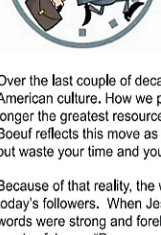




Immanuel-Trinity Lutheran Church

September 2025



Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. Mark 8:34-35 (NRSV)

Over the last couple of decades, we have, I believe, had a significant transformation in our American culture. How we prioritize our resources has changed. Wealth (money) is no longer the greatest resource that we will give away. It is now... our time. Dr. Michael Le Boeuf reflects this move as he says, "Waste your money and you are only out of money, but waste your time and you have lost a part of your life."

Because of that reality, the words of Jesus in Mark 8 become even more challenging for today's followers. When Jesus spoke to His own about the demands of discipleship the words were strong and foreboding. "Deny...take up your cross... follow." Those are the words of Jesus. "Pamper yourself... indulge... grab the gusto." Those are the words of the world. In the Devotional "Closer Walk", St Augustine (354-430 AD) reminds all Christians that genuine servanthood involves both a privilege... and a price.

"It is good to follow Christ. But we must see by what way we are to follow. "For when the Lord spoke the words of Mark 8, He had not already risen from the dead. He had not yet suffered, nor yet come to the cross, not yet suffered, not yet felt the dishonoring outrages, the scourging, the thorns, the wounds, the mockeries, the insults, the death. Rough may be the way, but follow on. Where Christ has gone is worn smooth, Who would not wish to be exalted? Honor is pleasing to all. But Humility is the path to it. The two disciples disliked taking this step of humility. They sought exaltation, one at the right hand and the other on the left. They did not see the cross."

Christ's invitation to discipleship is an invitation to die... To self, to the world, To ambition. It is a call to follow Jesus in His life. In His Death. In His resurrection. It is a reminder that exaltation and elevation in God's sight are the by-products of humility. Small wonder there is so seldom a crowd gathered at the cross. For few are willing to pay the price the discipleship demands. But it's a price well worth paying. For a life of discipleship is the most fulfilling life of all.

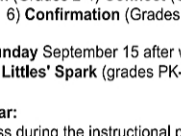
How do we choose to prioritize our time, talents and treasures. By living in the shadow of the cross, in the worship of our God and Savior, or by trusting in the hollow callings of worldly accolades. Following Jesus is difficult... but there is no greater Joy than living in the service of the Savior.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Tom

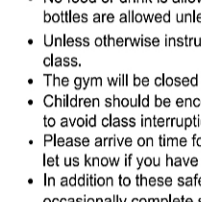
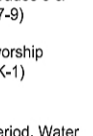
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER



Spark: Grades 4K-4



Connect: Grades 5-6
Confirmation: Grades 7-9



Register Now!
It's not too late!
Classes begin soon!
Wednesday Sept 10 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Spark (Grades 2-4) Connect (Grades 5 & 6) Confirmation (Grades 7-9)

Sunday September 15 after worship
Littles' Spark (grades PK-K-1)

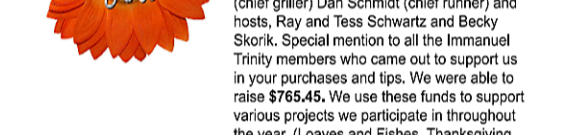
Important things to know for this year:

- No food or drink is allowed in class during the instructional period. Water bottles are allowed unless they become a distraction.
- Unless otherwise instructed, cell phones should be turned off during class.
- The gym will be closed during class time.
- Children should be encouraged to use the restroom prior to class so as to avoid class interruptions.
- Please arrive on time for class. For safety and planning purposes please let us know if you have a conflict and will be absent or late.
- In addition to these safety measures, students are expected to occasionally complete short assignments at home. Some of these might include coloring or other worksheets, family participation activity, and memorization. You are your child's most important first teacher and partner in learning. We appreciate your support.

RSVP ASAP: By going to www.immanueltrinity.org or click the button below.

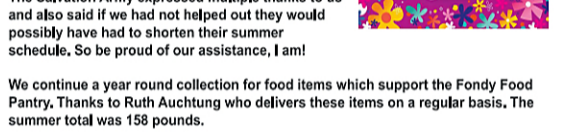
We are looking forward to a great year of sharing God's word!

Christian Education Registration Form



Join us for RALLY DAY 2025

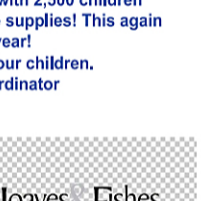
Help us ring in the new year of Christian Education!
Saturday, September 6 & Sunday, September 7,
following services.



Brat Fry Follow-Up
A huge Shout Out to everyone that participated in the Faith in Action Annual Brat Fry August 9th, 2025 at Festival Foods Brat Barn. Dedicated workers included: Carla Wifler, Denise Diggs, Ruth Auchtung, Nancy Morris, Amy Popp, Rich Popp, Jim Shepherd (chief griller) Dan Schmidt (chief runner) and hosts, Ray and Tess Schwartz and Becky Skorik. Special mention to all the Immanuel Trinity members who came out to support us in your purchases and tips. We were able to raise \$765.45. We use these funds to support various projects we participate in throughout the year. (Loaves and Fishes, Thanksgiving Meal and Social Hour after services on Communion Sundays) to name a few.
A Sincere Thank you, Faith In Action Team

Faith in Action Summer Update

Thank you to all that have donated to the Salvation Army 2025 Brown Bag Lunch Program. With the help of Immanuel Trinity Lutheran Congregation, we collected 900 pounds of donated items which were used to feed multiple children, lunch every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the summer months.



The Salvation Army expressed multiple thanks to us and also said if we had not helped out they would possibly have had to shorten their summer schedule. So be proud of our assistance, I am!

We continue a year round collection for food items which support the Fondy Food Pantry. Thanks to Ruth Auchtung who delivers these items on a regular basis. The summer total was 158 pounds.



You made a big difference!
Thank you all for your donations to the FDL Back to School Drive! A car full of supplies was delivered to the Boys & Girls Club on August 7. Supplies were distributed on August 15. According to the organizers, a new record was set with 2,500 children registered to receive supplies! This again was more than last year!

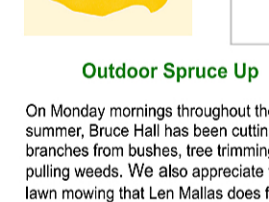
Thank you for helping to meet the needs of our children.
Barbara Hurtgen, B2S Coordinator

On Monday, September 22 our church will be providing the meal and serving for Loaves and Fishes. Pans, with the recipe and sign-up, will be available in the church Narthex. The casseroles do need to be baked before you bring them to church. If you want to bring them the weekend before, you can place the casseroles in the refrigerator. They will be taken downtown. You can also drop off the casseroles off directly at Church of Peace, 158 S. Military by 4pm. If you have any questions, please contact Tess Schwartz at 920-517-2958 or email, tessschwartz@charter.net.



Coats for Kids 2025 Campaign

We will be assisting the Salvation Army in their Coats for Kids 2025 Campaign again this year. The dates for this year's drive are September 22nd - October 23rd. Any winter wear for ages 0 - 18yrs is appreciated. There are so many families in our town that are living in poverty and need our help. Donation boxes will be located in the Church narthex or at the entrance of Door B by the Church office.



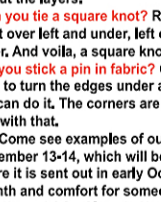
Thank you, Faith in Action Team



Lectors, Communion Assistants, and AV Support are needed for Saturday and Sunday worship services. We invite new helpers to sign up on the Church website or contact Julie in the office, 920.921.4545.

Outdoor Spruce Up

On Monday mornings throughout the summer, Bruce Hall has been cutting old branches from bushes, tree trimming or pulling weeds. We also appreciate the lawn mowing that Len Mallas does for the church. Thank you for keeping the church grounds look so nice.



Special gift given in honor of Caryl Thielman's Birthday on August 19 from Connie and Bruce Hall.

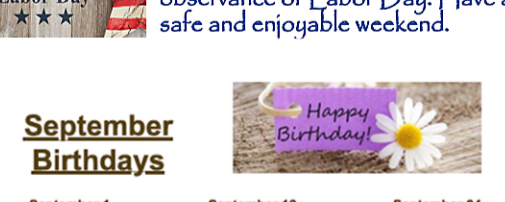
What are you doing on the third Wednesday morning of the month?

Please consider coming to help Dorcas Circle prepare quilts to send to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and other agencies. But you say, "I can't sew!" You do not have to sew to help us. Do you know how to make a sandwich? We do too. We layer a back, batting and prepared quilt top together. It takes two people to accurately lay out the layers. Can you tie a square knot? Repeat after me. Right over left and under, left over right and under. And voila, a square knot! Can you stick a pin in fabric? Okay, this may be a little more skillful, because you need to turn the edges under and then use a stick pin to hold them together, but you can do it. The corners are tricky, but those of us who are more experienced can help with that.



Come see examples of our handiwork during church services the weekend of September 13-14, which will be on display as the congregation blesses our work before it is sent out in early October. Our quilts are not fancy, but they will provide warmth and comfort for someone in need. So far this year we have made 33 quilts for LWR and 1 for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

We meet at 8:30ish and continue until we are finished with what has been prepared. You can come and stay as long as your schedule allows. Opportunities to cut squares and sew quilt tops are also available.



Dorcas Quilters Meet 3rd Wednesday at 8:30 am each month in Gym
Marty Schmalz Sue Brennan Nan Gray
Marion Blakely Caryl Thielman Lynn Belling Cheri Strook

We would like to thank everyone who has provided us with sheets for backing and fabric for making the tops. We appreciate your support in helping with this important ministry. Please contact Sue Brennan or Nan Gray if you have any questions.



The Church and the Office will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day. Have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

September Birthdays



September 1 Dale Dobrinski Rich Popp
September 2 Kurt Lefeber Sharon Jackowski
September 4 Steve Albert Dixie Lee Mauthe
September 5 Jasmine Gonzalez
September 7 Ethan Fleischfresser
September 8 Jayne Hamburg
September 10 Darrick Sing Janice Larson Terri King
September 11 Tom Walker
September 12 Daniel Rosenthal Joseph Hall
September 15 Aaron Hanna Aaron Hanna Denise Sing Scott Kopf
September 17 Karen Kraus
September 19 Debra Ellingen
September 20 Declan Solamita
September 21 Ron Kellar
September 22 Julie Dilling
September 23 Marilyn Donovan Sherry Bartel William Carlton Sr Mauthe Franklin Wilhelms
September 24 James Will
September 26 Barbara Chapman Cyle Lueck Evelyn Nery Jennifer Grafton Karla Reehl Norm Thielman Tracy Nery
September 27 Kinsley Dratt
September 29 Patty Winkler
September 30 Dean Hanna Frank Wermes Judy Brown