

## **News and Notes**



#### Calendar Sun March 2

8:00 AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary + Online [youtube.com/ @immanuelbatavial 9:30 AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary 9:30 AM Adult Forum Bible Study & Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship 4:30 PM Adult Volleyball, Gym 6:00 PM High School Bible Study, Youth Room

#### Mon March 3

7:00 AM Monday Men's Bible Study, Meeting Room 6:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 12, Fellowship Hall

#### Tue March 4

6:30 PM Young Men's (18-35) Bible Study, Chapel

#### Wed March 5

9:00 AM Wednesday Women's Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Sing & Play, Gym 4:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship w/Communion

5:30 PM Lent Meal, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship w/Communtion

7:00 PM Wednesday Evening Ladies Bible Study, Meeting Room

#### Thu March 6

6:30 PM Bible Study, "Meeting the Spirit", Library 7:00 PM Christus Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

#### Fri March 7

#### Sat March 8

8:00 AM Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 5:30 PM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary

#### Sun March 9

8:00 AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary + Online [youtube.com/ @immanuelbatavia]

9:30 AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary

9:30 AM Adult Forum Bible Study & Sunday School

10:45 AM Contemporary Worship

4:30 PM Adult Volleyball, Gym

6:00 PM High School Bible Study, Youth Room

#### First Communion Class

#### MARCH 23 & 30, 12:15 -1:15 PM, Fellowship Hall

First Communion Classes for children in Grades 5 & up will be held March 23 & 30. At least one parent must attend with the child & both sessions are mandatory. Kids will be able to have their first Communion on Palm Sunday. Scan QR Code to register or complete a form in the Narthex





#### **Upcoming Lent Worship & Pre-Service Meals** WEDNESDAYS IN LENT: MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26; APRIL 2, 9; MEAL 5:30 PM, Fellowship Hall; SERVICE 6:30 PM, Sanctuary

We are leading a "Fruits of the Spirit" sermon series this Lenten season. Likewise, we have seasoned veteran preachers preaching & leading worship, too! Both Rev. Ron Weidler & Rev. Dennis Perryman have agreed to aid the first 4 weeks of midweek Lent services.

Join us each week for a pre-service meal together at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

#### Lent Pre-Service Meals

We are gathering together as a church community prior to midweek Lent services, meals will be served on March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2, & 9. If you plan on coming for the meal, please scan this QR Code or go to: https://forms.gle/aKHmYwWUnNL42AA87

or you can put your name on the list in the narthex. Don't worry, if you forget to RSVP, you can still come eat! We just want to give the meal preppers an idea of how many to expect.

Ash Wednesday (March 5) meal is provided by Immanuel's Youth Group. A freewill offering will be accepted and any donations will help offset the costs to attend this year's National Lutheran Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Please consider a donation to help offset the cost of your meal. Its for the kids!  $\leftarrow$ 

#### Lutheran Schools Week at Immanuel! March 2-8



We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve here at Immanuel. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love **ENDURE** with children and their families!

National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve. For more information, see the School Happenings section.

#### It's Pledge Card Time

It's budget pre-planning time! Please consider your giving for the upcoming year & submit your pledge card. Your financial gifts make you a partner in ministry here at Immanuel!

Financial giving is an important aspect of spiritual growth. Your monetary gifts make you a partner in ministry here at Immanuel & they enable us to continue our mission of building deeper relationships with God, here within our church & school community, & also outside the church—reaching out to our friends & neighbors. After prayerful consideration, please indicate your intended contributions, tithe, &/or any other donations for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex.

#### LENT, HOLY WEEK, & EASTER @IMMANUEL







#### Seder Meal

#### **PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13 5:00-8:00 PM**

The Seder Meal is the traditional Passover feast involving retelling the story of the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. Immanuel is hosting a Seder Meal on Palm Sunday night, The cost is \$5 per person. **Please register as soon as possible.** For planning purposes, we would like to know if you are interested in attending. Sign-ups will be accepted through March 23. Attendee Registration is in the Narthex. Additionally, we are looking for 8-10 people to serve in the kitchen. See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to indicate interest.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS—UPCOMING EVENTS AT IMMANUEL



Easter Egg Hunt Event April 12, 2025

More information to come!





Camping at Walcamp's campground June 6-8,2025

More information to come!



#### <u>**Immanuel School Happenings**</u>

#### Lutheran Schools Week— March 2-8



We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve here at Immanuel. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families!

National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve.

- Sunday, March 2: Staff sings at 9:30am service
- Monday, March 3: Comfy Clothes Day + VIP Day with Pancake Breakfast; VIP Chapel, 8:20am
- Tuesday, March 4: Twisted Tuesday with crazy hair, clothes, socks, etc; Art Fair, 6:30pm—all are welcome!
- Wednesday, March 5: Sports Day; Ash Wednesday Chapel, 8:20am; Parade of States 1:30pm
- Thursday, March 6: Career Day; Schoolwide assembly(s) 1pm & 2pm
- Friday, March 7: Dress Your Best; Middle School choir & orchestra perform at LCMS District Convention; Talent Show, 6:30pm
- Saturday, March 8: Grades K-2 sing at 5:30pm service

#### **Winter Sports Finale**



Congratulations to our Varsity Boys Basketball team on their hard-fought 4th Place finish in the Immanuel Freeport tournament last weekend. The Varsity Girls also participated in the girls side of the Freeport tournament and fought hard with some incredible defense. At the same time,

Immanuel's JV Boys team was hustling in the St. Paul Rochelle tournament and finished as Consolation Champion! What a great season



Immanuel's Cheer squad has come so far this year and we thoroughly enjoyed having them add extra school spirit to our home (&even some away) basketball games!

Visit our school website at ilsbatavia.org

## Christopher Patterson Memorial Foundation Red Tie Gala



#### SATURDAY MARCH 8, 5:30-9:30 PM, SHANNON HALL BATAVIA

Why a red tie? Christopher was very proud of being a ginger & many knew him because of his red hair. It is our way to remember him during this event – Honoring his Legacy and Supporting the Arts. Join us for an evening of dinner, music, and supporting the

arts, as we once again host our annual Red Tie Gala. This year's gala will be held at Shannon Hall in Batavia on Saturday, March 8, from 5:30-9:30 PM. It is sure to be a fantastic evening!! We hope to see you all there! https://chrispattersonmemorial.org/red-tie-gala/

**ABOUT THE FOUNDATION:** The Patterson Family are long-time Immanuel members & their son, SPC Christopher Patterson, was killed in action on January 6, 2012, while proudly serving his country in the Kandahar Province of Afghanistan at 20-yrs old. A 2009 Graduate from West Aurora High School, Chris partook in everything the performing arts had to offer. From singing with the a cappella choir to performing with the marching band & theatrical performances. After graduation, Chris continued his studies at Valparaiso University, majoring in vocal music education. While at Valparaiso he was a member of the professional music fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

#### Immanuel in the Community

#### Lazarus House Monthly Meal Donations & Prep

3RD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH, NEXT EVENT MAR 21, 2:00 PM

AND THE WINNER IS...Lazarus House announces that the residents voted Chili #4 as the best! The pan of delicious chili that scored the highest came from Stacy Linden. Congratulations, Stacy! We will find an appropriate time to present the 2025 trophy to Stacy.

Of course all entries were winners, as we fed our friends in need and there were even some left over for a lunch this week. God bless our generous donors! Questions? Contact Terry Rueffer at trueffer@att.net or leave a message at 630.761.1790.

#### Northern Illinois Food Bank

#### 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, NEXT EVENT MAR 11, 5:30-7:30 PM

Join us for a volunteer food sorting & packing session! Ages 8+ are welcome.

Email Jennifer Nallenweg: Jennifer@nallenweg.com

#### Feed My Starving Children

2ND FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH
NEXT EVENTS: MAR 14, 9:00-10:45 AM @FMSC

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Feb 14 packing session at FMSC. 101 boxes of food were packed providing 21,816 meal which will feed 60 kids for a year. The cost of the session was \$6,326.64. So thank you for your time and financial contributions. Mark your calendars and sign up to serve at our upcoming dates. March 14 & April 11. As always, join us if you are

contributions. Mark your calendars and sign up to serve at our upcoming dates, **March 14 & April 11**. As always, join us if you are able four lunch afterwards at Portillo's. Stay safe, well and warm dear friends.

Email Linda Fass for information or to sign up: fasslinda@yahoo.com

#### **Batavia Food Pantry Donations**

Financial or non-perishable food or paper product donations can be placed in the grocery cart near the Fellowship Hall. A current list of most needed items can be found at https://bataviafoodpantry.org/current-needs. Email Mary Jo Nottke with questions: mnottke@aol.com

#### **Short Term Mission Opportunity**

Have you ever felt a calling to go on a mission trip? A team will be traveling to Honduras from May 31-June 7 to operate daily clinics to test vision and distribute eye glasses to those in need. No experience needed! Training is provided. This opportunity is through MOST (Mission Opportunities Short Term) in partnership with LCMS World Mission, which has been sending mission teams throughout the world since 1989. Their mission statant is "Empowering the found in reaching the lost." This experience is truly a life-changer! For more information, visit www.mostministries.org or contact Linda Fass,

#### **Generous Thoughts**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." **Proverbs 3:5-6** 

Being generous with our time in reading God's Word gives us confidence in God. When you know what God can and will do for you, trust and faith become simple, and blessings are soon to follow.

Our best investment is in our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus!



## LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK



## **2025 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE**

#### **Tuition Assistance Makes a Christian Education Accessible**

We believe that each child is a special gift from God. At Immanuel students are nurtured in their development socially, emotionally, physically, cognitively, and spiritually as we affirm each child's unique competence.

While the financial investment in a Christian education at Immanuel Lutheran School is within reach for many families, it may keep others from being able to provide a faith-based education for their children.

All donations received during the 2025 Annual Fund Drive will be designated according to your selection on the attached response card. Tuition Assistance enables Immanuel Lutheran Church & School to serve even more children and their families.

Mail checks to Immanuel at 950 Hart Rd., Batavia, with 2025 Fund Drive in the memo or donate online by scanning the QR Code below or at <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/">bit.ly/3bExiQb</a>.

To learn more, contact Donna Laughlin, Principal, at dlaughlin@ilcsbatavia.org or 630-406-0157.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and



#### **Experienced Staff**

Staff have a combined over-300 years experience; lending ample wisdom for maintaining a child-centered climate.



#### **Superior Facilities**

Our campus provides ample space and safety in well-appointed classrooms for a wide variety of learning experiences.



#### **Unwavering Support**

Immanuel Lutheran Church consistently supports its school ministry with prayers, participation, and provision.

## LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US

looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself,

SO THAT YOU MAY NOT GROW WEARY OR FAINTHEARTED." Hebrews 12:1-3

Please complete and return this form with your donation. Return this form, along with donation, to the church or school office or mail to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, 950 Hart Rd., Batavia, Illinois 60510 or donate online at https://onrealm.org/immanuelbatavia/Give/IEEYXOCVUP. Thank you!

NameE	Email
Address, City, State, Zip	Phone number
Immanuel Church Member Envelope # (if known)	QR Code to donate online
Please designate my gift as follows:	
Tuition Assistance:Single GiftOngo	ing Monthly Gift
Tuition Endowment builds a financial foundation for future si	ing Monthly Gift tudents.  • For online giving to Tuition Endowment,

Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_ please select Tuition Assistance Fund & put "Endowment" in Memo line

My gift can be matched by my company \_\_\_\_\_\_



## IMMANUEL BY THE NUMBERS





Percent of our students scoring higher than national MAP test mean

14:1

Average Student-Teacher Ratio

5

Competitive Sports available

- JV & Varsity
- Boy & Girls

State & National Sports Rankings since 2008

35+

Students enrolled in 2024-2025

**257** 

A10% increase vs last year!!

14

Extracurriculars like Student Council, Fine Arts, Clubs, Honor Society



Number of school districts we reach

Immanuel serves students from a wide range of cities & socioeconomic backgrounds



YOUR HELP MAKES A DIFFERENCE







## Immanuel's Own Mary Wert named 2025 LEA Distinguished Lutheran Elementary Teacher

Mary Wert was selected to receive Lutheran Education Association's 2025 Distinguished Lutheran Elementary Teacher Award. Ms. Wert, a 36-year veteran of Lutheran education, teaches fourth grade at Immanuel Lutheran School in Batavia, Illinois. Mary has also served in several other positions at Immanuel as well as at other Lutheran schools in Illinois.

Mary earned a B. A. in Elementary Education from Concordia College, River Forest, Illinois (now Concordia University Chicago).

In initiating Mary's nomination, her administrator provided a comprehensive case for Mary. She said, "Mary is a sister in Christ who seeks a deep relationship with Christ through Bible study, prayer, and worship. She has a heart for children to grow in their faith and thus invests time in previously organizing and currently volunteering for VBS, Sunday school, and outreach events such as a drive-thru Christmas and Easter egg hunt. Mary is also an instructional leader. Mary wants every child in her care to know that they are a beloved child of God. She integrates Christian faith throughout the curriculum and in her daily conversations with students, parents, and staff. She is a seasoned teacher who also enjoys being a student and staying current with effective practices, and she makes learning both fun and meaningful for her students."

Mary's pastor commented, "Mary is a servant at her core, and she lives with the mind and heart of Christ in her calling as teacher. She loves students on their level and seeks individual growth in every child. Mary has the unique ability to handle specific student needs while ensuring the entire class makes progress in learning. Mary relates the Scriptures to her classroom with excellence and care. Mary is a pillar, not only to our teaching faculty, but is a pillar in our congregation."

Among her joys in ministry, Mary said, "My greatest JOYS are receiving letters from students that I had in teaching asking if we still talk about God sightings in class. Another JOY is doing an end of year evaluation with my class and having them list that devotions is their favorite part of the day. Another JOY is seeing an unchurched student bring his mom to an Advent service so that he can tell me that he went to church other than chapel in school on Wednesday. I got to share in his JOY. All of these JOYS give me JOY because I get to experience and see the Holy Spirit at work."

Mary's personal mission statement is, "I want every child to be excited about learning! More importantly, I want them to know that they are God's favorite—His masterpiece—created for His purpose to do important things for Him in His world. Most importantly, I want them to know that He loves them. He sent Jesus to die for their sins. He defeated death and the devil so that they could live with Him forever."

# WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO LIVE A GODLY LIFE

### MEN'S RETREAT

EVENT DATE: APRIL 11, 2025

TIME: 5PM-9PM

COST: \$50

DINNER IS INCLUDED

LOCATION: IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

950 HART RD, BATAVIA, IL

This one-evening retreat is ideal for men of ALL ages, focusing on "What does it look like to live a Godly life?" Come hear Don Beebe's inspirational story of his journey to the NFL and back, and how his relationship with God has impacted his life as a professional athlete, husband, father, and now a college football coach.

God uses us for His Glory!



#### SPEAKER: DON BEEBE

Don Beebe's story of reaching and excelling in the NFL is considered one of the great inspirational stories in all of professional sports. Beebe was completely out of sports for 3 years, hanging aluminum siding on houses, when he was asked to play at tiny NAIA Chadron State College in western Nebraska. From this humble beginning, he played on 6 Super Bowl teams winning Super Bowl XXVII with the Green Bay Packers.



#### TO REGISTER. PLEASE TURN IN THE BELOW WITH PAYMENT TO IMMANUEL CHURCH OFFICE:

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_
EMAIL ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_
PHONE:\_\_\_\_
MAILING ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_
CITY. STATE, ZIP:\_\_\_\_
ANY FOOD ALLERGIES?

Please enclose \$50 payment in cash or check payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Memo "Men's Retreat"

#### **Prayer Requests**

#### RECENT CONCERNS

Parker Hahn

Janet Larson (Carol Balz's sister)

Carrie Lee (Hudon family Friend)

**Eleanor Novotny** (Sharon Dalpini's mother)

Peggy Hepperlen

**Jim Lendmann** (Brian Marchen's stepdad)

**Kay Wojcik** (Marchen family friend)

Cis Vermaat (friend of the Balz family)

**Rich** (friend of Tom Scott)

**Stephanie** (friend of the Balz family)

**Peggy Sollis** (Ann Kouba's mom)

Olsen Osterloo (Gretchen Patti's cousin) Linda Brewner (former member & ILS' first principal)

Delores Hoffman (Melba Layton's sister)

Roy Larsen Laura Gatz

Art Eichmann

**Les Walenta** (Anne Hauser's Godfather)

#### LONG-TERM CONCERNS

**Betty Krause** (Balz family friend)

**Steve Poppe** (Dale Rudy's cousin)

Mike Larson (Carol Balz's nephew)

**Sharon Jackson** (Rueter family friend)

**Linda Schuett** (Lori Rueffer's sister)

Bill Kouba (Ethel's husband)

Ellie Leib (School Family) 10 yr old with a brain tumor

Gail Thom (Penny Suydam's mother)

Jim Boult

Rev. Wallace Nordquist

Rowan Skaar (Barb Sandersfeld's greatarandson)

**All First Responders** 

#### CANCER

Geri Clemons (Balz family friend)

Carmen Balz (Tom & Carol Balz daughter-in

**Katie** (Anderson & Ciro families' friend)

**Linda Bartelmev** (Keith's Aunt)

**Ken Lindquist** (Keith Bartelmey's Uncle)

Gary Larson (Friend of Keith Jacobi)

**Don Lutz** (Gretchen Patti's cousin)

Judy Patti (Bob's mother)

Harold Helm (Friend of Blayne & Peggy

**Debra Shriber** (Friend of Anna Sedberry) Scott Brennan (friend of the Dauksha

#### Dawn Marie (Fletcher) Hamilton

Marty Nawara (Matt Cassidy's cousin in

Dan Toner (former member)

**Dennis Egan** (Maggie Labuhn's father) **Jeff Calafos** (friend of Cheryl & Jeff Meyers)

#### **FOR PEACE & COMFORT**

The family of Nancy Harlass (Jan Gerbitz's sister)

#### **FOR OUR ARMED FORCES**

Tim Diehl, Coast Guard

Sam Harms, Air Force

Nate Harms. Air Force

Dan Goress, Marines

Peter Seggel, Army (Terry & Lori Rueffer's godson)

Sean Benson, Air Force (Dee and Pat Dodd's son-in-law)

Kody Greer, Navy (Michelle Palmer's nephew)

Luke Klinga, Navy (Bob & Gretchen Patti's nephew)

Benjamin Rudy, Air Force

Sarah Baermann, Army

Matthew Piette, Air Force (Kim Reynold's nephew)

**Steven Surdynski**, Army/National Guard Ben Bartelmey, Navy

Daniel Russo, Navy

**Andy Marcinonis**, Army

**Taylor Carlisle**, Air Force Reserves (Penny Janacek's grandson)

**Ben Baker**, Army (Pietsch family friend)

Spencer Politowicz, Army

Matt Fry, Navy (Doris Houghtaling's nephew)

Robbie Fry, Navy (Doris Houghtaling's nephew)

Gianna Jensen, Marines (Nallenweg & Janacek family friend)

Samantha (Greco) Smith, Navy

(Nallenweg family friend)

Eathan Fry, Army (Doris Houghtaling's grandnephew)

Sarah Kaiser, Army/National Guard

#### **GIVING** Ways to give:

- Online at https://onrealm.org/immanuelbatavia/-/give/now
- To set up a recurring gift, email: finance@immanuelbatavia.org.
- Text \$ and your desired giving amount (no spaces) to **833.681.7166** and follow the prompts.

Do you have an Immanuel-related activity, news, or event that you would like highlighted in a future issue of News & Notes? Let us know! Email: comms@ilcsbatavia.org



To register church attendance, please use this QR Code

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Have something to add to News & Notes? Email comms@ilcsbatavia.org by the Wed preceding

**Subscribe** to our **Youtube channel**: youtube.com/ @immanuelbatavia

Sign up for our email notifications by scanning the QR code

Listen to or watch our services and sermons online on our watch page immanuelbatavia.org/watch1

Follow us on social media 

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#### STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

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Immanuel Lutheran Church: www.immanuelbatavia.org

School: www.ilsbatavia.org Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

