

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
WEEKLY CALENDAR and ANNOUNCEMENTS
December 27, 2020

Monday – Friday office hours 8:00 am – 3:30 pm
(Office hours this week will be shortened due to school not being in session)
Sunday, December 27: Divine Service 8:00 am & 10:00 am
Sunday, January 3: Divine Service 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Sunday School will resume January 10th

Sunday School (PreK – 12) is on break for Christmas and will resume on Sunday January 10, 2021. We are so thankful for all the students that have been attending. Merry Christmas from all the Sunday School teachers!

Online auction fundraiser for Hope Lutheran High School in Winona is from Wednesday, December 30 through Sunday, January 3. To access the auction (Online through Darr Auctions out of Rushford, MN) you will need to go to: **darrauctions.com**. Once the page is loaded you will see a blue Register to Bid Link. You will want to register with a bidder number if you don't already have one. They prefer cash or checks once the auction has ended and you pick up your items. There will be no tax on the Hope items in this Auction, if you purchase other items that are not part of our auction you will see tax included. If you are looking for the firearms they will be listed on a different auction which will take place on Jan. 13 thru the 17th.

Quilting A weekly quilting hour will begin on January 5th and continue through April 27th. We will meet in the church basement weekly, on Tuesday, at 1:00 pm. We will work distanced from each other and masks will need to be worn. Please contact Linda Zabel with any questions.

Financial Update: As this crazy year comes to a close, the Board of Stewardship and Church Council are so very grateful to all our members who have contributed to the ministry of the Gospel at Immanuel. As of November 30, our expenses have exceeded our giving by **\$14,122.42**. A recent article (<https://thefederalist.com/2020/12/10/new-mental-health-survey-shows-conservatives-were-right-church-is-essential/>) noted the importance of faith: *“According to the results of a new Gallup self-assessment survey, Americans’ mental health is at its lowest point in two decades... except for devout religious people. Remarkably, faithful churchgoers were the only people who reported improvements in mental health since last year... While many people’s suffering increased exponentially in 2020, economically, physically, and spiritually, they needed the hope that only the gospel can afford...”* Church is essential because the Gospel is essential for peace in this world and joy for the world to come. Would you prayerfully consider a special year-end gift to help us finish the year in the black and with reserves to carry us well into 2021 so our Gospel outreach can grow and flourish? God’s blessings to you as we finish 2020 in His strong name!

New and Re-elected Officers and Board Members installation will take place on January 3. You need not be at both services, but please do attend one for a time of recognition and blessing of your service to the Lord and His Church.

Wow! Wonderful! Rejoice! What an **amazing** response to provide gifts for the Residents at Green Prairie Rehabilitation Center! The collection box was overflowing and filled many times over. The staff who will distribute our gifts expressed their gratitude and appreciation. They

anticipate many smiles and much joy! Thank You so very much for your generous sharing to those who have been isolated and lonely during the Pandemic. Christ's love was outpoured through you. Let us continue to remember those who are suffering isolation and illness with our prayers. God is with us all and will continue His faithful gifts of forgiveness and comfort. Praise the Lord!

Charitable contributions for 2020 must be received before the first worship service in 2021 to claim the deduction for 2020. Checks that are mailed and postmarked in 2020 will still be deductible even if received at church in 2021.

Thank you for the cards and care this holiday season. Hope you all have a blessed Christmas.
Pastor & Jane Fuchs

Food Shelf Drive Immanuel Lutheran School is collecting items for the Plainview/Elgin Food Shelf. If you would like to help with a donation, a display has been set up in the CLC Lobby.

Second Grade students receive a gift of a Bible from the ILCW. Immanuel Lutheran School students received their Bibles during chapel on December 16. For congregational members who have a 2nd grade student, please make arrangements to pick up or receive your child's Bible. We would normally send invitations for a Sunday in which they are handed out, but due to COVID conditions, we feel that we should allow each family to determine how to get this precious gift of God's Word into the hands of His children. Contact Lisa Hoekstra, Becky Luckstein, Pastor Augustine, or the church office.

Stay Informed on Church/School news via email: Share the sign up for the weekly bulletin announcements and news! Send an email to ilcs-news+subscribe@googlegroups.com. You may need to put ilcs-news@googlegroups.com in your contact list or mark as a safe sender to avoid emails going into a junk/spam folder. Or contact the office and we can add you to the news group or prayer chain (ilcs-prayers+subscribe@googlegroups.com).