

# IMMANUEL MONTHLY

September 1, 2012



## From Pastor's Desk Sunday School Begins

By Rev. Jason M. Braaten

Finding things to talk about around the dinner table isn't always easy. Mom and Dad are trying to decompress from work, the kids are pondering how to avoid homework, and silence permeates the room. The good news? With the help of Immanuel's Sunday School program and the Scriptural foundation it provides, that's all about to change.

We live in a broken world, a world fragmented and polluted by sin and death. The only answer to this is found in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He makes the world make sense again. But let's face it: If we don't instill in our children a Christian—and uniquely Lutheran—worldview, they

will not be prepared to answer the big questions of life (e.g., Why am I here? Who is God, and where do I find Him? Is the Bible trustworthy?).

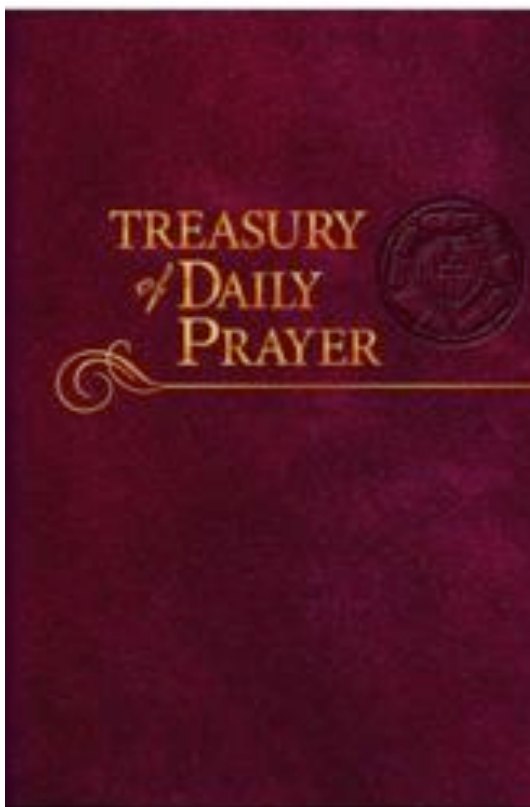
Our Sunday School program will answer these questions. And it will provide you, the parent, with these answers so that you can reinforce what was learned at church in your own home, giving you a dinner conversation starter that will encourage everyone to participate! There is no one better equipped to teach your child than you.

While your children participate in Sunday School, model church attendance for them and teach

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them what is important to you by joining us for Adult Bible Class, which meets in the Fellowship Hall.

Come. Join us for Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. on September 16, just after the 9:00 a.m. Divine Service. If you have any questions, please contact me. I am eager to hear from you.



### The Book of the Month Treasury of Daily Prayer

Cultivate an enriching devotional life with a book that nourishes your time with God. This comprehensive Lutheran resource brings together Scripture readings, prayers, psalms, hymns, and devotional readings from the church fathers to guide daily prayer and meditation on God's Word.

Organized around the Christian Church Year, Treasury of Daily Prayer is designed to be an all-in-one resource for daily devotions for individuals, families, and small groups. View the "How to Use" helpful download below for a complete overview.

The regular edition has a durable sewn binding and includes a FREE 6-ribbon bookmark to help organize your daily prayer and devotion.

Dark Green = marks the Church Year calendar section

Gold = marks the current day in the Church Year

Red = marks the order of prayer you are using

Purple = marks the additional prayers you may choose to use

Light Green = marks your place in the Psalms

Blue = marks "Prayers for the Baptized Life"

## From the President

### Pastors, Love Your People!

By Rev. Matthew C. Harrison

It was a bright, crisp morning at the Graham and Gwen Koch sheep operation in Australia, just on the South Australia/Victoria border. This wonderful, humble Lutheran couple managed several thousand sheep on several thousand acres. Graham piled us into his “ute,” short for “utility vehicle” (we call it a “flatbed pick-up” in Iowa). As we neared the flock, a thousand skittish animals began bawling and fleeing, a sea of nervous wool. But then the scene changed in an instant. Graham began calmly, even quietly, repeating, “Hey Bob. Hey Bob.” Suddenly the flock turned toward us at once, and within a minute or two, we were in a sea of calm but bleating sheep. They were so tightly packed around the truck that I might have walked across them. The sheep knew his voice (John 10:3). It was a magic moment of profound joy and New Testament insight. I'll never, ever forget it. “But we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise” (Ps. 79:13).

Pastor means “shepherd.” A Lutheran pastor is an undershepherd, carrying out a task and office that belongs to Jesus, “the great shepherd of the sheep.” Jesus is the great pastoral example, the pastor par excellence. Yes, Jesus often speaks hard words when the Law is needed to bring repentance (Mark 8:33), but He does so in a context where “the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep” (John 10:11). Love marks the life of Jesus and His undershepherds (John 3:16; 1 Tim. 4:12). A pastor forgives (John 20:23; 2 Cor. 2:10). A pastor doles out the Lord's words and gifts (2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Cor. 11:23). A pastor teaches with patience and kindness (1 Tim. 3:3; 1 Tim. 4:12ff.). A pastor serves (John 12:13ff.). A pastor prays for his people (2 Tim. 1:3). A pastor goes (Matt. 28:19). A pastor cares (Acts 6:1ff.).



A pastor sacrifices (2 Cor. 11:24ff.). A pastor is visible among his people (Mark 1:38). A pastor knows his people (John 10:14). A pastor sympathizes with his people and cares for and about his co-workers and parishioners (Rom. 16:116). A pastor cares for those for whom his people care (Luke 8:41). A pastor suffers patiently, sometimes even at the hands of his sheep (2 Tim. 1:8ff.). A pastor is visible in his community (1 Tim. 3:7). A pastor spares no effort to bring back the wayward and find the lost (2 Tim. 4:5). A pastor seeks sheep “outside the fold” (John 10:16). A pastor leads with capable zeal (Rom. 12:8). A pastor is aware of his own weaknesses and asks for forgiveness and patience (2 Cor. 12:7ff.).

All this is a tall order; in fact, it is impossible. How could we pastors, “maggot sacks” of sin and weakness that we are (Luther), ever be up to this imitation of Christ and His apostles? Of ourselves, we cannot. But Christ, who gives the Office of the Holy Ministry, provides the grace sufficient for the task at hand.

In short, a pastor loves his people.

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# Education Corner

## Catechism Classes Begin

By Rev. Jason M. Braaten

Finding time to pass on and discuss with our children what we believe as Lutherans and why we believe it isn't always easy. In this fast-paced, go-go-go world, it's difficult enough just to find time to sit down and have a meal together, let alone discuss these important truths.

While difficult, it's also necessary. If we don't give our children a Christian worldview, a worldview rooted in the Holy Scriptures and our Lutheran heritage, they will be unprepared to sort through the competing ideas that permeate our culture. But the good news is that together we can do it.

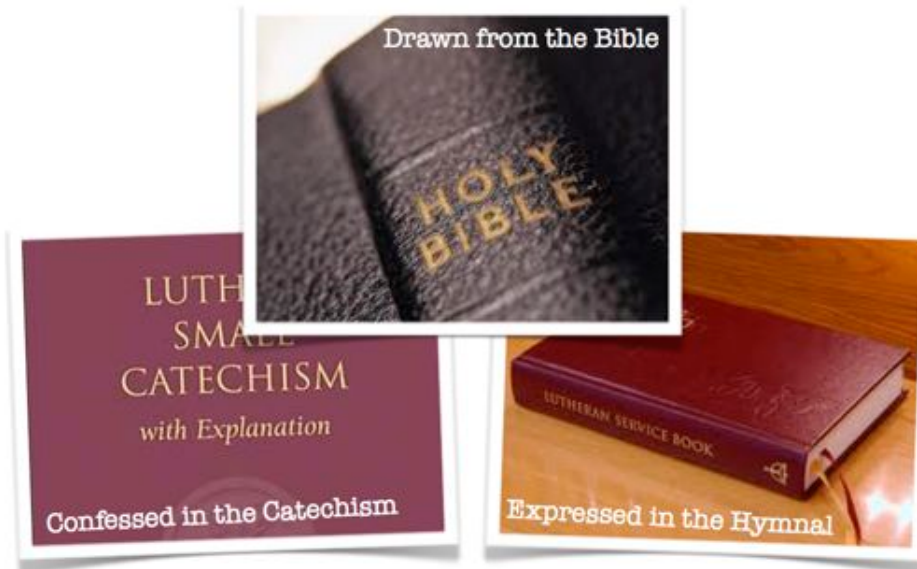
Catechism Classes will begin on Sunday, 16 September, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM at church for all 7th and 8th graders. High school students who haven't been confirmed are also welcome. (And parents, while not required, you are always welcome to attend with your son or daughter.)

We will cover all six chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism, plus discuss timely topics related to them. Please have your child learn by heart the portion of the Small Catechism and read through the portion of Scripture listed for that day prior to that class period. Have them come with a Bible, a copy of the Small Catechism, a copy of the Lutheran Service Book, and any questions too. There are eight take-home, discussion exams.

These discussion exams should be done together with your son or daughter (as the directions on them indicate). There will be weekly term and catechism quizzes to track progress, two

written assignments, and finally, your son or daughter will have a final, oral exam before the Board of Elders and any other member who wishes to attend on our last session.

Please let me know either by e-mail or phone that you plan to enroll your son or daughter. I am excited to begin this year's study of the Small Catechism. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm eager to hear from you.



# Facts and Figures; Dates and Times

## Greeters List

2 Sep Laverl Byers – East  
 Ruth Sims – West  
 9 Sep Becky Kappes – East  
 Tim & Teri Pollock – West  
 16 Sep Harold & Irene Wattjes – East  
 Donna & Gunnar Campbell – West  
 23 Sep Jim Dyer - East  
 Ruth Sims – West  
 30 Sep Joan Vukelich -East  
 Laverl Byers - West  
 7 Oct Ruth Sims – East  
 Becky Kappes – West  
 14 Oct Tim & Teri Pollock - East  
 Harold & Irene Wattjes – West  
 21 Oct Donna & Gunnar Campbell - East  
 Jim Dyer - West  
 28 Oct Ruth Sims - East  
 Joan Vukelich - West

## Coffee Committee

Sep Laverl Byers  
 Oct Pastor & Lauren Braaten  
 Nov Jerry & Joyce Alexander  
 Dec Pastor & Lauren Braaten

## Altar Committee

2 Sep Sherrie Hoel  
 9 Sep Sherrie Hoel  
 16 Sep Sue Danielson  
 23 Sep Sue Danielson  
 30 Sep Sue Danielson  
 7 Oct Becky Kappes  
 14 Oct Becky Kappes  
 21 Oct Becky Kappes  
 28 Oct Tonia Timlin

## Elder On Duty – Communion

2 Sep Jack Appleby  
 9 Sep Jack Appleby  
 16 Sep Josh Whitson  
 23 Sep Josh Whitson  
 30 Sep Josh Whitson  
 7 Oct Greg Nau  
 14 Oct Greg Nau  
 21 Oct Greg Nau  
 28 Oct Geof Danielson

ATTENDANCE			OFFERINGS		
Date	Saturday	Sunday	General	Missions	Building
5 August	31	76	\$2,817.00	20.00	\$0.00
12 August	25	73	\$2,386.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
19 August	20	70	\$1,890.64	\$0.00	\$10.00
26 August	19	86	\$2,216.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	95	305	\$9,310.64	\$20.00	\$10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>		<b>\$9,310.64</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Betty Leonard's Kathryn Denton's Lauren Spitzer's Neil Olinger's birthday Peyton Gamatson's Trinity 13	Dennis Campbell's Greg Campbell's Haley Ely's birthday Labor Day OFFICES CLOSED	Kristin Steuber's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Ellen Hollinger's 7:30am - Matins	Alessie May's birthday Richard Zambora Ryan Wyckoff's Sarah Wyckoff's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Pastor's Day Off Holy Cross Day Pastor's Day Off	Corinne Oyy's birthday James Oyer's birthday Kristin Steuber's Kristin Steuber's 5:30pm - Divine Service
Trinity 14 9am - Divine Service w/ 10:30am - Bible Class 2:30pm - Nursing Home	Blake Stross's birthday Heather Harshbarger's Roger Long's birthday 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 9am - Board of Mission	Lucas Stevens's Patriot Day 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 9:30am - LWML Zone	Ryan Wyckoff's 8am - Pastor at LCMS	Leola Van Claren's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Danielle Minger's Holy Cross Day Pastor's Day Off	Alberto Deltora's 5:30pm - Divine Service
Trinity 15 9am - Divine Service w/ 10:30am - Bible Class 10:30am - Sunday 11:30am - Catechism 4pm - Answers Class	7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 8pm - Board of	Elizabeth Anderson's Leonard Rantz's Margie Stevens's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	7:30am - Matins	Benjamin Snyder's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Breleigh Evensen's Kathryn Cier's birthday Pastor's Day Off St. Matthew the	Marissa Snyder's 5:30pm - Divine Service
Trinity 16 9am - Divine Service w/ 10:30am - Bible Class 11:30am - Catechism 4pm - Answers Class	Rebecca Kappas's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Stephanie Crummer's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	7:30am - Matins 11:30am - TAMA	Jason Wacker's Tim Heel's birthday Travis Babo's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Ladies	Pastor's Day Off Wanda Long's birthday	St. Michael and All the 5:30pm - Divine Service
30 Megan Butler's Trinity 17 9am - Divine Service w/ 10:30am - Bible Class 11:30am - Catechism 4pm - Answers Class 7pm - Youth Group	1 2	3 4	5 6	7 8	9 10	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

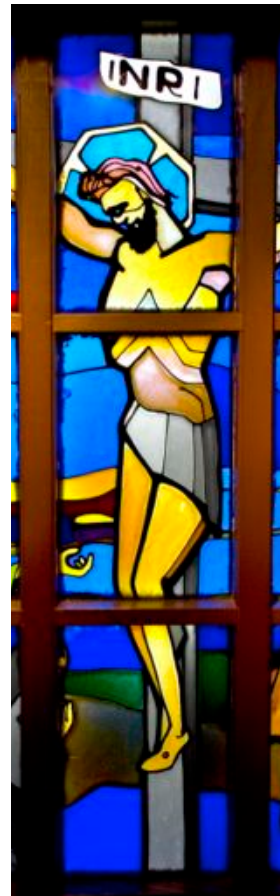
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tuscola, Illinois, Contacts' birthdays and events, **Historic Lectionary, US Holidays**

Oct 2012 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 9pm - Board of Elders	Spencer Erickson's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	7:30am - Matins	Brittany Arthur's Ruth Slaughter's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Pastor's Day Off Shawna Pollock's	Misty Bane's birthday Paula Boney's Ronald Legg's birthday 5:30pm - Divine Service
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Trinity 18 8pm - Pastor at Continuing Ed	Columbus Day Corinne Oye's Noreen Oye's Michelle Van Cleave's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 9pm - Board of Mission	Henry Rahn's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 11am - Circuit Pastors'	7:30am - Matins	Christopher Shirley Czerwinski's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Pastor's Day Off	Deborah Reitseck's Jauden Parrott's 5:30pm - Divine Service
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Eric Pangborn's	Pastor's Conference in Decatur IL			Alice Pea's birthday	Erin Partschauer's	5:30pm - Divine Service
Trinity 19 9am - Divine Service w/ 10:30am - Bible Class 11:30am - Catechism 2pm - Circuit Forum 4pm - Answers Class	James Whitson's Jobba Whitson's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 9pm - Board of 7:30pm - Veterans	7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Geoffrey Dentelison's Sus Dentelison's 7:30am - Matins	St. Luke the Evangelist 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Pastor's Day Off	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Trinity 20 9am - Divine Service w/ 10:30am - Bible Class 11:30am - Catechism 4pm - Answers Class	Mary Elias Barnett's 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	St. James of Jerusalem, 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Daniel Stevens's Tom Pea's birthday 7:30am - Matins 11:30am - TAMU	Alice Johnson's Catherine Rahn's Hansel Britt's birthday 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Ladies	Pastor's Day Off	5:30pm - Divine Service
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
St. Simon and St. Jude Steve Pollock's	Chloe Alexander's Merris Coon's birthday 7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	7:30am - Matins 8am - Staff Meeting	Daria Gardner's Halloween Joan Rahn's Reformation Day Ruch Ernst's birthday 7:30am - Matins			

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Immanuel's stained glass window in the Narthex.