

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

ST. MATTHEW 25: 31

FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL FOR THE SECOND-LAST SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR

## Cheerful Givers

by Pastor Sutton

ST. Paul wrote to the Church of Christ in Corinth: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9.7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, Abel gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God's sight. (Genesis 4) Abraham was. By faith, Abraham prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. (Genesis 18) So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due for his threshing floor and oxen. (2 Samuel 24) By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where His name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel's God and they His people. (1 Kings 5-6)

"What more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of..." (Hebrews 11.32) all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave. We can all think of faithful Christians in our lives who have known and been examples of this joy.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything, yes, even His life, enduring the cross and scorning its shame. (Hebrews 12.2) He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty we might be rich beyond measure. (2 Corinthians 8.9)

So then, let us - like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and made perfect by our Lord Jesus Christ - give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart - for the joy set before us - the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

I share with you as Thanksgiving approaches this reflection on being a cheerful giver because you have been cheerful givers, brothers and sisters in Christ! You reflect the Savior who has given His all for you. I thank God

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*Esprit* is the informational and educational newsletter of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church.

*Esprit de corps* indicates a sense of union and of common interests and responsibilities, as developed among a group. Our community of Immanuel is centered in the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to us in the Holy Scriptures and the Sacraments.

**Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church** is an historic and centrally located parish—called, gathered, and strengthened by Christ's Word and Sacraments—confessional in doctrine, evangelical in orientation, orthodox in liturgy, cosmopolitan in membership; serving the Terre Haute community and the students of Indiana State University and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and reaching out to the nations since 1858 as a parish of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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for all of you and for the work He accomplishes in our midst so that His Word might go out in our community and even across the Wabash Valley and central Indiana. Think also of the now thirty vicars we have hosted here, who serve the Lord all across our nation and even into Africa in the years to come. God willing, numbers twenty-nine and thirty will both be placed into the Holy Ministry next spring.

I pray that you joyfully continue your good works born out of faith in Christ! The deacons of Immanuel and myself will be writing to all of you to encourage you to be as generous as you can be in your cheerful giving for the joy set before you in this place and in the eternal life to come. We have some news to share with you.

Even though we have been fiscally prudent and wise in spending, the cost of “doing business” in our nation goes up – insurance, utility costs, salaries and benefits, care and upkeep of our building, etc. Now, the fact is that your cheerful giving has also trended up for the last decade!

But, that increased cost of “doing business” – providing the Ministry of the Gospel – has outpaced our generous giving to our general fund over the last few years. We have had to dip into our reserves. Further, to participate in the vicarage program, one of the main priorities of the ministry plan of this congregation for now over thirty years, the LCMS leadership has put in place higher salary and benefit guidelines which we must meet to participate as a vicarage congregation. So, that cost is increasing.

As we reflect on all the saints who have gone on before us to the joys of heaven, and as we celebrate later in the month the day of national thanksgiving, God grant that our cheerful giving would be used by Him to continue the Ministry of the Gospel here, and at the same time to continue in the Vicarage program, and to continue to be a blessing to our community. Prayerfully consider joining together to change trends for the better starting now and for the years to come. The deacons' letter will share concrete data and information, and ideas for you and your family to consider for pulling together to generously and cheerfully support the work of the Lord here at Immanuel. ✠

## What's in a Name?

by Vicar Keller

IN the Keller household, we have been thinking about names for quite some time. Now that we know our baby is a boy, we can focus in on a few we like. The problem: Which one do we like the best? We hear all kinds of contenders from our families and friends: David, Jacob, Robert, Andrew, Martin, Isaac, Philip, and so on. It is a big decision naming another human.

God created man and named him Adam, which means dirt or earth. This is fitting, for, after the Fall of man, Adam would die and return to dust. Adam named his wife *Hava*-which means life in Hebrew, for she would be the mother of all living. You start to see a pattern here. When the ancients named something, the name held the ambitions of the father. For example, when Eve named her son Cain, which means 'I have acquired,' she thought she had given birth to the Lord. In this instance, however, Cain did not live up to his name, and murdered his brother.

Calling someone by his or her name brings about a personal relationship. When Moses, whose name means 'drawn out,' approached the burning bush, God revealed to him His name, יהוה *Yahweh*, which means 'I am who I am.' Most ancient religions featured gods and goddesses, who were vindictive, promiscuous, mischievous, or apathetic toward humanity. Not only is our God none of those, but He wants to have a relationship with His people. By giving His name, He invites us to come to Him. We were baptized into the threefold Name-Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In the Lord's Prayer, we are taught to pray 'Our Father.' This relationship is possible through our Lord, Jesus.

Unlike Cain and many others, Jesus lives up to His name, which means 'יהוה saves.' God Himself was incarnate to accomplish what humanity could not. St. Paul, in Philippians 2.5-11, sums up the work of Christ perfectly. Jesus, though He was in the form of God, took on the form of a servant, the likeness of man. He was obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross. "Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name that is above every name, so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2.9-11).

We give thanks to God that even in our sinful state, He desires to have a relationship with His people. He gave His only begotten Son to die for sinners, that whoever believes in Him shall have eternal life. Through baptism, we are reminded what the prophet Isaiah wrote, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine" (Isaiah 43.1b). The Lord reminds His people that He has not forgotten His covenant promises to them. Therefore, when we think of the name Jesus, we can remember, 'יהוה saves.' ✠

## GivePlus Mobile App

GivePlus Mobile from Vanco is a secure way to give generously and cheerfully, anytime, anywhere, to Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church electronically. More info will be shared at the annual Congregational Meeting on December 8, or you may call or email Stacy Gibbens at the Church Office. The app is downloadable to your mobile device via Apple Store or Google Play. Download the app, search for our congregation and all is set up.



## Brat Trot 2019

Thanks to all who volunteered of their time and resources to make the 2019 Brat Trot a success! Thank you and a job well done to Brad Cress and the steering committee. Looking forward to next year's race!



*Levi Sutton, Adam Sutton, and Austin Fitzgerald take off at the start of the 2019 Brat Trot 5k (beer-free version!).*

Happy  
Thanksgiving

We observe the national day of Thanksgiving in our congregation with Thanksgiving Eve Vespers (**Wednesday, November 27, 7pm**). Join together with your church family to hear the Word of God and give thanks in prayer and praise for His many gifts.



Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 3 at 2am. Remember to set your clock back 1 hour before bed.

### From the OAF and the Fall Reformation Party Committee

A BIG Thank You to everyone who attended and helped make the Reformation German Dinner and Fall Costume Party on October 26 a success! We are so pleased with how the event turned out!

## Sunday Adult Bible Study

JOIN us each Sunday at 9am for Adult Bible Study. We begin with the opening in the Nave, and continue with study in the Parish Center.

November 3 and 10 Hebrews 13.1-19

### **"The Holy Life of a Holy Congregation"**

*The Christian congregation is a liturgical community of people who share in God's holiness. By their treatment of one another, they recognize their common status as "holy brothers," people with a "heavenly calling," members of a priestly brotherhood dedicated to the service of the living God.*

November 17 and 24 Hebrews 13.20-25

### **"Equipment for Working with God"**

*The teacher/writer of Hebrews gives his benediction to his hearers to conclude the sermon, along with final encouragement and greetings – all blessings from God through the inspired writer to Christians.*

## Coffee Break Bible Study

EACH Wednesday, we pray Matins in the church at 8:30am, followed by Bible study in the Parish Center.

November 6 and 13

1 Samuel 3.1-21

### **"Yahweh Calls Samuel to Be a Prophet"**

*Yahweh graciously moves to speak to the young Samuel, His message confirming the previous prophetic message to Eli: his house would now decline. Samuel is called to be Yahweh's prophet, and all Israel knows it.*

No class on November 27. ✱

## Wednesday Evening Class Concludes: "United in Christ"

OUR enrichment class, "United in Christ: A Bible Study on Marriage and Family" concludes Wednesday, November 6. All are welcome to attend. The final session is **"Roles of Husband and Wife: Authority and headship."**

God gave man and woman to be with each other, sharing in a one-flesh union. The world and our sinful nature, however, seek to serve only their purposes and pleasure. As a result, cohabitation, pre-marital sin, and same-sex unions have become the norm. This class is not simply marriage preparation, but marriage enrichment. We will study what God has spoken about husband and wife, marriage, and the family. ✱

## Applemania 2019

NEARLY half a ton of apples were picked at the Anderson Orchard near Mooresville, Indiana on Sunday, September 22, by our youth and parents. Proceeds from the sale of the apples benefits the Young People of Immanuel.

Thank you to all who supported our youth through your purchases. Thank you to Kris Bilyeu for making arrangements with the orchard. Thanks to Jodi Tate, Eric and Jan Crucitti, and all the adults who went with the youth at the orchard. ✱

### Children's Christmas Service Rehearsals

THE Children's Christmas Service is Wednesday, December 18 at 7pm. Save the date and time now! It will be here before you know it!

Practices for the Christmas program will begin on Sunday, November 3. All children in the catechesis class and younger participate. Speaking parts are being assigned. Please let us know if your child is planning to participate so that parts can be assigned. Youth who are older and would like to participate, please let Karie Sutton know.

The practice schedule is as follows:  
November 3: 9-9:15 and 10-10:15am  
November 10: 9-9:15 and 10-10:15am

November 17: 9-9:15 and 10-10:15am  
November 24: 9-9:15 and 10-10:15am  
December 1: 9-9:15 and 10-10:15am  
December 4: 6:15-6:45pm, following the midweek dinner  
December 8 Full Rehearsal, Noon-2pm, with lunch served  
December 11: 6:15-6:45pm, following the midweek dinner  
December 15: Dress Rehearsal, Noon-2pm with lunch served

Our volunteer leader is Karie Sutton. She can use volunteers to help. Please let her know of your willingness. Any help is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact her at [Karie\\_Sutton@yahoo.com](mailto:Karie_Sutton@yahoo.com) or 972-922-7276; or call or stop by the Church office. ✖

### **Nacho Average Wedding Shower!**

**Holy Guacamole!**

You're all invited to a His and Hers wedding shower for Emily Latta and Simeon Cornwell in celebration of their upcoming wedding.

This Fiesta will take place in the Parish Center on **Sunday, November 17** following Divine Service, where we'll be chippin', dippin', and sippin' in their honor!



♥ **Ladies of Immanuel Save the Date!** ★

*Baby Shower*  
honoring: 

*Maggie Keller*  
&  
*Baby Boy* 

 **November 24th**  
after Divine Service  
*(signup via the bulletin insert)*

 Light Lunch will be served.

**Diaper Raffle Time!**  
Bring a package of Diapers for a Chance to Win!

The Keller's are registered @ Target & Amazon

★

## Council of Deacons Report

THE October 5 meeting opened with meditation on the Word of God, in which Pastor led a prayer for the congregation, followed by the study of the Lutheran Confessions, the Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, Article VII on the Lord's Supper.

Pastor Sutton reported membership changes since the last meeting: Reagan Kyle Elaine Gibbens, daughter of Jared and Heather Gibbens, was baptized. Jim and Linda Haas, Marshall Rector, and Mark and Lisa Gilbert have all been received by profession of faith or transfer. Pastor also updated the board on other potential new members as well as the ongoing adult catechesis. Funeral and burial were conducted for Robert Kelm.

Pastor reported that the LCMS has mandated additional salary and insurance costs for 2020 to participate in the vicarage program. Pastor and deacons discussed our future participation in the program. Without increased ongoing giving from the congregation, Immanuel will not be able to participate.

Board Reports:

- **Finance:** Currently setting up Vanco "Give Plus" app and account for flexible giving to the

congregation electronically. Will be announced at congregational meeting. Giving from the congregation continues to lag behind expenses. 2020 budget will have to be cut if giving is not increased, including possibly our participation in the vicarage program.

- **Property and Grounds:** Finishing touches on the new shelter will be completed by Daryl Harris and Randy Durlinger as time permits. Kris Bilyeu reported that sample chairs for the new library table are on the way. Daryl Harris will be working on cabinetry and shelves this winter. HVAC quotes for the vicarage house were discussed.
- **Outreach/Fellowship:** Brad Cress reported on the upcoming Brat Trot.

The next regular meeting of the Council of Deacons is Saturday, November 2, at 7am in the Parish Center. Other communicant members who wish to meet with the Council of Deacons to discuss special concerns, needs, or requests should make arrangements with the Chairman of the Council of Deacons prior to a scheduled meeting. ✕

### Immanuel Parish Membership

<b>Baptism:</b>	September 8	Reagan Kyle Elaine Gibbens, daughter of Jared and Heather Gibbens
<b>Transfer In:</b>	September 22	Mark and Lisa Gilbert <i>from</i> St. Paul's—Columbus, IN
<b>Profession of Faith:</b>	October 6	James and Linda Haas Marshall Rector
<b>Funeral:</b>	September 27	Robert Herman Kelm — died September 21

**DIVINE SERVICE** is celebrated every Sunday at 10:30am and on Feast Days as announced.

**DIVINE OFFICE: LAUDS** (MORNING PRAYER) and **VESPERS** (EVENING PRAYER) are prayed as announced in the weekly *Parish News*.

**PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** is offered the third Thursday of the month (November 21) from 5-6pm, or anytime by appointment. Vespers is prayed at 4:30pm prior to Confession.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE STUDY** are at 9am. The Bible Study is studying the book of Hebrews.

**UNIVERSITY STUDENT BIBLE STUDY** with dinner is Sunday at 5:30pm.

**ADULT CHOIR** rehearsals are Thursdays from 7-8:30pm, and Sundays from 9:45-10:20am.

**“WORSHIP ANEW,”** produced by Lutheran Media Ministries of Fort Wayne and supported by Immanuel’s special gift collection, airs every Sunday morning on WTWO at 8am.

**WESTMINSTER BIBLE STUDY** meets on the last Friday of the month at 1:30pm except when there is a holiday at the end of the month. All members are invited to attend. The next meeting will be November 22.

**ESPRIT DEADLINE** for December is Friday, November 15. Volunteers are needed to help with the mailing on Friday, November 22.

### Serving in November at Divine Service

Altar Guild – Kelly Bays; Pam Anderson; Hannah Wineinger

Tellers – Rich & Deb Bucy; Jack & Pat Casassa

Ushers – Darryl Harris; Jasen Gibbens; Justen Gibbens; Tom Reck

Acolytes – To be determined

### Schedule of Divine Liturgies for November

November 1	(Friday) All Saints’ Day, 7pm	Divine Service
November 3	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10:30am	Divine Service
November 10	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity, 10:30am	Divine Service
November 17	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10:30am	Divine Service
November 24	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10:30am	Divine Service