



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

PASTOR KIRK LEE Office: 218.338.2511 Cell: 218.639.1947

Fax: 218.338.5106 Parsonage: 218.338.5351

Secretary email: immanuel@midwestinfo.net Pastor email: ilcpp@midwestinfo.net

Website: www.immanuelparkersprairie.com

## March 2025

### A Word from The Pastor

## Dear Friends in Christ,

### ST PAUL HIGH SCHOOL, MO, CHOIR

We are privileged to host the St Paul Lutheran High School Choir from Concordia, Missouri, on Sunday, March 2 as part of their spring tour. St Paul is the only residential high school in our synod. One of the choir members is MN North District Pres. Brady Finnern's daughter. They will sing during our morning service. They will lead a time of sharing and questions in the fellowship hall. ACT will serve a free pasta bar dinner for everyone at 11:15 AM. They will also present a concert on March 1 at 6:30 PM at Good Shepherd in Alexandria. We will help house the choir Saturday night along with Good Shepherd. If you are interested in housing a couple students, let me know.

### LENT

The season of Lent begins on March 5 with Ash Wednesday. We will offer imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Our services will be at 7 PM throughout lent. We will have soup and sandwich suppers at 6 PM each week. The Gospel in Genesis will be our theme as we explore how God gave the Good News from the very beginning. It is the Good News of the cross. We will see various ways that the cross is foreshadowed and foretold in the first book of the Bible.

### CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

During lent we will adjust our confirmation class schedule. 6<sup>th</sup> grade will meet from 3:30-4:45. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade will meet from 5:00-6:15. In addition 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders will have a confirmation retreat at Lutheran Island Camp March 21-22. Confirmation Sunday for 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be May 11 with Questioning on April 30.

### SIGN UP FOR CAMP!

Camp brochures are available at the narthex counter for anyone who didn't receive one in the mail. Our endowment fund will be providing each child a campership of \$300 for a weeklong camp and \$125 for a weekend camp. Camperships can also be used for Family Camps. You can go to islandcamp.org for more information about the summer camps and to register. It could be the best week of your child's summer!

### SINGLES SHARE AND CARE

On February 14 about 25 singles gathered for soup and sandwiches, a devotion on John 3:16 and time for sharing. People from our sister congregations in Miltona, Carlos and Garfield joined the many Immanuel members who were present. The group decided to have another Share and Care Day on Friday, March 21 at 1:30 PM. All singles are welcome!

### ACT PIZZA SALE

Our ACT and JCT Youth are selling Harry's frozen pizzas through March 12. Pizzas will be delivered March 28 or 29. Harry's Pizzas are made in Elrosa, Minnesota. They are same pizzas that are sold at 1000 Lakes Brewery. Sign up at the narthex counter or contact one of our youth to order pizzas.

### ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER

Our youth will also be doing an envelope fundraiser during lent. There will be a board in the gathering space with envelopes, each with a different donation amount in it from \$1 to \$100. Choose an envelope or two, put the designated amount in it and place it in the offering plate or turn it in to the office. Thank you for supporting our youth! We are blessed to have a group of 23 going to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.

### LWML BAKESALE

A Bakesale will be held Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> with proceeds used to help send Joyce Malmgren to the National LWML Convention in Omaha, NE as the Alexandria Zone delegate. If you'd like to bake some goodies for this event, bring them to the church on March 29<sup>th</sup> to be packaged and priced. Thank you!

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Needed each month in 2025	\$23,009.00
January Offerings	\$15,885.08
Feb Offerings through Feb. 16	\$8,358.00
Offerings under budget through January 31	\$7,123.92

## God's Blessings, Pastor Kirk Lee

## From Vicar Joe's Desk (March 2025)

### The Previous Month:

- Confirmation Classes have been a continuous joy to teach. Finished up Unit 3 where the students learn about the Apostles' Creed and the "What Does This Mean?" for each section.
- It has been fun seeing all of the times that both ACT and JCT kids have been able to use their musical skills in church and as they help out with the church services.
- The Supper Bowl Sandwiches was an experience, and helping with the assembly of over 1,000 sandwiches as a fundraiser for the ACT's trip to New Orleans was new to me. I am thankful that the Church and the community are able and willing to be supportive of the young people and to help raise money for trips in such innovative ways.

### Then Current Month:

- The New Member Class and my Greek Language Lab are going on and happening. The challenge of finding balance between the Church work and the School work is going to be a little tricky for a short time, but I am really excited for what this next month has to offer.
- I am hopeful for some warmer weather, and to see some greenery as the official start of Spring gets closer and closer.

### Looking Forward:

- Ash Wednesday is the official start to the Lent Season and a signal that Easter is just a few weeks away. This whole season serves both a somber moment as Jesus Christ's death on the Cross on Good Friday, and as time to celebrate Jesus' ministry upon His resurrection Easter Morning. All of the work that Jesus does is for all those that believe in Jesus Christ as our savior, and that He has opened Heaven to creation because He has paid the admission price for us on our behalf.
- Call Day on April 23 is the date that I am looking forward to. There is a nervousness that precedes this process, and a time of anticipation as I wait for that day and for my name to be called.
- National Youth Gathering and ACT activities are still happening and it is fun to see the group coming together for a common goal and event. I am a little worried about traveling with so many youth but I am glad to be guided by those with more experience than myself.

### Bible Verse of the Month:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who<sup>[a]</sup> have been called according to his purpose." – Romans 8:28

God Bless  
Vicar Joe Bates

## IMMANUEL QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2025

36 MEMBERS PRESENT

The meeting was called to order by Ray Caauwe at 10:30 AM with an opening devotion by Pastor Lee.

**The SECRETARY'S REPORT** was reviewed and motion carried.

Election of the Church Council was held with the following results: **Chairman** Ray Caauwe, **Co-Head Usher** Arvid Hoppe, **Board of Elders** Paul Diedrich, **Board of Trustees** Jeff Blake, **Endowment Fund** Scott Iverson and Josh Rud, **Board of Education** Ashley Iverson, **Board of Evangelism** Karla Kalpin and Mary Springer, **Board of Finance** Kathy Caauwe, Elmyra Jerome, Dawn Stach.

**The BOARD OF FINANCE/TREASURER'S REPORT:** The 4th Quarter Financial Report and Dedicated Funds Report were read and a motion was made and seconded to approve the reports. A motion was made and seconded to appoint Kathy Caauwe as Dedicated Funds treasurer, and that she be added to signature card and Erin Bolland be removed. Motion carried.

**The BOARD OF ELDERS** reported the following 4th Quarter Official Acts: **Baptisms:** Jaxon Holland, Grayson Klukken, Calleigh Hoyt, Myles Morgan, Braxton Hoyt, Aubreigh Hoyt, Kynsley Munguia, Kaydence Munguia, Carson Ehrenberg and Walter Samuelson **Funerals:** Marlys Hardekopf, Mel Riedel **Weddings:** Madison & Jordan Tyrrell, Lauren & Matthew Jirik. Motion carried to approve the following membership changes: **Released:** Breanna Schluter **Transfer Out:** Mike and Vicki Doehling to Ebenezer Lutheran Church. A motion was made and seconded that non-lily flowers be used for Easter. Motion carried. The Board reports Special Needs Offering will be February 15-16. The board reports that the St. Paul High School Choir will be at church on March 2nd for worship and brunch. A motion was made and seconded that our TIM goal be \$3,000 for 2025. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to apply for a vicar with Trinity, Carlos, for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried.

**The BOARD OF EDUCATION** reports that Lutheran Island Camp Sunday will be February 23rd. Reports VBS will be June 8-12 with an Epic Australian Adventure theme. Reports that 18 youth and 5 adults are registered for the youth gathering in July.

**The BOARD OF EVANGELISM** Reports that a new member welcome dinner was held on January 19th. Reports that an adult confirmation class is currently being held. Reports that Friendship Sunday will be April 13th.

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Reports the exterior of the old church and ed building will be painted this summer. Reports they are looking at getting vinyl plank flooring for the kitchen. Reports they are looking at a new railing on the west end of the church and will bring a firm bid to the next voters meeting for approval.

**The ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to approve the 2025 Endowment budget. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Audit Committee met to go over financial reports. Lutheran Island camp/Cabin Lois will have a clean-up day this spring.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Gilmore and Joyce Jahnke Memorial** was given to the church by their families to be used where needed. Possible mention to use the memorial towards the kitchen flooring project. **New copier** may be needed in the near future. Possible lead on the donation of a new copier, office staff will look into options of purchasing or renting a new copier if the donation falls through.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn with prayer at 11:26 AM

Tiffany Springer, Secretary

## March Anniversaries

Don & Lois Sjobeck	3-03-1962
Kayla & Jake Fiedler	3-12-2016
Jennessa & Brian Fitzgerald	3-16-2019
Todd & Heidi Lucht	3-17-2012
Bill & Lynda Uhde	3-17-1971
John & Diane Potratz	3-23-1985
Arden Schlecht & Linda Maughan	3-25-2023
Andrew & Allison Wendt	3-25-2023
Jerry & Deb Jacobs	3-30-1981
Mike & Teresa Harstad	3-31-2007
Don & Karla Kalpin	3-31-1990
Joanie & Clayton Oler	3-31-1967

## March Birthdays

Reghan DeBoer	3-1
Andrew Moen	3-1
Chris Ahlers	3-2
Bill Brunson	3-2
Ashlee Nordlund	3-2
Ryan Penrose	3-2
JuAnn Riedel	3-2
John Duberowski	3-3
Joyce Malmgren	3-3
Larry Roberts	3-3
Lisa Rubner	3-3
Zach Zimmerman	3-3
Alan Riedel	3-4
Holly Downing	3-5
Madisyn Fahlin	3-5
Dedra Zwiag	3-6
Derek Henning	3-7
Kathy Pexsa	3-7
Nila Venzke	3-7
Bailey Blake	3-9
Orion Venzke	3-9
Dale Hart	3-10
Theo Jahnke	3-10
Scott Kreidler	3-10
Tanner Johanson	3-11
Rodney Moske	3-11
Rhonda Pooler	3-12
Jesse LaManna	3-13
Mary Melching	3-13
Randy Block	3-14
Terry Briese	3-14

Amber DeBlieck	3-14
Bailey Jacobson	3-15
Calin Mattocks	3-15
Myles Morgan	3-15
McKenna Rathcke	3-15
Savanna Fahlin	3-16
Chris Klukken	3-16
Marlene Pooler	3-16
Alec Alberts	3-18
Troy Jacobs	3-18
Jodi Klimek	3-18
Kris Rathcke	3-18
Karley Colberg	3-19
Jeff Samuelson	3-19
Daniel Moske, Jr.	3-20
Nathan Ratajesak	3-20
Ray Stach	3-20
Ryan Gaarsland	3-21
Hudson Knapp	3-21
Dwayne Woodbridge	3-21
Chloe Rathcke	3-23
Pat Knox	3-24
Chad Knapp	3-25
Wyatt Pauly	3-25
Mitchell Kalpin	3-26
Jake Rud	3-26
Michael Thomas	3-26
Brooke Burns	3-27
Jen Thomas	3-27
Ashley Klimek	3-28
Isaac Meissner	3-28
Myles Meissner	3-28
Kaylee Riedel	3-28
Mary Springer	3-28
Cason Ehrenberg	3-29
Nancy Knutson	3-29
Nicholas Erwin	3-30
Caleb Hardekopf	3-30
Deb Jacobs	3-30
Jesse McKane	3-30
Judy Nelson	3-30
Christine Lorenzen	3-31

*If your March birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform the church office.*

## March - April USHERING SCHEDULE

Following is the schedule for the next two months for ushering, greeting, and acolyting. Greeters will also help with the offering. A post card will be sent to you about 10 days ahead to remind you.

*If you cannot serve on your assigned time, please try to find someone to take your place. If that doesn't work, call Arvid Hoppe, 320-766-3904 or Byron Herdman, 701-371-5139 the co-head ushers, if you are scheduled for Sunday or midweek; or the church office, if you are scheduled for Saturday.*

In order for these activities to work smoothly please be at church 30 minutes ahead of the beginning of service. Arvid or Byron will explain the procedure to you for Sundays and midweek services, Pastor for Saturdays. Thank you!

<u>DATE</u>	<u>USHER</u>	<u>GREETER</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>
<u>MARCH</u>			
1	Tim & Sarah Alberts		Braedyn Tvrdik
2	Derek & Erin Bolland	Kyle & Megan Barrows	Antonio Castro
5 (Wed 7 PM)	Bruce Sjobeck	Judy Nelson	Sophia Gibson
8	Garry Clark		Aiden Moran
9	Delbert & Linda Moske	Jake & Amber DeBlieck	Kellen O'Brien
12 (Wed 7 PM)	Noah & Hailey Jensen	Brian & Heather Wittrock Family	Tannen Stephan
15	James & Tina Kastner Family		Averyana Hammack
16	Glen & Dawn Olson Family	Scott & Kayla Duberowski	Jayden Olson
19 (Wed 7 PM)	Audrey Burchard Family	Michelle Moats	Madisyn Fahlin
22	John & Diane Potratz		Reagan Pexsa
23	Christine Lorenzen Family	Julia Peery	Sophia Warzecha
26 (Wed 7 PM)	Don & Shelly Riedel	Aaron & April Adickes	Chloe Rathcke
29	Mike & Kari McDaniel		Katie Pexsa
30	Elmyra Jerome, Pat Knox	Steve & Terri Payne	Luke Schilling
<u>APRIL</u>			
2 (Wed 7 PM)	Bert & Kathy Pexsa	Dedra Zwieg	Billy Bastyr
5	Karen Lee		Elliana Hammack
6	Marcia Ratajesak Family	Marlene Pooler	Karson Schroeder
9 (Wed 7 PM)	Gene & Beth Ward	Michael & Teresa Harstad Family	Sophia Gibson
12	Evangelism Board		Nolan Wendland
13	Evangelism Board	Evangelism Board	Aaron Vogt
17 (Thur 7 PM)	Dave & Peggy Winter	Don & Lois Sjobeck	Alex Castro
18 (Fri 2 PM)	Dennis & Joann Stende	Cheryl Scott	Ryker Springer
18 (Fri 7 PM)	Greg & Amy Riedel	Josh & Brittany Rud	Gage Rud
19	Jacqui Neitzert		Tannen Stephan
20 (7 AM)	ACT	Dave & Julie O'Brien	Kaitlyn O'Brien
20 (9 AM)	Kevin & Sherry Wendt	Ray & Kathy Caauwe	Annabelle Koehn
26	Joanie Oler		Braedyn Tvrdik
27	Nathan & Laura Westad Family	Jurlienne Riedel	Tenley Westad

**MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT**  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD



PO Box 604  
Brainerd, MN 56401-0604  
Phone (218) 829-1781  
Fax (218) 829-0037  
mnndist@mnnlems.org

February 6, 2025

Dear saints of the Minnesota North District

*<sup>9</sup> For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9*

Thank you for your generous support of our walk together in Christ throughout the Minnesota North District. Your gifts assure that our 197 congregations, 22 preschools, 7 elementary schools, and 1 High School stay true to God's Word, proclaim the Gospel, care for their workers, and serve their communities. Words are not able to express our gratitude and we pray to the Lord of the harvest to continue to provide for His Church (Matthew 9:35-38).

Fight the good fight of the faith (I Timothy 6:12). We are people of hope in the living Christ (I Peter 1:3-5). We know that the Word of God is living and active (Hebrews 4:12), Christ has Risen from the dead, and He still reigns on high (Ephesians 1:22) We are called to be faithful to His Word and keep our eyes fixed on Him (Hebrews 12:1-2) while trusting that He grows His Church (Mark 4:26-29). Stay strong in the Lord (Ephesians 6:10).

To Him be all the glory!

In the service of Christ (I Timothy 1:15)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Brady Finnern".

Rev. Brady Finnern  
District President



## Lutheran Island Camp

### From the Director's Desk

As we move through February, we are thrilled to share the incredible progress happening at Lutheran Island Camp. The ERC remodel is well underway, and great strides are being made! The new windows in the dining hall have been installed, transforming the space with beautiful natural light and a stunning view of the lake! Demolition is nearly complete, and the building is taking on its new shape, bringing us closer to a revitalized gathering space for campers and guests.

Summer camp registration is now open, and sign-ups are going strong! With all the exciting developments, this summer promises to be an unforgettable experience for everyone who sets foot on the Island. Whether you're a returning camper or considering your first visit, there has never been a better time to be part of the adventure.

In addition to the ERC remodel, we are also making updates to the Elijah cabin to enhance comfort and functionality for our guests. Plus, we're excited to announce new waterfront equipment, ensuring even more fun and memorable experiences by the lake.

We are truly blessed by the continued support of our camp family. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity make all of this possible. We can't wait to welcome you back to Lutheran Island Camp to witness these exciting changes firsthand. See you this summer!

Stacy

### Program Corner

#### Exciting Times at the Island!

Energy and excitement are building here at Island Camp as we've welcomed students, pastors, and chaperones for our Confirmation Retreats! It's been a month full of fun and growth, with students enjoying broomball, sledding, campfires, devotions, canteen snacks, and games—all while continuing their confirmation instruction. A heartfelt thank you to St. Paul's - Perham and Faith Community - Zimmerman for choosing to make us a part of your year!

If your church hasn't yet booked their retreat, don't worry—there's still time to register for our March Confirmation Retreats or even plan a self-directed retreat this spring. For more info, give us a call at 218-583-2905 or reach out to Olivia at [licprogram@islandcamp.org](mailto:licprogram@islandcamp.org).



#### Winter Fun & Learning with St. Paul's Lutheran School

Another highlight this January was a fantastic Winter Outdoor Education Day with the 4th-8th grade students from St. Paul's Lutheran School in Perham. We were blessed with beautiful weather as the students enjoyed ice fishing, learning about winter ecology, crafting birdfeeders, sledding, and playing broomball. It was an awesome day of outdoor fun and hands-on learning!

## Summer 2025 Registrations Are Open!

Summer is just around the corner, and registrations for Summer 2025 are already pouring in! Our Horse, Fishing, and Art camps are particularly popular and filling up quickly, so don't delay—register today to secure your spot. Find all the details and register online at [islandcamp.org/registration](https://islandcamp.org/registration).

## Now Accepting Junior Counselor & Junior Wrangler Applications

We're excited to announce that we're now accepting applications for Junior Counselors and Junior Wranglers for Summer 2025! These leadership roles give energetic, Jesus-loving teenagers (ages 15-18, who've completed 9th grade by summer) the chance to serve under our Cabin Counselors and Wrangler, assisting in daily camp activities. This is a great opportunity for teens to grow in faith and leadership while making a difference in the lives of younger campers. The application deadline is April 4th.

We're looking forward to seeing how God will continue to bless our ministry through the retreat season and the summer ahead. Thank you for being part of our Island Camp family!

In Christ,

*Olivia Leising*

Program Director

## Looking for a Fun and Meaningful Summer Job?

Are you a young adult (ages 18-24) seeking a summer job that's both enjoyable and impactful? Look no further—Island Camp is hiring for a variety of exciting roles!

We're currently looking for passionate individuals to fill positions such as:

- Cabin Counselors
- Program Assistants
- Office Assistants
- Kitchen Assistants
- Groundskeepers
- Wranglers

At LIC, you won't just earn a paycheck—you'll make lifelong memories, build strong teamwork skills, develop time management abilities, and grow in your faith in Jesus. If you're ready to make a difference this summer, we'd love to have you on our team! [Apply today!](#)



## Horse Program Update



### Changes to Our Herd: Transitioning to a Younger Generation

As we look ahead to the summer, we're making some thoughtful changes to our horse herd. In order to transition to a younger, more energetic group of horses, we plan to sell a few this spring and fall.

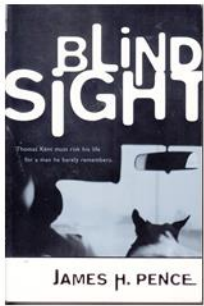
- Spring: Pepper and Penny will be finding new homes.
- Fall: We'll be parting with Kali, and Jewel, Beau, and Trixie are tentatively on the list.

These changes will allow us to continue offering the best experience for our campers with a fresh and vibrant herd. We're excited for the next chapter and grateful for the many memories created with these amazing horses!

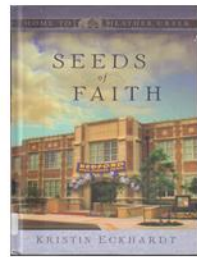
If you are interested in donating to our horse program or welcoming any of these horses into your herd and family, please reach out to Jenna (Herd Manager and Head Wrangler) at [licranch@islandcamp.org](mailto:licranch@islandcamp.org).



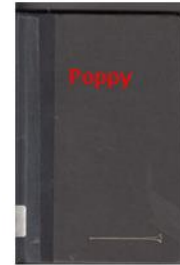




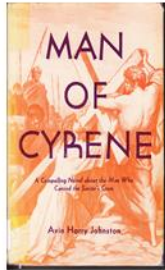
**Blind Sight** by James H. Pence. A voice from the past saying “remember the promise, save my children... Thomas holds evidence for the destruction of a powerful cult. He is afraid and wants to die . Except for the lives of a family he doesn't know. He must cast aside his fear and ask God to help him act before it is too late. Code: White Pen



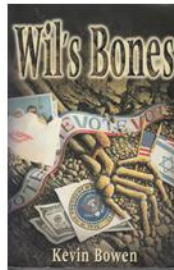
**Seeds of Faith** by Kristin Eckhardt. *Home to Heather Creek series.* Charlotte is raising her grandchildren on the family farm after a tragic accident changes all of their lives. See how God, who makes the sun rise & the crops grow, watches over our lives too. Code: Guideposts Eck



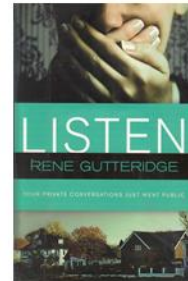
**Poppy (angel of love)** by Barbara Larriva. Allegra who is elderly, alone & sick thinking of her past losses— That's when 9 year old Poppy walks into her room like a ray of sunshine and shares secrets of a joyful life. Undersized. Code: white Lar



**Man of Cyrene** by Avin H. Johnston. The Man who carried the Savior's Cross. Who was he? Where did he come from? Luke records Simon as a passer-by who was coming from the country & was compelled to carry the Savior's cross to Golgotha. Code: Biblical fictionJoh

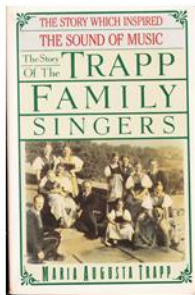


**Wil's Bones** by Kevin Bowen. This book is for anyone who enjoys adventure entangled in history and intrigue. You will be entertained but you will also think ..What if? Code: Bow

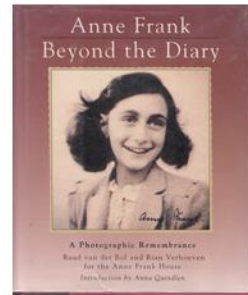


**Listen** by Rene Gutteridge. “Your private conversations just went public.” Someone is listening! Now it is neighbor against neighbor, careless comments & accusations turn the town upside down. (A theme of great importance to us all) Code: white Gut

Two Biographies

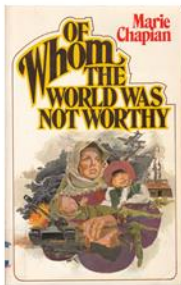


**The Story of the Trapp Family Singers** (The story which inspired the Sound of Music.) by Maria Augusta Trapp. The Baroness, Mrs. Trapp since her American citizenship—tells her story simply & eloquently. Her devotion to her family, her resignation to the will of God—are evident. Code: Biography (Green) Tra

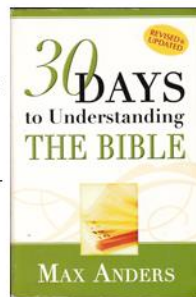


**Anne Frank Beyond the Diary** by Ruud van der Rol. (A Photographic Remembrance.) Anne's father Otto was an avid photographer & took photos of Anne as she grew. Anne had kept a diary during WWII days and now for the first time, Anne's life before her family went into hiding is revealed and the influences that formed her strong moral belief. (Thank you Brenda & Don) Code; Biography (Green) Rol

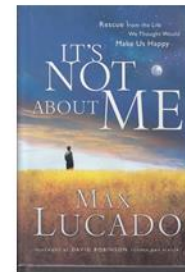
Non-Fiction Books



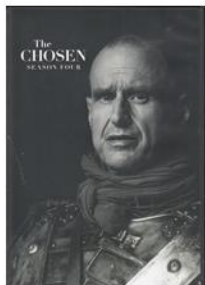
**Of Whom the World was not worthy** by Marie Chapian. We must believe with all our hearts & souls that He is with us. He is a God of Love! Evangelist, Jakob, shouted as the German tanks roared across the Yugoslavian soil. *Their cry was Better Grave than slave!* (Marie Chapian went to Yugoslavia & interviewed the people there to know how the Christian faith was sustained those terrible years of war.) True Story. Code: Blue 248.4 Cha



**30 days to understanding the Bible** by Max Anders. He uses innovative charts and exercises that have unlocked the Bible' organization and message. Learn: the core of teachings of the Bible, the geography and key characters, pages and events. Code: Blue 2206'1 And



**It's not about me** by Max Lucado. We have been demanding our way since day one... I want weather that suits me, self promotion, co-workers that always ask for my opinion, a government that serves me and etc. Max shows you how to make the change; Life makes sense when we accept our place: Our gifts& talents & pleasure are all for the One who created ..then we find what we've been missing. Code: Blue 248.4 Luc



**The Chosen Season Four** has a set of 3 Discs. #1 has *Promises, confessions & Moon to blood*, #2 has *Calm before, Sitting, Serving & Scheming, Dedication*. #3 has *The Last Sign & Humble*. 8 episodes run for total of 552 minutes. **Rise Up.**— Clashing kingdoms. Rival rulers, Enemies of Jesus close in while His followers struggle to keep up , leaving Him to carry the burden alone . Three DVDs—one case. Chosen #4



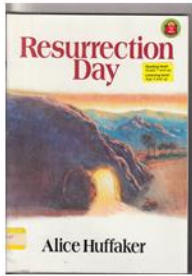
**Unsung Hero** runs for 114 min. Based on a remarkable true story, . Helen & her husband David move their family from Down Under to the States with nothing more than their seven children, suitcases and their love of music. DVD Code: FFF443



**The Forge** runs for 123 min and is a Kendrick Brothers Masterpiece. It is a faith-filled venture with laughter, heartfelt inspiration, bold themes and new twists. A must see: DVD Code: Ken 5

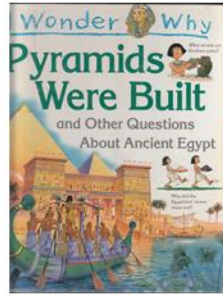
# LLLibrary March 2025

This page & Little lambs library is not for the kiddos only, but for Moms & Dads to interact with their children. Find books with blue/black labels to encourage you and the young ones.



**Resurrection Day** by Alice Huffaker. Let your kids see the wonder of the first Easter thru eyes of those who were there. Rhyming text and color pictures, simple vocabulary

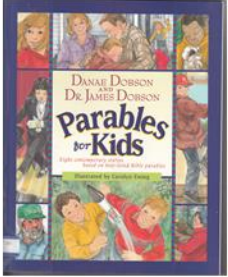
for young readers. Grade 1 & up.. Listening level ages 4 and up. Code: yellow Huf



**I wonder why Pyramids were Built** by Philip Steele. Ever think 'Why did the Egyptians' shoes wear out? Why were mummies wrapped up? How did the Egyptians travel so quickly? Find the lively answer that will amaze, amuse, satisfy, & inspire. Code; Yellow Ste (GREAT for HOMESCHOOL)

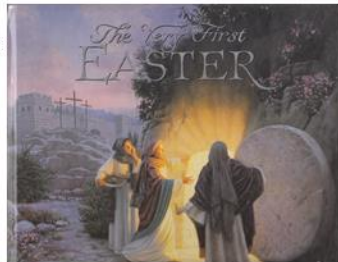


**Big Book of Books and activities** by Dinah Zike. Kids learn lots of words from birth to 12 yrs. Parents are encouraged to create a learning environment as in this book. Find projects that encourage the child to read, write, reason & discover the world. Spend time with your child with making projects in this book. Replace some of the time spent on color books, comic books, TV, computer games with creative learning activities. Code: Blue/Black (little lambs) 268.432 Zik



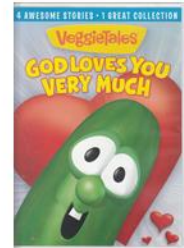
**Parables for Kids** by Danae Dobson & Dr. James Dobson. Wight contemporary stories based on Bible parables. At the end of each story he explains the relationship to the biblical

parable to help your child discover how to apply to truth of today. Code: Blue 242'62 Dob



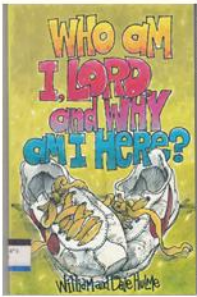
**The Very First EASTER** by Paul Maier. Children's picture book of parents reading the Easter story to their son.. Reading Level is 5- 10 years. Interest level is Ages 5-10 Excellent book for teaching about the

Very First Easter. Code: Yellow Mai



**God Loves you very much** from Veggie Tales includes 4 awesome stories. Has bonus features inc: 3 singalongs, how

to draw Gideon & Little Joe plus an interactive storybook. Code: red in LLL. Veg #



**Who am I, Lord and why am I here?** By William and Dale Hulme. Young adults face enormous pressures. ? They are encouraged to seek instant gratification—often with tragic results. It

does not have to be like this, there is hope, the hope of Jesus Christ for a new life. This book offers you a fresh start with topics like drugs, peer pressure guilt, suicide presented thru real life situations and frank discussion.

Code: Bl/Blue 248.8'3 Hul

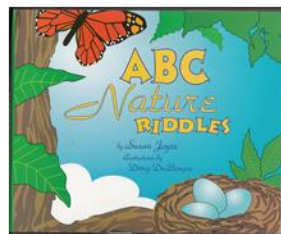


**Prince of Egypt** runs for 1 hour 30 min. An animated story of two brothers one born of royal birth, the other an orphan with a secret past. They share a free-spirit bond until the truth sets them at odds as one becomes

ruler of an empire on earth, the other chosen the leader of his people. (Black—teens/jr) Code: Dre 58



**Sunday School sing-a-long songs**— includes: The B-I-b-L-E, Deep & wide, This little light of mine etc. has lyrics, bright-colored graphics & high-energy motions for he whole family. **DVD** Code: yellow Music



**ABC Nature Riddles** by Susan Joyce . Ages 5-8. Kids who enjoy reading spelling, or guessing these riddles . Each letter of alphabet is used in a riddle. Code: yellow Joy



**The JR/TN books coded black/black are for Junior thru teens with problems & help in that age group. Check them Out**



**Tomorrow I'll Miss You** by Theresa Kelly "Aloha". Cass and her stepsister Tabitha are around 16. Both girls face hard decisions & family struggles as they look to God to lead them where He thinks best & bring them

safely home again.. Youth Fiction from CPH Code: black Kel



**Dream a Little Dream** by Theresa Kelly. Cass & Tabitha's high school years are coming to an end. Their Mom wants them to think what God wants them to be. They ask God to help the put away habits that do no please him & learn to

dream about becoming women of God Youth fiction from CPH. Black Kel



**Forget me not** by Theresa Kelly. A year of change for 17 year old Cass & stepsister, Tabitha Both girls face hard decisions and famil struggles as they look to God to lead them. Just when they think things are figured out: one more crisis tests

their faith. Youth Fiction. Code: Black Kel



## THE WOOD FAMILY

Matthew, Kali, Laurel, Eleanor, Caroline, and Kermit live in Medan, Indonesia. Matthew serves as an Area Facilitator for the Office of International Mission Asia Region involved in LCMS work in Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Indonesia, and Australia. In Indonesia he supports *The Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church (GKLI)*, by mentoring pastors, providing continuing education, and managing mercy and translation projects.

**GIVE NOW &  
KEEP US IN INDONESIA!**  
SCAN BELOW



OR TEXT

'LCMSWOOD' TO 41-444

OR MAIL IN A CHECK

Payable to:

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861

Saint Louis, MO 63166-6861

On the memo line include:

**Wood-Indonesia**

## MOMENTUM INTO 2025



Group photo at OIM Asia Region Family Retreat

After a joyful Christmas celebration with the family, we kicked off the new year in Taiwan at the OIM Asia Region family retreat. It was a great time to reconnect with colleagues and friends. The Managing Director of Global Mission Operations for OIM, Rev. Dr. Brian Gauthier, lead us in a three day study of Isaiah. Volunteers from the US came to lead the children in their own study. We also enjoyed ample time to reconnect and talk shop with other LCMS workers in Asia.

### GKLI Leaders in America

Braving almost forty hours of travel and -20°F temperatures Bishop Jon Albert Saragih and Pastor Eben Ezer Aruan of the GKLI traveled to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana for a week of theological lectures and fellowship.



Left to right: Ron Mudge, Kevin Golden, Thomas Egger, Jon Albert, Matthew Wood, Eben Ezer Aruan, Kevin Armbrust at Concordia Seminary.

After a week in Fort Wayne I drove them to Saint Louis, Missouri for two important meetings and some additional sightseeing. The three of us met together with Concordia Seminary,

Saint Louis, leadership to discuss the pastoral formation of GKLI seminary students and recent graduates. Then we also met with the director, Dr. Joel Lehenbauer, and associate director, Dr. Rick Serina, of the LCMS Commission on Church Relations and Theology (CICR) to discuss progress toward the recognition of full altar and pulpit fellowship between the GKLI and the LCMS.



Left to right: Rick Serina, Jon Albert, Joel Lehenbauer, Eben Ezer Aruan, Matthew Wood at the LCMS International Center.

We were also able to take a tour of Concordia Seminary, the LCMS International Center, Concordia Publishing House, and visit the Gateway Arch. We even found time to go to a Saint Louis Blues Hockey game!

### 2024 Support Propels us into 2025

Thank you for your support in 2024! Your prayers and words of encouragement have been a tremendous source of strength for us. Your financial gifts have generously provided for even more than we could ask. I am so proud to be your man on the ground in Indonesia and the rest of the countries I've been assigned.



## PRAYERS

### SUPPLICATION

- Safe travel to Singapore in March and blessing on OIM Asia Regional leadership meetings there.
- Safe travel to Seoul, South Korea in April and blessing on meeting with Church leaders there.
- Continued blessing on Kali as she homeschools our children.
- That the Lord would continue to bring the GKLI and LCMS to recognize altar and pulpit fellowship.

### THANKSGIVING

- For our family's joyful celebration of Christmas.
- For safe travel to and from the OIM Asia Region family retreat and for the blessings of attending.
- For safe travel to, within, and from the United States and for the productive meetings between the LCMS and GKLI.



To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter write to:

**Matthew.Wood@lcms.org**

with ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

## FAMILY UPDATE

The family has returned to our regularly scheduled home schooling. Laurel continues to excel in reading, Eleanor in math, Caroline in phonics.

### Pictures:

**Top:** The Wood and Ferry families enjoy time together during the OIM Asia Region Family Retreat.

**Middle:** Our family at a Christmas photo station. Several of these are found all over Medan. This one at a hotel where we had Christmas dinner.

**Below:** Laurel plays recorder for Matins during the family retreat. She and two Ferry girls are led by Miss. Becky Bartelt.



## HOME SERVICE SCHEDULED

The whole Wood family will be traveling to the US for official Home Service during the fall of 2025. Home Service is a time for families serving internationally to return to their home country to reconnect with supporters, family, and friends as well as take care of personal needs, such as renewing a drivers license, doctors visits, and the like.

### September to November 2025

The exact dates are not set in stone, but we are formulating a plan for arrival in the US during the second week of September and returning to Indonesia during the month of November, or possibly early December. Of course, we would like to see everyone that has supported us over the years, but the Lord has generously blessed us with so many supporters all over the country that we simply do not have time to see everyone.

So far we only have a rough outline of where we will be, if you're in the area and would like to connect and learn more about what the Lord is up to in Indonesia and even a little bit about Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, or Australia send me an email and we will explore the possibilities.

### Tentative Travel Plan

#### September

Southern California

Saint Louis

#### October

Western Missouri

Kansas

Iowa

#### November

Iowa

Minnesota

Wisconsin



*Train station plaque guiding tourists to Mt. Kasho Mirokuji Temple and Japan's largest "tengu" mask deity.*

December 2024 -to- January 2025

SERVING THE LORD IN

# Japan

News from  
Pastor Dan and Joan Jastram

<https://www.lcms.org/jastram>



Pastor Dan and Joan Jastram

-----  
**Rev. Jastram serves as the Asia Lutheran Resource Coordinator:**

*Making Lutheran resources of theology and worship available in Asia.*



-----  
To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to:

[daniel.jastram@lcms.org](mailto:daniel.jastram@lcms.org)

with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

-----  
Here's our newsletter archive link:

<https://bit.ly/3Xkd9W8>

-----  
Link to join our mailing list:

<https://tinyurl.com/47vyhnae>

888-THE LCMS • [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) • [infocenter@lcms.org](mailto:infocenter@lcms.org)



Picture courtesy of Rev. Matthew Wood, Area Facilitator for Asia Region

## Worship Spaces

*I*n our current Japanese mission, we make use of a wide variety of worship spaces: an individual household room, a re-arranged child-care space, a church-renovated apartment unit, military-based chapel spaces, and on occasion—even in the mountains—space in a rural, traditional, Japanese hot-spring inn.

It was during a recent, once-a-month visit to our communicant members who live three-and-a-half-hours away by train, who made special arrangements to meet at a mountain-village inn owned and operated by an aunt's family.

We arrived, received a gracious welcome from the aunt and the staff lady, found our way to the allocated space, got situated, then arranged things for worship.

A small cross fixed on the outer-wall beam, communion vessels and linens centered on a makeshift altar,

preacher and hearers in place, and our Divine Service began with the invocation and sign of the cross.

If you look closely, you will notice a sunken fireplace to the right, set in the straw-mat floor, traditionally used for heating and cooking, with an adjustable bamboo-and-iron-rod pothook hanging from the ceiling. A modern flat-screen TV, electronic equipment, a space heater, and electric ceiling lights keep up with the modern times.

Before worship, while traveling to the site on winding mountain roads, we visited a local mountain dam and reservoir. After worship, we refreshed ourselves with a traditional Japanese hot-spring bath at the inn.

How extra-ordinary an experience; how refreshing for both body and soul!



## Prayer and Thanksgiving:

- prayer for the Japanese people who are guided to folk deities, like the “tengu” mask deity of the Kashozan Mirokuji Temple, in order to pray for divine favor, safety, and the fulfillment of wishes;
- thanksgiving for the wonderful variety of Christian worship spaces wherever God’s children sanctify those spaces by their gathering for the public ministry of Word and Sacrament which provide true life and salvation;
- thanksgiving for preceding generations of missionaries who have brought saving faith with sound doctrine and practice into native languages and theological texts around the globe;
- thanksgiving for God’s blessings at our three current worship sites: Shinjuku (twice a month), Yokosuka (once a month), and Numata (once a month);
- thanksgiving for completion of our latest translation project of Engelbrecht, *The Lutheran Difference* (CPH 2014);
- thanksgiving for our LCMS Asia regional director Rev. Charles Ferry, our area facilitator Rev. Matthew Wood, and our fellow LCMS Asia missionaries each with individual challenges and blessings;
- thanksgiving for the faithful prayers and support provided by our LCMS Jastram-Asia mission partners.



## Publications List

This past week I have been eagerly pursuing a particular project: to compile a list of Japanese-language LCMS publications, produced by the previous generation of Japan missionaries.

I dug through a cardboard box of missionary records provided by the family of our longest-serving LCMS missionary in Japan: Rev. George Shibata (in Japan from 1949 to his death in 2002).

What a joy to find his neatly written notebooks, his ring-binders of Tokyo area administration records, and his partial lists of mission publications, both of theological textbooks and of pamphlet-tract materials.

With as many of these previous Japanese-language publications as can be located, we will have to compile a spreadsheet and evaluate whether they are still usable in language and content for our current work in Japan. The literary-and-classical Japanese language still in use at that time does not often appeal to our current Japanese population which is more accustomed to colloquial and contemporary usages. ♦

## Visitors, Etc.

What a blessing that God sends LCMS visitors from the States to Japan who are eager to find faithful Word-and-Sacrament ministry!

Hiroko and Tyler visited our sister-congregation in Kobari Niigata (last picture); Brandon and family visited our Yokosuka base worship site (2nd-last picture); Jake and family visited our Shinjuku worship site (3rd-last picture).

Brandon’s eldest son eagerly greeted me by explaining that a relative had pointed out to them the LCMS 2024 fall issue of the “Lutherans Engage” article we mentioned in our last newsletter. Apparently she said, “When you get to Japan, be sure to find this Jastram who is doing our LCMS work over there!” What a blessing to greet the whole family that Sunday after they arrived on the Yokosuka base! ♦



**YOUR SUPPORT** is vital for our continued mission work in Japan: regular services at our worship sites, translation of theological resources, and nurturing relations with local Lutheran pastors facing individual challenges to the faith. We are humbly grateful for your continued prayers and support. **Thank you!**

Your missionaries, Dan and Joan Jastram

“I must preach the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose” (Luke 4:43b).  
(Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, Liturgical Verse).

## To support this LCMS mission work:

Give securely online through the LCMS page:

[lcms.org/givenow/jastram](https://lcms.org/givenow/jastram)

[OR] Mail your tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church —Missouri Synod

Mark checks:

“Support of Asia-Jastram”

# MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>
	Pastor Lee 338-5351 Charlie/Jodi Klimek, Cust. 338-2929		Church Office 338-2511 Vicar Joe 763-498-1393			<b>7:00 Worship</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9:00 Worship w/Communion &amp; St Pauls Choir, also Livestreamed</b> 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School & St Pauls Choir 11:15 Free Pasta Dinner 2:00 Baptism 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14		9:00 Bible Breakfast	10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 5:00 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 6 PM Soup & Sandwich Supper <b>7 PM Ash Wednesday Service</b>	9:00 Footcare 1:00 LWML 2:00 Women's Bible Study		<b>7:00 Worship</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>9:00 Worship, also Livestreamed</b> 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School 2:00 St. William's Service (Vicar Joe) 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14	7 Dartball Tourney @ Deer Creek	9:00 Bible Breakfast 11:00 St William's Communion	10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 5:00 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 6 PM Soup & Sandwich Supper <b>7 PM Lent Service</b>	11:00 Windmill Ponds Communion	9:15 St Johns Bible Tour	10:00 Baptism 11:30 Baptism <b>7:00 Worship w/Communion</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>9:00 Worship w/Communion, also Livestreamed</b> 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14	6 Women's Bible Study	8:30 Winkel @ Millerville 9:00 Bible Breakfast	10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 5:00 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 6 PM Soup & Sandwich Supper <b>7 PM Lent Service</b>		1:30 Singles Share & Care Day  <i>6 Confirmation</i>	<b>7:00 Worship</b>  <i>Retreat at LIC</i>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>9:00 Worship, also Livestreamed</b> 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14	6 Women's Bible Study 7 PPHS Speech Family & Friends	9:00 Bible Breakfast	10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 5:00 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 6 PM Soup & Sandwich Supper <b>7 PM Lent Service</b>		1:00 ACT/JCT Pizza Delivery	1:00 Baptism <b>7:00 Worship w/Communion</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					
<b>9:00 Worship w/Communion, also Livestreamed</b> 10:00 LWML Coffee & Bakesale 10:30 Sunday School 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14	6 Women's Bible Study					

## The Lutheran Hour

**WCCO Mpls 830 6:05 AM    KWAD Wadena 920/1430 8:30 AM    KXRA Alex 1490/100.3 6:30 AM    KFGO Fargo 790/94.1 7:30 AM**  
**KWAD Wadena 920/1430 8:30 AM    KPRM Staples 94.7 9:30 AM    KMRS Morris 1230/107.7 12:30 PM**



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

P.O. BOX 66—PARKERS PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 56361

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested

## “The Gospel in Genesis”



<b>March 5</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Sin Covered</b>	<b>Genesis 3</b>
<b>March 12</b>	<b>Lenten Service</b>	<b>Evil Conquered</b>	<b>Genesis 3</b>
<b>March 19</b>	<b>Lenten Service</b>	<b>A New Beginning</b>	<b>Genesis 6</b>
<b>March 26</b>	<b>Lenten Service</b>	<b>A Son Sacrificed</b>	<b>Genesis 22</b>
<b>April 2</b>	<b>Lenten Service</b>	<b>A Ladder to Heaven</b>	<b>Genesis 28</b>
<b>April 9</b>	<b>Lenten Service</b>	<b>Good from Evil</b>	<b>Genesis 50</b>

*Soup and Sandwich Suppers 6 pm*  
*Lenten Service 7 pm*