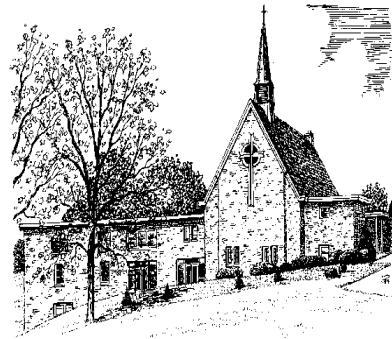


The King's Business

July, 2025

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VOL. 59, NO. 7



The Pastor's Page

In the ancient world, it was difficult to determine the purity of metals. Gold and silver coins and jewelry were often mixed with cheaper metals and passed off as completely pure. To combat this, jewelers or money changers would take the piece and scratch it across a piece of black stone, leaving a streak of metal behind.

Often the purity could be determined from the color of the streak alone but, if not, other tests could then be conducted, subjecting the streak to different acids and such. In this way, you could determine the purity and composition of the jewelry or coin without destroying the object itself. The black stone became known as a “touchstone,” a term we now use to describe anything that verifies the purity of a person, thing, or idea.

Christian creeds are a touchstone for our faith. They let us test and examine what we hear in the world, what we see on the news, or even what we feel in our hearts, to see if it is pure gold or a cheap substitute. The Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed arose out of real conflict, defending the true faith against heresies and false teachers. The early Christians saw how easy it was for people to invent a “Jesus” who was less than God, or to downplay the Holy Spirit, or to twist the truth about Christ’s humanity.

The creeds drew clear lines. They summarized Scripture’s witness to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — three persons, one God — and to the saving work of Jesus, true God and true man, crucified and risen for us. The creeds are like guardrails, keeping us from wandering off a cliff.

They don’t replace Scripture. Instead, they help us confess what the Bible says. They unite us with believers across all times and places. Every time we say “I believe,” we stand shoulder to shoulder with countless Christians

across centuries, continents, languages, and cultures, bound together by the one faith delivered to the saints.

And this is more than a Sunday exercise. The creeds matter for daily life, because we live in a world filled with false gospels. Every day we are confronted with people who use the name “Christian,” but fail to rightly confess the Trinity. Or teach the incarnation in unbiblical ways. Or deny the resurrection of the body.

That is how a creed serves as a touchstone. When you hear or read a claim about the Christian faith, you can “rub it” against the creed to see whether it is the pure, life-giving Gospel or something cheap and deadly. In that way, the creed helps you hold fast to the treasure of salvation.

I know people sometimes worry that memorized words lose their meaning. But the opposite is true when those words are drawn from Scripture and confessed together. The more deeply you learn the creed, the more its phrases shape your heart, guard your mind, and strengthen your confidence. When doubts creep in, the creed reminds you who God is: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and what He has done: created you, redeemed you, and sanctified you. That is no empty repetition. That is life-giving proclamation.

In fact, for many elderly Christians who struggle with dementia, the creeds are often the last things they forget. Even when so much of their memory and language fails, the familiar confession of “I believe in God the Father Almighty” remains, because it has been repeated so faithfully for so many years. These precious words anchor the heart and mind to Christ, even when all else fades.

Martin Luther once wrote that the creed is “the shield and protection with which we defy and drive away

all false doctrine." Every time we speak the creed, we are standing in the light of God's truth, driving back the darkness. We proclaim that Jesus is our Lord, true God and true man, who died and rose for us. We proclaim the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Those are not mere opinions. They are God's own promises.

So let us never grow weary of the creeds. They are a precious touchstone in a world full of confusion. They steady our steps, guard our confession, and unite us with all believers in Christ. Let them be more than Sunday words — let them be daily words, words you teach to your children, words you carry in your heart. They are a gift from the faithful church of the past, pointing us always to Christ, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and hope.

God's blessings to you this month.
Pastor Ketelsen

Does the Church Office have current contact information for you and your family members? If you have a new address or phone information, please contact the Church Office at by email at Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com or at 660-882-2208, Option 1 with your current information. Thank you.

Copies of sermons are available. If you missed a service, or just loved one immensely, copies are available on our church website, ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church. You can also find hard copies in the red folder in the church Narthex. Please help yourself, and feel free to share with friends or shut-ins.

Immanuel has another way to be part of virtual Sunday services!

We now have Zoom. Those who do not have access to Facebook can call a phone number, input a special code, and listen to the audio of the service LIVE on their phone.

*Step 1: Call 1 (253) 215-8782 a little before 9:00 am
Step 2: Follow the prompt to input the Meeting ID: 9283696439*

*Step 3: Join "the meeting" and listen to the service LIVE
Please contact any members or friends who could make use of this service!*

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

1001 Immanuel Drive, Boonville, MO 65233

Church Office: 660-882-2208

E-Mail: Immanuel.Boonville@gmail.com

Website: www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church

Pastor: Rev. Joshua Ketelsen

Pastor's Cell Phone: 989-306-2586

Preschool Director/Teacher: Glenda Gerhardt

Preschool Teacher Assistant: Trina Derendinger

Kindergarten Teachers: Stefani Ketelsen

Glenda Gerhardt

Office Manager: Patty Mangels

Custodians: Cora Linneman/Doug Thoma

Production/Distribution of Newsletter: Patty Mangels

Sunday Service - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.

Fellowship Time - Fifth Sundays 10:15 a.m. as announced

Lord's Supper - 9:00 a.m. - 1st & 3rd Sundays & Festivals

Midweek Services - 6:30 pm on Wednesdays during

Advent & Lent

Kindergarten

All Day Kindergarten

(Pre-registration required)

Preschool

3-5 year olds

Mon-Wed-Fri, 8-11am & 12-3pm (4 & 5 year olds)

Tues-Thurs, 8-11am & 12-3pm (3 year olds)

(Pre-registration required)

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School: for age 3 - 5th grade is meeting in the Sunday School Room.

Youth Class for junior and senior high meets in the youth room in the sub-basement.

Adult Bible Study: meets Sunday Mornings at 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday Ladies Bible Class meets on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. in the large classroom on the main floor.

Bibles and Bar-B-Q Men's Bible Discussion Group meets the second and fourth Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday Morning Breakfast Bible Study: meets on Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at 87 Diner. Please join us for food, fellowship, and study.

Office Hours

Tuesday & Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

May 18, 2025

Call to Order: President Gene Cummins called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Craig Meyer opened with prayer.

Acceptance of New Assembly Members: Jasmine Campbell was welcomed and signed the Constitution.

Acceptance/Amendments of Agenda: No amendments; agenda accepted. Tim Fahrenbrink motioned to approve the agenda as presented, Jason Linneman seconds. The motion carried.

Approve Minutes from February 16, 2025, Congregational Assembly Meeting: Earl Mangels motioned to approve the minutes; Gary Naumann seconds. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- a. Not present; no report.

Reports of Officers:

President: No report.

Vice President: No report.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Treasurer Kim Toellner not present; written reports submitted and reviewed.

- a. Gene reports a \$15,000 transfer of funds from an investment account to the general fund was approved by electronic vote of the council; the reports included in the agenda reflect April 30 financials.

Board of Elders: Craig Meyer presented a written and verbal report.

- a. Good Samaritan fund has a balance of \$3,559.65; there is a limit of \$100 awarded per person, per year.
- b. A Convention offering for the church workers scholarship fund will be taken on June 1, 2025.

Board of Property: Chair Darren Linneman not present. Gene presented a verbal report:

- a. Shay plumbing has been called three times for recent sewer issues.
- b. Weir plumbing inspected the sewer line and found roots toward the end of the line; they indicated we can have those periodically cut without the need to re-line the sewer.
- c. Roof leaks are still being investigated.

Board of Christian Education: Chair Andrea Thacher not present; no report.

School Board: Chair Gayle Linneman presented a verbal report.

- a. A couple of scholarship requests have been received; Gayle and the board will be reviewing those.
- b. Six kindergarteners are committed for next year; the Monday/Wednesday/Friday preschool class is full with 19 enrolled; there are six applicants for the Tuesday/Thursday class.
- c. Julie Thacher suggests an enrollment announcement be placed in the bulletin; information will be provided to Patty for inclusion in the bulletin.
- d. Craig asks if Pastor Ketelsen had talked with Gayle about a high school program; Gayle indicates it is being explored.
- e. Stefani Ketelsen was recognized for five years of service to the kindergarten.

Board of Stewardship: Chair Sharon Strough presents a verbal report.

- a. 110 people attended Easter breakfast.
- b. Sharon and volunteers were commended for the excellent food at the Easter breakfast.
- c. Terry Ehlers mentions he needs help maintaining the weeds around the church sign on Highway 87 since the glass company isn't mowing it any longer; Gene suggests checking with Tim Derendinger.

Gary Naumann motioned to approve the board reports. Earl Mangels seconds. The motion carried.

Unfinished business:

- a. **Review downstairs bathroom bids:** Signature Construction bid was \$73,000; Council members felt this was too much to spend at this time; a second bid was obtained with revised construction plans that total \$21,000; two bids were received from Marathon Building in Columbia that total \$6,500 and \$14,000, depending on the scope of work.
- b. Jason talked with Stefani to learn her major concerns for the existing restrooms; she suggests improved lighting, storage and a changing table in the women's restroom and adding a second sink and upgrading fixtures and stalls in the men's restroom. The configuration of the entry door into the men's restroom also needs to be addressed.

- c. Norman Lenger motioned to give the Church Council discretion to move forward with construction plans for the downstairs restrooms; Craig seconds. Jason asks what amount of money the congregation agrees to spend. Norman feels the Council can determine what is best and bring recommendations to the congregation. There was a call for the question, followed by vote. Motion carried.

New Business:

- a. **Election of officers:** Jason announced that finding candidates to fill vacancies has been difficult; Craig has agreed to continue on the Board of Elders but will need a vote from the assembly to serve another term. Gary Naumann motions to allow an exception to the bylaws so that Craig can serve another term; Gayle seconds. Motion carried. Norman motioned for vote to fill all remaining board vacancies; Gary seconds. Motion carried with the following being elected:
 - i. Jasmine Campbell, Chair of the Board of Christian Education.
 - ii. Gaven Linneman, Chair of the Board of Stewardship.
 - iii. Tim Derendinger, Board of Elders.
 - iv. Craig Meyer, Board of Elders.
 - v. Jason Linneman, re-elected Vice President.
 - vi. Kim Toellner, re-elected Treasurer.

Playground upgrades: Stefani informed the Church Council that the current pea gravel in the playground area does not meet code. A \$13,895 bid for rubber mulch was received; another bid will be needed for gravel removal and site preparation. Gayle motioned to give the Church Council authority to explore options and come back to assembly with bids. Gaven seconds; motion carried.

School Budget: Gayle presented a proposed 2025-2026 school budget that remains the same as last year. Gary motions to approve; Jason seconds. The motion carried.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: Earl Mangels motioned to adjourn and Gaven seconds the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Closing Prayer: The meeting closed with everyone reciting the Lord's prayer.

Attendees: Twenty-nine members and one guest were in attendance.

Georgia Davis; Larry Davis; Sharon Strough; Tim Fahrenbrink; Jason Linneman; Gayle Linneman; Gaven Linneman; Jasmine Campbell; Susan Templemire; Norman Lenger; Pat Lenger; Don Meyer; Randy Strough; Brenda Wells; Billy Mac Wells; Gary Naumann; Earl Mangels; Sharon Thoma; Gladys Moore; Gene Cummins; Terry Ehlers; Craig Meyer; Karen Schnetzler; Bob Schnetzler; Glenda Gerhardt; Diane Cummins; Patty Mangels (guest); Julie Thacher; Arlene Loesing; Tammy Meyer

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Meyer
Church Council Secretary

STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH BOARD

There are many ongoing outreach opportunities here at the church and in the District. Some of them are listed below.

In June, Terry Ehlers and Santa Fe Lawns used their equipment to cut brush and cut down weeds around the church's sign located on Bingham Road/87 Highway. Thank you to all who donated their time in cleaning up around the sign.

Vacation Bible school will be held from 5:30-7:30 pm on July 28th – August 1st. This year's theme is Wonder Junction. Volunteers are needed to help make VBS successful. Please see the notice elsewhere in the newsletter for more information.

Our preschool and kindergarten are currently accepting applications, as well as Zion Lutheran School in Lone Elm.

Every Christmas season volunteers from the church ring the bells for Boonslick Salvation Army to help them raise funds for their services.

Heit's Point can always use volunteers to assist in their ongoing events.

Immanuel had a special offering for the 2025 Missouri District Convention. This year the offering will be designated for *Tomorrow's Teachers & Preachers*, the scholarship endowment for university and seminary students preparing for professional church work vocations.

Lutheran Hour Ministries/Lutheran Laymen's League needs volunteers to provide help in their booth at the Missouri State Fair in August. For more information, email Sharon Hutcheson at

dshutch7@hotmail.com or call/text her at 660-287-4581.

Faith Comes By Hearing provides solar powered audio Bibles to communities around the world. There is also the Bible.is app available to download the Bible on your phone. Immanuel has a special offering once a year to support this program.

The seminars, LCMS colleges, and student centers located at state affiliate university also need support, whether by prayers, volunteers, or donations.

There were 5 prayer requests in May. June prayer requests were 2.



The suggested donations in the month of July for the NHN Food Pantry is drink mixes, juice boxes, or canned meats (tuna, salmon, chicken, beef, pork, Vienna sausages). As always, any non-perishable canned and boxed goods are welcome, as well as cash or C&R gift certificates. Food Pantry envelopes are available in the Narthex. **Please make checks to Neighbors Helping Neighbors.** Thank you for your generosity.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS DISTRIBUTION

Tuesday, July 1st, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, July 8th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 15th, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES AND LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

Lutheran Hour Ministries/Lutheran Laymen's League is looking for volunteers to man their booth at the Missouri State Fair (August 7th – 17th in Sedalia, MO). Each volunteer or pair of volunteer spends 4 hours sharing their smiles, greetings, and free materials with people as they pass the booth. It is a rewarding way to be Jesus' hands and feet in that place. Each day is divided into 3 shifts: 9 am – 1 pm, 1 pm – 5 pm, and 5 pm – 8 or 9 pm (depending on the day). Volunteers are asked to keep materials stocked on the table and rack and to offer them to visitors. All materials will be provided by the district Lutheran Hour Ministry board. There are items for youth and for adults. Email Sharon Hutcheson at dshutch7@hotmail.com for more information. You can also call/ text her at 660-287-4851. The church office also has an email with more information.



2025-2026 Immanuel Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment is open. For an application, please contact Glenda Gerhardt at 660-888-9996.



Boonslick Salvation Army - Cooper & Howard Counties
49 likes • 88 followers

Boonslick Salvation Army – Cooper & Howard Counties is asking for help to grow their Facebook Page. If you are active on Facebook, please go to their Facebook Page and “Like” them and/or “Follow” them. This way they can keep more of their community updated on the services that they offer to friends and neighbors.



Changes to *The Lutheran Hour* broadcast have recently occurred in your area. The final broadcast of *The Lutheran Hour* on KSIS 1050 AM was May 25, 2025. To find other airings near you, check the broadcast guide at lhm.org/guide.

The Lutheran Hour is available today in many other ways beyond traditional radio. From the American Forces Network, Sirius XM satellite radio, lutheranhour.org, the Connected by LHM mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Spotify, iHeartRadio, YouTube, dialing in or your phone, and more, listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are.

For more information about Lutheran Hour Ministries, visit lhm.org.

ABCmouse®





Howdy, partners! Are your little cowpokes ready for a rootin'-tootin' good time? Then catch the next train to Wonder Junction at Immanuel Lutheran!

July 28th - August 1st
5:30pm - 7:30pm
Ages 3 - completed 5th grade



<http://bit.ly/4k7dTs7>

For more information contact Glenda Gerhardt

☎ 660-888-9996

Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Preschool & Kindergarten
1001 Immanuel Drive
Boonville, MO 65233

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S POSTAGE PAID
BOONVILLE, MO
PERMIT NO. 330

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

July, 2025 Vol. 58, No. 7

Published Monthly

www.ImmanuelBoonvilleMO.church

<u>What's Inside</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
Anniversaries & Birthdays	7
Announcements	5-7
Bible Studies	2
Calendar	Insert
Church Contact Information	2
Church Membership Changes	Insert
Church Statistics	Insert
Congregational Assembly Minutes	3-4
Office Hours	2
July Scripture Readers	Insert
Shut-ins	Insert
Stewardship/Outreach Board	4-5
The Pastor's Page	1-2
Those Who Serve	Insert
Zoom Services	2

The Bibles and BBQ Men's Group will not meet on Wednesday, July 9th. The next Bibles and BBQ Men's Group will be on Wednesday, July 23rd.