



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: May 16, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is not over. Easter is not over. Christ's mission is not over. Peace and pardon are not over. Even as we gather to commemorate the Ascension of Our Lord, nothing ends today. It is not as if Christ ascends to heaven and takes all His blessings with Him! This world remains forever marked by His grace and love. And now, reigning over all things, our ascended Lord intercedes for us at His Father's right hand. Christ remains present for us in His Word and Sacraments, and Christ's Body, the church, continues the joyful proclamation that Christ is risen, and indeed, He is coming again!

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! Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 16

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

Sunday, May 17

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

Wednesday, May 20

- 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.

NEW! Sunday School Update



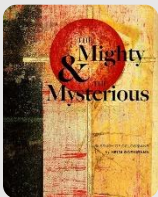
In Sunday School, we are wrapping up our time together with a new song called *Your Word is Growing Me*. If you'd like to play the song at home, click this [link](#). As we learn the song, we would love to have the preschool class join us for Sunday School opening in the gym at 9:15 a.m. Lastly, please mark your calendars to join us in worship **tomorrow, Sunday, May 17, at the 8:00 a.m. service** as the Sunday School will be sharing our song with you!

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.



Summer Bible Study for Women



Looking for an evening women's Bible study this summer? Join us for *Summer in the Word*—a welcoming space for fellowship, encouragement, and growth in God's Word. We'll gather in the lower level of Ebenezer from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on:

- **June 2, 16, 30**
- **July 14, 28**
- **August 11**

Led by Liz Bejot and Sarah Pennekamp, this study will explore *The Mighty and the Mysterious*, a study on the book of Colossians by Heidi Goehmann. The book can be purchased [here](#). We would love to have you join us!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! Thankful for Our Frontline Workers

Emmanuel is blessed by many "Frontline Workers" who faithfully serve each weekend in so many important ways: in Worship as Altar Guild members, communion assistants, ushers, hosts, First Impressions volunteers, acolytes, openers and closers, sound techs, security officers, and musicians; in Christian Education as Bible class, confirmation, and Sunday school teachers and youth leaders; and in ministry support roles such as bulletin preparation and Welcome Center receptionists. Each of these roles matters deeply. Some are visible, and some happen quietly behind the scenes, but all 260 workers are essential to the life we share together in Christ. See the list of workers [here](#).

As Paul reminds us, "as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ" (Romans 12:4–5). Thank you to every volunteer who uses the gifts God has given to serve His people, welcome guests, teach the faith, support worship, and help Emmanuel live out our mission as A Caring Family Sharing God's Love and Forgiveness.

The Story Continues—Congregational Survey

As part of Emmanuel's 2026 planning process, we are inviting members and regular attendees to complete a short congregational survey. We are grateful for the many signs of health and growth in the congregation, and we want an honest snapshot of where we are today so we can steward our resources wisely and thrive in the future.

You are welcome to skip any question you don't feel equipped to answer. This survey

is also one tool among several, alongside listening sessions and personal conversations. Thank you for helping us listen well as The Story Continues. You can access the survey [here](#).



NEW! Listening Session

You Are Invited to join a listening session to share your ideas as part of our visioning process, "The Story Continues." Please sign up at the Connections Counter and pick up a list of the questions we'll be discussing. We will meet in the lower level of Ebenezer on **Wednesday, May 20, 12:00-1:00 p.m.**

NEW! Last Chance: Lost and Found Table

Several unclaimed items are still being held on the table down the steps leading to Ebenezer. Please take a moment to check the table and retrieve any belongings that may be yours. Any items left on the table after this **Sunday, May 13**, will be donated.

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



Our next Emmanuel Lunch Bunch activity for our members around 60 or over will be **Tuesday, May 19**, when our special guest speaker will be Maizy King, the Director of Wellness at Lutheran Life Villages Residential Living. She will share a practical presentation on wellness, exercise, and fall prevention. She will also share simple strategies to improve strength, balance, and confidence in everyday movement, a huge factor in helping you stay independent and active.

We will gather during fellowship time, which starts at 11:00 a.m. in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall. Lunch is served at noon. The lunch cost is \$10.00 per person, payable that day. Hoping to see a good turnout to welcome our special guest speaker Maizy King.

NEW! Visual Faith

Join us for our next Visual Faith Workshop on **Tuesday, June 2, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**, in Ebenezer Hall. This month, we will focus on Around the Word, a tool that helps us slow down, set aside distractions, and listen to God through His Word. No artistic experience is necessary. Sign up [here](#) or at the Connections Counter. Come ready to listen, reflect, create, and spend time together in God's Word.



Emmanuel's Vacation Bible School



June 22-26

9:00 a.m.-Noon

Step back in time with us this summer as we travel to ancient Rome for an unforgettable VBS adventure! Kids will explore what life was like for early Christians and discover how God's love and faithfulness are always with us—no matter where we go.

- Registration is now open, and we can't wait for your children to join us!

[Register here.](#)

- We're also looking for volunteers to help bring this experience to life—there's a place for everyone to serve. [Sign up here.](#)
- Plus, if you'd like to support VBS in another way, check out our Amazon wish list to help us gather supplies. [Shop here.](#)

Please reach out to Liz Bejot, Director of Children's Ministry with any questions at

LBejot@emmanuellutheran.org.

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

NEW! Farewell to Mrs. Latin

Join us in wishing Mrs. Keri Latin a warm farewell on **Sunday, May 31, during the 10:00 a.m. service at St. Michael.** Light refreshments will follow the service. Mrs. Latin has devoted herself fully to Emmanuel—St. Michael School in the years she has served here. She will be a blessing to Suburban Bethlehem and missed here!

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

Bridge 20/30 Group Invites Young Adults to Connect

The Bridge 20/30 Group is celebrating its 1-Year Anniversary this month and invites young adults in their 20s and 30s to join in a month of community-building events. The Bridge exists to connect young adults through faith, friendship, and meaningful relationships in the Fort Wayne area.

Featured Event: Bridge Summer Kickoff Social

When: Tuesday, May 19, 7:00 p.m.

Where: The Garden, 3308 N. Anthony Blvd.

Celebrate one year of Bridge with an exciting evening of speed meet networking, volleyball, and backyard games as we welcome back college students and kick off the summer season. Attendees are encouraged to bring a friend.

See the rest of the May events [here](#).

Connect with us: Facebook: [Bridge 20/30 Group Ft. Wayne](#); Instagram: [@thebridge2030](#);

Email: dschuller@clhscadets.com



CTSFW Golf Outing

On **Friday, May 29**, alumni, students, community members, and friends of Concordia Theological Seminary--Fort Wayne (CTSFW) are invited to our annual Golf Outing at Noble Hawk Golf Links.

Proceeds from the event will help fund the construction of a new Food and Clothing Co-op for students and their families. Thanks to a gift from a generous donor, all proceeds from the event will be matched! Learn more and register [here](#).

NEW! Lutheran Agency for Missions to Burmese

The Karen Cultural Festival will be held at Southwest Lutheran Church, 5120 Homestead Road, **on Saturday, May 30, 12:00–6:00 p.m.**, with festivities from 3:00–5:00 p.m. The Karen people are a tribe under persecution by the Burmese (Myanmar) Army. There will be Karen traditional music, dances, refugee stories, Burmese/Thai food and more. A promotional video about Soe Moe and Taylor Aung (LAMB Medical Deaconess) will be shown. Food can be purchased on the date or now at the Southwest church office. A special ticket sale will be held at Emmanuel on May 17 in Ebenezer Hall. Funds raised from this event will go

towards supporting the ministry of Rev. Soe Moe, the first Burmese Lutheran pastor in North America, and the Lutheran Agency for Missions to Burmese (LAMB). LAMB will also give out a gift to anyone who signs up as a LAMB donor or prayer warrior. Please come and see a unique part of God's Kingdom.

RESOURCES

NEW! Mental Health Moment



You can access substance use support with God at the forefront is [here](#).

NEW! Gospel-Sharing Resource for High Schoolers

Spiritual Conversations: Sharing Life, Faith, and Jesus With Friends is a seven-lesson curriculum designed to encourage high schoolers, particularly juniors and seniors, to engage their peers with the Gospel. Join the conversation and help equip Gen Z to authentically share what's most important, with wisdom and grace.

Schools, classes, small groups, and youth groups can all benefit from this fun and easy-to-implement resource. This Bible study can be a great way to stay connected to friends over the summer! Register [here](#) for access to the video lessons, leader guide, and student handouts. You will also get sticker pages for you and every registered high school participant.



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