



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: October 3, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In this weekend's Gospel reading, Jesus says, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes" (Matthew 21:42). In these words, we hear the truth that God sent His Son to save us, knowing full well that He would be rejected. Yet, Scripture tells us that the rejection of the Son is the "reconciliation of the world" (Romans 11:15). In the One rejected by the world, we are accepted and, because we are accepted in Christ, it means that we can accept others in His name.

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

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

NEW! 19th Sunday After Pentecost

Saturday, October 3

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

Sunday, October 4

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

Wednesday, October 7

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



NEW! Prayers for PALS

Peer Assisted Learning Strategies (PALS) is a ministry of Emmanuel that partners with Washington Elementary to support 2nd and 3rd graders. Each week for eight weeks, these students join us in Ebenezer Hall, where we share snacks, explore the love of Jesus, read, and play together. We will pray for the students in our weekly worship services. **This week, we are praying for Aariah and Gabi.**

NEW! One City Week Prayer Partnership



Emmanuel is participating in One City Week, an ecumenical initiative that pairs local churches to pray for one another during the **weekend of October 3-4**. This year, we have been partnered with The Chapel and are asked to pray for their Harvest Festival on October 4. Please pray that the event would connect people with the church, be safe for all involved, reflect Christlike service, glorify God, and help build deeper relationships. Thank you for joining us in supporting our fellow believers through prayer. You can read more about the effort [here](#).

Fall Christian Education

Our Sunday morning Christian Education Hour, 9:15-10:15 a.m., is up and running for the Fall Season. There are classes for children through adult. **Parents, register your children for Sunday School [here](#)**. Registration helps us keep our records up to date and informs our leaders of any special needs children have. Thanks! Click [here](#) for the Fall 2026 Christian Education opportunities.

Some of the highlights include:

- Sunday School for Little Flock-Fifth Grade
- Confirmation classes for Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade
- High School Bible Study
- *Lutheran Christianity* (Adults)
- *Study of Ephesians* (Adults)

We will also offer weekday studies that include:

- LifeLight Bible Class
- Pastor's Bible Study
- Several Bible studies for men and women of all ages.

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.



THANK YOUS & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! Thank You Emmanuel Members



You may recall that last spring Heidi Wilkinson asked us to help support her friend and colleague, Mercy, who was going through a medical emergency. So many of you responded with prayers and financial gifts. Click [here](#) to read a note of gratitude from Mercy.

Journey to Ethiopia With Heidi Wilkinson

Our sister in Christ, Heidi Wilkinson, has made it back to Ethiopia for another year of service. There were a few hurdles, but she made it safely. Click [here](#) to read more about her journey.



Thanks for Supporting the Annual Golf Outing

Emmanuel's 41st Golf Outing was held on Saturday, August 22. We extend our sincere thanks to our golfers, sponsors, donors, and especially to Jeff Huffman and the staff at Eel River Golf Course for their continued hospitality and support. This year, we were blessed with favorable weather, (it didn't rain) allowing participants to enjoy a day of golf, laughter, and fellowship. The outing generated a net profit of \$8,016.86 for the Heidbrink Scholarship Fund. Sixteen teams participated. **Click [here](#) to see the award winners and more info on the Heidbrink Scholarship Fund.**

GET INVOLVED

NEW! Emmanuel's Men's Ministry "Clay & Iron"



All of our men should be getting weekly devotions as well as updates about upcoming gatherings, service projects, prayer requests, special needs, and more. If you are not receiving these and you wish to be added, email Billy at will.hofman@gmail.com. Our monthly fellowship is changing. It is now every First Saturday in the Loft from 10:00-11:30 a.m...so, **that's TODAY if you read this Saturday morning October 3**. Our quarterly theme is *Balance (in life)*. Walk humbly; stand firm!

NEW! Still Time to Sign Up for Junior Chorale

It's not too late to join our new choir, the Emmanuel Junior Chorale, for those in 1st-12th Grade. Come and sing with us for Christ the King Sunday, a midweek Advent service, and the Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. service. We would love to have as many voices as possible, even if you can only sing for one service. Rehearsals start **Thursday, October 22**. Sign up [here](#) ASAP.

NEW! Game On

Game On is a group of fun-loving people who enjoy playing no stress games. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Ebenezer Hall. We will gather on **Tuesday, October 6**, to play Left Center Right. A sign-up sheet will be at the Connection Counter, but if you forget, come anyway. We always enjoy adding new people to our group.

Visual Faith Ministry

Join us for our Visual Faith workshop: Praying Scripture on **Tuesday, October 6**, 6:00-8:00 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall. God has given us the gifts of His Word and prayer, and Scripture itself can become a starting place for conversation with God. During this evening, we will explore two creative prayer practices—Counterpanes and Open Spaces—that use words, color, and simple patterns to help us pray through Scripture with praise, thanksgiving, confession, lament, intercession, and reflection. No artistic experience is needed. Sign up at the Connections Counter and join us for an evening of Scripture, prayer, creativity, and fellowship.



NEW! First Impressions

Ladies, join us **Wednesday, October 7**, 6:00-7:30 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall for a relaxed evening of friendship, conversation, and time with other women. Enjoy a break from the usual routine, meet someone new, and simply enjoy being together.

NEW! Lutherans for Life (LFL)

Join us for our next LFL meeting here at Emmanuel, **Friday, October 9**, at 9:30 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Paul Masters, a counselor from [Cross Connections Counseling](#). He will speak on the topic "Restoring Marriages."

NEW! Middle School Youth October Event



All 6-8 grade students are invited to join us for our October event on **Saturday, October 17**, at Shepherd's Hand, 1231 S. Anthony Blvd. We will be providing trunks and treats for their community Trunk or Treat. Please let us know you're coming and view all the details [here](#).

Lunch Bunch

All of our senior members are encouraged to join us for our next Emmanuel Lunch Bunch activity on **Tuesday, October 20**. Our special guest speaker will be our very own Emmanuel member Alex Kiefer, President and CEO of [Lutheran Life Villages](#). His conversation with us will focus on the "Housing and Services in a Silver Tsunami" which promises to be an eye-opening look into the changes in today's marketplace for senior housing and services which includes a range of options available locally. Come prepared to learn about the current trends. Alex will also answer your questions at the close of his presentation. Our fellowship time starts at 11:00 a.m. in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall where lunch will be served at noon followed by our guest speaker about 12:30 p.m. **Lunch reservations are requested by calling 260.423.1369 or by signing up at the Connections Counter by Friday, October 16.** The lunch cost is \$10.00 per person that day. Hoping to see many of you for this timely presentation.



EMMANUEL—ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

NEW! Craft Show

The Emmanuel—St. Michael Craft Show will take place **Saturday, October 24**, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., at the Union Street campus. Enjoy shopping from over 40 vendors, raffles, concessions, and more, all while supporting the 8th Grade Class Trip fundraiser!

IN THE COMMUNITY

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

Bridge 20/30 invites young adults in their 20s and 30s to join us for fellowship, faith, and fun this October!

See the October events [here](#).

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

Email: dschuller@clhscadets.com.

Lutherans for Life

- [40 Days for Life Vigil](#)

Tuesday, October 6

8:00 a.m.-Noon

Near Planned Parenthood

2930 Lake Avenue

We pray quietly and peacefully with no signs except the 40 days for Life sign. You can join us for any amount of time between 8:30 a.m.-Noon. Parking is available at Right to Life of Northeast Indiana, 3106 Lake Avenue.

- [Strides of Hope Walkathon](#)

Saturday, October 10

9:00 a.m.

Morsches Park, 1035 E State Road 205, Columbia City

Join Emmanuel's Lutherans for Life team or you may donate to any of our members: Carolyn Beitz, Julie Hall, Judy Kalb, Joyce Lehmann, Wanda Rogers, or Jan Werth. This yearly event helps young mothers with not only baby items but classes for Christian parenting for moms and dads. They greatly appreciate your support for all the FREE services they provide.

- [**Annual Right to Life of Northeast Indiana Banquet**](#)

Monday, October 12

6:30 p.m.

Memorial Coliseum

This year, we are honored to welcome keynote speaker Kayleigh McEnany, along with a testimony from David Scotton. McEnany is a former White House press secretary and currently hosts *Saturday in America* and co-hosts *Outnumbered* on Fox News Channel. Scotton is a practicing attorney and adoption advocate whose own adoption story inspired Kirk Cameron's movie, *Lifemark*. If you are interested in attending, please contact Carolyn Beitz at 260.433.7188 for more information.

Lutheran Singles Weekend

On **October 9-11**, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, single adults, ages 21-40, are invited to a weekend of fellowship, worship, and connection at Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church, Zionsville, Indiana. For more details on lodging assistance for out-of-town guests and registration information, click [here](#).

RESOURCES

NEW! Mental Health Moment



Click [here](#) for great faith-based TV for kids that is free!

NEW! Project Connect

This week's booklet is [Loving Impossible People](#). Loving impossible people is a challenge. It becomes more doable with Christ living inside us, knowing that His strength and wisdom are at work in the small steps we take. We all have difficult people in our lives—people we find it almost impossible to love. And yet, Jesus calls us to love others, even our enemies, and we want to obey him! How can that possibly happen when we're dealing with impossible people? This booklet offers hope, help and practical advice to people who are trying to love as Christ has loved us. Based on real-world experience, the advice inside can help you take baby steps toward a more loving relationship with that impossible person in your own life.

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.**