

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

942 Grape Avenue, Fisher, IL 61843-8512



Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman

The Lutheran Church – Missouri
Synod

Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

August 2026



From Pastor McPike's Desk.....

Our worship varies from one part of the year to another. During the “Festival Half” of the year, which starts four Sundays before Christmas and runs until Trinity Sunday (approximately late May or early to mid-June), there is more singing, also sometimes called chanting. The pastor’s parts are chanted. The Introit is chanted. There is a bit more ceremony. During the “Non-Festival Half”, there is less chanting. The introit is spoken. The pastor speaks much more of the parts that would be sung during the “Festival Half” of the church year.

“Chanting” is one of those things that some people like and others do not, or some could take and others could leave. Chanting became necessary back in the days of large church buildings before electronics and PA systems. The chanted voice carries much better in large spaces among lots of people. It also sounds so much more pleasant and reverent than shouting! There is a formality to it that speaking, especially loud speaking when that is necessary to be heard, simply does not have.

Chanting used to be even more used than it is today. The Bible readings, prayers and other parts of the church we speak today were, at one time, often chanted. Again, it was as much necessary to account for acoustics than anything else.

Objections to chanting are several. Some say that it sounds old, and makes the service seem to stiff and formal. Others do not like it simply because it tends to be commonly associated with certain denomination of Christianity like the Roman Catholics or Episcopal Church.

Even though we have modern technology such as PA systems in churches, some churches continue to support chanting. To some, it makes the service seem more “reverent”.

Here at Osman, chanting is used more generously in the “festival” half and higher feasts of the church and not used during other times. Services held for the very highest festivals (Christmas, Easter, Pentecost) it is used the most. Reasons for chanting are the special nature of the service that it promotes in festive times. Reasons for not chanting are... it points out that there are times less festive. A very practical reason for changing back and forth is simply that it gives everyone a little bit of what they want, and with a purpose! Some like chanting, some don’t. So, simply... there are times that we do, and times that we do not, and everyone gets a bit of what they want.

Church Council

The church council will meet on Wednesday, August 19th at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.

Ladies Aid/LWML Luncheon

All Ladies Aid/LWML members and guests are invited to a lady's luncheon on August 14th at Jack's Café in Leroy. If you are interested in attending the luncheon on that day at 11:30, please sign up on the list on the back bulletin board. Please indicate on the list the number of lady guests that you are bringing so the reservation number can be called in a few days in advance. The guest speaker will be Annie Elam who will speak about hats. All attendees are encouraged to wear a hat!

Quilting

The ladies will be quilting on Monday, August 3rd at 12:30 PM and on Wednesday, August 5th at 8:30 AM. All ladies of the congregation are invited to help tie knots for quilts. 81 quilts are completed and will be donated to Lutheran World Relief and Orphan Grain Train.

Thank You

Pastor McPike, Many thanks to you and the church members (particularly the Ladies Aid for the time committed to memorializing our father, Dave Kunde. Your time committed and service is much appreciated. May the memorial donations given to the church in remembrance of Dave Kunde be a blessing to the church. Sara, Dave, Don, Doug Kunde

Immanuel Lutheran Ladies Aid, Thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated. Thank you for your memorial gift to the church and also for providing the wonderful meal after the service. Our family is truly blessed to have a caring group like yours caring for us in this time of sorrow. Sara, Dave, Don, Doug Kunde

Sara's new address: Sara Kunde

Apartment #205

4522 Hickory Chase Way

Hilliard, OH 43026

Organ Update



The organ has been having some issues for the last several months. It tends to just STOP playing even though Alicia is pressing the keys on the keyboard. She has been jumping from the organ with much grace to the keyboard and not missing too many beats to keep the melody going. On July 19th Nick Haggin happened to be present when this occurred and noticed something with the sound board that he thought was the problem. After the third trip of the repairman who comes from Indiana, the problem seems to be resolved. On Sunday, July 26th, the organ played for the whole service!

Operation Christmas Child



We will be packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child in November for children in poor countries across the world. Since school supplies are on sale NOW, this would be a good time to purchase needed items. We are in need of 23 glue sticks, 7 scissors, 24 pencil sharpeners, 10 boxes of 24 crayons, 23 boxes of markers (10-12 packs), 17 boxes of 10-12 pack of colored pencils, 24 toothbrushes, 24 – 48 ink pens, 2 wash cloths, and 24 nail clippers. We usually pack 12 boxes for boys and 12 boxes for girls so other small items such as

Match Box cars, hair clips, bracelets, or sunglasses may be added. If you prefer to give a cash donation, we would be glad to buy items that are needed. There will be a collection box on the back pew. Two Thrivent Action Team cards will be used to buy larger items and to pay the \$10 postage fee (maybe more) for each box. If you would like to pack a box or have questions about what is acceptable, please see Terri Hooker or Connie Warsaw. Thanks so much for helping with this worthwhile project and bringing a smile to a child's face.

August Lawn Mowers

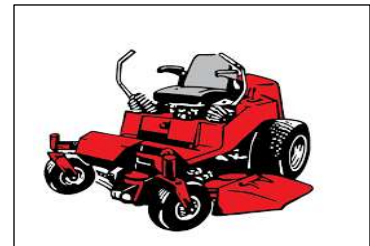
The week of August 2 – 8 – Bob Zimmerman

The week of August 9 – August 15 – Don Warsaw

The week of August 16 – August 22 – Rick Hardesty

The week of August 23 – 29 – Ryan Lammle

The week of August 30 – September 5 – Jerry Edwards



The schedule this year lists the week that the volunteer needs to mow. It is recommended to mow on 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 Lee Whitehouse or John Grussing.

New Transformer



Eastern Illini Electric Co-op installed a new transformer on the pole north of the church in the parking lot. This was done to hopefully stabilize the strength of the electric current coming into the church. This was a possible solution to the organ problems that have been occurring the last several months. It needed to be done since the existing one was installed in the 70s so it was well past its intended design life. This was before the church even had air conditioning and now with two dehumidifiers, air conditioning, and more lights, it was necessary. The new models offer higher efficiency, better safety, and stronger capacity to prevent power outages.

Summary of July Council Meeting

Eight elected church officers attended the meeting on July 15th. Chairman Dwight Hooker called the meeting to order. Pastor McPike opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 119 followed by a prayer. No secretary minutes from the last minutes were read due to the absence of Debbie Lammle, secretary. Terri Hooker presented the treasurer's report for June 2026 consisting of the list of disbursements made, account balances, statement of financial position, and budget performances. Receipts were \$3,870.00, expenses of \$8,485.79, and the checking account ending balance was \$29,960.24. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report.

The pastor's report was read. The transfer of Coulson and Lacey Poffenberger from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tuscola was received and accepted. Pastor Strom will lead services on August 9, August 16, August 23, September 6, and September 27. Pastor McPike will preach at his family's church, Calvary Lutheran in Bedford, Indiana, on August 2. Confirmation class is slowly beginning to restart after a break.

In old business, Chairman Hooker informed the council that the organ is still having problems but seeking repair options. The Bellflower and Fisher parades went very well with the church float. The church display booth at the Fisher Fair had very few people stop by so will probably not consider that for next year. Final details for the Member Appreciation Dinner on Sunday, July 19th were discussed. In new business it was approved to buy a gift card for Rob Gallier for all of his electrical work that he has done for the church. Discussion was held concerning the security issues during the worship services. The next council meeting will be Wednesday, August 19th, at 6:30.

The meeting was adjourned followed by reciting of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Niemann, Secretary pro tem

Back to School Prayer

Dear Lord, please protect all the children as they approach another school year. Help them learn and achieve and conquer without fear. Give them the patience they need each and every day. Teach them Lord and guide the way. Give them favor and courage. Help them never to feel discouraged. Give them patience, understanding, and motivation for success. Help them all Lord and may they all be blessed. In Jesus' name, Amen. (by Laura Porrar)

Central Illinois Churchwork Scholarships

Recently twenty-seven scholarships were approved for Central Illinois District students who are pursuing a church career. Seven scholarships went to seminarians and twenty to undergraduate students. These students must be attending synodical colleges. All funds are given directly to the schools, not the individuals. In total \$148,050 was awarded. Some of this scholarship money is from the Central Illinois District LWML grant which is \$30,000 a year, and some from congregations, trust funds, and Endowment funds of the district. The mites collected in those tiny boxes can benefit so many!

Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Ladies Aid/LWML held its July meeting with 7 members present. The common table prayer was recited before the ladies helped themselves to delicious refreshments. The meeting was called to order, followed by the LWML pledge and song. Devotion was given by Brenda Hendricks and Debbie Martin gave the topic. The business meeting began with the Secretary's minutes from the last meeting, roll call, and the treasurer's report. Correspondence was read from John Lammle and the Kunde family. Mission coordinator, Terri Hooker, stated that 81 quilts have been made so far this year. Special thanks were given to Debbie Martin and Brenda Edwards for finishing the edges on the quilts.

Old business included an update on providing for the adopted family. Debbie Lammle sent money and food, Connie Warsaw will take something in August, and Debbie Martin will provide in September. The group was urged to visit the shut-ins. Debbie Lammle and Diana Zimmerman visited in July, and Connie Warsaw and Brenda Hendricks visited in June. Everyone was urged to remember Wilma Grussing's birthday on July 13th. The group was thanked for all their work for the July 4th Bake Sale at Bellflower. The profit was \$1,472.50. Connie Warsaw made a motion and Diana Zimmerman seconded to change the start time for the Bake Sale from 7:30 AM to 8 AM . The motion carried. The food committee was thanked for all the great food taken to those coming home from the hospital. Group 1 (Diana Zimmerman, Brenda Edwards, and Debbie Martin) will be the next group to take food. The group was reminded to pay \$17 dues to the treasurer, Connie Warsaw. \$12 of the dues goes to the zone, and \$5 goes to our local society. A thank you was given to everyone making prayer quilts, to those helping with the Kunde funeral dinner, and to those visiting the shut-ins. Diana Zimmerman reported that 42 dresses have been made for little girls in Africa and will be mailed soon.

New Business began with a discussion concerning the August Luncheon. Brenda Hendricks informed the group that all ladies could invite a friend to attend the meal at Jack's restaurant in LeRoy at 11:30am. The group was asked to wear a favorite hat, since the speaker, Annie Elam, will be talking about her favorite hats which she will bring. Debbie Martin made a motion to pay for the speaker's luncheon and give her a prayer quilt; Brenda Hendricks seconded the motion; motion carried. Members of the group were asked to read the bulletin to watch for a Garden Walk in Fisher during the last week in July. The members can ask a guest to attend. Upcoming events are the LWML Retreat at Camp Cilca on October 3, 2026, the Danville Zone Rally at Champaign on September 8th, 2026, and the National LWML Convention on July 8-11, 2027. The next meeting is September 10, 2026, at 6:30 PM with Annette Warsaw giving the topic and Diana Zimmerman and Connie Warsaw serving as hostesses.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Member Appreciation Dinner

Thanks to the 38 members and friends who attended the Member Appreciation Luncheon on Sunday, July 19th. The grillers and assistants, Jerry Niemann, Don Warsaw, Darwin Warsaw, and Wade Warsaw did an awesome job preparing the hamburgers and hotdogs. While the meat grilled, the BINGO callers, Bob Zimmerman and Barb Whitehouse Gercken, got started with their duties to get the group playing for prizes. The children enjoyed playing inside and outside games before and after the delicious meal was served. The meal items were mostly purchased with a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Card. Additional items were provided by members and the desserts were added by the council members and spouses. Pastor McPike set up a wine tasting table with his homemade wines. It was indeed an enjoyable and educational addition to the day. Thank you to Terri and Dwight Hooker for suggesting this luncheon to thank the members for all of their volunteering throughout the year.



July 4th Activities



Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman was very active in July 4th celebrations in our communities this year. On Saturday, July 4th, the Ladies Aid/LWML ladies hosted a bake sale which had many delicious baked items on display in the Bellflower firehouse. Aftering snacking a little on the goodies, the council members and spouses handed out small water bottles to the parade spectators along the streets. The bottles had labels with our church information on them. The parade started at 9:30 and the church float which displayed the theme of “God Bless America” and the 250th Birthday of our nation won first place. The float was then dissassembled and transported to Fisher. Several members reassembled the float for their parade on Monday, July 6th. On Friday, July 10th, our church had a display booth in the Expo Hall during the Fisher Fair. Thank you to Steve and Marsha Warsaw for providing the trailer for the float and pulling the float in the Bellflower Parade. Thank you to Lee Whitehouse for allowing the float building to take place in the Bellflower FS building. Thank you to Don and Connie Warsaw for pulling the trailer to Fisher. Thank you to Dwight Hooker for the use of his truck in the Fisher parade and to Ryan Lammle for driving the float. Thank you to Marvin Clemmons for allowing the float building in his building in Fisher. Thank you to all the members who helped construct the float. Thank you to Terri and Dwight Hooker for designing the display area at the Fisher Fair and for manning the booth for several hours. Immanuel Lutheran was well represented in all of these events!



08-01 Melanie Niemann
 08-03 Lucas Demos
 08-07 Sue VanWakeman
 08-09 Annette Warsaw
 08-18 Ashley Genzel
 08-24 Pam Christians
 08-25 Butch Sprau
 08-26 Ross Warsaw
 08-28 Sarah Ford
 08-28 Lacey Poffenberger
 08-29 Jill Hardesty
 08-29 John Lammle
 08-29 Kari Genzel

God bless you

Statistics

Date	Worship Service	Adult Class	Sunday School
June 28	43	12	0
July 5	48	13	0
July 12	42	11	0
July 19	50	11	0
July 26	40	12	1

Happy Anniversary!

8-1-2020 Mackenzie and Chase Zimmerman

8-8-1981 Carolyn and Doug Majercin

8-8-1998 Cindy and Shane Zimmerman

8-25-2001 Tiffani and Brad Lutz

8-26-1967 Diana and Bob Zimmerman

Answer: Trivia Question

The question last month was: In 1982 our church was the site of a robbery. A gold cross, a pair of communion candleholders, and a pair of candelabras were taken from our church altar. Who were the two altar guild ladies who discovered this robbery? ANSWER: Leona Albin and Mary Lammle

The trivia question for this month: In 1950 and 1951 the church congregation rented 80 acres of farmland. The men of the congregation farmed the ground and the profit received went into the building fund. Who owned the land?