



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF ALICE

Knowing Christ

Living Christ

Sharing Christ

1400 North Texas Blvd, Alice, Texas 78332

Office 361-664-6691 email: ilc@ilcfamily.org www.ilcfamily.org

Glad Tidings – February 2025

Fellow Christians,

Immanuel Lutheran Church has a vision rooted in the profound truths of Scripture, calling each member to live out their faith in love, service, and discipleship. As we reflect on this vision, we are reminded that God's Word provides both guidance and encouragement for how we can embody this mission in our daily lives.

The foundation of our vision comes from the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

This call to discipleship invites us to share the Good News and reflect Christ's love to the world. It also echoes the mission of Immanuel Lutheran Church: to grow in faith, serve our community, and proclaim the grace of Jesus Christ.

Practicing the vision of our church means integrating faith into every aspect of our lives. Here are three ways to do this, along with Scripture that inspires each practice:

1. **Growing in Faith**

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." (Colossians 3:16)

Growth in faith comes through prayer, studying God's Word, and engaging in worship. Whether through personal devotionals or participating in Bible study groups, immersing ourselves in Scripture strengthens our connection to Christ and to one another.

2. **Serving Our Community**

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

The heart of service lies in recognizing that our talents and time are gifts from God, meant to bless others. From volunteering at food drives to offering a listening ear to someone in need, we reflect Christ's compassion when we serve our neighbors.

3. **Proclaiming Grace**

“But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.” (1 Peter 3:15)

Sharing the Gospel is a vital part of our calling. This doesn't always require words; sometimes, our actions and attitudes speak volumes about God's transformative grace.

Living out the vision of Immanuel Lutheran Church is not without challenges. However, we are assured of God's presence and strength. As Hebrews 10:24-25 reminds us: “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

Let us hold fast to the vision and work together to make it a reality. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may we grow in faith, serve our community, and proclaim the grace of Jesus Christ—to the glory of God and the building of His kingdom.

In Christ,

Amy B. Koenning

Amy B. Koenning, Governing Board President

KNOWING CHRIST, LIVING CHRIST, and SHARING CHRIST!

Immanuel Lutheran Church Vision (Proposed in 2025)

ILC members have close personal relationships with Christ, live out their faith each day, and freely share their love of Christ with others as they grow in knowledge, courage, and confidence to disciple people from all walks of life.

Mission

Know Christ...Live Christ...Share Christ





Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



HARVEST
WORKERS

God's Extraordinary Work

In my days as a pastor of a congregation, one of my joys was planning sermon series during the different liturgical seasons of the church calendar. One year I stumbled upon the idea of doing a summer series called "Characters of the Bible." Each Sunday after Pentecost, we started walking through the Old Testament and studied the men and women of God that we read about in the Bible. For many adult congregation members, this was the first time these stories had been revisited since their childhood days when they were taught in Sunday School classes. Unfortunately, these stories are often not the topic of the regular preaching during Sunday morning sermons.

Through this sermon series, we began to focus on a theme that we find throughout the Old and New Testaments of the Bible: that God uses ordinary people like you and me to do his extraordinary work! Sometimes we remember the Sunday School stories of these Bible characters and imagine them as superheroes. As we stand in awe at what God does in and through their lives, sometimes it is easy for us to forget that the bible character themselves was a sinful human being just like us.

For some people, learning that the person God used in a mighty way as an instrument of his activity in the world is also an imperfect sinner can somehow be seen as a stain, as if it makes the story less powerful. Perhaps this is why the undesirable or scandalous parts of these stories are often glossed over. But I truly believe that the fact that God works through sinful men and women like you and me is by God's own design and demonstrates that the power is not of man, but of God. Because of this fact, it displays God's power even more! As Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 4:7, *Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us. We who minister in Jesus' name are mere sinners: imperfect, broken vessels who are tasked with delivering the perfect and powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Therefore, no one should be overly impressed with the messenger and our hope ought not be placed in a pastor. When we place pastors or any church leader on a pedestal, we inevitably will be disappointed when we realize that they, too, sin and fall short. Pastors and all church leaders are called to lead not perfect lives, but to walk honestly and humbly, confessing their sin before God and one another and receiving the forgiveness of sins we all need.

The church is often attacked when the sin of a church leader is exposed... as if it somehow invalidates the many ways God worked through that person for Kingdom good. While it is true that the church is hurt whenever sin goes unconfessed or covered up, God continues to perfectly move, display power, proclaim the Word, and deliver grace and blessing in the sacraments of baptism and communion through the work of imperfect vessels in the church. Despite our sinfulness and brokenness, God still does extraordinary work through ordinary people like you and me.

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org.

2025 LCMC Texas District
Annual Gathering
& YOUTH GATHERING

All in the
Same Boat

Save the Date!

July 25-26
Victoria, Texas



Are you interested in an online course for personal or professional growth?

Do you want to bring a small group through a class at your church?

Perhaps Harvest Workers has a solution for you!

Tuition Costs:

Individual Audit Course: \$180

Small Group (up to 12) Course: \$360

Large Group (12 or more) Course: \$540

Courses Online & Available Now:

Old Testament by Pastor John Waak

New Testament by Pastor David Mayer

Bible Study Methods by Pastor Luke Allison

Lutheran Theological Foundations by Pastor Marcus Carlson

Evangelism & Discipleship by Pastor Brandon Foster

Church Planting & Revitalization with Pastor Bryce Formwalt

Worship with Pastor Andrew Potratz

Preaching with Pastor Jeremy Walloch

Care & Counseling with Pastor Eric Hulstrand

www.harvestworkers.net/im-interested

ALTAR GUILD - Given to the glory of God . . .

ALTAR & ETERNAL CANDLES:

February – Given by the Fischer Family in loving memory of Pat Fischer’s birthday on the 6th.

COMMUNION ELEMENTS:

February 2 – Given by the Fischer Family in loving memory of Pat Fischer’s birthday on the 6th.

February 16 – Given by Amy Koenning and Denise & Logan Blanchard, in honor of Jimmie Shoup’s 94th birthday on the 17th.

ALTAR & STANDING VASE FLOWERS

February 2 – Given by the Fischer Family in loving memory of Pat Fischer’s birthday on the 6th.

February 9 – Given by Evelyn Hutchinson in honor of Glen Hutchinson’s birthday and also for everyone who celebrates a birthday in February.

February 16 – Given by Sean & Kandace Fox in honor of Wiley’s 15th birthday on the 19th.

February 23 – Given by Celia Kaiser in honor of Elmira McNiel, Celia Kaiser, Wiley Fox, Niki Kaiser, and everyone who celebrates a birthday in November.

<p><u>Birthdays</u> 02/02 John Martin 02/03 Becky Flores 02/04 Brian Menking</p>	<p>02/12 Ernie Meyer 02/17 Jimmie Shoup 02/19 Samuel “Wiley” Fox</p>	<p>02/25 Terry Cooper 02/25 Jack McMonagle 02/25 Jerri Schulte</p>
<p><u>Baptism Birthdays</u> 02/05 Ruth Lindquist 02/08 Waldean Richter</p>	<p>02/18 Nelda Boerm 02/18 Bert Buegeler, III</p>	<p>02/24 Leona Owen 02/25 Brian Menking</p>
<p><u>Wedding Anniversaries</u></p>		<p>4th Quarter Congregation Meeting February 16, 2025 11:30am Immediately Following Worship Service</p>
<p>Council Reports/Agenda <u>Always Due</u> 3rd Monday of each month by 5:00P</p>	<p>Newsletter Information <u>Always Due</u> 3rd Monday of each month by 5:00P</p>	<p><u>Church Council Mtg</u> February 16, 2025 12:00 p.m. Conference Rm</p>
<p><u>Governing Board</u> Pastor: Open President: Amy Koenning Vice Pres: Darrell Kennemer Secretary/Treasurer: Brandy Kennemer</p>		<p>Christian Life: Open Communications: Billy Scoggins Education: Open Property/Grounds: Bill Botard/Phillip Flanders Stewardship: Melba Andersen Worship: Alicia Carlisle Youth: Open</p>



Prayers of the Church:

Lord, we ask that you comfort and heal all who are suffering in body or spirit. Please send healing to our brothers and sisters: Father hold in your arms and comfort the family and friends of Cathy Richter, Evelyn Starr, James Appleby, Noel Schuette, Steve & Dana Maresch, Mary Lee Crane, Inez Zulauf, Waldyne Nesloney, Edsel & Alicia Renken, Ashley Marie Jimenez, Larry Hodges, Karen Crawford, Delphi Flores, Nora Lopez, Vanessa Kelly, Nelda Hinojosa, Gwen Martin, Smiley Gonzalez, Melissa Boston, Stacy Hunter, Elaine Boreshe, Carolyn Kelley, Wesley Boerm, Sherill Perez,

Mike Gibbs, Jim Jochen, Jim Schuchert, Sam Jackson, Celia Kaiser, Ernie Meyer, Alyssa Salazar, Hank & Mary Jackson, Doug Chiles, Bobby Bourlon, Alfonso Gamez, Susie Spaniel, Bobbie Franke, Gale Hostetter, Anthony Carlisle, Ernie Meyer, and all who have been affected by hurricane Helene and the wildfires in California.

Father hold in your arms and comfort the family and friends of David Heldt, and Brent Davis.

Blessed Jesus, in your last agony you commended your spirit to your Father. We seek your mercy for those we brought before you and all who are dying. May death become for them, as it was for you, a birth to everlasting life. Receive those whom we commend to you with the blessed assurance that whether we wake or sleep, we remain with you, one God, forever.

David Michael Heldt

David Heldt, aged 76, passed away on January 15, 2025, in Deer Park, Texas. He was born on December 18, 1948, in Freer, Texas to Arno and Hertha Heldt.

In 1930, Arno Heldt and his brother, Roland Heldt, started a freight business, hauling cotton with horses and wagons. Arno and Roland bought a truck and began working in the oil fields of South Texas. This business became known as Heldt Bros. Trucking Co. David worked for Heldt Bros. Trucking Co. and eventually worked for Immanuel Lutheran Church of Alice where he was a longtime member.



Title: *Gratitude for Your Faithful Service*

Scripture Reflection:

- *“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”* – Galatians 6:9
- *“Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!”* – Psalm 100:2
- *“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”* – 1 Peter 4:10

As members of the church governing board, officers, and at-large volunteers, your work often takes place behind the scenes. Yet, it is no less vital to the life and mission of the church. The decisions you make, the hours you dedicate, and the prayers you offer are all part of a beautiful tapestry that God is weaving in and through this congregation.

Your willingness to serve reflects the heart of Christ, who came “not to be served, but to serve” (Matthew 20:28). Each task you undertake—whether it’s budgeting, planning, leading, or supporting—contributes to the flourishing of the church body.

Gratitude is due not only to you but also to God, who equips and strengthens you for this ministry. It is He who provides the wisdom, discernment, and endurance you need. Remember that your labor is not in vain. The fruits of your service may not always be immediately visible, but God sees every effort and rewards faithful stewardship.

Take time to reflect on the impact of your service. Consider the lives touched through your leadership and the ways God is working through you. As you continue, lean into His promise that He will guide and sustain you.



~ In Attitude of Gratitude ~

I'd rather be a "Shut-in" than an "outcast" any day,
'Cause when you are an "outcast", you and hunger
are pals every single day.

But - living in the land of "Shut-in-ville"
the chances are highly in your favor
that some kind heart(s) will treat your taste buds
with foods of "hunger-bustin'" flavor!

Christmas is the time of giving gifts
which cost money, tests your patience and "limited time"
But the priceless gift God gave to mankind
was His WORD, His SON, His LOVE divine!

By living the "art of giving", Jesus set the
pattern for our daily way of life
By covering us with His LOVE, Joy, and Peace
To rid our lives of endless strife -

And so, with folded hands and hearts kneeling in
a prayer of grateful love -

We, of "Shut-in-ville" extend our heart-felt
"Thank-You"! for sharing with us
God's Love from above ~.



Psalm 23

Many of us instinctively gravitate to Psalm 23 when we need reassurance and comfort in our daily walk with God. I found this explanation in an unlikely place - a Facebook devotional. It spoke to my soul, and I hope it speaks to your soul.

The Lord is my shepherd—that means we have a relationship with our God.

I shall not want - God supplies our needs.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures — He gives us rest.

He leadeth me beside the still waters — He gives refreshment.

He restoreth my soul — He gives healing.

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness — He gives guidance.

For His name's sake — for His purpose.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death — even in times of testing.

I will fear no evil — He gives us protection.

For Thou art with me — His faithfulness towards us.

Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me — God disciplines and His discipline brings us comfort.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies — He gives Hope.

Thou annoinest my head with oil — He consecrates us.

My cup runneth over — He gives us Abundance in our lives.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life — He blesses us.

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord — our security.

Forever - Into Eternity.

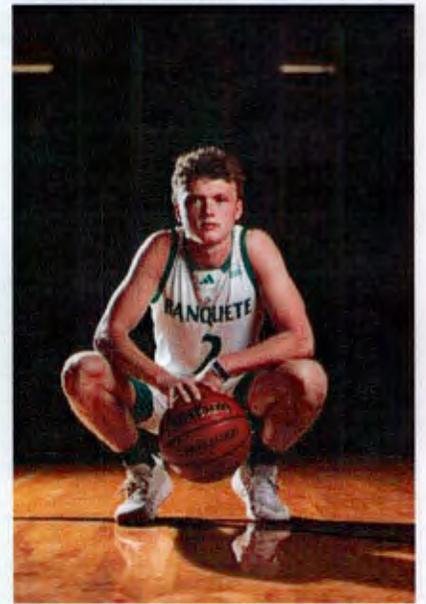
*Credit: Tombstone Tommy Albrecht
Paraphrased by Mary Jackson*

Updated: Save the Date



Logan's Graduation Dance
Date: Saturday, 4/19/2025
Time: 8:00p.m. -midnight
Location: Robstown Community Hall
4612 County Road 42
Robstown, TX 78380

Come join the celebration with DJ Fiesta
(light snacks provided)



February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:15am Men in Mission Devotional Discussion 10am Worship/HC	3 5pm Bulletin Info Due	4 6pm Doing for the Least	5 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	6 6pm Grief Share Counseling	7	8
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; width: 100px; height: 20px;"></div> <div style="color: purple; font-weight: bold;">Alicia Carlisle @ LCMC Winter Retreat, Concan, Texas</div> <div style="color: purple; font-weight: bold;">February 2nd – 7th, 2025</div> <div style="font-size: 2em; color: orange;">➔</div> </div>						
9 10am Worship Service	10 5pm Bulletin Info Due 5pm Council Meeting Info Due	11 6pm Doing for the Least	12 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	13 6pm Grief Share Counseling	14 Valentine's Day	15
16 9:15am Men in Mission Devotional Discussion 10am Worship/HC 11am 4th Qtr Cong Mtng w/Potluck Luncheon & Recipe Party 12pm Council Meeting	17 5pm Bulletin Info Due 5pm Newsletter Info Due	18 6pm Doing for the Least	19 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	20 6pm Grief Share Counseling	21	22
23 10am Worship Service	24 5pm Bulletin Info Due 6pm Women's Bible Study	25 6pm Doing for the Least	26 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	27 6pm Grief Share Counseling	28	
						Updated 2025-01-14 by Tessie Colle Rev 1

February 2025

	February 2, 2025	February 9, 2025	February 16, 2025	February 23, 2025
Assisting Ministers	Amy Koenning	Kloe Fox	Olivia Carlisle	Phillip Flanders
Minister	Alicia Carlisle	Wayne Kelly	Alicia Carlisle	Bobby Lindquist
Communion Assistants	Amy Calvez Laurie Buegeler		Susie Yocum Jerri Schulte	
Ushers	Phillip Flanders Bert Buegeler	Phillip Flanders Bert Buegeler	Clint Colle Bill Botard	Bill Botard Clint Colle
Acolytes	Logan Blanchard	Megan Moore	Wiley Fox	Logan Blanchard
Lector	Karen Zepeda	Logan Blanchard	Megan Moore	Olivia Carlisle
Greeters	Karen Zepeda	Susie Spaniel	Laurie Buegeler	Amy Calvez
Coffee Maker	Gaby Cantu	Melba Andersen	Amy Koenning	Laurie Buegeler
Sound Tech	Cooper Kennemer	Cooper Kennemer	George Chaney	George Chaney
Camera/Streaming Tech	Brandy Kennemer	Brandy Kennemer	Phillip Flanders	Brandy Kennemer
Presentation Tech	Kandace Fox	Kandace Fox	Kandace Fox	Kandace Fox
Deacon	Bill Botard 830-460-1595	Bill Botard 830-460-1595	Darrell Kennemer 361-318-5758	Darrell Kennemer 361-318-5758

	<u>COMMUNION</u>	<u>CANDLES</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>	<u>PARAMENTS</u>
February	Susie Yocum	Melba Andersen	Kandace Fox	Susie Yocum
March	Laurie Buegeler	Melba Andersen	Laurie Buegeler	Susie Yocum

Emergency Contact Numbers:

Pastor:

President:

Amy Koenning
361-215-5007

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:15am Men in Mission Devotional Discussion 10am Worship/HC	3 5pm Bulletin Info Due	4 6pm Doing for the Least	5 6pm Ash Wednesday Svc. NO BIBLE STUDY	6 6pm Grief Share Counseling	7	8
9 10am Worship Service	10 5pm Bulletin Info Due 5pm Council Meeting Info Due	11 6pm Doing for the Least	12 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	13 6pm Grief Share Counseling	14	15
 ← SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK →						
16 9:15am Men in Mission Devotional Discussion 10am Worship/HC 12pm Council Meeting	17 5pm Bulletin Info Due 5pm Newsletter Info Due	18 6pm Doing for the Least	19 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	20	21	22
23 10am Worship Service	24 5pm Bulletin Info Due 6pm Women's Bible Study	25 6pm Doing for the Least	26 5:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study	27	28	29
30 9:15am Men in Mission Devotional Discussion 10am Worship/HC 5 TH Sunday Luncheon	31 5pm Bulletin Info Due					Updated 2025-01-21 by Tessie Colle Rev 1

March 2025

	March 2, 2025	Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025	Daylight Saving Time March 9, 2025	March 16, 2025	March 23, 2025
Assisting Ministers Minister	Susie Yocum Mallori Calvez	Alicia Carlise Alicia Carlise	Kloe Fox Alicia Carlise	??Alicia Carlise??? Alicia Carlise	Amy Koenning Mallori Calvez
Communion Assistants	Amy Calvez Jerri Schulte	Susie Yocum Amy Calvez		Laurie Buegeler Amy Calvez	
Ushers	Darrell Kennemer Ernie Meyer	Darrell Kennemer Ernie Meyer	Clint Colle Bert Buegeler	Bert Buegeler Clint Colle	Bert Buegeler Clint Colle
Acolytes	Wiley Fox	Logan Blanchard	Megan Moore	Logan Blanchard	Megan Moore
Lector	Gracie Barrett	Karen Zepeda	Darrell Kennemer	Tessie Colle	Evelyn Hutchinson
Greeters	Gracie Barrett	Jimmie Shoup	Susie Spaniel	Melba Andersen	Karen Zepeda
Coffee Makers	Gaby Cantu	NONE	Jerri/Allan Schulte	Brandy Kennemer	Melba Andersen
Sound Tech	George Chaney	George Chaney	George Chaney	George Chaney	George Chaney
Camera/Streaming Tech	Brandy Kennemer	Brandy Kennemer	Brandy Kennemer	Brandy Kennemer	Brandy Kennemer
Presentation Tech	Kandace Fox	Kandace Fox	Kandace Fox	Kandace Fox	Brian Menking
Deacons	Bill Botard 830-460-1595	Bill Botard 830-460-1595	Darrell Kennemer 361-318-5758	Darrell Kennemer 361-318-5758	Darrell Kennemer 361-318-5758

March	Communion Laurie Buegeler	Candles Melba Andersen	Flowers Laurie Buegeler	Paraments Susie Yocum
April	Susie Yocum	Melba Andersen	Brandy Kennemer	Susie Yocum

Emergency Contact Numbers:

Pastor:

President:
Amy Koenning
361-215-5007

March 2025

March 30,2025

page 2

Assisting Ministers Minister	Phillip Flanders Kloe Fox				
Communion Assistants	Bert Buegeler Laurie Buegeler				
Ushers	Clint Colle Bert Buegeler				
Acolytes	Wiley Fox				
Lector	Megan Moore				
Greeters	Amy Calvez				
Coffee Makers	Amy Koenning				
Sound Tech	George Chaney				
Camera/Streaming Tech	Brandy Kennemer				
Presentation Tech	Kandace Fox				
Deacons	Bill Botard 830-460-1595				

March	<u>Communion</u> Laurie Buegeler	<u>Candles</u> Melba Andersen	<u>Flowers</u> Laurie Buegeler	<u>Paraments</u> Susie Yocum
April	Susie Yocum	Melba Andersen	Brandy Kennemer	Susie Yocum

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