

GENERAL INFORMATION

Immanuel Welcomes You!

We give thanks to God that you're here with us today as we receive the gifts that our Lord gives in mercy and grace. Whether this is your first time as our guest or you are regularly worshipping among us, God is here for you and welcomes you in as His own. If you are in need of a church home or have questions about our congregation, please stop by the Connection Center (Belvidere Campus) or speak with one of the pastors or any of our ushers.

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

More than just bread and wine, Holy Communion is the very body and blood of Christ. Those who partake should do so spiritually prepared (1 Corinthians 11:28): Am I sorry for my sin? Do I believe Jesus is my only Savior truly present in this meal? Will I, with the help of God, live a life that pleases Him?

Participation in this meal is also an expression of unity with this church as a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. If you are not communing but still desire to receive a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest when you come forward. The Lord Jesus has something for us all. The center ring of individual cups contains non-alcoholic wine, and gluten-free wafers are available for those in need. Please indicate this to those distributing the sacrament as you come forward.

Restrooms

Located just behind the Sanctuary, follow the long hallway and turn left at your first opportunity. An usher would be happy to direct you.

Campus Guidelines for Face Coverings

In order to care for the people who come to our campus here at Immanuel, including our guests, members, church and school staff, students, and ILS families, we're asking that everyone wear a face covering inside the building. This policy covers all events on our campus, including worship services and small group meetings. Please cover coughs, use social distancing, and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

For the time being, this is one of the best ways that we can help to reduce the risk of our congregation and school becoming a point of infection for our community. Thank you for your assistance!

For Families with Young Children

Worship is for people of all ages, and we are so glad to have you and your children (with all their wiggles, noises, and questions) joining us! Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them." Encourage your children to follow along with the icons on the screens (they'll match up with the "Order of Service" in their children's bulletins) and shake their egg shakers when they see the egg icon. Help them find the sanctuary star and read together the description on the back of their insert.

We aren't worried about a little noise or activity, but if your child does need to leave worship, feel free to step out into the Narthex or hallway (we can't open our Nursery or Quiet Room right now under current public health restrictions). But please, hurry back - we don't want you or your little ones to miss out on all God is doing in worship!

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO CHRIST FOR LIFE

CONNECTOR

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 2-3, 2021

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

SAT	6 PM	Worship — <i>Heritage</i> (Hymns + Pipe Organ)
SUN	8 AM	Worship — <i>Heritage</i> (Hymns + Pipe Organ)
	9:15	Worship — <i>Bridge</i> (Teaching + Musical variety)
	9:30	Worship at North (30 person max)
	10:15	Bible Study (Sanctuary)
	11:15	Worship — <i>Horizon</i> (Praise Team + Less formal)
WED	11 AM	Mini Service (50 person max)
	6:30 PM	Epiphany worship with Holy Communion

*Christ for Kids is currently **NOT** meeting in-person but take-home resources are available as you leave church.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 KINGS 3:4-15 | EPHESIANS 1:3-14 | LUKE 2:40-52



“What Are You Up To?”

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
WWW.IMMANUELBELVIDERE.ORG • 815-544-8058

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Rockford Lutheran High School Tuition Assistance

Applications for member assistance for the 2nd semester at RLHS can be picked up in the Church Office. Deadline for applying is January 8th, 2021.

1st Rockford Walk for Life

Saturday, January 23rd at 10 am will be the 1st Rockford Walk for Life coordinated by the Rockford Family Initiative. Please join others as we unite in prayer and walk for an end to abortion. For more information and to register, please email rockfordfamily@comcast.net

Pop-Up Market

On Monday, December 28th, Immanuel partnered with the Belvidere Police Department to provide a pop-up market at Immanuel. Food was made possible by Northern Illinois Food Bank. Food distribution began at 1 pm and was distributed to over 500 families. The remaining food went to Empower Boone Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible and for bringing Jesus to the community.

Drop Off Christmas for Walter Lawson

Christmas looked different for the children at Walter Lawson this year. Immanuel's Care Ministry Walter Lawson Team put together 7 boxes of much needed items for the children. With the help of two Thrivent Action Teams and generous donations, they were able to purchase non-touch thermometers, pulse oximeters, Biotene, Carmex, body wash, lotions, kinetic sand, play dough, and many other goodies. The team looks forward to the time when they will be able to visit the children in person again.

WOMEN'S LIFELIGHT

Romans Part 1

Women's Lifelight will start up again in January. This is a 9-session study that covers the first 7 chapters of Romans. Reserve a workbook now and register for one of the meeting time slots by calling Elissa Sullivan at 815-761-6534 before Christmas!

PRAYER TEAM MINISTRY

The Prayer Team is available for prayer each Sunday. You can find a member near Door #2 after the 8 and 9:15 am worship services and before the 11:15 am worship service.

.....

Christmas Eve Attendance: 472 On-Line Attendance: 749
 Christmas Day Attendance: 143 On-Line Attendance: 495
 Last Weekend's Attendance: 173 On-Line Attendance: 662

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Luke 2:40-52

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

CONNECT ONLINE

 IMMANUELLUTHERANBELVIDERE
 IMMANUELBELVIDERE
 INFO@IMMANUELBELVIDERE.ORG

IMMANUEL NORTH

Blanket and Warm Clothing Drive

Burrr! It's cold outside! I'd better grab a heavier coat! Imagine how you would feel if you had no heavier coat? Or no coat at all? Many of our neighbors in Boone County are faced with that problem every day.

Immanuel North, in partnership with Empower Boone, is holding a warm clothing drive during the month of January. New or gently used adult or children's coats, jackets, scarves, gloves and hats will be collected all month long in addition to blankets.

In accordance with Covid guidelines, items to be donated should be placed in plastic bags and put in the collection boxes at the main campus or at Immanuel North on Sunday mornings. Empower Boone will sanitize all items before giving them to clients. Both collection programs are being done with the assistance of Thrivent Financial. For additional information or to arrange for pick-up of items, if you are unable to drop them off, call Nancy Stetter 312-215-7547 or Pastor Rick Wagner 815-871-6051.

North Worship

To sign-up for 9:30 am worship at North, please register on-line or by calling Pastor Wagner at (815) 871-6051. To insure a spot, please do so by 3 pm on Saturday.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

Electronic Giving

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministry in the gospel here at Immanuel. If you'd like to make your offering online, you're welcome to do so via our website or by



IN OUR PRAYERS

For God's Gracious Care

Linda Dixon, Buck Hodge, Bob Schwarzkopf, Gloria Mowers, Kathy Gaupp, Anne Wetzel, Marian Lambert, Ed & Ellen Anderson, Julia Markworth, Phoebe Ladewig, Gary Anderson

Baptism

Maverick Kent Jole was baptized this past Thursday. His parents are Zach and Krystal Jole.

For Note-taking

CONNECTION CARD

JANUARY 3, 2021

I would like more information about:

- Becoming a part of the community here at Immanuel
- Immanuel Lutheran School
- Sponsoring the bulletin / altar flowers

- My offering was given electronically
- Other (Please Specify)

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____