



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Building faith in the city*

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## NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: April 18, 2026

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*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*So much of our world is fleeting. It's hard to find something that lasts. As much as we may not like to come to this realization, this hard truth is what forces us to find something that truly is built to last—something that endures despite all the changes going on in and around us. This weekend in our second reading, Peter tells us what we're looking for, the word of the Lord which remains forever. Unlike our flesh, God's word isn't temporary or fleeting. It is built to last. May this enduring word continue to fill our lives!*

*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*

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

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### **NEW!** Third Sunday of Easter

**Saturday, April 18**

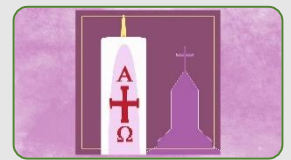
- 5:00 p.m. (Holy Communion)

**Sunday, April 19**

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

**Wednesday, April 22**

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



### **NEW!** 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:** Brandt Hall: April 19 & 26/Lower Level of Ebenezer: May 3-17

### **NEW! Pastor's Bible Study Online**



Each week, Pastors Eggold and Sheafer 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.

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## THANK YOU & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **NEW! Thank You**

*A heartfelt thanks to all of my church family for your support and encouragement through my journey with breast cancer these past months. Thankfully, I completed the last of my follow-up radiation treatments this week and am looking forward to being a more active participant in our church activities once again. Praise the Lord for His healing touch!*

*God Bless Each and Every One of You,  
Marsha Sappenfield*

### **NEW! Congregational Meeting on April 26**

We will hold a brief congregational meeting on **Sunday, April 26**, following the 10:30 a.m. service. Updates will be provided on the *In All Generations* campaign as well as *The Story Continues* visioning process. Childcare will be offered for this meeting. Please register [here](#) for childcare.



### **NEW! The Story Continues**



Our congregational planning process continues to move forward. Our Vision Team and staff are currently 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*. **If you would like to schedule a personal interview with one of the Vision Team members to give input**

**to the process, please contact Pastor Eggold.** 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.

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## GET INVOLVED

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### **NEW! Middle School Youth**

Join us **TOMORROW, Sunday, April 19**, at the Shepherd's Hand (1231 S. Anthony) from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Pastor Meyer and Ms. Liz will be ready to welcome you along with a few staff members from Shepherd's Hand. We will be serving this amazing organization as they prepare for their only fundraiser of the year, the annual 5K. After we serve, we will enjoy ice



cream sundaes together. Please bring your favorite topping. Questions? Click [here](#) to let us know you'll be joining us. If you have questions, reach out to Liz Bejot at [LBejot@emmanuellutheran.org](mailto:LBejot@emmanuellutheran.org) or 260.615.6493 (talk or text).

## 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.

- **Family & Friends Hiking at [Lindenwood Nature Preserve](#)**

**Saturday, April 25**

1:00-3:00 p.m.

## **NEW!** Visual Faith

Our next Visual Faith Workshop is an open studio night to work on any project you'd like. Whether you have an unfinished Words From the Upper Room journal, a Thanksgiving garland, or even an Advent project, this workshop is for you. We will also have Faith Mail available, so you can create and send something to whoever is on your heart. Join us **Tuesday, May 5**, 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to come see what Visual Faith is all about. Bring a friend and sign up at the Connections Counter or click [here](#).



## **NEW!** Join the Emmanuel Golf League



The Emmanuel Golf League begins **Wednesday, May 6**, at 5:30 p.m. Weather permitting, the league plays weekly at Brookwood Golf Club on Bluffton Road through the month of October. It costs \$28 to play nine holes with a cart. If you have questions, please contact Fred Peterson (260.437.2885) or Mike Huesner (260.416.1380).

## **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](mailto:becki@emmanuellutheran.org).

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

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### 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](mailto:eclark@esmeagles.com), [www.esmeagles.com](http://www.esmeagles.com).

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## IN THE COMMUNITY

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### **NEW!** Hymn Festival

Shepherd of the City Lutheran Church, 1301 S. Anthony Blvd, will host its 18th annual hymn festival **tomorrow, Sunday, April 19**, at 4:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Presence," based on Genesis 28:16, "Surely the LORD is in this place." The featured organist will be Nicole Busarow of Redeemer Classical School. The guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Todd Peperkorn of Concordia Theological Seminary. A free-will offering will be accepted at the door to help the congregation pay for much-needed building repairs.

### **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](mailto:dschuller@clhscadets.com)

### **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-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) who will experience *Gospel Adventures—Mongolia*, and for youth (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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 **this 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](#).



## **NEW!** Lutherhaven Cross Country Camp

Check out the new running focused camp for grades 4-8 at Camp Lutherhaven this year, **June 14-19**. A sports camp for endurance athletes, this week is a great opportunity for runners. Led by cross country coaches and collegiate athletes, campers will learn about running technique, what futures in running can look like, and improve their fitness. Learn more [here](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page).

## **NEW!** LutheRun Summer Registration Now Open



LutheRun is open to all Lutheran school students and Lutheran homeschooled students entering grades 4-8 in the Fort Wayne area. All levels of runners are encouraged to participate. This will be a time of building what we call “base” miles and strengthening our bodies for the fall season.

- **When:**  
**June 29-July 30**  
Mondays & Thursdays  
5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **Where:**  
Mondays at Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton Street, 46825  
Thursdays at Concordia Theological Seminary and at various Fort Wayne Parks, Details coming soon!
- **Cost:**  
\$100: 1st child in family  
\$85: 2nd child in family  
\$70: 3rd child in family.

Learn more and register [here](#).

Questions? Contact Janet Smith at [smithje0512@gmail.com](mailto:smithje0512@gmail.com) or Coach Hendrickson at [hendricksoncm@gmail.com](mailto:hendricksoncm@gmail.com).

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## RESOURCES

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### **NEW!** Mental Health Moment

Reflect on what a “good day” looks like. “Good” doesn’t have to mean happy or productive. It can mean calm, neutral, comfortable, manageable, or something else. It can change over time. It’s different for everyone, and only you can define what a good day looks like to you. No matter how you are feeling in this moment, remember that more good days are possible, help is available, and you are not alone. If having good days feels hard, you can check on your mental health with a free, quick, anonymous test [here](#).



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