



Immanuel Lutheran Church, School
and Child Care Center
604 S Chestnut Ave., Marshfield, WI
Website: immanuelmarshfield.org



On January 29th at the annual meeting of the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MACCI), there was one organization which was the first to be recognized and celebrated in the list of all the other organizations present. None of the other organizations had been “in business” as long as this one. The Certificate of Appreciation awarded to this one organization reads, “This certificate is given to celebrate reaching 145 years in business in 2025. Thank you for your continued investment to the Marshfield Area Community.” It goes on to say, “This Certificate is proudly awarded to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School.” Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Think of it. For 145 years Immanuel Lutheran Church and School has been about “the business” of teaching, sharing and reaching out with God’s gift of Jesus, The Christ, to the Marshfield community and beyond. Immanuel has been about “the business” of making disciples of all nations as Christ has commissioned His church and school. “Immanuel” means “God with us.” God in the person of Jesus with us in Word and Sacrament. God the Spirit always with us to remind us of who we are and what we have been called to, whatever the circumstances. The “circumstances” in 1927 lead Immanuel Lutheran Church and School to sever its ties with the Wisconsin Synod. After a “he said, she said” controversy between Synod leadership and the elected leaders of Immanuel, the Synod suspended Immanuel’s pastor, the Rev. O. Hensel. Immanuel’s lay leaders sided with Rev. Hensel, “declaring our faith in and our loyalty to our Pastor and condemn your entire stand toward him.” Immanuel Lutheran Church and School then severed all connections with the Wisconsin Synod. Immanuel Lutheran Church and School managed to stay “in business.”

The “circumstances” in 1932 then had the Rev. Hensel and the Rev. G. Gieschen resign from Immanuel Lutheran Church and School. Not only did the pastors resign, but also resigning with them were the “members of the executive bodies and the parochial school faculty,” declaring themselves “at variance with the majority of the congregation regarding the practical application of Christian truths.” Immanuel Lutheran Church and School managed to stay “in business.”

Fast forward to the 2020 pandemic when Immanuel Lutheran School was shut down and Immanuel’s Childcare Center’s attendance was six. Immanuel Lutheran Church and School managed to stay “in business.” How, and why? Because we are Immanuel – God with us, whatever the circumstances.

When I was serving as the Senior Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge, Iowa, on the eve of Ascension Day 1999, an arsonist broke into the church and set it on fire, completely destroying which at one time had been the largest Lutheran church building and sanctuary in Iowa. The day after we held our Ascension Day service outside in the Lutheran school’s parking lot. With the smell of the fire still pungent, we sang, “Built on the Rock the Church shall stand, Even when steeples are falling...” It’s number 645 in today’s hymnal.

We keep celebrating, appreciating, and giving thanks whatever the circumstances have been, are, and will be for Immanuel Lutheran Church, School, and Childcare Center. Yet we do so not only because we have been “in business” these 145 years. But more so because God, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit is the Rock upon which Immanuel Lutheran Church, School and Childcare Center stands. We do so because the Great Three in One has remained ever faithful, always invested, and ever present to be “in business” with us, whatever the circumstances. Praise God from Whom *all* blessings flow!

Pastor Chris

SCHOOL NEWS

March 10th through March 15th is Immanuel Lutheran School Week. We have a lot of fun activities scheduled for our students to celebrate the blessing of being in a Lutheran School and joining over 172,000 students and 1,800 schools across the country. Please continue to pray for our Day School, Child Care Center, our staff, and our students. Please check the “Peek” for a detailed list of each of the events throughout the week.

NINE REASONS TO CHOOSE A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**1. God’s Word Is Taught**

*Christian schools offer a refreshing, biblical alternative. Not only is the Bible taught for what it is, but it is taught in Math, Social Studies, Science, and all academic subjects.

2. God Commands Us to Teach Kids Through the Word

*God expects you, as a Christian parent, to plant and nurture His Word in the hearts and minds of your children. This is best accomplished in settings where home, church, and school all send the same message.

3. The School Shares Your Values

*Even the best public schools are prohibited by law from reinforcing the values you teach at home.

4. Safety

*In addition to physical well-being, Christian schools offer a much safer emotional and spiritual environment.

5. Academic Achievement

*Contrary to some opinions, students in Christian school consistently out-perform their public school counterparts and are better prepared for college upon graduation.

6. Teachers Love and Fear the Lord

*Part of the reason students do so well in the classroom is that they have a higher percentage of teachers who genuinely care about them and help them succeed. The teachers sacrifice greater monetary rewards to serve.

7. Individual Attention

*Christian schools generally have smaller class sizes. The smaller class sizes mean students get more help and are encouraged to be participants rather than spectators.

8. Success After Graduation

*Students who have attended a Christian school in their formative years are better equipped spiritually and academically to handle the rigors of higher education.

9. Peer Pressure

*Make no mistake, your kids will be exposed to bad company no matter where they go to school. Sometimes they may BE the bad company. But in a Christian environment, they’ll be less likely to find themselves surrounded by destructive influences, and far more likely to find positive ones.

This information was found in an article titled Discover Christian Schools.

We thank you, Lord God, for the school you have blessed us with. May it bring more and more people to come to know you and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. Amen

Blessings,
~Jill Helgerson



Baptism: Porter Arthur Lee Shaw was baptized on February 8, 2025. He is the son of Cody and Kendall Shaw. Godparents are Tennli Driscoll, Calvin Stauber and Benjamin Dwyer.

Message from MomCo—MomCo would like to express their gratitude to Immanuel Lutheran Church for opening our doors to support their group and their mission. They feel Immanuel Lutheran is a warm and welcoming place for their group to grow, connect and be supported!

Death: Violet Leonard, 94, passed away January 22, 2025 at Serenity Living in Marshfield. Funeral Services were held at 11:00 am on Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at Rembs Funeral Home. A celebration of life will be held at Rembs Celebration Center on June 14, 2025.

Message from Toys for Tots—Thank you for your willingness to be a 2024 toy collection site in the North Wood County Toys for Tots Campaign! Without your help, this program would not be able to serve so many families in our area. This Christmas, toys for tots was able to collect 4,500 toys. Those toys were distributed to 1,100 children and teenagers!

Death: Marcelyn Y. Sessions, 87, was called to her eternal home on January 23, 2025 while residing at Three Oaks Health Services in Marshfield. At this time, there will be no formal services.

Congratulations to Desirae and Adam Davidson on their marriage, January 4, 2025 in Poynette, WI. Desirae is the daughter of Kyle and Tania Davis. Desirae & Adam met while working at Camp Timberline in Colorado. Blessing on a long and happy marriage to Desirae and Adam!

Youth Ministry at Immanuel

Catechism Instruction for 7th & 8th Grade

Wednesdays: 6:30-7:30pm

Simple Truth Youth Praiseband, 5th Grade & up

Sundays: 10:15am.

High School Youth

Wednesdays: 7:30-9:00pm

Kid's Bible Study

Wednesdays: 6:30-7:30pm

Message from the Youth Group The Immanuel Lutheran Youth Group (Immanuel Youtherans) is preparing for the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July. We have 12 youth and 4 adults who will be attending the gathering. In the upcoming months, look for more information about the National Youth Gathering as well as the youth and adults who will be attending.

Lutheran Women in Mission

Our next meeting will be held March 11, 2025 at 6:30pm. Remember that guests, friends and visitors are always welcome!

Youth will be selling home-made candy, with the assistance of Deb Schafer, to help raise funds for the National Youth Gathering. We will start selling February 26th through March 24th. Pick up candy is to be expected on:

Chapel Communion

March 20, 2025 at 1:30pm is the next chapel with communion. This is open to anyone!

Wednesday, April 2nd

Saturday, April 5th

Sunday, April 6th.

“Reading, Learning, Marking and Inwardly Digesting God’s Word” aka Bible Study.

Weekly schedule below...

Sundays: 7:45a-8:45a in the Conference Room

Mondays: 1p-2:15p in the Conference Room

Wednesdays: 1p-2:15p in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays: 6:15p-7:15p in the Conference Room

Look for youth before and after church to get your delicious, home-made candy for the upcoming Easter season!

The topic will be the same for all four weekly sessions. All are invited!

Bible Study is recorded and a YouTube link is provided in the weekly bulletin distribution.

THANK YOU for all the generous donations from the congregation. As of today, \$5,060 has been donated to help support the Pupil’s family.

Youth Group Says THANK YOU for all who have donated to our expenses for the National Youth Gathering, including families and contributors of recent memorials for Beverly Kuse, Ronald Parks and Larry Warren.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL & CHILD CARE CENTER

604 South Chestnut Avenue, Marshfield, WI
 Phone (715) 384-5121
 Website: Immanuelmarshfield.org
 Email: info@immanuelmarshfield.org

Office Hours: 7:30am-4pm

Rejoice is published by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Marshfield, WI to inform the congregation of upcoming events as well as to promote Christian love, fellowship and understanding.

PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. Chris A. Schwanz—Pastor
 Rev. Donn Radde—Visitation Pastor

SCHOOL FACULTY:

Jill Helgerson, Principal
 Rev. Gary Albert—7/8 Catechism
 Jen Schifelbine—Grade 7—8; 5/6 Science
 Renee Hammond—Grades 5—6, 7/8 Math
 Brenda Kuhnau—Grade 4
 Heidi Foemmel—Grade 3
 Jill Helgerson—Grade 2 Morning
 Sara Vechinski—Grade 2 afternoon
 Beth Hollatz—Grade 1

Emily Marino—Kindergarten
 Christina Berger—Elementary Aide
 Renee Griepentrog—4K
 Erica Borgo—4K PM/Art
 Jan Simonson-School Music
 Nicholas Olsen—Physical Education
 Jordyn Helgerson—Computer;Elementary Aide
 Jessica Bucheger—Athletic Director
 Dennis Wibben—Director, Nutrition Services
 Heidi Schwanz—Nutrition Services Accounting

CHILD CARE STAFF:

Brooke Draves, Child Care Supervisor
 Sheena Brunzo
 Destiny Brunzo
 Jenny Flugel
 Jeanine Kaszuba
 Caitlyn Muraski
 Miranda Ruiz

CUSTODIAL STAFF:

Terry Fischer
 Dan Langteau

OFFICE STAFF:

Cathy Muraski—Business Manager
 Danyelle Hasz—Administrative Assistant

Immanuel Worship Services Broadcast Update:

View via Roku, Amazon, Apple TV Live, and YouTube Live on-demand and at the times listed.
Sunday 9am services are broadcast on Charter/Spectrum Cable Digital 989 at these times:
Sundays at 2:30pm Tuesdays at 1:30pm Fridays at 12:30pm
If anyone has comments/concerns please connect with Corey Kuhnau at 715-897-6443.

Elected Board Members:

JJ Jensen—President , Steve Koran —Vice President, Becca Ayer—Secretary
Board of Education: Jolene Albert, Kim Bernarde, Daniel Craft, Krista Henderson, Amanda Sessions
Board of Elders: Dave Henning, Corey Kuhnau, Eldore Messerschmidt, Dave Rogers, John Simonson
Board of Administration: Laura Abel, Kurt Hollatz, Al Merkel, Tom Schafer, Joe Vechinski

Mission Statement

"Immanuel Lutheran Church, School and Child Care Center:

Reaching out to all people, teaching and sharing God’s gift of Jesus Christ, with the values of empowering, equipping and encouraging all the saints.”

Immanuel Lutheran has two ways to set up recurring contributions.

- 1. Consider automatic contributions drawn on your bank account through “Simply Giving.”**
 You choose the amount and date of withdrawal. Forms are located by the church office door.
- 2. Giving online is fast, easy and secure.**



PLEASE NOTE :

To check for cancellation of worshipservices during bad weather, view Wausau TV Channels 7 or 9 or the Immanuel Lutheran Website: immanuelmarshfield.org

Entry doors to use are the church doors off of Chestnut Ave DOOR #3 or #5 & behind the church DOOR #11 for security reasons. Grab your tickets in the Church Narthex!

Game/Food Tickets:
5/\$1 in advance @the school office
4/\$1 @the door

Immanuel Lutheran School
presents:

CARNIVAL

March 15, 2025 10am-2pm
604 S Chestnut Ave



Ways to Help With Carnival:

- ◆ Donate money or new items to the Silent Auction/Raffle Baskets or Donate Large Baskets. These items are due in office by March 1st.
- ◆ Donate a cake or 6-pack of cupcakes for the cakewalk. These are due in Fellowship Hall on March 13th or 14th.
- ◆ Stop in the office when it gets closer or fast direct PTL to see if any other help is needed.
- ◆ Or just join us the day of the event.

Advance Carnival Ticket Order

Bring payment and order to the office. Cash or Checks made out to "Immanuel Lutheran"
Ticket Pick Up at the Welcome Table in the Church Narthex the day of Carnival

Tickets are used for games & concessions.

Quantity	Price
5 tickets	\$1
25 tickets	\$5
50 tickets	\$10
100 tickets	\$20
150 tickets	\$30

Name	Quantity	\$

Concessions:

Individual Pizza	25 tickets	Pop/Water	5 tickets
Hotdog	10 tickets	Cheese Curds	5 tickets
Hotdog, curds, chips	20 tickets	Cookie/Bar	5 tickets
Buttered Noodles	15 tickets		

Advance tickets: 5 for \$1 by March 1st or At the door 4 for \$1

Lent, Holy Week & Easter Worship Service Schedule:

Ash Wednesday/Communion—March 5 at 5:00pm & 6:30pm
With meal provided by Youth Group at 5:45pm.

Midweek Lenten Services are March 12, 19, 26. April 2 and 9 at 5:00pm. With a 5:45pm Lenten Meal to follow. **We are seeking groups of people to prepare and serve meals for midweek services. Please sign up at the library table in the narthex. If an evening has no meal sponsor, it will be a potluck.**

Maundy Thursday/Communion—April 17 at 4:00pm & 6:30pm

Good Friday/Communion—April 18 at 1:00pm & 6:30pm

Easter Sunday/Communion—April 20 at 6:30am Contemporary Worship & 9:00am Traditional Worship



Message from Jeremiah Jensen, Congregational President:

In the upcoming month, a nominations committee will be forming to begin the search for our 2025 candidates. Board positions that will be opened this year include:

- Board of Administration (2)*
- Board of Education (2)*
- Board of Elders (2)*
- Vice President of the Congregation.*

Please prayerfully consider joining the nominations committee, or accepting a nomination for one of our open positions. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

My phone number is 308-379-4592 or email of jjensen@charter.net.

Thank you.



Spring Luncheon

At Immanuel Lutheran Church—all Church Involvement and Public Invited on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 from 11am—1pm. \$9.00 at the door.

Upcoming News!!

LWML Spring Rally on Saturday, April 26, 2025.
More information to come.