

Click here to open service web page for: 2014/01/26/

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson Elder: Larry Nelson
Ushers: Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales,
 Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland
Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack
 Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland
Hospitality Team 2: Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Jenny Kleifgen
Church Cleaners: Anderson School: Broder

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales,
 Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland
Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl;
 Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner
Hospitality Team 3: Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Ryan & Mikey
 Oman; Nick & Miranda Duehlmeier; Dan & Cindy Degnan
Church Cleaners: M & T Wales School: Broder

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Jan. 26: 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Jan. 29: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sun., Feb. 2: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Mar. 5: Ash Wednesday

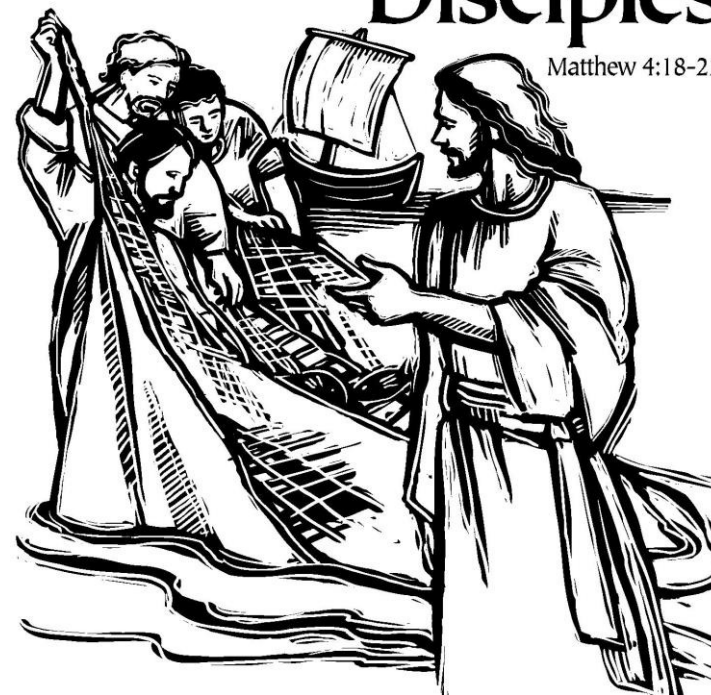
Last Week's Stats: Jan. 19, 2014 Sun.: 145 S.S.: 23 B.Cl.: 51 Wed.: 23

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,944.80	CLC:	\$1,005.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,200.00	CLC:	1,040.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+744.80	CLC:	-35.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$9,606.80	CLC:	\$2,751.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	9,600.00	CLC:	3,120.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+6.80	CLC:	-369.00	
GLC Other:	288.25	Living Faith:	5.00	Tuition Aid:	585.00
SAF Endowment:	50.00	MDF:	15.00	Kinship:	105.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	60.00	IIF: 15.00	GEF: 5.00
Current Balances:	Fire Alarm: CLOSED		Projection: +142.07		
	Tuition Aid: +7,692.92 (\$9,350 would cover 6 students in Jan.)				

*Grace Lutheran
 Church & School*

THE
 Calling
 of the First
 Disciples

Matthew 4:18-22



Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432



Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: www.CLCClutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635)

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Epiphany 3

Date: January 26, 2014

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 539: Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star
TLH 343, st. 1-4: How Lovely Shines the Morning Star
WS 773: Rise, Shine, You People!
TLH 657: Beautiful Savior

NOTE: Installation of Officers after Lord's Prayer

Worship Prep:

Psalm 27, TLH p. 129

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)
Gloria: TLH 246, st. 1,4

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 9:1-4
1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Sermon: Matthew 4:12-23

(12) Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. (13) And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, (14) that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: (15) "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: (16) The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." (17) From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (18) And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. (19) Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (20) They immediately left their nets and followed Him. (21) Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, (22) and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. (23) And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. (NKJVTM)

"The Dawn of a New Era"

1. When Jesus came to Galilee bringing light
2. When Jesus called His disciples to bring light

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Among Us:** Maynard Hammond returned home early this week from the hospital after having a blood infection. We thank the Lord for His goodness and mercy toward His people.
- ◆ **Installation of Officers:** Following our prayers for the day, our officers will be installed. They are: Chairman – Eli Wales; Vice-Chairman – Michael Dick; Secretary – Michael Ude; Elder – Frank Radichel; Bd. of Education – Paul Lentz; Bd. of Trustees – Rick Nelson. In addition, Benno Sydow and Brandt Wendland were voted as our delegates to represent us at the CLC Minnesota Delegate Conference and the CLC Convention, along with Larry Nelson and Al Rosendahl as alternates. We thank those who have served in office during their past term: Chairman – Al Rosendahl, Vice Chairman – Eli Wales, Secretary – Jack Kirkham; Elder – Larry Nelson; Bd. of Education – Rick Nelson; and Bd. of Trustees – Bob Vandevier.
- ◆ **Frieda Aden:** Frieda turns 100 next month, on February 15! You are urged to encourage her with cards at 3701 Chandler Drive, #207; St. Anthony, MN 55421.
- ◆ **Nominations for ILC President:** The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Steve Sippert expires June 30, 2014. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2014. Nominations must be written or e-mailed no later than midnight February 12, 2014, to Mr. Craig Ryan; 499 Country Lane; Fulda, MN 56131. E-Mail: cryan@page1printers.com
- ◆ **Women's Retreat:** The annual Christian Women's Retreat will be held in Winona, MN, on March 28-30. Brochures with further details are by the guest book.
- ◆ **CPR Trained:** The Council is looking for a list of members who are officially trained in CPR. If you are, please speak with Bill Rust.
- ◆ **2014 Cleaning:** The 2014 cleaning sign-up list is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ◆ **Budgets:** Last week the Voters determined to set our goal for CLC giving to \$54,000. Last year the amount was set at \$50,000 with a goal in mind of \$52,000. This was met within just a few dollars. In addition, our congregational budget was set at \$157,000 last year and this was met within just a few hundred dollars. We thank the Lord for how He tends to our needs, both individually and as a congregation!
- ◆ **Fire Alarm:** Last week the Voters decided to close the Fire Alarm Fund. There is now a surplus of offerings in the fund, so any funds donated will go to Project – Undesignated, the fund which originally seeded the Fire Alarm Fund.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #15 – First Article, Part 2

Appreciating a Christian School Education

As we begin, let us lay to rest some misconceptions:

- We have never claimed that one has to go to Immanuel College or High School (ILC), or be a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession to be saved.
- We do not claim that teachers at ILC are better than those in the government (public) schools.
- We do not claim that students at ILC are better than those who attend public schools, or that they are more Christian than those who attend government schools.
- We do not claim that children who attend ILC are better, more pious, or "holier" than those who don't.
- We do not deny that there are temptations at ILC, or claim that students are less sinful at ILC.
- We do not claim that parents who send their children to ILC love their children more than those who don't.

What commends an education at Immanuel? Simply this: children who attend Immanuel (or our CLC grade schools) are in an educational environment in which the foundation of their education is the Word of God, and the teachers are under call of the Lord, to whom they responsible. The *public system* does not acknowledge the Word of God, and could not if it wanted to. Many fine teachers in the government system are confessing Christians but, as teachers in the system, through no fault of their own they are not permitted to witness to the things of God. In our Christian schools there is no such restriction!

The Word of God is armor against temptation (Ephesians 6). The Word of God gives understanding of the weakness of the flesh that clings to all humans. The Word of God is a shield with which to quench the darts of the devil who works night and day to deceive the children of God. The Word of God gives the Christian the power to discern right from wrong, and is the weapon against Satan and his enticements (Matthew 4). The Word of God in the Gospel assures the student of the forgiveness of sins in Christ Jesus when he or she falls. Yes, we trust and expect that in every Christian home the Word of God is the prevailing education; but our school(s) *helps* the parents in exercising their God-given responsibility toward the children that God has placed in their care.

The subject matter in classes in our Christian schools prepares the students for making their way as productive citizens in society. But the subject matter from science to math to history, the languages, and whatever other discipline is taught, recognizes the hand of God. The Word of God gives a unique appreciation of creation, and our responsibility to care for it. The wonders of science are understood in a special way when science is taught, acknowledging and recognizing the handiwork of a providential God. The understanding of history is enhanced when it is accepted that all history is His-Story. Even the study of math is enhanced when it is understood that behind it is the wisdom and planning of the infinite Creator God.

The Word of God which is the foundation of our educational system gives the student wisdom to understand the will of God and the strength to say no to sin. It gives comfort to the troubled conscience when the student sins as he invariably will. Morality—sanctified living—is imparted through the Gospel

Word. The Word of God teaches that sanctified living is not the cause of our salvation (Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ alone), but is fruit born of the Father's saving grace in the heart. Does one have to attend Immanuel to learn that? No. These are things which we trust and expect faithful Christian parents are imparting to their children *at home* from the Word, and reinforcing for themselves and their children through careful attendance to Word and Sacrament in their congregation. But in the context of school educational experience, they are things that the government educational system by reason of ignorance, rejection, or law, cannot lay on the heart of students in the classroom. They are things which Immanuel as well as our congregational schools, faithful to their charter, teach!

Scripture enjoins that children be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Scripture warns against offending "one of these little ones who believe" in the Lord (Matthew 18:6). The Lord is offended when children are denied His blessing (Mark 10:13-15). It is fact that heathen and totalitarian governments accept that the best way to perpetuate an ideology is to bend the minds and the will of the children at an early age. **"The education of all children," as Karl Marx wrote, "from the moment that they can get along without a mother's care, shall be in state institutions at state expense." Marx's disciple, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, concurred: "Give me four years to teach the children and the seed I have sown will never be uprooted."**

Ought we not apply to a sanctified manner the same principle and bring up our children in God's Word from early youth, even as the Lord Himself instructs us? Therefore, it is essential that from the crib parents train up their children in the Word! And most surely when they are older and are sent off to school, *wherever it is*, Christian parents will be concerned about what is being taught their children.

We rejoice at the witness of Immanuel graduates who express appreciation for the education, training, and guidance received at Immanuel.

Not all parents may be able to utilize Immanuel or our Christian day schools. That is understood. Some choose not to. But surely we hope that no parent simply dismisses the thought without prayerful and careful consideration, especially in light of what follows--

Common Core is now being pushed as the new educational experiment. It is not a production of Washington DC though the finger prints of the present administration and bureaucrats are all over it. The states are theoretically in charge of their own Common Core curriculum. Some states reject participation; some which opted for it are now reconsidering; others are into it with both feet. Recently we shared information from the New York state educational department with some brethren. They will attest that the content was highly offensive. What was found was submitted to be shared for information only on the CLC pastoral forum. It was rejected (appropriately so) because of its unabashed and gross sexual references and questions! It bore the imprimatur of the educational commissioner of New York State.

Following are some references from on-line sources relative to Common Core. If you do not know if it is in your state, find out. If you are in a state where it is part of the educational platform being promoted, find out what it is and ask yourself whether you want your children subjected to it.

(Source: Common Core State Standard Initiative)

*“The high school standards call on students to practice applying mathematical ways of thinking to real world issues and challenges (Original emphasis)...; The high school standards emphasize mathematical modeling, the use of mathematics and statistics to analyze empirical situations, understand them better, and improve decisions. ... **Quantities and their relationships in physical, economic, public policy, social and everyday situations can be modeled using mathematical and statistical methods** (Emphasis added). When making mathematical models, technology is valuable for varying assumptions, exploring consequences, and comparing predictions with data.”*

(Source: COMMON CORE’s Social Justice Agenda, Oct. 20, 2012 by Donna Garner Education Policy Commentator EducationViews.org)

Bottom line: Jay Mathews of The Washington Post wrote a piece on 10.17.12 that delved into the opposition to the Obama administration’s Common Core Standards ... This concern revolves around the Common Core’s emphasis on non-fiction over fiction. ... It is my belief that the Common Core Standards are meant to indoctrinate children’s minds into the social justice agenda—not to raise children’s academic achievement and build their basic core knowledge. Therefore, the best way for the Common Core to achieve its goal of indoctrination is to limit children’s reading of the great classics, particularly those from the Western civilization because so many of them came from a strong Judeo-Christian belief system. In their place, the Common Core plans to substitute pieces of nonfiction that emphasize environmental extremism, multiculturalism, political correctness, diversity, sexualization, and the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) agenda...”

The above was written by one who says she “was chosen by the President of the U.S. to serve as one of his appointees to a national commission...”

(Source: Then there is this found at www.thedailysheep.com/rotten-to-the-common-core):

“Reform of the nation’s standardized objectives is merely a smokescreen to the true intent of the program which is the acceptance for Agenda 21 policies. Subsequently, the Agenda 21/UNESCO documents clearly state their intention to turn each student into a globalist who will accept smaller living space, residing in the stack-and-pack cities of the future, acceptance of drastic energy reduction and the loss of Constitutional liberties.

The document goes on to say, *“While basic education provides the underpinning for any environmental and development education, the latter needs to be incorporated as an essential part of learning. Both formal and non-formal education are indispensable to changing people’s attitudes so that they have the capacity to assess and address their sustainable development concerns. It is also critical for achieving environmental and ethical awareness, values and attitudes, skills and behavior consistent with sustainable development and for effective public participation in decision-making. To be effective, environment and development education should deal with the dynamics of both the physical/biological and socio-economic environment and human (which may include spiritual) development, should be integrated in all disciplines, and should employ formal and non-formal methods. ... Please take note of reference to spiritual education. The implication is subtle, but undeniable. This phrase opens the door to the evisceration of the Christian religion. This phrase allows Common Core to propagandize school children into belittling the importance of Jesus Christ ...”*

The education of our children is not something we can simply turn over to the state. And surely if we must use, or choose to use, government schools, parents should be involved and investigate what their children are being taught. Running our own educational program in the congregation or Immanuel is not easy. It is difficult on many levels, not the least of which is the opposition that is encountered within a society that by and large has no respect for the Word of God.

We look at education from a different perspective than the world which is concerned only with the here-and-now. Christ-believers look at education with an eternal perspective. While we strive to give our children the best education possible for the here-and-now, we want to prepare them for the day that the Lord will turn every human endeavor to dust and take home to heaven those who are alive in Him.

Such education begins in the home! Where better to support parental responsibility in this regard than in church and in our Christian schools.

Is attendance in one of our schools or at Immanuel, a guarantee of faithfulness and continued Christian conviction? No. Are students in our schools more faithful and of greater Christian conviction than those who attend government schools? We do not make such a claim. Have some who attended our schools kicked over the traces or even fallen from the faith. Perhaps. But our responsibility as parents and church is not to try to read the future. Our responsibility is to give our children every opportunity to prepare for the future through growth in faith which comes only through the sure and certain Word of God—the foundation of education at Immanuel.

We pray for all our parents and children that together they may grow in faith in Christ Jesus and be kept in the same. We pray for all whether in our schools or in the public system that as Christ-believers they will glorify the Lord in word and deed. We pray for our elementary schools and Immanuel (Eau Claire and Mankato) that they will be courageous in their witness and faithful to their task. We pray for the teachers in our schools that they will find joy in serving the Lord as they nourish the lambs in their care. We pray that with a spirit of humility and thanksgiving the CLC will remain faithful to the Word of God, and continue to be courageous in its Gospel witness in the face of growing opposition.

We pray for our students in our Christian schools as well as in government schools and ask that the Lord keep them all in His care, and make them strong witnesses of His grace and love. We thank the Lord for the expressions of appreciation as expressed by graduates of Immanuel for the blessing that came to them from the Lord through the faithful service of Christian parents and teachers. The Alma Mater of Immanuel bears witness to the blessing the Lord has given us:

**Nestled in the quiet beauty Of the tall green pines,
God has set our Alma Mater, Guiding hearts and minds.
Built on Jesus’ words of promise O Lord, bless her well;
Thus may e’er our Alma Mater Be Immanuel.**

We pray that our life and our witness will faithfully and always be an acknowledgement of IMMANUEL—“God with us” (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23). Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 1/2014