



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: April 4, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” This ancient greeting sounds among us again today, for this Sunday the Church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Christ has defeated sin, death, and the devil and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. On this Easter Day, we welcome you to come and be a part of God’s people who gather to remember and to rejoice in what Christ has done.

The information we've included in this newsletter is designed to help our Emmanuel family stay connected and involved. You can view our monthly calendar [here](#). Thanks for your interest and for all you do to strengthen the ministry we share.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Eggold and Pastor Sheaffer



Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Join Us for Emmanuel’s Easter Egg Hunt **TODAY, Saturday, April 4**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., in Emmanuel’s gym. Kids of all ages are invited to search for eggs, enjoy treats & crafts, and experience the Easter story. Bring your basket and a friend. No registration required. If you have any questions, contact Liz Bejot, Director of Children's Ministry, LBejot@emmanuelutheran.org.

WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES, WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

NEW! Easter Sunday

Saturday, April 4

- No 5:00 p.m. service

Sunday, April 5

- 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. Services
- Holy Communion will be celebrated at all services.
- Chancel Choir, Orchestra, and Handbells
- No Sunday School or Bible Classes

****Parking for Easter**** Due to such strong attendance on Easter Sunday, parking will be available for our Easter worship services at Washington Elementary school in the parking lot on Rockhill and Jefferson. Please



consider using this parking option so that those with health concerns may park closer to the building. We thank Washington Elementary School for graciously opening their campus to us for our Easter celebration.

Wednesday, April 8

- 11:30 a.m. (Holy communion)

Easter Flower Pick-Up

If you ordered flowers for our Easter services and are unable to pick them up on Easter Sunday, you can do so the following **Tuesday, April 7**, as the **church office will be closed on Monday, April 6**.

NEW! Sunday and Weekday Christian Education

All Sunday School and Bible Classes **will resume next Sunday April 12**. Sunday School (Birth-Grade 5), Confirmation (Grades 6-8), High School, and Adult Bible classes are offered each Sunday, 9:15-10:15 a.m. Click [here](#) for a list of all our Sunday and weekday Christian Education opportunities.

In addition to our Genesis class, we will add an additional adult Bible class:

- ***Abiding in the Vine***

The class is designed to be a connection to The Story Continues visioning process. We will explore the Christian life as one rooted wholly in Christ and sustained by His grace. Participants will consider how discipleship begins not with our effort, but with our Lord's saving work, and how repentance, formation, and sanctification flow from His mercy rather than from human striving. Grounded in Scripture, this study offers clear teaching, thoughtful discussion, and scriptural encouragement for those who desire to grow in faith while remaining anchored in the promises of Christ.

Leader: Stephen Bornheimer

Location: The first class on **Sunday, April 12**, will meet in Brandt Hall. The remaining sessions will meet in the lower level of Ebenezer.

NEW! Pastor's Bible Study Online



Each week, Pastors Eggold and Sheaffer lead a video Bible Study based on the Readings for the coming Sunday. Click [here](#) to view this week's study, as well as over 300 more video Bible Studies led by our pastors.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! The Story Continues

Our congregational planning process continues to move forward. In the coming weeks, our Vision Team and staff will begin holding listening sessions for groups within our congregation. During May, we will also ask our members to complete a survey to help identify strengths and areas for growth in our ministry. Please keep this process in your prayers and look for ways you can contribute as The Story Continues. Learn more about The Story Continues [here](#).



NEW! Save the Dates For Photos

It's time for a new Pictorial Directory! Dates for picture taking will be **July 21-25** and **July 28-August 1**. More information about the directory and how to register to have your picture taken will be forthcoming.

GET INVOLVED

Lunch Bunch at Sweetwater



Our members around 60 or over are invited to join us for a field trip to [Sweetwater](#), 5501 Highway 30 W, for our next Emmanuel Lunch Bunch activity on **Tuesday, April 21**. We will meet by 9:45 a.m. in the Sweetwater front lobby. We will enjoy a tour and a drum circle from 10:00-11:00 a.m. We will eat lunch together following the tour. The lunch includes your choice of sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie, and drink. **The cost of our boxed lunch is \$15.00 and needs to be preordered** by completing the Sweetwater Boxed Lunch Order Form available at the Connections Counter or Church Office and **turned into the Church Office along with your payment by Monday, April 6**. **Unfortunately, late orders cannot be accepted.** The tour is handicap accessible. For those not using a wheelchair, there is some walking involved. We are hopeful that this opportunity to tour Sweetwater will be well received by our Lunch Bunch friends.

Clay & Iron

Clay & Iron is for all our men, so please reach out to Billy Hofman at 260.440.4945 to get connected. ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) is specifically for retirement-aged gentlemen. The hiking is for the whole congregation plus any other family and friends you'd like to bring along; we'd love to see you there (weather permitting)!



- **Monday Morning Devotional**
Will resume weekly at 6:30 a.m. on **Easter Monday, April 6**.
- **Monthly Gathering**
"What Is My Job Again?"
Leader: Bill Brace
Thursday, April 9
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Location: The Loft
- **ROMEO**
Friday, April 10
11:30 a.m.
Location: Chapman's Electric Works Taproom & Brewery
- **NEW: Monthly Devotional Lunch Hour (DLH)**
Leader: Robert Bennett
Thursday, April 16
Noon
Location: To be determined
- **Family & Friends Hiking at [Lindenwood Nature Preserve](#)**
Saturday, April 25
1:00-3:00 p.m.

Join Us for Spring Trivia

GAME ON is a group designed for those who like to play tables games. A different game is played each month. Sometimes we play as individuals, or with partners, or as a team. The game for April is "Spring Trivia" and will be held in Ebenezer on **Tuesday, April 7**, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Please join us and bring a friend. We love to meet new people. You can register by signing up at the Connections Counter in Ebenezer. If you forget to register, please come anyway. Join us for fellowship, fun, and food.

All Our Alleluias



The next Visual Faith Workshop is on **Tuesday, April 7**, 6:00-8:00 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall, and we will bring back the Alleluias! “Alleluia” is not said during Lent as a small fast of praise—so that our Easter “Alleluia!” returns with fresh joy and full-throated celebration. We will be making a small praise book centered on “Alleluia!” All supplies provided. Grab a friend and sign up at the Connections Counter or click [here](#).

Lutherans for Life

Lutherans for Life will meet **Friday, April 10**, 9:30 a.m., in Brandt Hall. Our speaker will be Janet Smith on *The Power of Movement: A Secret Weapon for Aging Adults*.

Help Prepare the Lord’s Table

Altar Guild is a vital ministry that supports our weekend services that offer Holy Communion. Volunteers serve for one month throughout the year alongside other members for approximately 1-2 hours weekly. This opportunity is open to women, men, and couples. No experience is needed as training will be provided. We need members who attend either the 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. services. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve, and if you would like to become part of this ministry, or would like more information, connect with Becki at the church office at 260.423.1369 or becki@emmanuellutheran.org.



EMMANUEL—ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL (ESM) CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL (CLHS)

Now Enrolling for 2026-27 School Year

Emmanuel—St. Michael Lutheran School, in partnership with our congregations and families, is raising up the next generation of students who know the love of Christ and are prepared to serve Him in their families and communities. Now accepting applications for Preschool-8th grade. Schedule a visit today! Contact Erin Clark, Director of Admissions, 260.422.6712, eclark@esmeagles.com, www.esmeagles.com.

IN THE COMMUNITY

NEW! Bridge 20/30 Group Invites Young Adults to Connect

The Bridge 20/30 Group is excited to announce its [April 2026 Event Schedule](#), offering meaningful opportunities for young adults in their 20s and 30s to build community, grow in faith, and enjoy connection in a welcoming environment. Connect with us: Facebook: [Bridge 20/30 Group Ft. Wayne](#); Instagram: [@thebridge2030](#); Email: dschuller@clhscadets.com

Lutherans for Life

The [A Hope Center banquet](#) is **Tuesday, April 21**, 6:30 p.m., at the Allen County Memorial Coliseum. The guest speaker is Matt Hammitt, former lead singer of Sanctus Real who wrote the powerful song “Lead Me.” If you wish to join us, contact Carolyn Beitz at 260.433.7188 for reservations.

Faith Formation in the Household

But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

- A majority of practicing Christians participate in spiritual conversations, prayer, and Bible-reading with their households.
- Faith heritage impacts Christians' beliefs and practices for the long term.

The Indiana Lutheran Laymen's League District invites you to learn more about "Faith Formation in the Household" at their convention hosted at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Valparaiso on **Saturday, April 25**. Separate sessions will be provided for children (K-8th Grade) who will experience *Gospel Adventures—Mongolia*, and for youth (9th-12th Grade) *Spiritual Conversations: Sharing Life, Faith, and Jesus with Friends*. [Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies](#), Lutheran Hour Ministries Vice President, Ministry Engagement is the keynote speaker. See the schedule and register [here](#).

NEW! Health Fair and 5K



[The Shepherd's Hand Community Outreach Center](#), 1231 S Anthony Blvd., is excited to invite you to sign up for 5K run/walk on **Saturday, May 2**. We will also be hosting our annual health fair on the same day. Learn more [here](#).

RESOURCES

Greeting Cards

Emmanuel's Greeting Card Cabinet has been restocked with a wide variety of greeting cards that sell for only 50 cents/each. The Cabinet is located on the landing that leads into church, next to the elevator. Your support of this ministry helps to keep the cards coming so that we can continue to offer them at 50 cents/each to you.

NEW! Mental Health Moment

[Here](#) are ways to help increase hope in your teen.

NEW! Project Connect

This week's booklet is [How to Talk About Your Faith: an Introduction to the Spiritual Conversation Curve](#). Equip yourself with knowledge and confidence to have faith-sharing dialogues with others. This easy-to-read, easy-to-use booklet is ideal for helping you have more fruitful conversations about Jesus.



PDF versions of our booklets are available in our [virtual library](#) and on our [mobile app](#). Some booklets are even available in audio formats!

****If you would like to receive the weekly newsletter via your email, please click [this link](#) to sign up.**