

July Calendar 2025

<u>Events</u>			<u>Anniversary & Birthdays</u>	
Thur.	3-Jul		3-Jul	(B) Bob Crippen
Fri.	4-Jul	(H) Independence Day	4-Jul	(B) Jerry Schukar
				(B) Jamie Berry
Sunday	6-Jul	(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Tues.	8-Jul		8-Jul	(B) Doug Stein
				(B) Haele' Goodin
Wed.	9-Jul	(E) 7pm Council Meeting		
Thurs.	10-Jul		10-Jul	(A) Kim & Kyle Kloss 2013
				(B) Wrenlee Roberts
Sunday	13-Jul	(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service (E) 11am Voter's Meeting		
Wed.	16-Jul		16-Jul	(B) Mark Meadows
Sunday	20-Jul	(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
		VBS July 21 - July 25 each evening, time to be announced		
Tues.	22-Jul		22-Jul	(B) Amanda Walk
Wed.	23-Jul		23-Jul	(B) Colleen Wefer
Thurs.	24-Jul		24-Jul	(B) Fran Collier
Fri.	25-Jul		25-Jul	(B) Fran Cole
Sunday	27-Jul	(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Mon.	28-Jul			(A) Michael & Diana Bauer 1973
Thurs.	31-Jul		31-Jul	(B) Ruth Ann Moyer
				(B) Lisa Wasmuth

Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg
1297 E 900 Ave
Shobonier, IL 62885
618-846-8383
website: augsburchurch.com email: augsburchurch@augsburchurch.com

Pastor Timothy J. Landskroener
Cell: 330-204-4180 Email: lawandgospel@hotmail.com

July 2025

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

If there's one word that's often heard in July, it's "freedom." We particularly think of freedom from England and her tyranny in 1776 when the English colonies in America declared their independence from England. That's certainly what we celebrate with picnics, parades, and fireworks.

Yet, what does it mean to be free? Is freedom only a political word meaning that we are free from the jurisdiction or control of someone else? Is it merely not to be oppressed by someone or something? Does freedom mean we can say or do whatever we want whenever we want wherever we want? Is that what freedom is? Of course not! For such freedom is merely an exercise of our innate sinful nature. God's Word tells us that this is not the way we are to live.

Instead, it is good to learn about true freedom, the freedom that is ours in Christ. Paul discusses this in his letter to the Galatians. It's good to consider what he says:

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. . . .

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. (Gal. 5:1, 24-26).

You see, in Christ we are set free from sin, death, and the devil. In Christ, they no longer have power over us. We do not have to do what they say. Thus, we are not to use our freedom in Christ to satisfy our sinful nature. After all, by nature we are enslaved to sin, death, and the devil. But Christ has set us free by keeping the entire law of God perfectly for us and then suffering the punishment we deserve by our disobedience. With that, we are free from the fear of God's wrath over our sin. We are free from having to earn God's love and favor, which we could never do on our own. We don't have to invent anything so that God will be pleased with us.

Likewise, we are free to live as God wants us to live. We are free to love and serve our neighbor, not because we have to, as though someone is holding a gun to our head, not to earn credit or merit before God, but simply because our neighbor needs what we can provide. Life in Christ is not coerced. It's a joyous response to what He's done for us and continues to do for us.

Jesus says, "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36). And the Son has set us free. "Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God." (1 Pet. 2:16).

God bless you as you live in the freedom that is yours in and through Christ Jesus.

Pastor Landskroener

Here are the readings for the upcoming Divine Services:

July 6 Pentecost 4 (Proper 9)

Is. 66:10-14

Gal. 6:1-10, 14-18

Luke 10:1-20

July 20 Pentecost 6 (Proper 11)

Gen. 18:1-10a (10b-14)

Col. 1:21-29

Luke 10:38-42

July 13 Pentecost 5 (Proper 10)

Lev. (18:1-5) 19:9-18

Col. 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

July 27 Pentecost 7 (Proper 12)

Gen. 18:(17-19) 20-33

Col. 2:6-15 (16-19)

Luke 11:1-13

Council meeting is July 9th at 7:00 pm. in Parish Hall

Voters meeting is July 13th at 11:00 am immediately following the service

VBS will be held July 21st -25th, in the evenings at Augsburg. Details will be made available in the bulletin.

Contact Pastor Landskroener 330-204-4180 or email lawandgospel@hotmail.com for a Pastoral visit.

The current Dollar for Missions project is replacement of insulation in the chancel ceiling at Wittenberg Lutheran Center, Normal. Some of this fiberglass insulation has fallen from its place under the roof. The area needing work is hard to reach in a high ceiling, so the job will be expensive. The DFM project is for \$10,000. For more details, see <https://www.cidlems.org/ministry-dfm-current-project.html>

The ***Camp CILCA Homecoming is Saturday, August 2*** in the afternoon and evening. There will be a volleyball tournament and pickup softball game, swimming, guided hikes, live and silent auctions, vendor fair, pulled pork meal from 4-6pm for \$15, outdoor worship, evening concert featuring Eshelon, and campfire sing-a-long and s'mores. Help CILCA celebrate 75 years of outdoor ministry! (cilca.org/homecoming)

Text Messaging updates – If you don't receive messages about Church info and would like to, please let Scott know. This is an easy way to get messages to a lot of members in a timely manner. If there is a message you would like sent to several members, please let Scott know as well.

Parish Hall reservations – If you would like to plan an event or meeting to use our Parish Hall for any reason, this also includes Church activities, you will need to contact Scott or Karen Torbeck. If not asked, we don't know. Use of the Parish Hall will be determined by the first reservation made.

Church office is looking for help in maintaining accurate records for Augsburg. Have you moved since our last directory or had a change in marital status or phone number changes? Have you noticed a birthday or anniversary that is incorrect or missing? Please notify Scott Torbeck to get our Church records updated.

Please return any baby bottles you may have from their baby bottle fundraiser for LHPC.

Augsburg is collecting Christian materials, Bibles, Portals of Prayer, Sunday School and VBS materials, Lutheran Witness, books, etc., to be given to the mission in Butler to distribute worldwide. Please put them on the table in the middle of the basement.

Bible Word Search:
CHOOSE TO SERVE GOD
(Joshua 24)

W	S	S	E	N	T	I	W	T	A	E	K	U	C	O
L	H	P	I	O	T	X	C	B	K	V	W	O	C	T
L	I	O	W	K	H	R	R	H	Z	O	I	G	R	X
A	E	X	L	J	Y	A	V	W	Q	X	Y	B	B	C
A	W	A	O	E	H	Z	U	W	Z	X	S	E	B	U
Z	S	N	R	A	H	M	Y	E	N	P	J	P	F	E
M	B	Q	M	S	T	E	Q	W	G	O	G	Q	S	G
H	Q	Q	V	Z	I	C	A	B	S	K	H	O	M	Y
I	W	L	R	U	E	G	I	R	S	E	O	A	W	P
G	C	P	H	A	A	O	A	G	T	H	R	E	E	T
N	I	N	L	U	U	D	K	Q	C	B	F	V	T	I
P	L	R	V	H	M	O	S	E	S	J	F	I	E	A
H	X	D	C	S	O	S	I	A	N	V	C	M	D	N
G	F	N	H	O	G	G	P	S	G	L	I	N	Y	S
P	V	P	G	J	D	W	P	E	V	R	X	J	F	U

ABRAHAM

GOD

MOSES

WITNESS

CHOOSE

ISRAEL

SERVE

EGYPTIANS

JOSHUA

WHOLE HEART

Instructions:

Find and circle the words from the list. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.