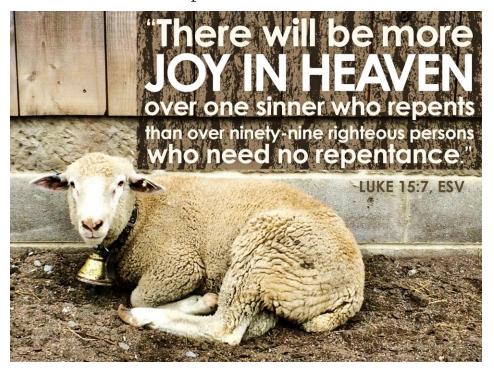
14th Sunday after Pentecost

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lakefield, Minnesota ~ LCMS September 14, 2025



The Joy of the Angels

As We Gather

The charge against Jesus was always the same—He keeps the wrong company. But Jesus has come for sinners, and if you are not a sinner, He does not have anything for you. To emphasize why He has come, our Lord tells the stories of ninety-nine sheep left behind to find one who is lost and a woman who rejoices over finding one lost coin. You are that lost sheep and lost coin for whom Christ has come and in whom heaven rejoices. Jesus has come for you and for you He has offered Himself upon the cross and been laid in the tomb. This is the heavenly joy of the angels above, and it is our earthly joy as well. Christ came for us!

PREPARATION

Hymn: 802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



Tune: Welsh

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- **P** O Lord, my God, I cry to You for help.
- C Heal and restore me, O Lord.
- **P** Most holy and merciful Father,
- C like sheep, O Lord, we have strayed and wandered from You. We have sinned against You and one another. We have done the evil You

forbid, and we have not done the good You desire. There is no health in us. O merciful and divine Shepherd, cover our sins with Your forgiveness, clothe us with Your perfect righteousness, and preserve us in this faith and fear, that we may be kept to the day when Your Son comes to judge all people. Have mercy, O Lord, and fulfill Your Word to us in Christ, our Savior. Amen.

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. His peace be with you.
- C And also with you.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 30:2–5; antiphon: vv. 11a, 12b

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

- O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
- O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes

with the morning.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



Salutation

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-24

"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will

bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

"As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

"Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Timothy 1:5–17

The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid

down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Verse Luke 15:10

- Alleluia. I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God
- **C** over one sinner who repents. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message



O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958

Text and tune: c 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB

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Sermon Memoir

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life

→ everlasting. Amen.

Offering



Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for ourselves and for all people as they have need.

O merciful Shepherd, You came into the world to save sinners. Grant to us forgiveness of our sins, renewal of our lost lives, and the grace to serve You in willing obedience all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O merciful Shepherd, grant us grace that we know Your Word as the sound of Your voice. Grant to us faithful pastors who will rightly divide Your Word of truth and bless all church workers and those in training to serve us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O merciful Shepherd, guard against all false doctrine and against those who teach in conflict with Your Word that the sheep of Your flock be preserved in faith to know and believe rightly by the power of Your Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O merciful Shepherd, give us good and faithful leaders who will govern us according to Your will and lead us and all nations in the ways of peace, justice, and virtue, that we live good, holy, and upright lives without fear or threat. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O merciful Shepherd, You do not abandon Your sheep even when they are wounded and infirm. Deliver the weak, the suffering, the troubled in mind, and those with hearts weighed low with grief, [especially...]. We pray that they be healed and comforted according to Your will and delivered from all that afflicts them on the day when You raise Your people to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P O merciful Shepherd, You daily and richly supply all things good and beneficial to us and guard us against the evil one. Give us a discerning mind and a generous heart that as You have done for us, we do for others in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O merciful Shepherd, You set Your Table before us in the presence of our enemies. Grant to all who commune this day repentance and faith that they receive this holy food for their good and keep us united as one in doctrine and life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O merciful Shepherd, hear us and grant us all things beneficial to us and profitable for our salvation, but keep from us all things harmful. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer. Silence for meditation.
- P Into Your hands, O merciful Shepherd, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answers us, O Lord.
- C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benedicamus

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and

 → give you
- C Amen.

peace.



Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-90, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg

Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

Assisting with the Service

Preacher Rev. Eric Obermann

Elder Jim Berkevich

Organist LaDonna Peterson

Acolyte Mathias Liepold & Simeon Peterson

Usher Brandon & Caleb Laabs

We Remember in our Prayers

Alan & Sue Salzwedel and Wade & Deb Salzwedel along with their families on the death of Wade and Alan's mom, June Salzwedel

Megan John and Brent Zemler on their upcoming wedding 10/4

Jan Bakalyar recovering from knee surgery

Easton and Daisy Gettler

Clyde Daberkow in Hospice

Our residents at Colonial Manor, Valley View, Golden Horizons in Worthington, Accura HealthCare in Milford, Koronis in Paynesville, Good Sam in Estherville

Merlyn Rossow, Rose Parrington, Keith Kolander, dealing with health issues

Doris Rossow; Diane Hansen, wife of Pastor David
McDonald (Trinity Brewster); Miles Ramsey, toddler
cousin of Amy Altman; Pastor Dennis Brech; Joyce
Urmie, sister-in-law of Vickie Baumann; Pastor Ben
Rucker; Mitch Voehl, son of Lila Voehl; Marcus Lere,
grandson of Joyce Bretzman; Denny Daberkow; dealing
with cancer

Butch Bakalyar, nephew of Bruce and Jan Bakalyar; Curt Gates, brother-in-law of Miles Voehl (Lila's son), dealing with health issues

Our Missionaries in the Field Our Country and Our Military **IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE** you may call the church office at 507-662-5718, Pastor Obermann at 563-321-0032, or speak to one of the elders.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS are with Wade & Deb Salzwedel and Alan & Sue Salzwedel along with their families on the death of Alan and Wade's mom, June Salzwedel. June passed away on September 11th. We pray that God would comfort the family at this difficult time.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY, AND ADULT BIBLE CLASS all start today, Sunday, September 14th, and are held from 10:15-11:15. All are welcome!

- Sunday School (3-year-old through 5th grade) is in the school classrooms.
- Youth Group Bible Study for 6th-12th grade is in the mother's room (in the church basement).
- Adult Bible Class is in the church basement.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS are with Megan John and Brent Zemler as they will be united in marriage on October 4th. We pray that God would be a cornerstone of their marriage.

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE is at Bethlehem Lutheran Church here in Lakefield on Tuesday, September 23rd from 1:00-6:00. Call 800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment or online at www.redcrossblood.org with code: LAKEFIELDMN.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

- School Picture Day is Tuesday 9/16
- Volleyball for 5th-6th and 7th-8th is Tuesday 9/23 at 4:30 at St. Paul's Truman.
- Join us for chapel on Wednesday mornings at 8:20.

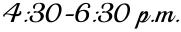
SPAGHETTI/CHICKEN ALFREDO MEAL AND BAKE SALE is at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lakefield on Sunday, September 21st from 11:30-1:00. Menu includes: spaghetti and meatballs, chicken alfredo, California blend veggies, garlic bread, ice cream, and beverage. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 children aged 6-12, and free children age 5 and under. Take out available by contacting Kathy Condon at 507-841-2467. The church is located at 410 Broadway Ave., Lakefield.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER at Trinity Lutheran Church in Brewster is on Sunday, September 21st from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Spaghetti, meatballs, corn, cheesy bread, and a dessert are on the menu. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children ages 5-12. To go meals are available. Frozen Pies will also be for sale. The church is located at 1025 4th Avenue in Brewster.

Immanuel Pulled Pork Dinner

Drive-thru with Curbside Delivery

Wednesday, October 1



On the menu:

Smoked Pulled Pork Sandwich

German Potato Salad

Mandarin Orange Fluff

Bag of Chips

Bar

(Gluten free available by request)

Freewill Donation Accepted

Orders will be delivered to your vehicle. Please park on the south side of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School (604 Bush St. Lakefield)

Sponsored by the Immanuel ZVVML

PIE SOCIAL at Trinity Lutheran Church in Alpha is Wednesday, September 17th, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Menu includes pork sandwiches, homemade potato salad, chips, pie, and ice cream. Freewill offering. Drive through available. Proceeds go to local charities. Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 225 Main St., Alpha.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER: If anyone did not get their September newsletter or only got the outside sheet, let Amy know (507-662-5718). Something happened with the mail and we received 6 newsletters back in the mail without the outside sheet. We don't know whose they are without that sheet.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL HOT LUNCH is accepting food donations of any extra fruits and vegetables. Also any meat donations (frozen) will be accepted. If any one feels they can help with a money donation to the program that would be great also! Questions? Contact Pat Pohlman in the kitchen.

BRAD STINE "LAUGH WHILE IT'S LEGAL" TOUR: Clean Comedy with "God's Comic", Brad Stine, is at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop on Saturday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m. E-ticket advance sale only. Here's the link: https://www.martinlutherhs.com/brad-stine-comedy-show.html General admission tickets are \$30. VIP tickets which include a meet & greet with Brad and reserved front row seats are \$60. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Comedy Show is sponsored by Nick Cress, Gemini Studios, and MLHS. Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School is located at 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.

Come at 5:30 for the show and enjoy Supper in the Parking Lot! Pork Chops on a Stick are \$5, Mac 'n Cheese Bowl is \$5. O Scoops Ice Cream and Coke Products will also be available.

PASTOR'S DAY OFF during the week is Friday.



LWML SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 "GO" LUKE 24:44-53

LWML Sunday here at Immanuel is October 12th. This year's theme begins a four-year cycle focusing on the LWML Mission
Statement — As Lutheran
Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. For Lutheran
Women in Mission Sunday
2025 we focus on Proclaiming

Christ. Everything we do as Lutheran Women in Mission begins with Christ's message of repentance and forgiveness. The Ascension text of "GO" (Luke 24:44–53) is the mission emphasis for Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday 2025. On Ascension Day, Jesus gave his followers an assignment "that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations." We, as the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, have a responsibility to proclaim the message of Christ, to be that body which proclaims repentance and forgiveness, showing forth the merciful Christ in what we do and say. As Lutheran Women in Mission we continue to support, encourage and uplift missionaries, and also provide physical support and compassion to all people. It is the proclamation of repentance and forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name that motivates us to do this work. All Glory be to Jesus!

Did you know that purple is the LWML color? We are asking everyone in the congregation to please wear purple to church on LWML Sunday, October 12th.



LWML Fall Get-Together ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

1505 DOVER STREET WORTHINGTON

(use North entrance – elevator available)
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
9:30 a.m. with a 9:00 registration
Cost is \$5

Want to carpool? We are leaving at 8:30. Please park in the alley next to Immanuel.

Theme: Hope

Speaker: Wade Wacker, founder of "Reasons for Hope"

Gifts from the Heart items are being collected for both Reasons for Hope and Southwest Crisis Center: toothpaste, toothbrush, wet wipes, toilet paper, Kleenex, shampoo (full size), conditioner (full size), body lotion, bath soap, feminine products, diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6), baby wipes, hair accessories (binders, clips, brushes, combs), nail care (files, polish, clippers), cleaning supplies (paper towels, toilet paper, Clorox wipes, rags, cleaning spray)

There is a collection box in the narthex.

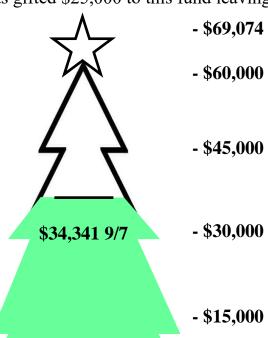
"But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect." ~ 1 Peter 3:15

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.



- \$0

"I WILL BE GLAD AND EXULT IN YOU; I WILL SING PRAISE TO YOUR NAME, O MOST HIGH." PS 9:2. Choir begins September 24th at 7:10 p.m. in the balcony. If you like to sing, please join our group. All are welcome to share in the fellowship and fun we having praising our Lord. No requirements other than a love for singing. Everything else will be taught. We hope to see you there.

FILLING THE BALLOT for Officers of Immanuel Lutheran Church...the Nominating Committee of our Voting Assembly is in the process of nominating officers for Immanuel Lutheran Church. We encourage each and every one of you, if contacted to serve, to prayerfully consider serving your Lord in this capacity. Any questions about boards and duties can be directed to Pastor, the elders, or Amy in the church office. Remember that women can also serve on the Board of Education, Board of Trustees, Board of Finance, Board of Congregational Services, or as Congregational Secretary.

HELP NEEDED at the Pulled Pork Dinner on Wednesday, October 1st. This dinner is sponsored by our LWML. Can you help them out? Please check out the sign-up sheets on the window in the narthex. Thank you so much! The LWML uses its proceeds to help out with many projects at the church and parsonage along with supporting missions. Previous projects include flooring in the parsonage, new church organ, new parsonage stove, new dishwasher for church kitchen, new church kitchen flooring, refinish church basement flooring...

NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER for the months of October through December are now available on the welcome center in the narthex in both regular and large print. Please help yourself to a copy for your devotional use.

WE WELCOME all of our guests and visitors today. We invite you to visit us again. If you have no church home and would like to make Immanuel your church home, please speak to Pastor Obermann or one of the Elders at the end of the service.

Acknowledgments

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Wondering where you can watch this service?

- 1. Facebook: "Immanuel Lutheran Church" on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. or any time after.
- 2. YouTube: "Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Lakefield" on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. or any time after.

POINTS OF INFORMATION September 7, 2025	
Current Fund received this past week	\$8,533
Needed each week	\$10,112
Non-Budget Giving	
Teacher Salary Fund	\$200
Current Fund received in August	
Needed in August	\$50,560
If you have any questions, please call Jesse Ackermann	
Worshipping on Sunday, September 7: 166	

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL...

Sunday, September 14

9:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Bible Class

10:15 AM Youth Group Bible Study

Tuesday, September 16

School Picture Day

Wednesday, September 17

8:20 AM Chapel

2:10 PM Confirmation

Thursday, September 18

5:30 PM Board of Trustees Meeting

Sunday, September 21

9:00 AM Worship with Communion

10:15 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Bible Class

10:15 AM Youth Group Bible Study

Tuesday, September 23

4:30 PM VB at St. Paul's Truman (5/6 & 7/8)

Wednesday, September 24

8:20 AM Chapel

2:10 PM Confirmation

5:30 PM Board of Ed Meeting

5:30 PM Board of Elders Meeting

6:10 PM Immanuel Ringers

7:00 PM Joint Boards and Church Council

7:10 *PM Choir*

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School 604 Bush Street, PO Box 750, Lakefield, MN 56150 507-662-5718

> www.immanuellakefield.com immanuel@immanuellakefield.com