



DECEMBER 2024

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The incarnation is an event that we do not think of enough. Perhaps we do not think about it because we cannot ponder it too deeply even though it is an important part of the story that we cannot comprehend by our own reason or senses. This is why the world focusses on earthly things at Christmas. Why we focus on the Holy Family, Roman census and taxation, the shepherds and all the things found even in the secular Christmas specials. What is left out are the things pondered in the ancient hymns, such as “Savior of the Nations, Come” in its lyrics “Then stepped down the Lord of All” and later on “God of God becoming man.” The limits of our ability to comprehend the divine within the Christmas story is why we love the Christmas narratives of Matthew and especially Luke, yet ignore the more theological proclamation in John which inspired the title of this article “and the word became flesh and dwelt among us”. We focus on the miracle of Birth, for it is familiar to us. We all have been born, and many of us had had children, grandchildren, and even great grandchildren or if not perhaps nieces, nephews, and the like. It has been my honor in ministry to serve birthing centers, labor and delivery units, and even NICUs. Through this I have come to know where babies come from, and how they develop in the womb of their mothers. Birth is miraculous and yet birth is common so we can comprehend it. We can understand the birth of a baby. The incarnation is more difficult. It involves the infinite becoming finite; the unchanging God changing. Perhaps most confusing of all is the virgin birth. The all-powerful and Almighty second person of the Trinity hangs up his glory and not only enters into His own creation, but becomes a part of it as Jesus becomes man taking on our nature and becoming a physical being. This is not just for a time, but for eternity and Revelation shows us. Jesus integrates humanity into His nature, becoming fully human and being conceived as a Zygote inside the womb of the Virgin Mary. A miraculous conception. Jesus is conceived by the Holy Spirit so that He is, unlike us, conceived and born sinless, not inheriting the original sin of Adam and Eve as we all do. God, Himself, steps down to rescue His creation after it, we, have rebelled and sinned against Him bringing damnation upon ourselves. This is the miracle of Christmas. This is what shows the great love and the great gift of God. It is not found in angels the shepherds or the flocks of sheep beneath the starlit skies. The love of Christmas is in God of God becoming man. From the word that spoke into the darkness and creating the great light entering into His creation in order to rescue, redeem, and ransom the whole world from sin and from the power of the devil through His cross on Calvary. May we this Christmas focus on this, the miracle of God’s love, shown to us in His incarnate son, the babe of Bethlehem, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Pastor Yonkers

God made a way in a manger

SPECIAL DATES IN DECEMBER:

- First Sunday in Advent, **Dec. 1**
- LWML Mite Collection, **Dec. 1**
- Ladies' Christmas Party, **Dec. 3**
- Christmas Decorating, **Dec. 7**
- Second Sunday in Advent, **Dec. 8**
- Third Sunday in Advent, **Dec. 15**
- ILS Christmas Program, **Dec. 19**
- First Day of Winter, **Dec. 21**
- Fourth Sunday in Advent, **Dec. 22**
- Sunday School Christmas Program, **Dec. 22**
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, **Dec. 24**
- Christmas Day, **Dec. 25**
- New Year's Eve, **Dec. 31**



LUTHERAN LEGACY: Immanuel Lutheran has two endowment funds (one for general fund and one for building and grounds). To donate directly to Lutheran Legacy, go online to lutheranlegacyfoundation.org and click on the "funds" link on the top of the page, then on "churches" for Immanuel or "parochial schools" for ILS. The funds are listed in alphabetical order, scroll down until you find Immanuel in Danville and click on the "donate" button to the right. You can choose to donate by credit card or check. Thank you!

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS:

- **Our December Ingathering** is ongoing for the VA. The following list is their currently most needed items:
 - Oatmeal Cups
 - Soup Cups, Chunky Bowls (red lids)
 - Dinty Moore canned meals
 - Men's plain sweatpants and sweatshirts (M – 2XL)
 - Men's plain long sleeve t-shirts (M – 2XL)
 - Men's jeans (any size)
 - Men's shoes (any size)
- Ladies! Join us for the **Women's Guild Christmas Party** lunch on Tuesday, **Dec. 3** at Turtle Run. Simply sign up on the bulletin board so we know how many to expect. The more the merrier! We will be ordering from their menu. Hope to see you there!
- **Christmas Cookies for the Homebound:** Help us spread cookie cheer this Christmas season to members and friends that are homebound or have health concerns. Please sign up on the bulletin board to bake and/or deliver cookies. Bring your cookies to the all-purpose room by 10 am on Thursday, **Dec. 13**. Cookies will be packed and ready for delivery by noon. Questions? Call Rosemary Hilton.
- Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, **January 14** at 11:30.

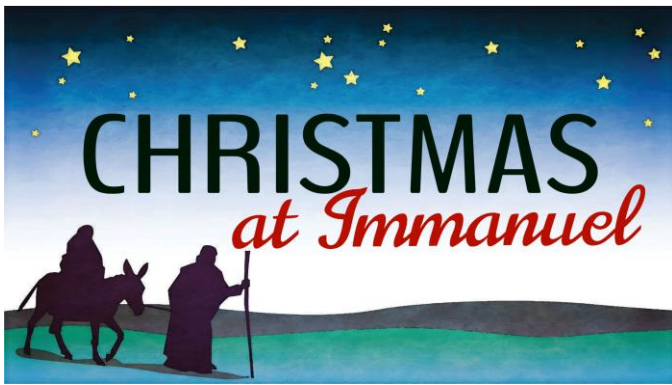
HELP US CARE FOR YOU: *Your well-being is important to us and we want to pray for you!* Unfortunately, we are no longer notified by the hospital; please call the church office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 7 am - 3:30 pm) when you have any medical procedure or in any time of spiritual need at 217-442-5675. In case of emergencies after hours, please feel free to contact Pastor Yonkers on his cell at 260-413-8375. **Prayer requests:** we are certainly pleased to pray for your (non-member) family and friends alongside our Immanuel members. Please keep us informed of their needs.

THAT'S A (RE)WRAP: The Reintgen family in North Carolina will always remember Christmas 2023. At 3 a.m. on December 25, their 3-year-old son woke them up, asking for scissors to open his new action-figure toy. "That's when we realized something had gone terribly wrong," said Scott, his dad. A quick trip downstairs revealed a mess of unwrapped gifts under the family's Christmas tree. "There was not one thing that he left unscathed," Scott said. The boy, in his defense, said he was just trying to help everyone know what they'd received. With only hours until their other children awoke, the Reintgens were determined to save Christmas. Mom Katie raced to rewrap gifts, even managing to get most nametags back on the correct packages. Instead of being angry, the parents found humor in the ordeal. Afterward, they explained to their son the joy that people experience from receiving — and opening — their own presents. Morals of the story? Remember this 3-year-old when you get overeager for certain parts of the holidays. Don't rush through anything, and let others enjoy Christmas at their own pace too. When something goes wrong, don't panic. Like the Reintgens, find joy in any unexpected glitches and gringes you encounter throughout the season.

-The Newsletter Newsletter

PARISH EDUCATION NEWS: Thank you to all of our volunteers that participate in children's church, children's sermons, and nursery. We appreciate you! If you are interested in joining the team of volunteers, please contact the church office, there is a place for you. Just a reminder to parents that all children ages 2 and above have a mailbox below the mailboxes for grownups in the chapel hall. The children get "mail" almost every Sunday so check them regularly! The Children's Christmas service is Sunday, **Dec. 22**. We have been practicing in Sunday school so it is important for those participating to be in attendance. We will also have a special practice to prepare for the service on Saturday, **Dec. 21** from 10 am to noon, with a pizza lunch included.





Deck the Halls!

We will *deck the halls* of the church and sanctuary for Christmas on **Dec. 7**, at 9 am. *Many hands make light and joyful work* as we prepare for our Lord's birth this Advent and Christmas season. *Please join us!*

Advent Midweek Services

Advent Services are at 6:30 pm on the 3 Wednesdays in Advent before Christmas: **Dec. 4, 11 & 18**. Our Advent series is "*The Word Made Flesh.*" In this series, we are reminded that Jesus came to us in the flesh and revealed his divine nature to us in physical elements we find on earth. Week 1: Bread of Life, Week 2: Salt of the Earth, Week 3: Rock of Ages, and Week 4: Light of the World. Join us prior to Service for an **Advent supper**, then come to worship our coming King to prepare for Christmas. *We are looking for supper sponsors!* Call the church office if your group or committee is willing to prepare a light meal. Advent suppers help foster fellowship, and make it convenient to attend Services as we prepare for the Advent – or *coming* – of Christ!

Children's Christmas Program

The children will share the Christmas story as part of the 9:30 am morning service on Sunday, **Dec. 22**. Practice is during Sunday School. We hope your children can participate! Please talk to Diana Pratt with any questions.

Christmas Eve

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service with Holy Communion is at 6:30 pm **Dec. 24**. Please come 15 minutes early to enjoy extra Christmas music prior to the service.

YOU'RE INVITED to experience the magic of Christmas in the Barn on **Dec. 7** from 11 am – 2 pm. This event, located at 7757 US Hwy 136 in Potomac, IL, supports two great, local non-profit organizations, Gateway Family Services and Hooves for Hope. Hooves of Hope is a faith-based organization. Though they are not associated with a particular denomination, they are rooted in Christian values and moral principles. The founders and board members believe in one God and the saving grace of His Son, Jesus Christ. Their desire is to touch lives in order to serve God through their actions. Our Women's Guild has chosen Hooves for Hope as one of their Christmas charities to support.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMARY:

- **New Business:** The Board of Directors decided to host the first Advent supper. There will be no December meeting. If a need arises, Josh will call a special meeting.
- **Old Business:** We have not heard from Andreas about Hustle Hoops. Josh will try to contact him. Youth will need to plan concession stand. The proof for the awning memorial plaque was approved.
- **Christian Education:** Enrollment is at 89 with a few new students starting in January. The ILS shirt fundraiser made over \$300. The El Toro fundraiser is coming up.
- **Finance:** Reviewed reports. CDs mature at the start of the new year. Jo Van Hovel is working on grants for the Capital Fund roof project. Their next fundraiser is the Christmas Tree and German Dinner in February.
- **Properties:** Butch will contact the electrician about school lighting. The boiler is on and operating well. Al will investigate new lock systems for the church and school main entrances.
- **Stewardship:** no report.
- **Evangelism:** Working on Christmas bags for the ILS kids. Thanks to the new volunteers!
- **Worship:** no report.
- **Parish Education:** The Children's Christmas service is Dec. 22. Children's ministry is running smooth and parents and children alike seem to appreciate it.
- **Youth:** The National Youth Gathering registration has been paid and we will soon secure transportation. If Hustle Hoops once again rents our facility, the youth will run concessions as a major fundraiser for the NYG.
- **Missions:** Reviewed reports. Joyce said there was a wonderful response for the Thanksgiving food baskets.
- **Elders:** The elders continue to work through the membership roster.
- **Pastor's Report:** Pastor is working on a parenting Bible Study and an evening Bible Study for others that are not available during the day due to work.
- **Next Meeting:** January 21, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

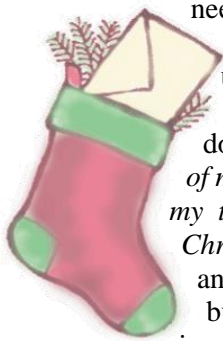


May you know the comfort and joy of God's presence this Christmas season and always!

Merry Christmas!

GIFT (SCRIP) CARDS ORDERS: The next Scrip order is due to the church office on **Monday, Dec. 9** by 9 am. Scrip cards make great gifts! Updated order blanks are on the table in the chapel hallway. Orders are not limited to the vendors listed on the order blank. You can find a complete list of vendors at www.raiseright.com or on the bulletin board in the hall. Write the name of the vendor, denomination of the gift card, number of cards wanted, and total amount on a blank line. Orders will be available on **Dec. 15.** *What is Scrip?* They are gift cards. If you order and pay for a \$100 Meijer scrip card, you get a \$100 Meijer gift card. The church gets \$3 (3%) from the program, and you buy \$100 worth of groceries, prescriptions, gas, etc. with it. There are varying rates depending on the vendor ranging from 1.5% to 13%. These cards are *good anywhere and make great birthday, Christmas, new baby, or wedding gifts.*

CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: The current bank balance is \$1,321 with \$65,000 in Certificates of Deposit making our total monetary balance \$66,321. The congregation established the Capital Fund Drive in 2012, and thanks to our generous congregation, we have accomplished many



needed upgrades and renovations. There is a Capital Fund Drive bulletin board in the hallway between the coat room and mailboxes with envelopes for ongoing donations throughout the year. *“...because of my devotion to the house of my God I give my treasure for the house of my God. 1 Chronicles 29:3b.* Prior generations worked and sacrificed to build the school/church building, and it is up to us to preserve and improve our church home just as we would

our own households. All donations from large to small are equally appreciated. Questions? Please contact Jo Van Hoveln or any of the committee members.

PROJECTS COMPLETED: Thanks be to God the Father for His wonderful gift to us of His Son, Jesus. The following has been accomplished through the generous giving of our congregation! Without these generous gifts of time, talents, and monetary donations since 2012, these projects wouldn't have been possible. The projects are:

- New organ \$18,565
- Replaced the HVAC in the sanctuary and office wing \$125,083
- New lights in the sanctuary \$17,374
- New flat roof over the sanctuary 3,405
- AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for the sanctuary \$1,199—funded entirely through grant from Vermilion Healthcare Foundation
- Parsonage:
 - New HVAC \$6,650
 - New roof \$7,755
 - Attic insulation \$1,745
 - Electrical work \$1,321
 - Crawlspace insulation and vapor barrier

- Asphalt driveway \$7,525
- Kitchen cabinets, master bath shower, sliding glass door \$9,920
- New flooring in some rooms of parsonage \$5,011
- Partial payment towards new playground equipment (from Hog Roast proceeds) \$4,149
- Paid down and provided monthly payments for the church mortgage \$104,735
- New cafeteria stoves/ovens \$9,562
- Drainage tile around building and parsonage \$21,235
- South portion of parking lot resealed and restriped \$8,960
- Replacing school wing windows \$113,329 (\$10,000 was received from Cadle grant and \$8,100 from bequests account)
- Guttering on school wing \$13,835
- Resurfacing gym floor \$2,500
- New lighting for driveway \$22,168
- New guttering over the chapel door \$195
- New guttering and downspouts for the sanctuary \$4,900
- Resealing and striping of the north portion of the parking lot \$14,277

ROOF DRIVE: The school and gym roof needs to be replaced and will cost \$259,000. The Capital Fund Committee is making this our next project with help from the Board of Directors and/or church auxiliary organizations. The fundraising will take a couple of years to get the dollars needed. There is a display in the narthex just to the north of the sanctuary doors; please stop by and look at it. The display shows the deterioration of the roof surfaces and a fundraising thermometer which will show our progress towards the goal of \$260,000.

NEXT EVENT: Men's Club and Capital Fund Committee will co-host **A Taste of Deutschland German Dinner Saturday, February 22, 2025.** Please save the date and watch for more details in future newsletters and Immanuel Lights.

CHRISTMAS TREE: There will be a Christmas tree in the narthex for special year end gifts to the Capital



Fund Drive; it has all blue and silver ornaments (and no lights). There are special envelopes beside the tree for your donation. Put your check or cash inside the envelope and place the completed envelope in the offering plate. If you would like an ornament from the tree to commemorate your

donation, please feel free to take one. All donations will be used to fund our current project: Reroofing the flat roof on the school/gym wing of our building. Remember all donations to be counted in 2023 must be in the church office by December 31 to be counted on your 2024 giving statement. The tree will be left up until Epiphany so you can get a jump start on your 2025 giving if you want.

Stewardship **spot** **Repenting of “Yours” and “Mine” - Retailers**

have had their Christmas displays up since before Reformation Sunday. The kids have made their list and checked it twice, or three times or more. It won't be long before the tree will start shedding its needles, the stockings emptied, the gifts unwrapped, toys broken, and the too small or out of style clothes returned. Before we know it, the annual celebration of Christmas will be over. But for the children of God, we know that the gift of Christmas doesn't ever end. Week in and week out, the Lord continues to shower His gifts on us. Every time the Lord gathers us to His house, and we are led to kneel at His table, the gift of forgiveness is repeatedly granted to us. It is nothing we deserve. It comes to us freely! The fourth stanza of the stewardship hymn, “Forgive Us Lord for Shallow Thankfulness” (LSB 788) highlights both this gift and our response. Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine, that gives as Christ gave, never counting cost. To learn thankfulness is necessary. The parents of young children are well-versed in the fact that they must teach their children thankfulness. It does not come naturally. The spiritual genetics inherited from our parents allow us to think that the world revolves around us. When we receive something, there is an inward desire to think that we in some way deserve it. But there is no way that we deserve anything we get from our Lord. We need that ongoing lesson from God Himself. Thankfulness toward God is worked in us by the Holy Spirit. God's Word works this thanksgiving in us. We need this weekly reminder that Jesus didn't consider “equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself” for us, to the point of death on a cross (Phil. 2:6). He didn't bat an eye. He paid the price! Our life of stewardship is one of daily and weekly thanksgiving inspired by the Lord Himself. That knows no barrier of “yours” and “mine,” assured that only what's withheld is lost. Because Jesus gave us everything and more, there can be no ownership. The child at Christmas is quick to claim that the newly gifted toy is “mine!” But as Psalm 24:1 asserts, “The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.” There isn't anything in creation that is ours. When we cling to and claim ownership of anything in creation, we are losing out on the continual gifts with which the Lord desires to shower upon us. Closed hands cannot receive anything new. We cling to the old and dead and miss the new thing that the Lord desires to do in and for us. We are led to repent of the “yours” and “mine” and remove the lie that we have any ownership. In this we have the promise that God will continue to give to us. Not just at Christmas, but every Sunday at the altar in the Lord's house.



CENTRAL ILLINOIS
DISTRICT

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Stay Connected!

Central Illinois District Contact Information:

CID's website: <http://www.cidlcms.org/>

Subscribe to the E-GatePost (digital newsletter) and monthly bulletin inserts: <http://www.cidlcms.org/>

Follow the CID on Facebook and Instagram

2025 ENVELOPES are coming soon! Please do not use your new envelopes until 2025 as your envelope number may have changed; likewise, do not use leftover 2024 envelopes after Jan. 1. This will help us accurately acknowledge your contributions. If you currently do not have envelopes, but would like to begin using them, please call Kim in the church office. Thanks!

THE INCARNATION: At the center of Christmas is Jesus, both fully God and fully man. “In Bethlehem, humility and glory in their extremes were joined,” wrote pastor R.G. Lee (1886-1978). When Jesus came to earth, Lee explained, he descended:

- from the heights of glory to the depths of shame,
- from the wonders of heaven to the wickedness of earth,
- from exaltation to humiliation,
- from the throne to the tree,
- from dignity to debasement,
- from worship to wrath,
- from the halls of heaven to the nails of earth,
- from the coronation to the curse,
- from the glory place to the gory place!

“Born in a stable! Cradled in a cattle trough! Wrapped in swaddling clothes of poverty!” Lee wrote. “No room for him who made all rooms! [No] place for him who made and knows all places! Oh, deep humiliation of the Creator — born of the creature, woman! But in his descent was the dawn of mercy. Because we cannot ascend to him, he descends to us.”

*When my spiritual vision is foggy,
help me to find my way.*

*When my understanding is incomplete,
open my mind and increase my patience.*

*When my indifference blocks my senses,
touch my heart.*

*When worry or fear raise their voices,
speak to my faith.*

*Let your Spirit permeate my longings
as well as my living and my loving. Amen.*



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WEEKLY BROADCAST SCHEDULE:

Sundays at 7:00 am – WTWO – TV2 (NBC)

Sundays at 7:30 am – WCIX Channel 3

Sundays at 10:30 am – TCT Network – Direct TV Channel 377

Nationwide Sundays: Direct TV Channel 377 (11:30 am Eastern / 10:30 am Central / 9:30 am Mountain / 8:30 am Pacific)

Tune in anytime online: www.worshipforshutins.org

DECEMBER 2024

December 1, 2024

“Your Coming King” by Rev. Shayne Yonker

Your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation. He came once in humility to die and rise. He comes now to bless, to forgive, to make you His own. And to give you a share in His life and royalty. He comes to establish His reign not on earth, but in the hearts of men and women, turning hearts in faith toward Him and to the Father.

December 8, 2024

“Prepare the Way” by Rev. Paul Shoemaker

John the Baptist was the last of the Old Testament prophets, even though he appears in the New Testament. He calls upon people to prepare the way of the Lord. We, too, need to prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts and lives as we repent of our sins, receive God’s forgiveness, and walk in the newness of life. At the end of this earthly journey, we receive the crown of glory prepared for us.

December 15, 2024

“Advent is for Rejoicing” by Rev. William Mueller

For some, the season of Advent is a far cry from a joyful season. For others, they might be caught in a feedback loop of rejoicing only for the repetition of loved traditions. Our Lord invites us through His message, by way of Zephaniah, both to rejoice and to know *why* it is we rejoice!

December 22, 2024

“One of Us” by Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Christmas Eve – the time for us to celebrate the underwhelming arrival of an overwhelming love. The Old Testament gives our newborn Savior the title, “Immanuel,” which means “God with us.” We have every day and eternal peace and joy by having a God who is *One of Us*.

December 25, 2024

“Mundane and Beautiful” by Rev. Jonathan Meyer (Guest Pastor)

God works things out so beautifully. We see that particularly in the Christmas story, but not in the places where you would think. It’s not the angels tearing open the sky or the picturesque idea of a stable, but in something utterly unremarkable.

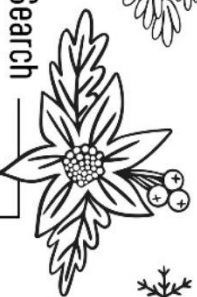
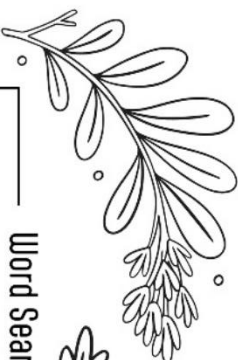
December 29, 2024

“Anna” by Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

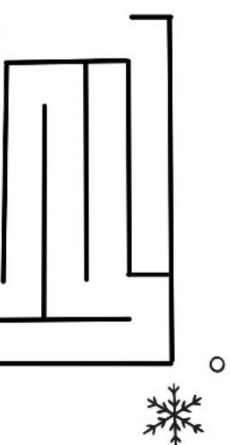
Anna was an elderly woman who lived in Jerusalem. She had experienced great grief at a young age when her husband died, and she, thereafter, had remained a widow. But God sustained her in her time of sadness and preserved her in saving faith through his Word. In fact, she became a powerful witness for the Lord, used by him for the benefit of many people. Her story speaks to you today.

Nativity Word Scramble

- STBALE _____
- HEEPS _____
- NLGEA _____
- TSAR _____
- GAMREN _____
- JHPOES _____
- OENYDH _____
- FUSSJ _____
- SHNGI _____
- YMAR _____



Help Mary & Joseph find the way to Bethlehem.

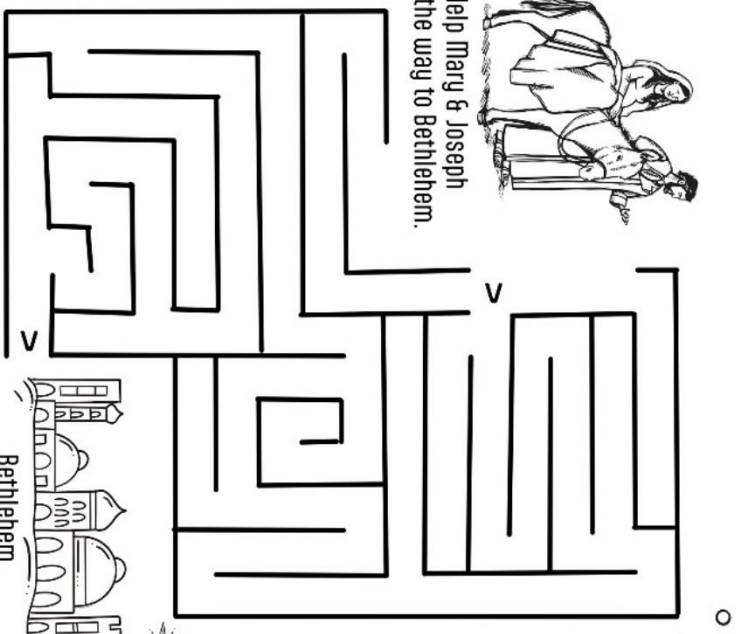
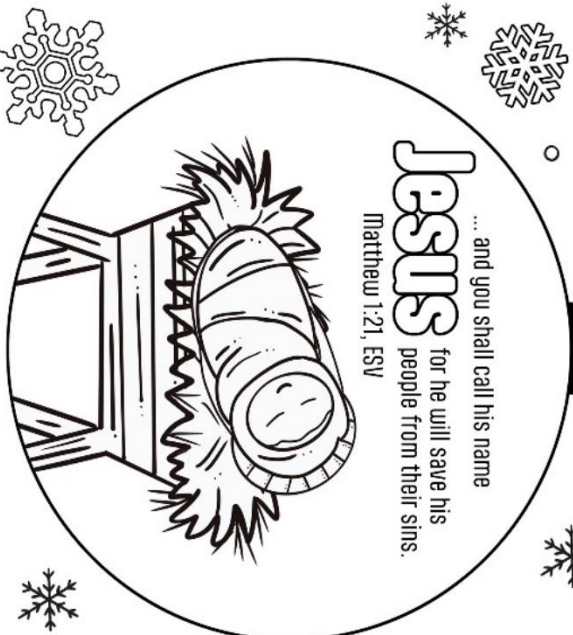


Word Search

H	R	L	Y	V	E	L	A	B
O	B	L	E	S	S	O	A	R
L	R	G	I	F	T	V	S	A
Y	E	G	F	P	S	E	B	T
J	O	Y	A	T	A	E	B	S

JOY, LOVE, GIFT, HOLY, BLESS, STAR

Color the Christmas ornament & then cut it out to hang.



Bethlehem

Merry Christmas



ILS Connections

A place to keep families, staff, and the church congregation connected!

December 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: Mrs. Rachel Schmidgall

As we celebrate Christmas, it's a beautiful opportunity to teach our children about the true meaning of the season—the birth of Jesus Christ. Beyond the gifts, decorations, and festivities, the story of Christ's humble birth in Bethlehem is a powerful reminder of God's love for us. By sharing the nativity story, we help our children understand the significance of the Savior's arrival: His love, grace and hope He brought to the world. We can teach them about the joy and peace He offers, and the way His life serves as a model for His love, kindness, and service to others. This Christmas, let's focus on helping our children not just see the decorations and traditions, but also understand the divine purpose behind it all—God's gift of His Son to a waiting world, and the hope that He brings to each of us. In doing so, we'll nurture a deeper sense of gratitude and wonder in their hearts, allowing them to experience the true spirit of Christmas.

YOUNG TWO'S ROOM: Miss Kirsten Brown

In the Young 2s room this month we learned about Veteran's Day, turkeys and Thanksgiving. We also learned the color Brown and the number 3. In December we will be learning about all things Christmas. Reindeer, snowman, Santa and more! We will also move onto the color Green and the number 4. In Jesus Time we will be learning about the Christmas story and the Birth of Jesus. We hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving!

TWO'S ROOM: Mrs. Megan Lasher

We got so much done in November. The 2s started off community helper's week by meeting firefighters, police officers, and getting a tour of an ambulance. For harvest time we learned about apple orchards. The 2s also enjoyed participating in the Veteran's Day program! Now we take time to stop to say thank you to God, family and friends! December is around the corner and we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ and having a little fun with Frosty and friends.

THREE'S ROOM: Mrs. Marah Showers

Now that the busy-ness of November is over, we are eager to head into the short month of December! This month will bring us all our favorite winter themes like gingerbread men, snowmen, hot cocoa, and of course the birth of Jesus. We will continue learning letters K-M, the color green, and shape rectangle. Our class is thrilled to perform for our families once again at our Christmas concert- you won't want to miss it! We will close out the month with a Christmas party and then enjoy winter break, which I hope is filled with lots of snow!

THREE'S & FOUR'S COMBO ROOM: Mrs. Tabatha Hammer

It is hard to believe another month is done. This year is going so fast. We had a great November with our Veteran's program. Our class loves to sing and dance. In December we will learn the Christmas story in Jesus' time. We are practicing our songs for our Christmas program. We are pushing forward with learning our letters and numbers. We will end the month with a Christmas party. We pray you have a very Merry Christmas.

FOUR'S ROOM: Ms. Michelle Wiese

Wow has November gone by fast in our four's class! We started out this month by wrapping up with our community helper visitors & celebrating with our Halloween Party. We had such a wonderful time with our friends & our so thankful for our community helpers. We also want to thank everyone who attended our Veterans Day Program especially those who served. We are now starting to practice our Christmas songs for our program which we hope to see you all at on December 19th. This month we focused on the color yellow, the shape trapezoid, the number 9, and the letters C, P, and N. We hope you have a delightful Thanksgiving with family & friends!

DATES TO REMEMBER...

- **Dec. 19** – ILS Christmas Program
- **Dec. 23** – Jan. 3 – Christmas Break

ILS CHRISTMAS SHOPPE: ILS is looking for donations of inexpensive, new or gently used items for their Christmas Shoppe Fundraiser. Parents let us know who the gifts are for, and pay just \$2 per item. The children love shopping, beaming with smiles while they learn a valuable lesson in generosity. Family members often find themselves laughing, and sometimes a bit misty-eyed, receiving the special gifts handpicked just for them! They often shop for mom, dad, grandparents, and siblings. Gift ideas include socks, stationary, votive candles, toys, pens, coffee cups, hair accessories, tools, holiday decorations, and ornaments. Please place your donations in the red tote in the coatroom. Thank you!



ILS LUNCH TREES: Help out the ILS Lunch Program with a Christmas gift of a shelf stable food item. DCFS regulations state that we are no longer able to charge students for their daily lunch. We are asking for your help buying some groceries that we use on a regular basis to help supplement this loss of income. There will be two trees – one in the chapel hallway and one in the school lobby. Take a star tag, purchase the item, and place it under the tree. Coming to the trees soon are wooden Christmas ornaments made by the ILS children. If you would like an ornament, place a donation in the box under the tree and take an ornament!



SAVE THE DATE!

ILS will host a spaghetti dinner on **Feb. 6**, also to benefit the ILS Lunch Program!



DECEMBER

Elders

Dec. Don DeMoss, Dean Hull, Kurt Thornsborough

Communion Assistants

Dec. 1 Dean Hull, Kurt Thornsborough
 15 Don DeMoss, Josh Christensen
 (6:30) 24 Don DeMoss, Kurt Thornsborough
 29 Dwain Dixon, Al Julian

Ushers

Dec. **Team "F"**
 Capt. Ray Wittmann, Scott Huckstadt, Larry Fredericks, and Jim Osterbur

Special Services:

Advent Midweek Dec. 4 at 6:30 pm Team "A"
 Advent Midweek Dec. 11 at 6:30 pm Team "B"
 Advent Midweek Dec. 18 at 6:30 pm Team "C"
 Christmas Eve Dec. 24 at 6:30 pm Team "D"

Lay Readers

Dec. 1 Al Julian
 (6:30) 4 Jan Mann
 8 Diana Pratt
 (6:30) 11 Nancy Purviance
 15 Janet Terry
 (6:30) 18 Kurt & Debbie T.
 (6:30) 24 Josh Christensen
 29 Sue DeMoss

Gospel Reader

Al Julian
 Gail Garner
 Butch Buesing
 Gail Garner
 Josh Christensen
 Kurt Thornsborough
 Josh Christensen
 Al Julian

Acolytes

Dec. 1 Carley Wright
 8 Jamie Yonkers
 15 Eli Mann
 22 Kendall Wright
 29 Eli Mann

Special Services

4 Kendall Wright
 11 Kinley Pratt
 18 Carley Wright
 24 Jamie Yonkers

Videographer

Dec. 1 Josh Christensen
 8 Butch Buesing
 15 Kim Davis
 22 Dwain Dixon
 29

Sound/Screens

Jan and Eli Mann
 Don DeMoss
 RJ Davis
 Jamie Yonkers

Children's Church

Dec. 1 Jan Mann
 15 Jan Mann

Nursery

Chelsea Pratt, Kirsten T.
 Chelsea Pratt, Kirsten T.

Children's Sermon

Dec. 8 Kurt Thornsborough
 29 Kathy Christensen

Altar Guild

Dec. Rosemary Hilton, Carrie Farrell, Debbie Ferris

Money Counters

Dec. Team "C" Mary Powell, Holly Clem

Check Signers

Dec. Mike Ferris, Jo Van Hoveln

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Bible Quiz

Who was governor of Syria when Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem for a mandated registration, or census?

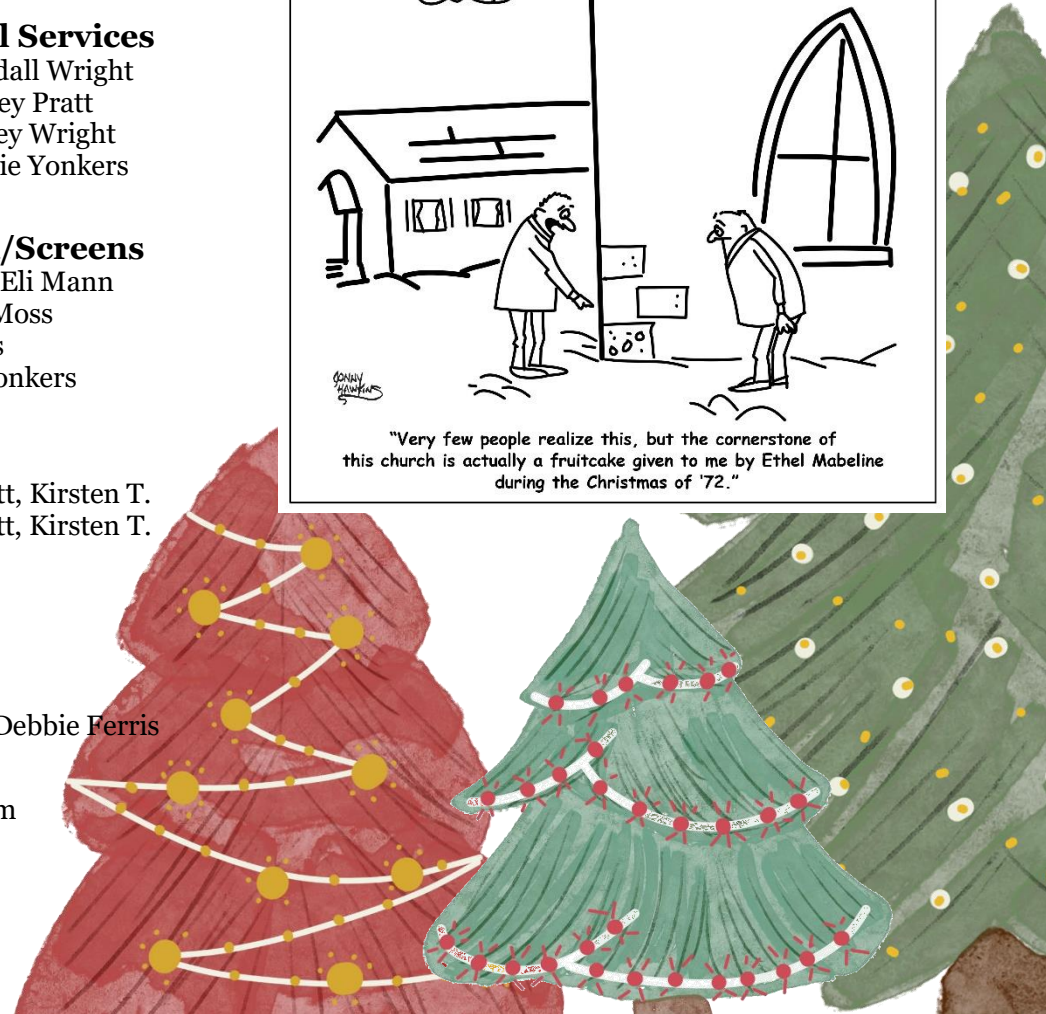


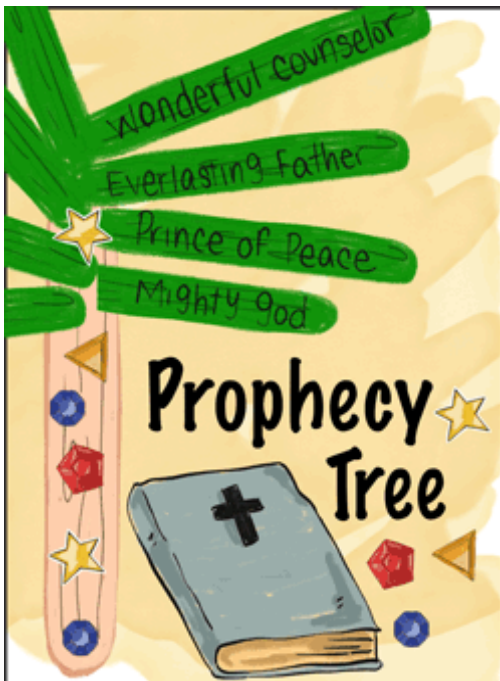
A. Theophilus
 B. Herod Antipas
 C. Pontius Pilate
 D. Quirinius

Answer: D (See Luke 2:1-7)



"Very few people realize this, but the cornerstone of this church is actually a fruitcake given to me by Ethel Mabeline during the Christmas of '72."





Prophecy Tree

Make this Christmas craft to display special names for Jesus.

What you need:

- Large wooden craft stick
- Small green wooden craft sticks
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Bible
- Permanent marker
- Craft glue
- Optional: star stickers or craft jewels

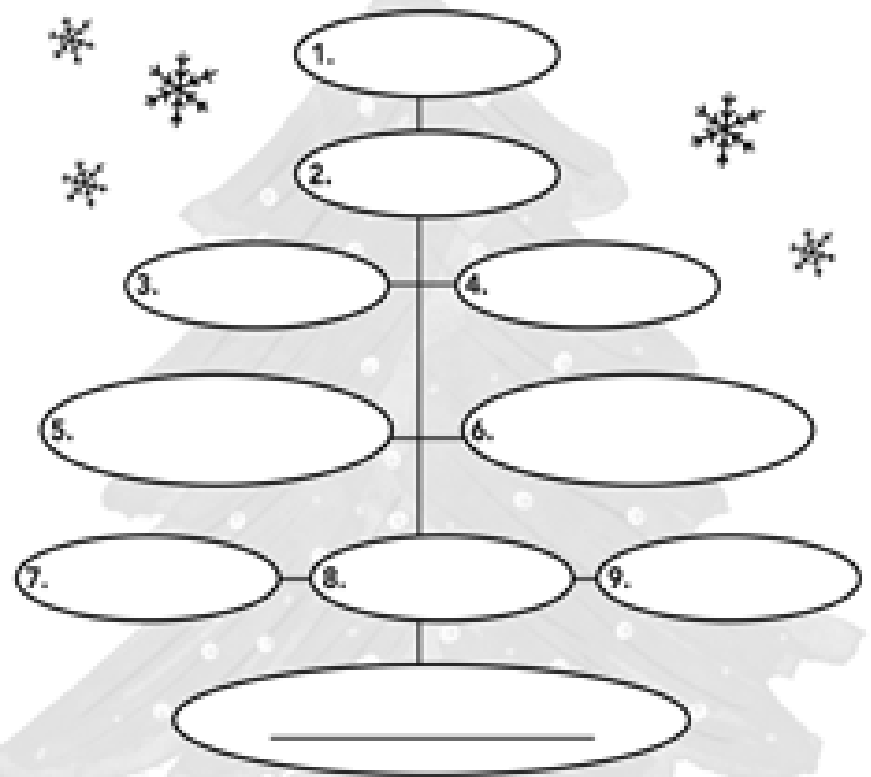
What you do:

1. Place the large stick on a table vertically, like a tree trunk.
2. Cut the green sticks into pieces that measure 4", 3½", 3" and 2½".
3. On each green stick, write a name for Jesus from Isaiah 9:6 — Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Write small or ask an adult for help.)
4. Use a dot of glue to attach each green stick to the large stick, like tree branches.
5. Decorate your Christmas tree with stickers or jewels.



Puzzle!

Write the answer to each clue in the correct circle. Then jot down the first letter of each answer and unscramble those letters to form a word about this season. Write that answer at the bottom of the tree.



CLUES

1. You trim this at Christmas.
2. One who governs
3. The first word of a popular carol, it means "Listen!"
4. You burn this to make the air sweet.
5. "For unto us is born this day a _____ ..."
6. She was betrothed to Joseph.
7. Shepherds heard them sing.
8. A Christmas song
9. 'Tis the _____ to be jolly!"

Answers: 1. Tree, 2. ruler, 3. hark, 4. incense, 5. Savior, 6. Mary, 7. angels, 8. Carol, 9. season, Christmas

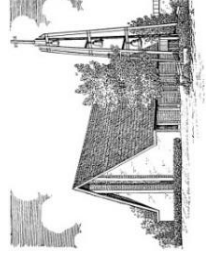
December
2024

Today in the
Town of David a
Savior has been
born to you.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MESSENGER
GOD WITH US

Immanuel Lutheran
1930 N. Bowman
Danville, IL 61832
www.ilcdanville.com
217-442-5675

Immanuel
Lutheran School
217-442-5036



Worship Schedule
Sundays
Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
at 9:30 am

Wednesdays
Dec. 4, 11 & 18
at 6:30 pm

Tuesday
Dec. 24 at 6:30 pm
WORSHIP
with us

Communion Schedule
Sundays
Dec. 1, 15 & 29
at 9:30 am

Tuesday
Dec. 24 at 6:30 pm



*This newsletter also available on our website:
www.ilcdanville.com*

*Our December 2024 newsletter
prepared prayerfully for:*



Immanuel Lutheran Church and School
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Danville, IL 61832

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