

IMMANUEL SPEAKS

MAY 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

Spring is here and you know what that means! Dandelions!!! We tend to not think too much of dandelions, do we? If left alone, they will populate your whole lawn and they are nearly indestructible. They naturally bloom in the spring, and it can hardly be denied its place in our lawns. Pulled out by the roots, it will re-root itself, while the broken root will grow a new flower. They are hard to get rid of, unless you spray, or dig them out by the root. But sometimes that doesn't even guarantee that they will not come back. Dandelions, they flower, bloom, and wither only to come back to lifetime and time again.

I know the official flower of Easter is the Easter Lilly and they are beautiful. But maybe the dandelion is a more appropriate flower. The dandelion is a great reminder for all of us that we are Easter people. The dandelion serves as a reminder of Christ's victory over sin for us! The dandelion serves as a reminder of Christ's victory over the grave! It serves as a reminder that the devil and all the forces that defy God; no longer has called and claimed us as His own for all eternity.

The dandelion is also a wonderful symbol of our lives together as followers of Christ. Sometimes life can be hard, and we do indeed face many challenges. We can feel utterly beaten, isolated and alone at times. However, we are like the dandelion aren't we? We like the dandelion will continue to sprout and grow, because our Lord and Savior who through his cross and his resurrection has assured us of life with him both now and forever. This is what we celebrate together each Sunday. Nourished by God's Word & sacraments we experience again and again the promises of our Savior surrounded by a great communion of saints.

We may be beaten down in this life but like the dandelion we will endure, for in Christ you have been called and claimed as God's children. The dandelion proclaims the undeniable victory of Jesus Christ, who could not, and would not be overcome, not even by death itself. And because death could not hold Him, it will not hold you; there is nothing in all of creation that will separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Christ has risen! He has risen indeed!

Pastor Joel

April 12, 2026

1. Pastoral Acts

- 55 pastoral visits

2. Worship

-Clara City Care center

-March 11th & 25th, April 8th

--Mid-week Lenten services on Wednesday at 7pm with meal starting at 5:30pm

-1st communion instruction for all interested at 6pm on Wednesdays (Feb 25-Mar 25) in the fellowship hall.

-Holy week schedule

-Maundy Thursday, April 2nd @7pm

-Myah Peterson 1st communion

-Good Friday, April 3rd @7pm

-Easter, April 5th @630am & 9am

-Thank you to everyone who helped lead our worship during Holy Week!

3. Education/Youth

-Sunday School

-Singing in church on Palm Sunday (March 25th); craft and brunch to follow in fellowship hall

-No Sunday school on Easter (April 5th)

-Confirmation/Youth

-Confirmands assisting with Lenten services

-Started final unit of the year: the sacraments.

4. Mission & Outreach

-community meal moved from April 5th to 12th due to the 5th being Easter.

-Blessing box: donations always appreciated. Normally fill it 1 to 2 times per week.

-Synod Assembly June 5th-6th.

5. Continuing Education/Pastoral Self-Care

Boundaries workshop May 5th.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 12, 2026

PRESENT: Derek Rand; Gabby Rognle; Laine Rieger; Carissa Pederson; Laurie Dieken; Glen Miller; Kat Schwitters (Treasurer)

ABSENT: Lucas Doesken; Terry Noble; Pastor Joel unable to attend

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Derek Rand, President

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Motion made to approve Secretary's Report from the March 8, 2026 meeting by Laine R.; seconded by Glen M. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kat reviewed current financial statements. New carillon bells have been installed and paid through a donation. Will be using funds in checking to pay bills through the summer. Able to transfer savings account to CD coming due. Motion made to renew current 3 month CD along with the transfer of \$9373.83 from Savings to this CD renewal by Carissa P; Seconded by Gabby R; Motion passed.

Motion made by Laurie D. to have the Second quarter Noisy Offering go to the Chippewa County Food Shelf; seconded by Carissa; motion passed.

Motion made by Glen M; Seconded by Laine R to pass the Treasurer's Report; motion passed.

The Council reviewed the Pastor's Report.

Committee Reports: Congregational Life planning a trip to the Belview Winery next Sunday. No plans for Bean Bag Tournaments this summer at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: Still planning to have the ceiling repaired at the parsonage this summer. Derek will speak with Lucas and Pastor Joel to confirm.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business. Reviewed mail. Thank you from the Hovda family for the candle and chimes.

March 2026 General Fund Income: \$19,114.80

March 2026 General Fund Expenses: \$24,021.25

NEXT MEETING: May 17th at 10:00 am

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Carissa P. to adjourn



MOTHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY, MAY 10!

We will be celebrating all Mothers at Immanuel on Mother's Day! We will have a special gift for each of you! After the service, everyone is invited to Fellowship Hour. We will be serving caramel rolls and punch. A craft will be made by the Moms and their children in Fellowship Hall.

MOTHER

*A Mother always understands
the things you say and do.
She overlooks each of your faults
she finds the best in you.
A Mother's Love is a special love
it inspires you each day.
She spreads her joy and happiness
in her warm and caring way.
A Mother' is all these things and more
there's no greater treasure known.
The most precious Mother in all the world
is the one I call my own.*

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TREASURER NOTES FOR 2026

2026 General Fund Budget: \$262,000 minus \$8,850 for Missions the Endowment will pay (\$253,150)

2026 General Fund Income Needed as of 3/31/26: \$197,595

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LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

The year of Sunday School has come to an end! The last day of Sunday School is May 10th! We will be singing at the Worship Service that day! The Sunday School kids will be making a craft with their Moms in the Fellowship Hall. We can't wait to see you in September! Have a great summer!!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR MAY 2026

May 3: Acolyte/PowerPoint: Ali Neville
 Lay Reader: Ken Beyerl
 Altar Guild: Ken & Jan Beyerl

May 10: Acolyte/PowerPoint: Peyton Jaenisch
 Lay Reader: Ann Hovda
 Altar Guild: Nancy Gosseling

May 17: Acolyte/PowerPoint: Madelyn Gueningsman
 Lay Reader: Kathy Fritz
 Altar Guild: Michele Shubert

May 24: Acolyte/PowerPoint: Hayden Emkes
 Lay Reader: Annette Rosen
 Altar Guild: Judy Gosseling

May 31: Acolyte/PowerPoint: Paityn Colby
 Lay Reader: Carissa Pederson
 Altar Guild: Carissa Pederson

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TRIBE UP FOR JUNE 2026
EPHRAIM TRIBE

Below we have printed the Tribe Membership for June 2026. The chairperson will be calling you in the near future, asking you to help serve Immanuel in some way. Start thinking today what you and your family can help with. If everyone takes one job, the “needs” list will be filled. Thank you!

Josh Schmaedeka
 Jim Fischer
 Dave Johnson
 Robert & Patsy Rand – Tribe Leaders
 Trudi Friedl
 Aaron & Amanda Strommer
 Nancy Gosseling
 Derek Rand

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OPEN RADIO BROADCASTS FOR 2026

We have many open radio broadcasts for the year 2026. If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast during the year, please contact the church office at 847-2138, or talk to Kathy Speiser or Pastor Joel. The cost is \$110 for each broadcast. The following dates are open:

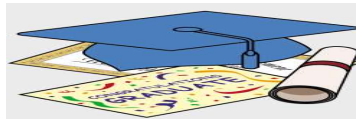
June 21, 28	July 5, 12, 26	August 2, 9	
September 13, 20	October 18, 25	November 1, 15	December 13, 20, 27



COMMUNITY MEAL
SUNDAY, MAY 3

The Community Meal is Sunday, May 3rd from 5:00-6:00 p.m. The menu is: Pasture A Plenty hotdogs, chips, coleslaw and dessert.. We will be serving to go meals in the alley way and in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on Immanuel's Facebook page or call the church office with the number of meals you need.

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SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY
MAY 17, 9:00 A.M.

Immanuel will be recognizing our graduation seniors on Sunday, May 17th, at the Sunday worship service. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Please keep these graduates in your prayers as they start a new journey in life!

Congratulations to Breanna Dirksen, Sam Miller, and Peyton Schlagel!!

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COFFEE FOR GALS
MAY 27, 2026

The ladies from Immanuel will start up "Coffee for Gals" again in May. We will meet on Wednesday, May 27th from 2:00-3:30 p.m. All women of the church are invited. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

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May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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3 9:00 Worship/Comm. 10:00 Coffee 5:00-6:00 Community Meal	4	5 1:00 Quilting	6	7	8 4:30 Shubert Wedding Rehearsal	9 4:00 Shubert Wedding
10 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Mother's Day Reception 10:00 Crafts	11	12 1:00 Quilting	13	14	15	16 5:00 Cancer Survivor Supper
17 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Senior Reception/Church Council Meeting	18	19 1:00 Quilting	20	21	22	23
24 9:00 Worship/Communion No Coffee	25	26 1:00 Quilting	27 2:00-3:30 Coffee for Gals	28	29	30
31 9:00 Worship/Communion No Coffee						

