EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city



NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: October 31, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
This weekend, we hear the words of eternal life, and as we commemorate the faithful departed, we also proclaim ***what we will be****! Today, we are purified with the hope of an eternity with Christ and with all who have gone before us. This Gospel message not only purifies us; it prepares us to live our present lives as God's children, knowing exactly what we are going to be.*

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! **All Saints' Day**
Saturday, October 31

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

Sunday, November 1

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

Wednesday, November 4

- 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 Yaiden.**

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 adults. **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.

New Sunday Adult Bible Class
Faith, Life, and Worship will begin **tomorrow, Sunday, November 1**, during the Christian Education Hour, 9:15-10:15 a.m. Come learn about the Biblical roots for our worship practices and the ways that our worship life can impact everyday of our life.
Leaders: Matt Johnston and Pastor Mark Sheafer
Location: Ebenezer-Lower Level

***NEW!* Guest Organist and Bible Class Leader**

On **Sunday, November 8**, from 9:15-10:15 a.m., Benjamin Kolodziej, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod author, composer, choirmaster and lecturer, will lead a Bible study entitled *Faithful, Practical, Musical: How the Missouri Synod Became a Singing Church*. Mr. Kolodziej will discuss how the Synod became and still is an active "singing Church." He will also be the organist for the Sunday worship services that morning. This will be part of the new Bible class, *Faith, Life and Worship*, led by Pastor Mark Shafer and Matt Johnston.

***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.



THE STORY CONTINUES

THE STORY 1857 **CONTINUES**

***NEW!* The Story Continues: A Renewed Vision for Emmanuel**
After months of listening, praying, discussing, and planning, we are excited to announce that The Story Continues planning process is complete, and our renewed vision for Emmanuel's ministry is ready to share! Nearly 20 years ago, Emmanuel adopted Building Faith, a bold vision that helped guide our congregation through an extraordinary season of growth.

Now, as we look to the next chapter of our story, we're shifting our focus from bricks and mortar to ministry and mission. We invite every member of Emmanuel to spend some time exploring *The Story Continues: A Renewed Vision for Ministry*. You can read the plan ***here***.

NEW! **Join Us for a Vision Forum**
Consider attending a Vision Forum on **Sunday, November 15**, at noon in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall as Pastor Eggold and the Vision Team present an overview of the planning process, explaining where we believe God is leading Emmanuel in the years ahead. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the plan. You can register for the Vision Forum ***here***. Please take time to ***read the plan*** and join us on November 15.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! **Voters' Assembly**
Our annual Congregational Voters' Assembly will take place in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, November 22**. We encourage members to attend as we consider the next chapter of Emmanuel's ministry together. At this meeting, we will vote on a budget for 2027, elect congregational leaders, and seek approval for *The Story Continues* vision. If you need childcare for the Voters' Assembly, click ***here***.
We have so much to celebrate! For nearly 160 years, God has faithfully blessed Emmanuel and worked through His people to share His love and forgiveness. We are excited about the opportunities before us and grateful for everyone who has contributed to this planning process. **Please take time to *read the plan* and participate in the Voters' Assembly on November 22. Your involvement matters as we begin this new chapter together.**

Rev. Arthur P. Klausmeier +1942-2026+



It is with sadness, but also with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection, that we share with you that our brother in Christ, Rev. Arthur P. Klausmeier, was called home to the Lord on Wednesday, October 21. For many of us, Pastor Klausmeier was much more than a former pastor of Emmanuel. He was a familiar voice, a familiar face, a faithful shepherd, a friend, and a brother in Christ. The funeral service will be at Emmanuel on
Friday, November 6, at 11:00 a.m. Click ***here*** to read his obituary and see viewing times.

NEW! **Belize Mission Trip: The Beginning of an Exciting Partnership**



We are excited to announce a new opportunity for Emmanuel to expand our mission outreach beyond our borders! Two members of our Emmanuel family, Bret and Bonnie Walker, will represent our congregation on a mission trip to Belize, November 14-21. They will be working alongside the ***Belize Mission Society*** and fellow congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod from Florida and Colorado.
The mission team will serve in Seine Bight, an underserved village in Belize, through men's, women's, and children's ministries, community outreach, construction projects, and potentially the reopening of a much-needed dental clinic. Read more ***here***.

GET INVOLVED

Mission Task Force
Emmanuel's Mission Task Force is looking for a volunteer for Neighborhood Outreach. They will help us provide a welcoming presence to our West Central neighbors.
Objectives:

- Host quarterly prayer walks in West Central.
- Identify people moving into the neighborhood.
- Provide welcome packets to new neighbors.

Contact Tina Bruce at ***tmb4sons@gmail.com*** for additional information.

NEW! **American Heritage Girls Open House**
Looking for faith, service, and fun for your daughter? Come learn about American Heritage Girls (AHG), a Christ-centered program where girls from ages 5-18 grow in faith, build friendships, develop leadership and life skills, serve others, and enjoy outdoor adventures! Girls and parents are invited to learn about troop meetings, activities, and registration at our Open House:
Date: Monday, November 2
Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Location: Lower level of Ebenezer.
Questions? Contact Kirsten Moravec at ***KMoravec8@gmail.com***.

Visual Faith Ministry
Join us for our Visual Faith workshop on **Tuesday, November 3**, 6:00-8:00 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall. We will work on *2027 Gratitude & Prayer Journals.*

- What can we learn from our pastors about growing in prayer and drawing closer to God? Join us for a special evening with Pastor Eggold and Pastor Sheafer as they share insights into their personal prayer lives and practices. Then, we'll get creative as we begin putting together our *2027 Gratitude & Prayer Journals*.
- What if taking just a few moments each day could help you notice God's goodness more clearly and deepen our prayer life? As you go about your days, take a moment to record two things: one blessing you're thankful for and one prayer you're lifting to God. Over time, these simple practices can help you recognize God's faithfulness, reflect on His presence, and see how He is at work in your life.
- New to Gratitude & Prayer Journaling? You're invited! Come explore this meaningful practice, enjoy fellowship, and discover a fresh way to grow in your faith. All supplies are provided. Please sign up at the Connections Counter. We look forward to sharing this special evening with you!

Join Us For Friendsgiving
First Impressions is a monthly gathering where women of all ages connect, refresh, and encourage one another through fellowship and conversation. For our next gathering, we'll celebrate friendship with a soup-supper potluck on **Wednesday, November 4**, 6:00-7:30 p.m., in Ebenezer Hall. Bring a soup or side to share and feel free to bring a friend. We look forward to connecting as we approach Thanksgiving!

Veterans Luncheon
The Emmanuel Life Team is inviting all our veterans to a special luncheon on **Wednesday, November 11**, at 11:30 a.m., in the lower level of Ebenezer (there is elevator access). You are welcome to invite a guest. Please **RSVP by Sunday, November 8**, by calling the church office at 260.423.1369. We look forward to honoring our many veterans for their service to our country.

***NEW!* Emmanuel's LWM/LWML Meeting Schedule Change**

Date: Thursday, November 12

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Ebenezer

What is LWM?

Women of Lutheran Women (LWM) in Mission support the mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Through prayer, Bible study, and service, women at LWM make a difference in people's lives worldwide.

Organizations helped in the last year by LWM grant support include:

- Reaching Out with God's Love in a Safe Place, Forward a Ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Nebraska: $77,730
- Proclaiming Christ in Honduras, *Misión Evangélica Luterana Confesional en Honduras*, Central America: $25,000
- Speaking Truth Around the Table, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty, United States: $75,000

What to expect at the meeting:

- A warm welcome and fellowship with other women of faith.
- Bible Study: (1:00-2:00 p.m.) Interactive study led by Judy May, study handouts available at meeting.
- Service Project: (2:00-3:00 p.m.) Fun, practical, hands-on projects that make a difference in people's lives: locally, nationally, and globally. Materials and instruction are provided, and the projects are completed during each meeting. "Many hands make light the work."

***NEW!* Middle School Youth November Gathering**



All middle school students are invited to join us for our November event. Meet us at Emmanuel on **Sunday, November 15**, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. We will be playing a large group game in the gym. Please enter and pickup through the Jackson Street doors. We hope to see you there!

Grief Share "Surviving the Holidays"



Holiday grief can be tough, emotionally, relationally, physically, and spiritually. In this two-hour gathering, we will explore how the holidays can be both manageable and meaningful. We will discuss:

- How to respond to social invites
- How to balance solitude and fellowship
- How to remember your loved one
- How to be grateful for blessings

"Surviving the Holidays" will take place on **Saturday, November 14**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., in Brandt Hall. **Please RSVP to Lana Hille at 260.417.5639 or you can sign up at the Connections Counter, by Sunday, November 8**. A brunch will be provided and books will be gifted by Thrivent. Feel free to bring a Christmas culinary treat of your own to share.

***NEW!* Lunch Bunch**



Our next Emmanuel Lunch Bunch activity for our members around 60 or over will be **Tuesday, November 17**. After months of listening, praying discussing, and planning, we are excited to announce that *The Story Continues* planning process is complete, and our renewed vision for Emmanuel's ministry is ready to share! Nearly 20 years ago, Emmanuel adopted Building Faith, a bold vision that helped guide our congregation through an extraordinary season of growth. Now, as we look toward the next chapter of our story, our focus is shifting from bricks and mortar to ministry and mission.

After our lunch, Pastor Eggold will present an overview of the planning process, explaining where we believe God is leading Emmanuel in the years ahead. Don't miss this exciting presentation! Meet us in the lower level of Ebenezer at 11:00 a.m. for fellowship. Lunch will be served at noon. **Lunch reservations are required by calling the church office at 260.423.1369 or by signing up at the Connections Counter by Friday, November 13**. Lunch is $10 per person, payable that day.

Chili Cook-Off and Bingo Night
Get ready for a night of food, fun, and friendly competition at Emmanuel's Chili Cook-Off and Bingo Night on **Saturday, November 21**, 6:00-8:00 p.m., in the gym. The evening begins with an hour of chili sampling, with sides, hot dogs, and desserts, followed by Bingo for gift card prizes. This family-friendly event is sponsored by the Emmanuel Youth Group, with proceeds supporting the 2027 Servant Event to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Get involved by entering a chili in the competition or donating a $10 gift card(s) for Bingo prizes. Gift cards may be dropped off at the church office or the Connections Counter on Sunday mornings.

NEW! **King's Community Outreach Christmas Food Distribution**
Once again, Emmanuel is partnering with Rev. Lewis King and ***King's Global Outreach*** to help provide Christmas meals for families in our community. Last year, Emmanuel generously donated more than 1,000 cans of green beans! This year, we hope to collect **1,000 cans of green beans and 500 boxes of instant mashed potatoes**. These donations may be dropped off in Ebenezer Hall throughout November. Volunteers are also welcome to help with the food distribution on **Saturday, December 19**, at 9:30 a.m., at McMillen Park Community Center. Thank you for helping share Christ's love with our neighbors this Christmas season!

EMMANUEL—ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SHOOL

NEW! **November Dine-to-Donate Night**
Join us at Portillo's on Coliseum Blvd. on **Thursday, November 12**, 5:00-8:00 p.m. You will be helping support Emmanuel—St. Michael 8th graders as they raise funds for their Washington D.C. trip. Use the code PORTILLOS63 when ordering online or in the app. Enjoy dinner while supporting our students!

Tour the New Construction Progress at Concordia Lutheran High School This Fall
Concordia Lutheran High School invites the community to see firsthand the progress of A Bold Step, the largest facilities improvement project in the school's history. **Free construction tours are offered Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., through November 18**. The tours give guests a behind-the-scenes look at newly completed spaces, including the main office and student lounge overlooking the gymnasium, as well as areas of the new academic wing and the chapel-auditorium renovation and expansion.
These tours are a wonderful opportunity to experience the transformation taking place at Concordia, see how the project is preparing the school for its future and learn how you can be part of this bold step. **Registration is required** ***here***. Because tours take place in active construction areas, guests should wear closed-toe shoes and appropriate clothing, safety equipment will be provided. We invite you to come see the progress, celebrate what God is making possible, and discover how you can get involved.

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 November events *here***.
Connect with us: Facebook: ***Bridge 20/30 Group Ft. Wayne***; Instagram: ***@thebridge2030***;
Email: ***dschuller@clhscadets.com***.

NEW! **Forgotten Stones Art Show**
Forgotten Stones is committed to ensuring that the homeless do not slip through the cracks. They aim to offer support, resources, and a sense of community to individuals in need. You are invited to a special evening supporting The Forgotten Stones on **Friday, November 20**, at WunderKammer Company, 3412 Fairfield Avenue. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The evening will feature live painting, poetry, photography, an interactive exhibit highlighting Forgotten Stones and its future expansion plans, a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, and dessert. A cash bar will also be available. Tickets may be purchased ***here***. For questions, contact Brandi Schorey at ***Brandi.Schorey@anthem.com***.

RESOURCES

NEW! **Mental Health Moment**



Grief can feel more compounding as we near holidays or as the outdoor season ends. ***Here*** is a great website to support your grieving self.

NEW! **Project Connect**
This week's booklet is ***What Happens When I Die?*** What Scripture says about death is explained to Christians and non-Christians in this booklet. By reviewing Bible passages on the body, soul, heaven, hell, etc., the issue of death is addressed.
PDF versions of our booklets are available in our ***virtual library*** and on our ***mobile app***. Some booklets are even available in audio formats.

NEW! **Martin Luther Bible Study From Lutheran Hour Ministries**
Martin Luther: A Man Named Martin-Part 2: The Moment examines the errant teachings and wayward traditions of the Late Medieval Church that eventually sparked the Protestant Reformation, a theological overhaul set in motion most notably by Martin Luther's nailing of the 95 Theses to the church door at Wittenberg. This study includes a discussion guide and a supplementary text, *The Reformation Twelve*. This booklet highlights a dozen individuals who played principal parts in the widely scattered events and circumstances that led to the Reformation.

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