

# IMMANUEL

## INSIGHTS

People of God's grace. Building on the past. Growing in the present. Planning for the future--In Jesus Christ.



### Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Blessings in Christ in this joyful Easter season!

As we look ahead to 2027, we begin to glimpse a remarkable milestone in the life of our congregation: the 175th anniversary of Immanuel.

For generations, this community has been a place of worship, service, and connection—a living testament to faith carried forward through changing times. This upcoming anniversary invites us not only to celebrate our history, but also to reflect on who we are today and who we are called to become.

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In the months ahead, we will begin forming a 175th Anniversary Committee to help guide this important season. This group will serve as both storytellers and visionaries—honoring our shared past while working with our council and community to shape meaningful ways to mark the occasion. Members will collaborate on ideas for events, projects, and opportunities that engage the whole congregation and wider community. At the same time, this anniversary is not only about looking back. It is also an opportunity to invest in the future. Our church council may lead us in exploring legacy projects that strengthen our ministries for years to come—whether through outreach initiatives, building improvements, or new programs that respond to emerging needs.

In the coming weeks, we will share more information about how to participate in the planning process. If you have a passion for history, hospitality, creativity, or simply a love for this community, we warmly invite you to consider being part of this effort. Please let Zachary Shimek, Gail Harvancik, Pastor Vicki or Tracy know if you are interested in being part of the planning committee.

Immanuel's 175th anniversary is more than a date on a calendar—it is a moment to celebrate God's faithfulness across generations and to step forward together in hope. We look forward to dreaming, planning, and celebrating with you.

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Vicki

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## Council News & Notes

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At the April meeting, Council enjoyed a shorter-than-usual gathering—a reflection of how smoothly things are moving here at Immanuel. Committee updates were shared, including from the Buildings and Grounds team, who continue to faithfully care for our beloved church. As with any well-loved space, ongoing attention is needed, with priorities including the parking lot, roof, and other key improvements.

The Connection Crew is gearing up for the Strawberry Fest parking fundraiser, an exciting opportunity to serve the community while supporting our mission. Meanwhile, Bingo continues to be a wonderful success—not only financially, but also as a place of connection and joy. We've built a strong reputation as a warm, welcoming, and fun environment, and that is thanks in large part to our incredible Bingo volunteers. Kudos to all who make it such a meaningful ministry!

Current council members are: president: Jessie Johnson, vice-president: Gail Harvancik, secretary: Christine Esser, and treasurer: Mary Ellen Jacques. Mark Haas is a returning member to the council this year. Committee chairs and council liaisons are: Worship & Music: James and Lisa Quick; Building & Grounds: Mark Haas; Stewardship/Fundraising: Jacki Juedes; Connection Crew: Gail Harvancik; Youth & Education and EPIC Youth Representative: Katie Tredo; and Technology: Christine Esser and Jessie Johnson. The congregation will be notified of upcoming committee meetings, and all are welcome to attend if you have an interest in serving or would like to share your ideas.

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## What's Happening In & Around Immanuel

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Saturday, May 16 starting at 8:30am, come be part of something visible and meaningful as our Buildings and Grounds Crew gathers to spread mulch and freshen up the exterior of our church! This is a great opportunity to enjoy some fresh air, connect with others, and take pride in caring for the space we share.

Whether you can stay for an hour or the entire time, every helping hand makes a difference—and many hands will make light work! No special skills are needed, just a willingness to pitch in and have a good time. We'll have plenty of tasks for all ages and abilities. Bring your gloves, a rake, shovel, and a wheelbarrow, if you have one, and a cheerful spirit. It's a simple way to serve together, make a visible impact, and enjoy the satisfaction of a job well done. We'd love to see you there!

Sunday, May 10 is Mother's Day.

On this Mother's Day, we give thanks for the women in our lives who have nurtured us in faith and love—mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, mentors, and all who reflect God's caring presence. We honor the countless ways they give of themselves with patience, strength, and grace.

We also hold in prayer those for whom this day carries mixed emotions—those who grieve, who long to be mothers, or who carry complicated relationships. May God's comfort and peace surround you.

Today and always, we celebrate the gift of love that reflects God's own heart. Happy Mother's Day.



In 2027, Immanuel Lutheran Church will celebrate 175 years of ministry (1852–2027). As we look forward to this special milestone, we are beginning to plan ways to celebrate the rich history of our congregation and the many generations of faith, fellowship, and service that have shaped our church community.

We are looking for church members who would be interested in serving on the 175th Anniversary Celebration Committee. The committee will help plan events, activities, and opportunities to honor our past while celebrating the future of Immanuel.

The first planning meeting will be held this month. If you are interested in being part of this committee or would like to learn more, please reach out to: Zachary Shimek, [zacharyjpeterston@icloud.com](mailto:zacharyjpeterston@icloud.com) 414-502-2339

We hope you will consider sharing your ideas, talents, and enthusiasm as we begin planning this meaningful celebration for our congregation.

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## Ministry Highlights and Announcements

We're bringing back a beloved tradition at Immanuel! Celebrate a special occasion by decorating the altar with a bouquet of flowers. A sign-up sheet is posted next to the narthex bulletin board. Simply choose a date and bring in your bouquet. If your flowers are in honor or memory of someone, we will gladly acknowledge it in the bulletin, weekly announcements, and/or PowerPoint.



### MISSION QUILTERS UPDATE

May is almost here and only two months remain to assemble quilts before our summer break. Our group of dedicated ladies could always use your help. Why not join Immanuel's Mission Quilters to assemble quilts for Pine Ridge Indian Reservation? What better way to help others than provide gifts of warmth and comfort to those in need and have fun while doing it!

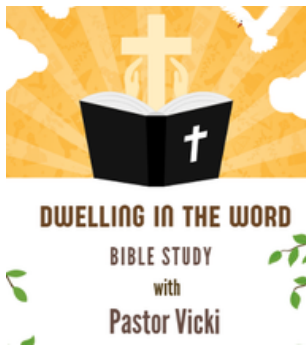
At our meeting days in April, 6 members quilted both days. Our team efforts added another 15 full size quilts and 2 baby quilts to our inventory for the 2 days.

We meet every third Monday & Tuesday from September through June. Our next quilting days are scheduled for May 18 and 19. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. upstairs in Fromm Hall and work until approximately 2:30 p.m. each day. At that time, we can begin to teach you the basics of quilt making. All stages of the process are simple and no experience is necessary. If you'd be interested in quilting with us, talk to Gerry Juedes or any of our other quilters for more information or just stop in the third Monday and Tuesday of every month to see what we're about.



On May 29 and 30, Tyler and Zachary Shimek will join Pastor Vicki at the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly. This event brings together pastors, deacons, and voting members from congregations across southeastern Wisconsin for worship, fellowship, and important church business. The assembly includes opening worship and Holy Communion, reports from the bishop and synod leaders, voting on budgets, resolutions, and ministry priorities, as well as elections for synod leadership and representatives. Attendees also participate in Bible study, keynote presentations, and workshops focused on ministry, outreach, and congregational life. It is a time for the synod to pray, plan, and work together to strengthen the mission of the church.

## Ministry Highlights and Announcements



Take a midweek pause and join Pastor Vicki for Dwelling in the Word—a relaxed, conversation-based Bible study held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 11:00am at PJ Piper's. May gatherings will be on the 12th and 26th. This will be the last Bible Study until we resume in fall.

Together, we'll reflect on the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday, sharing conversation, connection, and encouragement in faith. All are welcome.

Family Sharing of Ozaukee County is truly touched by the generosity of our congregation. Your ongoing kindness and support make a real difference in the lives of those in our community, and we are deeply grateful to share in this ministry of care together.



Fun Fridays invite us to pause, set aside life's stress, and enjoy the gift of laughter. It's a true blessing—lifting our spirits, easing stress, and bringing joy to our days.

We're off to a great start and love sharing your good news! Send your joyful moments, humor, or everyday blessings to Pastor Vicki or the office, and they may be featured on Immanuel's Facebook page. Let's lift one another up and end the week smiling together.



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## Fellowship Opportunities

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The Girls' and Guys' Breakfast Club will gather on Tuesday, May 5, at 8:00am at PJ Piper's. Come for a morning of good food, great conversation, and warm fellowship—everyone is welcome!

A sure sign spring has arrived! The Immanuel softball team is back in action at the helm of Manager Mark Haas. The first game of the season is Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm versus St. Francis Borgia. The team plays at Behling Field in Immanuel's own backyard, just across the pond! Come out and cheer on the team!




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## Volunteer Opportunities

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**THAT'S A GOOD BINGO!** Mark your calendars for May 9, 2026 is our last Bingo of the season! Doors open at 12:00 p.m., and games begin at 1:00 p.m. The Progressive Jackpot is **\$1,599 in 52 calls**.

BINGO has become a beloved part of our church life—raising vital funds to support our mission, connecting with the wider community, and giving back through monthly contributions to local charitable organizations. A portion of May's proceeds will benefit Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge. They are a wonderful location organization providing basic necessities to those struggling with housing insecurity and those in need of support in Milwaukee and surrounding communities.

We'd love for you to join us for an afternoon of fun—whether as a participant or a volunteer! New volunteers are always welcome, and your time and energy make a real difference. If you'd like to help, please see Donna Cooke.

And of course, don't forget our renowned baked goods! If you'd like to share a tasty treat, please bring your donation to church.



We are blessed by the many members who generously share their time and talents. We are always looking for volunteers to support our weekly worship, both up front and behind the scenes. Consider serving as an usher, communion assistant, greeter, lector, or helping with communion set-up, PowerPoint, or coffee hour treats. It's easy and fun! Contact Tracy in the office or sign up using the SignUpGenius link in the Weekly Announcements email.

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## Youth Activities

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As our Sunday School year comes to a close, we give thanks for a wonderful season of learning, laughter, and growing in faith. It has been a joy to watch our children explore God's Word, ask thoughtful questions, and build friendships rooted in Christ's love. The last class will be held on May 10 during the praise service. A special thank you to Lisa Grenfell and Katie Tredo who are filling in for Jessie, who will be wearing her baseball coach hat that day.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated teachers, Jessie Johnson and Addison Johnson, who generously shared their time, creativity, and faith each week. Your care and commitment have made a lasting difference.

Thank you also to our parents and families for your encouragement and support—faith formation is a true partnership, and we are blessed to walk alongside you.

And to our children—thank you for your energy, curiosity, and joyful spirits. You are a gift to this church, and we are so proud of you. We look forward to all that God has in store for you!



Confirmation classes are wrapping up for the year, with the final class and end of year celebration on Wednesday, May 6 at Faith Lutheran. It has truly been a joyful and meaningful year—one filled with spiritual growth, deepening friendships, laughter, and a strong sense of belonging in Christ. We are so grateful for the ways our youth have grown in their faith and in their care for one another.

A heartfelt thank you to Lisa Wegner and our EPIC pastors for so generously sharing their time, faith, and gifts with our students. Your guidance, encouragement, and genuine care have made a lasting impact that will continue to shape our young people in the years ahead.



As the school year draws to a close, we want to take a moment to recognize our 2026 graduates. If your child is graduating this year, please let Tracy know. We plan to celebrate with a cake on Sunday, June 7 after the praise service.

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries



We wish you joy, love, and continued blessings in the year ahead.

### Birthdays

5/01	Crystal Trice	5/13	Ryan Beverung	5/21	Jason Hoerchner
5/04	Gail Harvancik	5/13	Brian Thusius	5/23	Jennifer Wendorf
5/04	Cal Praefke	5/13	Sarah Meyer	5/26	Jason Demczak
5/05	Richard Thiermann	5/14	Eric Bast	5/28	William Hinz
5/08	Rachel Paulmann	5/15	Tracy Arndt	5/28	Virginia Carron
5/10	Richard Sturdevant	5/15	Mike Wolff	5/28	Mike Wendorf
5/10	Lyle Hoffman	5/15	Sloane Bradley	5/29	Marilyn Klug
5/11	Nancy Apel	5/17	Greg Thorn	5/29	Nora Roth
5/12	Mary Dennhof	5/18	Robert Larson	5/30	Rosemary Thiermann

### Anniversaries

Mike and Lenore Cira	5/12/84
Rob and Sarah Meyer	5/12/07
Ronald and Kerri Haefner	5/19/90
Ray and Kathy Brandt	5/25/74
Steve and Amy Kletzien	5/31/80

If we missed your special day, please let the office know. We are continuously updating our records to have the most accurate information.



## Prayers

Please keep our brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers.

Alice	Kerry	Charlene	Shirley	Keith
Tom	Richard	Vernon	Casey	Bob
Sandy	James	Jerry	Leslie	Lila
Erik	Jim	Chrissy	Surya	Mikey
Mark	Brandon	Karen	Santi	Dennis
Pat	Bobbie	Jenny	David	Chris
Patty	Diane	Bill	Rich	Jim
Dan	Glen	Christina		

## From the Office



The church office is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00am to 12:00pm. While these are the official hours, you'll likely find Tracy in the office most weekday mornings. Please check the weekly announcements email for changes to the schedule.

Immanuel's digital calendar will help you keep track of all our activities, events, and meetings! This will be your one-stop shop for everything happening at Immanuel.

Stay connected, stay informed, and join us in all the ways God is moving at Immanuel!

Please see the Weekly Announcements email for the link or check out the calendar on our website.



**Building Usage Reminders:** All events should be added to the master calendar in the office or by sending an email message to: [office@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:office@immanuelcedarburg.org)



Please remember to let the church office know if you move or if your contact information changes so you do not miss out on notifications.



Please check our website for updates to the monthly calendar at [www.immanuelcedarburg.org](http://www.immanuelcedarburg.org)



Our newsletter deadline is the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month. To ensure pertinent information is included, please send an email to [office@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:office@immanuelcedarburg.org)

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## Church Staff

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Pastor: Vicki Simon, 262-340-1307

[vicki.simon@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:vicki.simon@immanuelcedarburg.org)

Church Administrator: Tracy Johnson-Ohrmund, 262-377-4484

[office@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:office@immanuelcedarburg.org)

Financial Secretary: Jacki Juedes 608-219-7688

Custodian: Terry Proefrock

Organists: James and Lisa Quick

Pianists: Gretel Anderson and Lisa Quick

Praise Band Directors: Rob and Gretel Anderson

Chancel Choir Director: Sandy Stoffel ([sandy.stoffel@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:sandy.stoffel@immanuelcedarburg.org))

Handbell Choir Director: Debbie Donovan ([deb.donovan@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:deb.donovan@immanuelcedarburg.org))

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## Church Council Members

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Executive Committee:

President: Jessie Johnson (2027) 414-899-9041

Vice President: Gail Harvancik (2026) 262-327-4306

Secretary: Christine Esser (2027) 414-588-0057

Treasurer: Mary Ellen Jacques (2027) 262-416-8568

Members At Large:

Larry Neumann (2026) 262-483-4511

James Quick (2027) 262-375-5535

Sandy Stoffel (2027) 262-327-8144

Katie Tredo (2026) 410-206-2887

Mark Haas (2028) 262-227-5768

Council member email addresses: [first.name.last.name@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:first.name.last.name@immanuelcedarburg.org)

Email the entire council: [ilccouncil@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:ilccouncil@immanuelcedarburg.org)

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Connect with us at:

W61 N498 Washington Ave., Cedarburg, WI 53012 / [www.immanuelcedarburg.org](http://www.immanuelcedarburg.org) / 262-377-4484  
[office@immanuelcedarburg.org](mailto:office@immanuelcedarburg.org)

# MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Haas event all day 1 2
Traditional Service w/ Communion 9:30 3	4	Breakfast Club 8:00 PJ Pipers 5	last Confirmation Class @ Faith praise band rehearsal 6:30 6	Softball 6:15 choir rehearsal 6:30 7	8	Bingo 1:00 9
Praise Service w/ Communion Sunday School 9:30 10	11	Bible Study 11:00 PJ Pipers 12	13	Softball 8:15 choir rehearsal 6:30 14	15	Spring Clean up 8:30am 16
Traditional Service w/ Communion 9:30 17	Quilters 9:00-2pm 18	Council mtg 7pm Quilters 9:00-2pm 19	praise band rehearsal 6:30 20	Softball 7:15 choir rehearsal 6:30 21	22	23
Praise Service w/ Communion 9:30 24	Memorial Day Office Closed 25	Bible Study 11:00 PJ Pipers 26	27	Softball 7:15 choir rehearsal 6:30 28	29	30
Traditional Service w/ Communion 9:30 31						