

## "Freedom Isn't Free Or Is It?"

If you have been fortunate enough to visit Hawaii, you probably took the time to go and visit Pearl Harbor. It is an amazing place. The crowds assemble early each day and wait patiently for hours to be able to board a boat and travel out to site of the U.S.S. Arizona. This is a silent, peaceful grave for hundreds of young American servicemen. It is amazing how orderly, how quietly, how patiently people wait for their turn to go and pay respects to those who gave their lives on December 7, 1941. Many of you who have visited this site may have known someone who died there or maybe someone who survived that attack. It is obvious to anyone who has visited this memorial that there certainly is a cost to our freedom.

There is another place in Honolulu which speaks to the cost of freedom. There is a military cemetery up on the hills overlooking the city and the famous beach at Waikiki. There are crosses lined up in perfect order representing a U.S. serviceman or woman who died in World War II in the Pacific theatre.

Reminders like this are not just in the Pacific, but in Europe as well. Many of you will recall the "Battle of the Bulge" in Bastogne France. This is where the American Commander was asked to surrender and his reply was short and succinct. He replied, "Nuts." A bit away from Bastogne is the Ardennes Military Cemetery in Belgium. This cemetery covers 90 acres of rolling countryside and contains the graves of 5328 U.S. Servicemen. Again this is a testament that freedom is not free.

As Christians we have been freed, freed from our enslavement to sin and the devil. This has been done for us by Jesus Christ, who came down from heaven, lived here on earth without sin, but then went to the cross and paid the price for our all our sins. Jesus did all of this, granting us freedom from eternal death and complete and total forgiveness. Amazingly this freedom cost us nothing - it is the free gift of a loving and gracious God who sent his Son to live and die for us. Finally by his resurrection, His rising from the dead, Jesus promises us eternal life with him. All of this again at no cost to us.

So is it true that freedom is not free? True freedom from sin, death, and condemnation in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior is free to us. But there is a cost. It cost God the life of his only Son, to secure our freedom from death and Satan. It cost God a great deal to give us our freedom. So as we remember all those who died to provide us freedom in this earthly life, it is vitally important that we pause to give thanks to our great God who sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to give us eternal freedom and life. Thank you Lord.

*Pastor Jed*

## Financial News and Notes

Our financial situation continues to be one of blessings and challenges. March for example showed that we had revenue on the positive side. But when you look at the bills yet to be paid there was more than the money on hand. Fortunately, the difference is not a huge number and we are managing to keep bills paid, although some are late and we are behind on a few items.

We regularly and often give thanks and praise to God for all of you who are so faithful and so generous with your offerings. We pray that you will all continue. Remember if you are getting an income tax refund, that would be a great opportunity to make an extra thank offering.

Some other good news, the offerings we received for Lynne Olsen totaled about \$2800. This is enough for us to get her back from the County and have the remains cremated and eventually buried here at Immanuel. We believe the paperwork is in order. Plans are being made for a burial in May.

We still need additional money to reimburse Hitzeman Funeral Home for some of their earlier expenses. Again we give thanks and praise for all of you who responded in Christian love for a sister in Christ. May God Bless You.



### SPRING CLEAN UP

On Saturday, May 14th, the Men's Club has organized a "Spring Clean up." we need many volunteers to help clean by washing pews, bathrooms, floors, etc. The men will be cleaning and changing the filters in all the air/heating registers. If you can help at any time during the day, it would be great appreciated. work begins at 8:00 AM. The more help we receive, the sooner we can finish!

HILLSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 700 N. Wolf Rd., Hillside continues to work on the house, but are committed to having exhibits inside the house open for tours beginning Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Tours are at 1 and 2 pm. General admission: \$5/members free.

**VOICE OF CARE** invites you to "Swing Back in Time to the 60's" on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrews Country Club, 2241 Rt. 59, West Chicago at 7:00 PM. Tickets \$25 includes music, dancing, appetizers, beverages & dessert. A silent auction & free will donation will benefit Voice of Care. Call 630-231-3862 for reservations or print a form at [www.voiceofcare.org](http://www.voiceofcare.org) (Events)

**STREETCARS OF NORTH AMERICA** sponsored by the Save the Prairie Society & Franzosenbusch Heritage Project is being held at the La Grange Park Library on Sunday, May 1 at 2:00 pm. Free & open to all. For more info call 708-354-5512 or visit [www.savetheprairiesociety.org](http://www.savetheprairiesociety.org)

## “Eternal Treasures”

An old epitaph reads, “What I gave, I have; what I spent, I had; what I kept, I lost.”

Obviously this person had much wisdom. He realized that, during his life, only that which was given to the Lord had any lasting value. The things he had purchased while alive were used up and gone, and the possessions he owned at death were of no good to him then.

Speaking to this subject, Jesus said in Matthew 6:19-21, *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* Jesus said that treasures on earth would not last. The cars we buy will become dented and end up in the junkyard. The clothes we wear will wear out. Jesus said that we are to store up treasures in heaven or as the epitaph reads, “What I gave, I have.” How do we store up treasures in heaven? When we give cheerfully and generously to God through our churches, we store up treasures in heaven. What are these treasures? Well, what is the only thing that goes to Heaven? Is it gold and silver? Maybe stocks and bonds? How about that car or mansion? No! The treasure is people! God is blessed and honored through our faithful giving because, through it, the Gospel is preached and taught and souls are saved.

In a quote from Joe Seaborn we read:

“In a real sense, giving to the cause of Christ is nothing more or less than laying aside eternal investments so that when we stand before Christ in heaven, we have gold, silver, and precious stones that we have been laying at His feet all along. The crown that we talk about laying at His feet will just be one more thing that we give, our final offering, in a long string of offerings that began long before.”

May God grant us the wisdom and then the strength to store up for ourselves treasures in heaven rather than treasures here on earth.

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### First Bethlehem Lutheran Church 140th Anniversary Celebration

The celebration will be held on Sunday, May 22, 1649 W. Le Moyne in Chicago, as part of it's 10:45 AM morning worship. Pastor Elton Heimsoth, an alumnus of the congregation & school will preach. Pastor James Kellerman, the current pastor will lead the liturgy. After the service, a banquet will be held at the White Eagle, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Niles at 1:30 PM. A program will follow. Banquet tickets cost \$30 each through the church & orders must be received by May 10.

# Immanuel Lutheran School News

## NO SCHOOL -



**MONDAY, MAY 30TH -  
MEMORIAL DAY**

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WALTHER LUTHERAN H.S. HONOR ROLL - For Principal's List GPA 3.75 or higher; Honor Roll GPA 3.51-3.74; Honorable Mention GPA 3.01-3.50

**Monique Funches - Principal's List  
Aissa Perez - Honor Roll  
Brett Willis - Honorable Mention**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## MARKET DAY

Order forms are always available in the narthex & the front hall of the school.

Pick up dates:

May 3

May 31 (June sale)

Pick up times are 3:00-4:00 pm

**STOCK UP AND ORDER THIS MONTH FOR THE SUMMER!!** Market Day resumes the end of August.

GOD'S BLESSINGS TO:

**JOSHUA DUBOIS**

**SELENA PEREZ**

**MIA RAILING**

As you are confirmed on Sunday, May 1st at the 9:30 AM service at Immanuel.



## "Schoolhouse Rock"

*Schoolhouse Rock!* is one of musical theatre's brightest and most innovative shows. Based on the Emmy Award-winning 1970s educational cartoon series, *Schoolhouse* uses a wide array of musical styles to teach grammar, math, science, history, social studies and political science while telling the story of Tom, a young teacher nervously anticipating his first day on the job.

All students will be participating in this musical on Friday, May 13th at 7:00 PM in the gym. Everyone invited! A free-will offering will be taken to help offset the cost.

## May Birthdays

- 2 - Pastor Ted
- 4 - Dorothy Boettcher
- 4 - John Kyanka
- 5 - Daniel Bell
- 6 - Stephanie Tetzler
- 6 - Naomi Perez
- 7 - Doug DuBois
- 7 - Marilyn Tense
- 9 - Kristen Mazanek
- 10 - Samantha Hadler
- 11 - Bill Redis
- 14 - Paul Lundt
- 14 - J.T. Redis
- 14 - Adam Bollinger
- 18 - Christopher Swasko
- 18 - Chase Bollinger
- 21 - Dylan Mitchell
- 22 - David Bollinger

- 29 - Marilyn Weeks
- 30 - Matthew Lundt
- 30 - Nandi Tense



## IMPORTANT DATES

- 3 - 3:00 PM Market Day
- 3 - 10:45 AM Band rehearsal @ Trinity Burr Ridge
- 7:30 PM Concert
- 3 - 6:30 PM PTL Meeting
- 4 - Disability Awareness presentation
- 9 - Manna orders due
- 10 - 3:00 PM Math Club
- 13 - 7:00 PM School Musical
- 17 - Track Meet
- 22 - 9:30 AM Students sing at Immanuel
- 25 - 3:00 PM Cooking Club
- 30 - No School - Memorial Day
- 31 - 3:00 PM Market Day

## ***From the Principal's Desk***

In March, six staff members from Immanuel went to LEA's tenth triennial convocation in Cincinnati, Ohio. LEA stands for Lutheran Education Association. LEA is an international organization that links, equips, and affirms educators in Lutheran ministries.

It was exciting to join with 2,600 Lutheran educators from around the world. During the convocation, we were able to select from more than 180 sectional presentations and workshops designed to help us improve in ministry. We were inspired toward continued commitment to our role in Lutheran education as we spent time in worship and fellowship with colleagues. We were energized to return home professionally refreshed from keynotes, reunions with old friends, and just plain fun!

A few of the highlights (at least from my point of view) of the convocation were:

Keynote Address - Leonard Sweet. The topic of his address was *Learning in a TGIF World (Twitter, Google, phone, Facebook)*. He definitely got us thinking! Leonard Sweet is the author of more than 200 articles, over 1,200 published sermons, and dozens of books. He is a frequent speaker at national and international conferences, state conventions, pastors' schools, and retreats. He has been a popular and provocative speaker at various Lutheran conferences.

Thanksgiving Banquet Speaker - Ms. Katie Stam, Miss America, 2009. Katie Stam grew up in Seymour, Indiana, on her parents' dairy farm. She was a student at St. John's Lutheran School in Sauers. (Katie's mom is a Lutheran School teacher at Immanuel in Seymour.) Realizing the importance of community involvement at a very young age, Katie participated in many activities in the community and at church. She also has a great love of music. At the age of 22, Katie became the very first Miss America from Indiana in the pageant's 88 year history. Perhaps she is the first Miss America to be a product of Lutheran schools! During her reign, she traveled over 250,000 miles. As Miss America, Katie served as the National Goodwill Ambassador for the Children's Miracle Network, visiting dozens of children's hospitals.

Sending Worship with Eucharist. This was my absolute favorite part of the entire convocation. The opportunity to gather with 2,600 Lutheran educators to worship our Lord was wonderful. The music, the liturgy, the sermon, the singing, the praising, the breaking of bread and the drinking of wine...it was amazing!

We were very fortunate to be a part of this wonderful convocation. Due to the economy some schools decided that they could not send their staff this time. In all honesty, our church had no money in the budget to send the teachers to a conference. Instead, the teachers fundraised \$2,000 for the conference over the past two years. PTL helped out with the rest. We were blessed to be able to attend such a wonderful event!

**In Christ,**

**Lana J. Hahn**

***Check us out on Facebook! Immanuel Lutheran School has a Facebook page! This is a great way to see what is going on in the school. Try it--you'll like it!***

**MONTHLY EVENTS** (unless otherwise noted)

Sunday School classes on Sundays at 8:30 AM  
 Adult Bible Study on Sundays at 8:30 AM  
 Self-Defense classes Mondays at 7:00 PM  
 Confirmation classes Wednesdays at 6:30 PM  
 Darts Tuesdays at 8:00 PM  
 Adult Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays at 7:30 PM  
 Men’s Club every second Saturday of the month  
 8:00 AM  
 Prayer Shawl Group every first Thursday of the  
 month 7:00 PM

*Prayer Shawl Group*


The Prayer Shawl Group will be meeting on **Thursday, May 5** at 7:00 PM at the Old School House (4733 Cermak Rd. - behind the Verizon store). See Patricia Contraveos if you have any questions.

**FOR THE RECORD:**

**New Member -**  
**David Bollinger**

**Transfer Out -**  
**Eric Mooney**

**Death -**  
**Bob Romadka - April 17**



*Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us.*

Romans 15:4

***Getting the Most Out of Your Daily Bible Reading***

As you read the Bible each day, allow the Scriptures to speak to you. This daily “dialogue “ between you and the biblical text will reveal new understandings about God, and about yourself.

- **Set aside time** to read the Bible on a daily basis.
- **Find a quiet place** to read and reflect on each day’s reading
- **Begin with prayer**, asking God for guidance and blessing.

**Believe the Good News  
 And Share God’s Love**

**MAY**

- |                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>1 - Revelation 22.1-21</b>     |                               |
| <b>2 - 1 John 3.11-24</b>         | <b>18 - Mark 10.13-16</b>     |
| <b>3 - 1 John 4.7-21</b>          | <b>19 - Mark 10.17-31</b>     |
| <b>4 - 2 John</b>                 | <b>20 - Mark 10.35-45</b>     |
| <b>5 - 3 John</b>                 | <b>21 - Mark 10.46-52</b>     |
| <b>6 - Romans 3.21-31</b>         |                               |
| <b>7 - Romans 5.1-11</b>          | <b>22 - Hosea 11.1-11</b>     |
|                                   | <b>23 - Hosea 14.1-9</b>      |
| <b>8 - Romans 8.1-17</b>          | <b>24 - Micah 7.8-20</b>      |
| <b>9 - Romans 8.18-30</b>         | <b>25 - Luke 6.27-36</b>      |
| <b>10 - Romans 8.31-39</b>        | <b>26 - Luke 6.37-42</b>      |
| <b>11 - Romans 12.9-21</b>        | <b>27 - Luke 10.25-37</b>     |
| <b>12 - Romans 13.8-14</b>        | <b>28 - John 15.1-17</b>      |
| <b>13 - Romans 14.1-12</b>        | <b>29 - Matthew 22.23-40</b>  |
| <b>14 - 1 Corinthians 13.1-13</b> |                               |
|                                   | <b>30 - Mark 12.18-34</b>     |
| <b>15 - Galatians 5.2-15</b>      | <b>31 - Deuteronomy 6.1-9</b> |
| <b>16 - Philemon</b>              |                               |
| <b>17 - Hebrews 13.1-21</b>       |                               |





# Registration Form

(One Per Child)

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last school grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/caregiver's cell phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home church: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew number or name (for church use only): \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_



In case of emergency, contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_

Hand this form in to the Immanuel Church Office  
or register at [www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/e7/ImmanuelVBS](http://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/e7/ImmanuelVBS)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - JUNE 20 - JUNE 24 - 6:30 P.M.

2317 - 2329 South Wolf Road  
Hillside, IL 60162

Church phone - 708-562-5590

School phone - 708-562-5580

E-Mail: [general@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:general@immanuel-hillside.org)

[www.immanuel-hillside.org](http://www.immanuel-hillside.org)

## RETURN REQUESTED

## POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

Rev. Teddy Vratny, Pastor  
Office: 708-562-5590 ext.101  
[Pastor@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:Pastor@immanuel-hillside.org)

Lana Hahn, M.A., Principal  
Office: 708-562-5580 ext. 201  
[lhahn@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:lhahn@immanuel-hillside.org)

Donn Hempel, B.A., Director of Music  
Office: 708-562-5580 ext.205

Carol Northcutt, Admin. Asst.  
[Carol@immanuel-hillside.org](mailto:Carol@immanuel-hillside.org)

**REMEMBER TO PRAY. . . .** If you have a prayer request, please call the pastor in the church office (708-562-5590) . We are praying for you! Please notify the office when circumstances of your request change or when the Lord answers our prayers. We want to rejoice with you and thank the Lord.



## ACOLYTE SCHEDULE



**May 1 - Confirmation**  
**9:30 AM - Christopher Swasko**

**May 8 - Mother's Day**  
**9:30 AM - Selena Perez**

**May 15 -**  
**9:30 AM - Sebastian Manilla**

**May 22 -**  
**9:30 AM - Joshua DuBois**

**May 29 -**  
**9:30 AM - Zachary Redis**