

Have you ever needed that pep talk? I know I have. Maybe you're struggling to keep a New Year's resolution, limit screen time or to clean out the junk drawer. Maybe you're struggling through something much more serious: pain, loss, a broken promise or a broken relationship. In God's Word, He assures us, we can do hard things. A frequently quoted verse would be Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (A challenge: look at 4:11 and 12 to get the context of 4:13). How about 2 Cor. 12:9?

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Or, Isaiah 41:10? "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." The common thread? We can do hard things "through Him who strengthens us."

Whatever hard thing you are dealing with, don't sit down in the valley, grab God's hand and He'll lead you through it.



*Immanuel Lutheran School  
"Let's Make a Joyful Noise"*

*~ Psalm 98:4*

*Principal:  
Dean Jennissen*

*Teachers:*  
*Stacy Soderholm: Preschool/PreK*  
*Stacie Soleta: Kindergarten*  
*Cassie Ulbricht: 1st-2nd grade*  
*LaDonna Peterson: 3rd-4th grade*  
*Gretchen Benda: 5th-6th grade*  
*Sarah Mattila: 7th-8th grade*  
*Raeleen Grein: Computer, AR*  
*Phil Schult: Band through MLHS*

*Support Staff:*  
*Sheila Freking: Teacher Aide*  
*Deb Jons: Teacher Aide*  
*Crystal Rossow: Teacher Aide*  
*Pat Pohlman: Hot Lunch*  
*Amy Altman: Secretary*  
*Rev. Eric Obermann: Pastor*

*Dean Jennissen, Principal  
(aka Mr. J)*



**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.*

**CHILDREN'S WINTER CARNIVAL** at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop is on Sunday, February 1st from 1:00-3:00. There will be Bouncy Houses and games for children led by MLHS students while parents relax in the lounge! Cost is \$5 per child or \$15 per family. The school is located at 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.

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

- "Libraries Spark Your Imagination" Winter Reading Program for adults and teens (grades 8-12) goes through March 31st. Registration is open. Register online or at your library.
- Enjoy a sweet treat from the library every time you check a book out in the month of February which is I Love to Read month.
- Great Puzzle Race is on Saturday, February 21st from 10:30-12:30. Register a team of 2-4 people to see which team can finish their puzzle first to win a prize! Call 507-662-5782 to register.
- Library is closed on February 16th.
- Story Time for kids is on Thursdays at 10:00
- Bedtime Story Hour is Thursday, February 19th at 6:00
- Elementary After School Program for K-4th grade is All About Bats on Thursday, February 12th at 3:45. Registration required by calling 507-662-5782.
- Tween & Teen Scene for 5th-12th grade is "Hack that Painting" on Tuesday, February 24th 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. Call the Jackson Library for more info 507-847-4748.
- Adult Program is "Local Author Talk with Erin Makela" on Wednesday, February 25th at 4:00 p.m.
- Adult Monthly Movie Matinee is on Friday, February 20th at 2:15 p.m.
- Book Club meets on Wednesday, February 4th at 3:00 to discuss "D-Day Girls" by Sarah Rose.

#### ADULT PROGRAMS AT OUR JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARIES

- Heron Lake on Wednesday, February 11th at 5:30 p.m.: Amo Creamery: Local Food for Local People with Ethan Johnson
- Jackson on Wednesday, February 25th at 12:00 noon: Bison: Past, Present, & Future with Blue Mounds State Park Naturalist Tiffany Muellner
- Lakefield on Wednesday, February 25th at 4:00 p.m.: Local Author Talk with Erin Makela

**SOUP AND PIE MEAL** is at Trinity Lutheran Church in Brewster on Sunday, February 15th, from 4:00-7:00. Chicken Noodle, Corn Chowder, and Chili will be served. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 children age 5-12. Trinity is located at 1025 4th Avenue, Brewster.

**GIVING STATEMENTS** for 2025 are ready. Please write your name on the sign-up sheet on the window in the narthex if you would like one or give Amy in the church office a call at 507-662-5718. Statements can then be picked up from the welcome center in the narthex or mailed out.

## **LWML Happenings**

### **Lutheran Women In Mission**

Serving on Altar Guild for the month of February are Jean Bass, Sherrl Handzus, and Carolyn Hansen. We thank them for taking care of the altar duties.

Enjoy some opportunities to let someone else do the cooking in February:

- Immanuel LWML will be making sub sandwiches for Superbowl Sunday, February 8th. Further ordering information is provided in a separate article in this newsletter.
- The monthly Dinner Date meal at the Lakefield American Legion hall on February 10th will be sponsored by the Immanuel LWML.
- The members of LWML will host the weekly Lenten Supper on February 25th.

The next LWML monthly meeting will be Wednesday, February 11th in the church basement. A light supper will be served by Rhonda Swanson and Donna Thaemlitz at 5:15, followed by our meeting.

All women of the congregation are always welcome to attend the Immanuel LWML meetings and activities.

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



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 ~ Jessica Pauling
- 2 ~ Jeanine Ackermann  
Angela Oelke
- 3 ~ Caitlin Rossow
- 4 ~ Alissa Croatt
- 6 ~ David Bauer
- 7 ~ Tamara Otterstatter
- 8 ~ Joyce Meyer  
Roger Pohlman
- 9 ~ Landon Burmeister  
Kaelyn Swanson-Voight
- 10 ~ Christopher Johnson
- 11 ~ Dorene Poppe
- 12 ~ Justin Rossow
- 13 ~ Bentley Lappe
- 14 ~ Monique Rodriquez
- 15 ~ Gregory Carlson  
Linda Davis
- 16 ~ Joyce Aden  
Oakley Haar  
Hristina Hage
- 17 ~ Amy Rossow
- 18 ~ Olivia Bretzman
- 19 ~ Michael Hendrickson
- 20 ~ Katie Burmiester
- 21 ~ Noah Sydnese
- 23 ~ Nicholas Hage  
Albert Henning  
Jennifer Stenzel
- 24 ~ Andrew T. Rossow
- 25 ~ Donna Hage  
Jayson Matasovsky
- 27 ~ Thomas Daberkow  
Sarah Matasovsky  
Derek Schulz
- 28 ~ Monette Berkevich  
Lilah Hubbard  
Elaine Pohlman

### DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

Thank you for your continued faithfulness to God with your gifts to ILS and particularly to our Tuition Assistance Program Fund. With January gifts, ILS families have received a total of \$19,503 in assistance to support our children as we live out God's call to "feed His Lambs" (John 21:15). We are now working to gather funds for the fall of 2026. Please continue to pray and join us in this endeavor as you are able.

- Mr. J

**CHILI AND SOUP FUNDRAISER DINNER** is at the American Legion in Jackson on Sunday, February 22nd, from 10:30-12:30. On the menu: homemade chili or chicken noodle soup, roll, and dessert, along with a beverage and coffee. Price is a free-will donation (contribute as you can). Proceeds will benefit Jackson Food Shelf, Jackson Ministerial Association, and Lutheran Hour Ministries. More about the benefited organizations:

The Jackson Food Shelf operates a food pantry serving families and individuals in need in the Jackson community. They are a bridge for families between paychecks, jobs, or other unforeseen circumstances.

The Jackson Ministerial is composed of pastors of the Jackson County region. Part of their mission is to help those who find themselves in emergency need of gas, food, or lodging. The Ministerial is only able to help because of the generous support of the people of Jackson County.

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a mission organization sharing Christ's love in more than 60 countries, including the Jackson County region. Their work provides devotions and studies at LHM.org, podcasts, and a weekly radio broadcast Sundays on KDOM 1580AM at 10:00 a.m. and on KICD 1240AM at 9:00 a.m..

Dinner is sponsored by Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Jackson. The American Legion is located at 411 1st Street in Jackson.

**BASIC LERT TRAINING** is at Grace Lutheran Church in Rochester on Saturday, February 21st from 9:00-12:00. The goal of this training is to prepare congregations and individuals to respond effectively in the event of a disaster and to understand how to serve as LERT volunteers. The LERT organizational and safety procedures will be presented, as well as ways congregations can deploy volunteers to local and more distant disaster sites. Anyone interested is welcome to attend the training session. However, only LCMS members who are 14 years or older will receive a certificate of participation, volunteer ID card, and t-shirt after the training is complete. Your LERT trainers will distribute all the LERT materials during and after the class.

The three main sections of the training are: 1) An introduction to the LCMS Disaster Response program, 2) Congregational Preparedness and 3) Lutheran Early Response Teams.

Pre-registration is required and online at

[https://www.lcms-lert.org/need/detail/?need\\_id=1193694](https://www.lcms-lert.org/need/detail/?need_id=1193694)

Cost is \$20 per person (includes all materials and refreshments) which can be paid that day. Any questions call 507-369-8705 or email [fysheroofmen@gmail.com](mailto:fysheroofmen@gmail.com). The church is located at 800 East Silver Lake Drive in Rochester.



## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

2/25/21 Marcus and Lisa Post





**STAY ACTIVE & INDEPENDENT FOR LIFE (SAIL)** is a FREE exercise program.

**Where:** At our Senior Center - SAIL meets every Monday and Friday at 1:00 p.m. at Senior Dining (Lakefield Multi-Purpose Center at 112 South Main St. in Lakefield). Carol Wilson, Kris Heutinck and Cynthia Rost are the instructors. Come check it out!!

**What:** SAIL is an evidence-based program for anyone 55+ years of age designed to prevent falls and includes exercise classes, educational materials and self-assessments. The classes are designed specifically for older adults and focus on strength, balance, flexibility and aerobics. All exercises and aerobics can be done sitting or standing and are very adaptive. Classes consist of a warm up, aerobics, balance, strength, stretching, and an educational component. Performing exercises that improve strength, balance and fitness are the single most important activity that adults can do to stay active and reduce their chance of falling.

**How Long:** Ongoing

**How Often:** 2x per week for 1 hour each time

**Cost:** Free of charge

**SAIL** classes are sponsored by Catholic Charities of Southern MN's Active Aging Programs. Contact Mary at 507-458-9687 or [mcassem@ccsommn.org](mailto:mcassem@ccsommn.org) for more information.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT FOR JANUARY**

|                                              |                 |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Current Fund needed for January.....</i>  | <i>\$41,914</i> |
| <b>Current Fund received in January.....</b> | <b>\$25,439</b> |
| <i>Current Fund needed each week .....</i>   | <i>\$10,112</i> |

**REDCROSS BLOODMOBILE** will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Tuesday, February 3rd from 1:00-6:00 p.m. For appointments call 800-733-2767 or schedule online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

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.

**MAC 'N CHEESE COOK-OFF** will be held at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop during the girls Jags basketball game vs. Fairmont on Friday, February 6th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Cost is \$7 per person and allows for sampling of all Mac 'n Cheese varieties and one vote for the favorite. Want to enter a Mac 'n Cheese recipe for the cook-off? Go to [martinlutherhs.com/Special Events](http://martinlutherhs.com/Special%20Events) or call the school at 507-436-5249. The school is located at 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP:** We are looking for members to help with ushering. Please check out the sign-up sheet on the window in the narthex and write yourself in for a service if you are able to. Questions on ushering? Please ask one of our elders.

**EARLY ENROLLMENT AT MARTIN LUTHER JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL** opened on January 25th for new and returning students. Early Bird enrollment discount of \$100 is effective until March 1st. For more information, go to [martinlutherhs.com](http://martinlutherhs.com).

**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.

**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!

**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).

**MAN UP! MEN'S RETREAT** is at Camp Omega Friday, March 6th and Saturday, March 7th. Adult men and their sons or grandsons (age 16 and older) are invited to be challenged, encouraged, and refreshed during a 24 hour retreat where faith will be strengthened and spirits renewed by God's Word. Theme is "Biblical Friendship, Gracious Fatherhood and True Masculinity- would God like to grow you in those elements of your Christian walk?". Speaker is Dr. Scott Keith, a noted speaker and author who loves talking to men about God's design for them and family. Cost is \$131.50 to stay in the Omega Lodge (hotel style room that is double occupancy/shared lodging), \$96 to stay Bunkhouse style shared lodging, or \$72 for Saturday only (no overnight lodging). The registration cost includes the book, "Being Dad" by Dr. Scott Keith, 3 meals and lodging in either Omega Lodge (hotel style rooms shared with one other man) or the cabins (bunkhouse style lodging). The Lodge provides linens and those staying in the cabins should bring their own. Please bring items for recreation (skiing, snow shoeing, shooting, board games/cards, and snacks) so you can fully enjoy the fellowship of other Christian men. Call the camp office at 507-685-4266 for more info. Register online at [campomega.org/retreats-rentals/programevents](http://campomega.org/retreats-rentals/programevents) or at this link: <https://www.ultracamp.com/info/upcomingsessions.aspx?idCamp=1134&campcode=ZOM&lang=en-US> Camp Omega is an LCMS camp located at 22750 Lind Avenue in Waterville.

**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.*

## **1/11/2026 VOTERS' MEETING MINUTES**

Called to order at 10:29 a.m. by Kurt Swanson.

Opening prayer by Pastor Obermann.

**MSC** to approve Voters' Meeting Minutes from October and December.

**MSC** to approve Official Acts for 2025.

### **BOARD OF ELDERS:**

POI: Contacting members

POI: Working on setting the calendar for the year

POI: Security door mostly complete

### **BOARD OF FINANCE:**

POI: Financial report in agenda.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

POI: Accreditation process ongoing

POI: National Lutheran Schools week coming up with various activities

### **BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES:**

### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

POI: Working thru vision report

POI: Boards stay in contact with Pastor and Amy with meeting days and times

POI: Pastor Sage retiring May 15

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**MSC** to designate First National Bank to be our depository.

**MSC** to have \$30,000 line of credit at First National Bank of Lakefield.

**MSC** to renew trustee discretionary limit at \$7,500.

**MSC** to approve Albert Henning and Austin Rossow as signers for Trustees.

**MSC** to approve housing allowances for school staff: Pastor Obermann, LaDonna Peterson, Gretchen Benda, Stacie Soleta, and Sarah Mattila.

**MSC:** recommend nominations for Synod Officers brought forward by Pastor

**MSC:** recommend Ken Pohlman finish Steve Matasovsky's term as Elder which ends in December 2027.

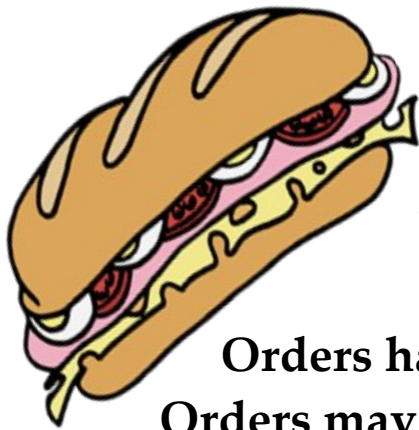
**MSC** to adjourn at 10:57 a.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

50 members present.

Submitted by: Kerry Sydnes, Congregational Secretary





**Immanuel LWML**  
**Sub Sandwich Fundraiser**  
**\$10 for a Sub and a Bar**

Orders have to be turned in by February 1st  
Orders may be picked up in the church basement  
after worship on Sunday, February 8th for

**SUPERBOWL SUNDAY**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Sub #1—Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Bread: White \_\_\_\_\_ Wheat \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten-Free \_\_\_\_\_

Meat: Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_\_\_ Both \_\_\_\_\_

Cheese: American \_\_\_\_\_ Cheddar \_\_\_\_\_ Pepperjack \_\_\_\_\_

Greens: Lettuce \_\_\_\_\_ Spinach \_\_\_\_\_

Other: Black Olives \_\_\_\_\_ Onions \_\_\_\_\_

Sub #2—Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Bread: White \_\_\_\_\_ Wheat \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten-Free \_\_\_\_\_

Meat: Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_\_\_ Both \_\_\_\_\_

Cheese: American \_\_\_\_\_ Cheddar \_\_\_\_\_ Pepperjack \_\_\_\_\_

Greens: Lettuce \_\_\_\_\_ Spinach \_\_\_\_\_

Other: Black Olives \_\_\_\_\_ Onions \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Immanuel LWML

Place your completed order form in the blue  
Rubbermaid container on the welcome center in the  
narthex or give it to Amy in the office.

Questions, call Amy at 507-329-7464.

All proceeds going to Teacher Salary Fund.



# February 2026

We love because HE first loved us. ~ 1 John 4:19

|                                                                                                                                             | Tue                                                           | Wed                                                                                                                                                                        | Thu                                                                                        | Fri                                                                                 | Sat                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Orders due for Superbowl Subs<br>9:00 Worship with Communion<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study | 2<br>4:00 A & B BB<br>at home vs.<br>Worthington<br>Christian | 4<br>8:20 Chapel<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                                                                                                    | 5                                                                                          | 6<br>B BB tournament<br>at St. Paul's<br>Fairmont<br>7:00 Proclaim<br>Choir Concert | 7<br>B BB<br>tournament<br>at St.<br>Paul's<br>Fairmont |
| 8 Pick up your Superbowl Subs<br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study                  | 9                                                             | 11<br>8:20 Chapel<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>2:15 Wild Compass<br>Environmental Ed—<br>grades 3-6<br>5:15 LWML<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                              | 12                                                                                         | 13<br>NO SCHOOL<br>A BB tournament<br>at Courtland                                  | 14<br>A BB<br>tournament<br>at<br>Courtland             |
| 15<br>9:00 Worship with Communion<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study                              | 16<br>NO SCHOOL                                               | 18 Ash Wednesday<br>8:30 Ash Wednesday Chapel<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>5:00 Bd Cong., Services Mtg<br>5:30-6:30 Lent Supper<br>7:00 Ash Wednesday<br>Worship with Communion | 19<br>5:30 Bd Trustees Mtg                                                                 | 20                                                                                  | 21                                                      |
| 22 Lent I<br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study                                      | 23                                                            | 24<br>4:30 Bd Ed Mtg<br>5:30 Bd Elders Mtg<br>6:00 Bd Finance Mtg<br>7:00 Joint Boards                                                                                     | 25<br>8:30 Lent Worship<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>5:30-6:30 Lent Supper<br>7:00 Lent Worship |  |                                                         |

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 —*

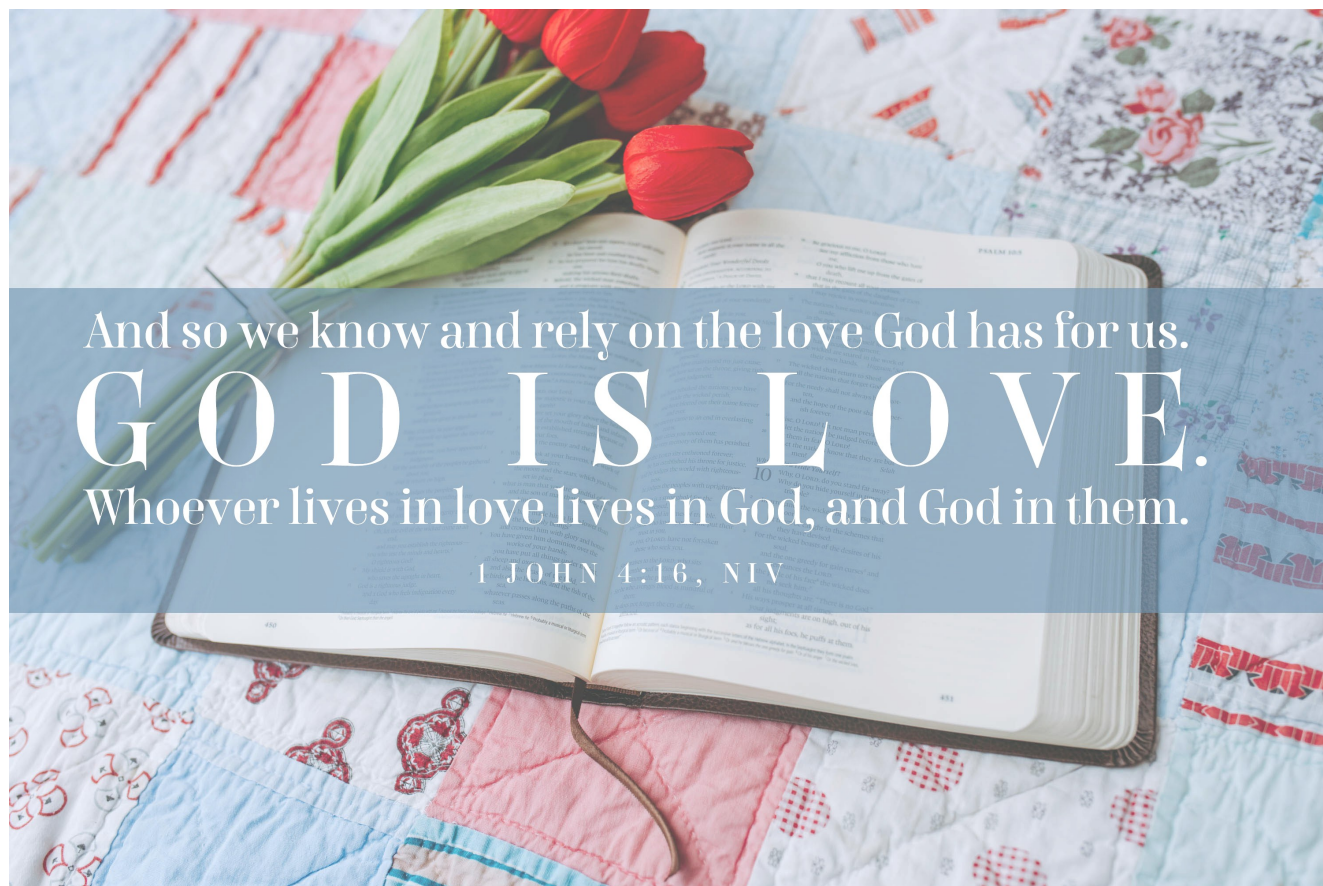
Sunday Morning Services  
9:00 AM

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

Communion Celebrated  
1st and 3rd Sunday

Jesus Loves You!

*FEBRUARY Monthly*



And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

**G O D I S L O V E .**

Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

1 JOHN 4:16, NIV