

# THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

942 Grape Avenue, Fisher, IL 61843-8512



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

**October 2025**



In Autumn, we naturally think of change. Leaves change colors and fall to the ground. Our wardrobe changes as warm summer breezes give way to brisk autumn winds. Clocks change back to “regular time.” The days grow shorter and the nights longer.

As we deal with these and other changes, we can thank God that we are not buzzards, bats, or bumble bees! If a buzzard is placed in a 6x8-foot pen with no top, it is trapped because it must begin its flight with a 10-12-foot run. A bat placed on the ground will lie helplessly because it must take off from an elevated position. A bumblebee will remain trapped in an open jar because it can’t look up, only down and sideways. The buzzard, bumblebee, and bat may become stuck in a difficult or unfamiliar situation.

God gave us the ability to adapt to change. He changes our hearts when we repent, deny ourselves, and trust in him for forgiveness and salvation. We can look up to God in prayer and search His Word for guidance. He lifts us up when we are down. And when we feel trapped, he enables us to soar above our circumstances. We can embrace change with confidence that he will carry us through any situation.

As we experience changes, it is comforting to know that God never changes. “The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.” Isaiah 40:8 “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8 According to his unchanging promises, he blesses us and gives us strength, courage, direction, and comfort when we face difficult changes and losses.

Rev. Jeff Harter, Chaplain at Concordia Lutheran Village in Springfield

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## **Time Change**

Daylight Saving Time started on March 9, 2025, and will end on November 2nd, 2025. DO NOT FORGET to set clocks BACK an hour before bedtime on Saturday, November 1st. 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.

## **Operation Christmas Child Donations**

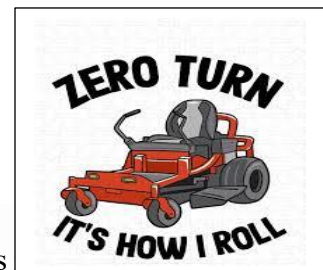
Thank you to our members who graciously donated many school supplies for the Operation Christmas Child boxes this year. Two Thrivent Action Team cards will be used to complete the purchasing of supplies and the shipping expenses. The Sunday School children with the help of some adults will pack the boxes in November. The boxes will then be taken to Gibson City to the collection point. This project would not be possible without the donations from the congregation! Thank you!

## **Ladies Aid/LWML Sunday**

Ladies Aid/LWML Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, October 5th. The 2005 theme is "GO" based on the Ascension text found in Luke 25:44-53. LWML Sunday is celebrated annually in most Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod churches. Some of the Ladies Aid/LWML members will serve as greeters and readers on this Sunday. Some of the 88 quilts and some of the many dresses that the ladies have made for mission projects will be displayed in the church for two Sundays in October. The flowers on the altar on that date will be purple and yellow which are the official LWML colors. Mite boxes will be available for all members on a table at the back of the church. All members can collect coins to donate to the many mission projects of the Central Illinois District LWML and the National LWML.

## **Possible October Lawn Mowers**

The week of September 28 – October 4 – Shaun Zimmerman  
The week of October 5 – October 11 – Steve Martin  
The week of October 12 – October 18 – Jerry Niemann  
The week of October 19 - October 25 – Brenda Hendricks  
The week of October 26 – November 2 – Dwight Hooker



The schedule this year lists the week that the volunteer needs to mow. It is Thursday through Saturday of that week so it looks nice for Sunday. If you have misplaced your schedule which was in the March newsletter, there is one on the back bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact trustee Jeff Warsaw or John Grussing.

## **Soup Supper Benefit**



Mark your calendars now for a benefit soup supper which will be held on Saturday, November 8th, 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 Casey Thomas and Family of Bellflower. Her husband died in August at the age of 49, and she has two children and two disabled parents that she is caring for. The food donation sheet will be posted on the back bulletin board soon. Two Thrivent Action Team cards will be used to buy supplies.

## **Pastor Appreciation/Reformation Celebration**

Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, will be a busy day at Osman. The regular adult Bible Class, Confirmation Class, and Sunday School will be held at 8:30 followed by the regular worship service at 9:30. The Quarterly Congregational Meeting will be held after the worship service. Everyone is then invited to a potluck to celebrate Reformation and Pastor Appreciation Day in the fellowship hall. Come join in eating some select items of German food! More details will follow in the upcoming bulletins.

## **Reformation**

Within the Lutheran Church, Reformation Day is officially referred to as THE FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION. Until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, most Lutheran churches celebrated Reformation Day on October 31<sup>st</sup>, regardless of which day of the week it occurred. Today, most Lutheran churches transfer the festival on or before October 31<sup>st</sup>. The liturgical color of the day is red, which represents the Holy spirit and the Martyrs of the Christian Church. Luther's hymn "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" is traditionally sung on this day. The Reformation will be celebrated in our regular worship service on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Church Council**

The church council will meet on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. There will also be a Quarterly Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> after the worship service.

## **Fall Festival**

The weather on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, could not place a damper on the spirits of the 37 members and friends of Immanuel Osman who came out for the very first Saturday night church service. Jerry Niemann led the service with a hymn sing, letting the members suggest favorite as well as new songs from the hymnal. Theresa VanWakeman Wilson read the lessons, and Jerry read the Gospel. The service ended with prayers. The potluck meal was enjoyed by all, even though the dryness kept us from cooking the hot dogs on a bonfire. Following the meal, the kids decorated cookies with the favorite creative cookie prize going to Colt Zimmerman, son of MacKenzie and Chase Zimmerman. All the children received a pumpkin to take home. The favorite ice cream prize went to Debbie Lammle, even though a tight race made it very difficult to judge. Thanks to everyone who came out to this "Fall Festival", brought delicious food, and then helped clean up afterwards.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ANOTHER SATURDAY SERVICE? LET YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS KNOW!**

## **Ladies Aid/LWML**

Ladies Aid/LWML does NOT have a monthly meeting in October, and the ladies do not quilt in October. The next meeting will be November 13 and the next quilting dates will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.



## Fall Festival



*Pray for a safe harvest for the farmers!*

## **Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting**

Six ladies met on September 11th for the Ladies Aid/LWML meeting at 7 PM in the fellowship hall. The common table prayer was recited before delicious refreshments were served by Wilma Grussing and Diana Zimmerman. After the meeting was called to order, the LWML Pledge was recited. Brenda Hendricks led a topic on the many different gifts that God has given us as prepared by Debbie Lammle. Roll call was answered by a Bible verse on harvest. The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved. The mites were collected, and President Hendricks led a mite prayer on the grant for helping Ukraine's orphans and displaced persons. The treasurer's report was given which showed a balance of \$2852.18. It was reported that 80 quilts have been completed as of the time of the meeting with one more quilting date scheduled before they are shipped. Both Lutheran World Relief and Orphan Grain Train quilts will be delivered to pick-up locations in late October.

In the old business President Hendricks thanked Debbie Lammle and Debbie Martin for organizing the August luncheon which was held in Loda at Murdocks. 14 members and friends attended and shared great food and fellowship. She thanked all the ladies who helped make food, serve food, and did various other duties for the Danville Zone Rally which we hosted on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

In new business the group was informed of our newly adopted Seminary student, who is Johnathan Bernau who is from the Central Illinois District. The group will give \$85 per month for the 9 months of his school year. President Hendricks also shared a letter from the Seminary Student Adoption Program informing us that the changes that were to be made with our student aid donation (Deducting 2% of our donation to help with administrative costs) has been reconsidered so all of our donation will help the student. The group voted to give \$250 to Lutheran World Relief for the shipping costs for the quilts. LWML Sunday was discussed. Members signed up for greeters and readers with arrangements made to decorate the church with quilts and dresses, design a bulletin board about our organization, and place flowers on the altar on LWML Sunday on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming election of officers was announced. Each member received a slip of paper to fill out on what positions they would like to be elected for. The forms need to be returned to the nominating committee by October 31<sup>st</sup> and they will make up the ballot for the November meeting. The next meeting will be held on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM. The topic will be given by Marsha Warsaw, and the hostesses will be Debbie Lammle and Sue Van Wakeman. Roll call will be answered on a Bible verse on showing thanks.

## **Picture Clarity**

The October newsletter that is being handed out today has several pictures to accompany articles. When you print color pictures in black and white they not only lose some of their beauty but they also do not appear clear. To view the newsletter with the pictures in color go to the church website at **[Church@OsmanLutheran.org](mailto:Church@OsmanLutheran.org)**. Click on newsletters and go the appropriate month.

## **Summary of the September Council Meeting**

Nine elected church officers attended the meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting began with a reading from Jeremiah 23:16-29 by Pastor McPike, followed by prayer. Debbie Lammle read the minutes from the last council meeting. With no corrections, the minutes were approved as read. The treasurer's report was read with a balance of \$48,758.94 as of the end of the month. Total expenses for August were \$8,075.41 and total income was \$13,126.80. Treasurer's report was approved.

Pastor McPike thanked everyone for the opportunity to travel to other churches to preach and take time to travel with his wife. Pastor Frank will be preaching on September 28<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Immanuel Osman. Pastor McPike purchased a new curriculum for the teachers and students, as well as a catechism for each. Debbie Lammle will be teaching the Early Childhood class, including 3 students from ages 5-8. Pastor McPike will install a small computer which goes straight to the sound system so sermons can be recorded for the website. Pastor McPike will be preaching at his home church at Trinity Lutheran Church of Indianapolis, where he attended grade school through Grade 7.

In old business Jerry Niemann has a meeting scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup> with an insurance agent in the area. An agent is scheduled to present to the council the pros and cons of each company- Church Mutual and Brotherhood Mutual. The fall festival was finalized with Jerry Niemann and Alicia Haggin leading the service and playing the keyboard on September 20<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm. The proposed schedule is hymn sing, hay rack ride, potluck dinner (with hot dogs provided), cookie decorating, ice cream and cookie judging, and prizes awarded. Elders will call the members to notify them of no church on September 21<sup>st</sup>. As stated in the "Outreach" committee ideas, the committee suggested making a church brochure. Ideas were given on what should be included in the brochure. Reformation Service/with German Style potluck and Pastor Appreciation scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> was planned. The Mahomet Fall Festival on October 4<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Chairman Lammle suggested, because of the time constraint and not having a brochure about our church ready to hand out, that we not participate in the Mahomet Festival this year but put it on the calendar for next year.

In new business it was announced that the property in Osman that had the fire has been sold. It was proposed that the church offer to help the new owner with the clean-up. A gift for Pastor for Pastor Appreciation was voted on. A new printer cartridge for the old copier in the annex has been located so the old printer now works as a backup. The church was reimbursed for the 800 copies that were made for the Danville Zone LWML Fall Rally that our church hosted. The Stewardship Committee presented three names for possible benefit recipients. After some discussion, Casey Thomas and family from Bellflower was selected.

The Mission "Outreach" Committee then joined the meeting. They are Brenda Edwards, Jane Poppe, and Diana Zimmerman. Jerry Niemann is also a member of the committee. After much discussion, it was agreed that the committee should proceed with the items printed in red on the attached document that was handed out. Discussion was also held concerning the elders bringing the offering up to be blessed during the service and ushering for communion. The committee also made recommendations for the church council which will be considered at future meetings. The meeting was adjourned followed by reciting the Lord's Prayer.



## **Osman Beautification**

On Wednesday, September 24, clean up of the property north of the church's parking lot started in a big way! The property has been purchased by an Osman resident. He is attempting to clean up the corner by recycling the metal in a dumpster and destroying the half burnt house. Dennis Martin was hired to help with the demolition with his heavy equipment. The old storage shed that belonged to the church that sat close to the property line was also included in the demolition. More landscaping and continual disposal of materials will be ongoing.





October 3 – Bill Amdor  
 October 7 – Steve Martin  
 October 8 – Eric Zimmerman  
 October 12 – John Gercken  
 October 12 – Addison Warsaw  
 October 15 – David Kunde  
 October 19 – Jordan Bidner  
 October 19 – Greg Johnson  
 October 22 – Greg Warsaw  
 October 24 – Pastor Jeffrey McPike  
 October 28 – Katherine Masko

### Our Pastor

Have you ever walked in our Pastor's shoes,  
 And gone where his feet have trod?  
 Have you ever thought of what he means to us,  
 And on your knees, given thanks to God?

Have you ever told him thank you,  
 For being there, when times are tough,  
 For comforting words and fervent prayers  
 When trials come and the storms of life are rough?

Have you ever thought to say thank you Pastor,  
 For preaching God's word to help us understand,  
 For all the times he has asked for things  
 That will lend us a helping hand?

When you pray, put him at the top of the list  
 And ask the Lord to surround him with loving care,  
 To give him strength and walk with him,  
 To help him with the burdens that he must bear.

Have you ever walked in our Pastor's shoes,  
 And gone where his feet have trod?  
 Have you ever thought of what he means to us,  
 And on your knees, given thanks to God?

A Pastor Appreciation Poem by Judy Crowe

## Statistics

Date	Worship Service	Bible Class	Sunday School
August 31	50	13	3
September 7	39	11	1
September 14	40	14	3
September 20	37	0	0



October 9, 1982 - Barb and John Gercken  
 October 10, 1981 - Deborah and Dennis Martin  
 October 31, 2005 - Theresa and Rick Wilson

### How to Stay Safe in the World Today!

1. Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water, because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. Above all else avoid hospitals.

You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at Church! Bible Study is safe, too. The percentage of deaths during Bible Study is even less. **FOR SAFETY'S SAKE – ATTEND CHURCH AND READ YOUR BIBLE. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.**