

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

942 Grape Avenue, Fisher, IL 61843-8512



Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

November 2023



From Pastor McPike's Desk...

I hear it all the time.

“We’ve got lots of people praying.”

“He’s on multiple Facebook prayer lists... tens of thousands are praying for him.”

“We’re all praying so hard.”

“Please pray for us, chaplain.” (I often think that statement means that members of the clergy are heard more readily than prayers of others).

Is there a point at which prayer becomes “works righteous” – the more you pray, the harder you pray, the more people that pray, the better the chance God is going to give you what you want?

Luke 18:1-8a: And [Jesus] said a parable to them to show that they must always pray and not grow weary, saying, “There was a certain judge in a certain city not fearing God and not respecting man. And there was a widow in that city, and she continually came to him, saying, ‘Vindicate me against my opponent.’

“And he was not willing for a long time. But after these things, he said to himself, ‘Even if I do not fear God nor respect men, on account of the trouble this widow causes me, I will vindicate her, with the result that she not keep coming until [the] end and wear me out.’ ”

And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. But will not God make vindication of his elect who are crying to him day and night and be long-suffering to them? I say to you that he will make their vindication quickly.” (Translation by Dr. A.A. Just, 1988)

Is the message of this “Pester God enough and He’ll give you what you want?” What about those who pray hard and do NOT get what they want? If this has you wondering about prayer, wanting to know more about it, wanting to learn more, then you need to be in Bible Class on Sunday mornings at 8:30 right at our little corner of God’s Kingdom called Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman. We will be studying prayer starting Sunday, November 12th and continuing through the end of the year.

All Saints Day will also be celebrated on Sunday, November 5th. For a very long time, the first Sunday in November was celebrated in the church as "All Saints Day". Different Christian churches have different views on this day and what exactly saints are. In the Lutheran Church, saints are made at the baptismal font, those covered with the righteousness of Christ. Thus, we are ALL SAINTS. It has been a custom over a number of years to use this day as a sort of "church memorial day" to remember those who died over the past year, or since we celebrated All Saints last year. This year, we plan to remember Jeri Bidner, Arnita Zimmerman, Shirley Sprau, Mike Miller, and Alvin Hinrichs. God's blessings as we celebrate life for them in heaven.

Ladies Aid/LWML Sunday

Ladies Aid/LWML Sunday was held on Sunday, October 8th. The LWML is the largest mission minded organization recognized by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. The national mission grant goal for 2023 - 2025 has been declared at \$2,350,000. The theme was “The King Is Coming” based on Psalm 24:7-10. Annette Warsaw printed the colored bulletin covers depicting this theme. Terri Hooker, Deb Martin, and Diana Zimmerman decorated the front and back of the church with the quilts that the ladies made this year. Some of the dresses that the ladies have made for little girls in Africa were also displayed along the sides of the church. Debbie Martin and Diana Zimmerman were the greeters at the door, and Brenda Hendricks was the reader. The back bulletin board under the balcony illustrated the mission projects that our local group participated in this last year. Mite boxes were available on the back table for all members who wanted to take one home and fill it with extra change to help finance some of these great ways to serve their fellow mankind and help educate them about the love of Jesus and His promise of eternal life.



Time Change

Daylight Saving Time started on March 12, 2023, and will end on November 5th, 2023. DO NOT FORGET to set clocks BACK an hour before bedtime on Saturday, November 4th. More and more people have become dissatisfied with the time change. Many states, including Illinois, have introduced legislation to end the time change, but no action has been taken in Illinois.

Ladies Aid/LWML

The Ladies Aid/LWML ladies will meet on Thursday, November 9th at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall. (NOTICE THE TIME CHANGE!) The topic will be given by Brenda Hendricks, and the hostesses will be Terri Hooker and Debbie Lammle. Roll call will be answered with a Bible verse on thanks.

Quilting

The ladies will be quilting on Monday, November 6th at 8 AM. This will be the beginning of the new count of quilts for the year as the 124 quilts that were completed last year were shipped to Lutheran World Relief and Orphan Grain Train in the month of October. All ladies of the congregation are invited to help with this mission project.

Benefit Soup Supper



Mark your calendars now for a benefit soup supper which will be held on Saturday, November 11, in the fellowship hall from 4:30 PM to 7 PM. The menu will include oyster soup, potato soup, chili, sandwiches, and desserts. The recipient will be Rob Gallier of Mahomet. Rob has had several medical issues recently and is presently on dialysis. Rob was very involved with the Mahomet High School football team. The food donation sheet is posted on the back bulletin board. Two Thrivent Action Team cards will be used to buy paper supplies and groceries.

Church Officers Needed

In January 2024 the church council will be needing names to fill the election ballot. The positions that will need to be filled on the council will be a chairman, treasurer, two elders, one trustee, and one assistant financial secretary. Be thinking about how YOU can use your talents to serve the congregation. There will be a sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board in the near future.

November Lawn Mowers

During the month of November, the trustees will take over the job of mowing the church property. With the early frosts and the cooler temperatures, the grass has quit growing but some leaf raking may still be necessary. Thank you to all of the members who mowed from April through October. Your service is very much appreciated!



Happy Thanksgiving!

Church Council

The church council will meet on Wednesday, November 15th, at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall.

Upcoming Church Services

All Saints Service – Sunday, November 5th – during regular worship service

Thanksgiving Service – Sunday, November 19th – 7 PM

Advent Service – Sunday, December 3rd - during regular worship service

Christmas Eve Service – Sunday, December 24th – 7 PM

Orphan Grain Train



Orphan Grain Train sent a box truck to pick up donations at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Springfield on Saturday, October 21st. Our ladies sent 19 quilts and 3 bags of women's clothes. The items donated from the Springfield area filled the truck to capacity. There were 700 quilts, 50 bags of clothes, 15 boxes of school kits, 25 boxes of hygiene kits, 132 pillowcase dresses, 6 bags of hats, scarves, and gloves, 12 bags of baby items, many boxes of school supplies, toys, walkers, crutches, and many miscellaneous items. \$142 in cash was also collected.

Thank You

Amy Jamison and Family were the Ladies Aid/LWML adopted family for the first part of 2023. Since then, she has been diagnosed with breast cancer. In August and September, the members of the congregation had the opportunity to donate to a fund to help her. We received this thank you: "To all who graciously gave in my support. Words cannot express the love and support I feel from your congregation. It is so appreciated and is helping me through this rough journey. I am grateful for each and every one of you! Love, Amy"

Our congregation makes a mission donation to the Mahomet, Blue Ridge, and Fisher School Districts to help pack meals for hungry students. We received this thank you: "Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman, Thank you for your recent donation to support food insecure students in the Fisher schools. We appreciate the generosity of your parishioners in looking out for kids in the community who are facing hunger. With your donation 45 bags can be packed for these kids which include breakfasts, snacks, and lunch items. Food insecurity affects 1 in 5 kids in Champaign County, and we know that it can take a toll on kids' learning ability when they come to school hungry on Monday. Thank you for helping us out so we can continue our vital mission. Allison Dupre – Executive Director of Feeding Our Kids"



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11-02....Deb Peyton
 11-03.... C. J. Genzel
 11-06....Lee Whitehouse
 11-10....Malachi Johnson
 11-11....Karen Bryan
 11-11....Brent Lutz
 11-13....Randy Zimmerman
 11-14....Steve Warsaw
 11-15....Dwight Hooker
 11-16....Rick Hardesty
 11-19....Mary Beth Duncan
 11-22....Agnes Watson
 11-25....Jenna Clemmons

One of our home bound members, Karen Bryan, will celebrate her birthday this month. Let's make her day special by sending her cards. Her address is Karen Bryan, 1400 North Melvin Street, Villas of Holly Brook Apt. 22 in Gibson City, Illinois 60936

Statistics

Date	Worship	Bible Class	Sunday School
October 1	28	8	1
October 8	46	16	2
October 15	50	14	1
October 22	38	8	4



Anniversary

11-03-2001...Annette and Jeff Warsaw
 11-16-2002...Stefani and Greg Warsaw
 11-20-2016...Rong and Aaron Warsaw
 11-22-1969...Connie and Don Warsaw
 11-26-1983...Anne and Bill Amdor

Amy Jamison Benefit



The Amy Jamison Benefit was held on Sunday, October 22nd at the Farmer City American Legion Building. Our church donated many amazing baked items which were auctioned at the benefit. Along with a few other baked items that were donated, the amount raised from the baked goods was \$965. The Ladies Aid/LWML also donated a basket which contained one of the fleece blankets that the Sunday School children tied, a Dairy Queen gift card, ice cream toppings, and a box of ice cream cones. The entire benefit raised \$11,200 to help Amy with her medical expenses as she tackles breast cancer. Thank you to all the members who baked items and to Bob and Diana Zimmerman and Terri Hooker who transported all of the baked items to the benefit.