



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: April 11, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Through Christ's blood, God has forgiven our sins and cleansed us from all unrighteousness. Through the waters of Holy Baptism, He has given us rebirth and renewal by His Holy Spirit. And through His Word He has given us a very clear job description: "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven" (John 20:33). The job God has given His church—the job He has given us—is to share the same forgiveness that Christ has so graciously given because through this word of peace, God creates faith, disciples are made, and through this word of peace, God's Kingdom comes.

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 Sheafer*

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

NEW! Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 11

- 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 12

- 8:00 a.m. (Holy Communion)
- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 15

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



Sunday and Weekday Christian Education

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 have added 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.

THANK YOU & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! Thank You for Your Easter Egg Hunt Support!

Thank you so much for your generous support in helping us prepare for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Because of your time and care in filling eggs, we were able to create a fun and welcoming event for the children and families in our community. Your willingness to serve in these small but meaningful ways helps us share the joy of Easter and the love of Jesus with so many. We are truly grateful for each of you!

Liz Bejot, Director of Children's Ministry

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](#).



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

NEW! Prayer Requests & Articles for Indiana District

The staff of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will be including our congregation in their prayers this week. They would also welcome articles to place in the Indiana District supplement of the *Lutheran Witness*. To learn how to submit prayer requests and/or articles, click [here](#).

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)!

- **Men's Weekly Devotion**
Mondays
6:30 a.m.
Brandt Hall
Come experience a quiet 15-20 minute way to start your day or lead your family in a moment of fellowship, prayer, and devotion.
- **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.

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@emmanuel Lutheran.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! St. Michael Lutheran Church is Hiring

As our ministry continues to grow and evolve, we are taking thoughtful steps to ensure we are well positioned to support both our current needs and future opportunities. We are in the process of hiring for two new roles: Facilities & Grounds Manager and Administrative Office Support. To learn more or apply, click [here](#).

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

NEW! Faith Formation in the Household

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

Do you know that the way Christians go about their day and connect with members in their household is a critical aspect of spiritual growth? When the households of your church are spiritually vibrant, your church is more effective at faith formation, outreach, and community engagement.

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. **There is no cost to attend, but registration is required** for an accurate meal count and materials. See the [schedule and complete the online registration form](#) by **Monday, April 20**.

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.

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

Finding joy when grieving can be complex. At times, it can bring up guilt when it shouldn't. [Here](#) is a helpful article to support yourself in grief.



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.**