

February Calendar 2026

Events

Anniversary & Birthdays

Sunday	1-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School		
	(E) 10am Worship Service		
Monday	2-Feb (E) 7pm Ladies Aid Meeting		
Tuesday	3-Feb	3-Feb	(B) Lee Schaal
Wednesday	4-Feb	4-Feb	(B) Sandra Kleinik
Thursday	5-Feb	5-Feb	(B) Errol Rhodes
Sunday	8-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	8-Feb	(B) Evelyn Meseke
	(E) 10am Worship Service		(B) Dan Summann
Wednesday	11-Feb	11-Feb	(B) Lucy Newcomb
			(B) Ryan Summann
Sunday	15-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	15-Feb	(B) Wesley Rogers
	(E) 10am Worship Service		
Wednesday	18-Feb (E) 7pm Ash Wednesday Service		
Sunday	22-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	22-Feb	(B) Jamie Tischhauser
	(E) 10am Worship Service		
Wednesday	25-Feb (E) 7pm Second Lenten Service		
Thursday	26-Feb	26-Feb	(B) Chris Cole
Saturday	28-Feb	28-Feb	(B) John Moyer

Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg
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February, 2026

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

February brings us to the end of the Epiphany season on Sunday, February 15, with the celebration of the Transfiguration of Our Lord. That great event bookends nicely with the Baptism of Our Lord (First Sunday after the Epiphany), as we hear the Father say, “You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” At the Transfiguration, He adds, “Listen to him.” The entire season boils down to Jesus being revealed as divine, God in the flesh. But more than that, He came for us and for our salvation.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (February 18) with a Divine Service. Then, during the rest of the season, we’ll have midweek services on Wednesdays (Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25). These services give us another opportunity to gather as the people of God to hear His Word. Our Lenten midweek services will have the theme, “For Us.” Plan now to attend.

“For us” is not simply a pithy line to use because it is easy to repeat. It is a confession of who God is and what He brings in giving us His Son. It helps us understand why God would send His Son to die for us.

The phrase “for us” also captures much of the Reformation’s theological emphasis—and Luther’s understanding of Scripture in particular. Luther went from searching for a righteous God and finding only stern rebuke to seeing God in the form of a little baby and as the one who became one of us for us so that we might become like Him.

Our Lenten preaching series hymn “O Love, How Deep” (LSB 544) was originally a twenty-three-stanza poem written in the fifteenth century by an unknown author. In the nineteenth century, an Anglican cleric named Benjamin Webb translated the hymn into English and then chose six stanzas for use in English hymnody. The doxological stanza was added later.

Some hymns tell a story, others teach, and still others create pictures in our minds of the great works of God. Some hymns do all three, weaving together a tapestry that is beautiful yet simple, wondrous yet easy to understand. “O Love, How Deep” is that kind of hymn.

Although it does not appear in the first stanza, the most pointed and beautiful language in the hymn is expressed in the phrase “for us.” The phrase is reminiscent of the language of the Nicene Creed: “Who *for us men* and for our salvation came down from heaven.” (Series description used by permission).

On the first Sunday in Lent (February 22), we hear of the temptation of our Lord. So, our Sunday services go from the glory of the Mount of Transfiguration to the loneliness and danger of the wilderness, from the voice of the Father to the voice of the devil. Whereas Adam and Eve

listened to that voice and plunged the world into sin, Jesus repels that voice with the Word of God as part of our salvation.

God grant you a blessed remainder of the Epiphany season and a blessed start to the Lenten season, where we learn evermore that our life is one of repentance and faith.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

P.S. Thank you to Steve Lotz and his crew for shoveling the sidewalks at church and to the parsonage. Your work is greatly appreciated.

Here are the readings for the upcoming Divine Services:

February 1 Epiphany 4A

Micah 6:1-8
1 Cor. 1:18-31
Matt. 5:1-12

February 18 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-19
2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10
Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

February 8 Epiphany 5A

Is. 58:3-9a
1 Cor. 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matt. 5:13-20

February 22 Lent 1A

Gen. 3:1-21
Rom. 5:12-19
Matt. 4:1-11

February 15 Transfiguration of Our Lord A

Ex. 24:8-18
2 Pet. 1:16-21
Matt. 17:1-9

Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church

Quarterly Voters Meeting

January 11, 2026

Chairman Mo Schukar called the meeting to order and Pastor Landskroener led all present in prayer.

Minutes from the October 12, 2025 voters meeting were printed in the church newsletter. There was no further discussion on these minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes as posted, seconded, and approved.

Members:

Voting members: None

Communicant members: None

Baptisms: None.

Transfers:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None

Releases: None

Treasurer's Report:

The 2025 annual treasurer's report was presented by treasurer, Fran Collier. A copy of the report is included with these minutes. A motion was made to accept the report as presented, seconded, and approved.

Elders' Report:

All is going well. As usual, please contact the elders if you have any questions or concerns.

Pastor's Report:

The 2024 membership and attendance numbers are attached to this report.

Trustees' Report:

Faucets have been replaced in the nursery restroom and the parish hall.

Projects that have been placed on hold until warmer weather are the concrete work to the church and the parsonage.

Sunday school:

The Christmas program was a success. Thank you to ever that helped. Preparations are underway for the upcoming Easter celebration. We will be working on songs for the program during Sunday school. Donations for the Easter egg hunt of candy or cash would be greatly appreciated.

Bible Class:

Bible class continues to meet every Sunday at 9:00 AM in the parish hall. Please come join us.

Finance Man: No report.

Sexton: No report.

Old Business:

The church officer elections were completed at the last quarterly meeting.

New Business:

Special Collections:

The following special collections were submitted for the first quarter:

- Ash Wednesday – Fort Wayne Seminary
- 2nd Lenten – Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministry
- 3rd Lenten – St. Louis Seminary
- 4th Lenten – Lighthouse Pregnancy Center
- 5th Lenten – Lutheran School for the Deaf, Jacksonville
- 6th Lenten – District Deaf Ministry
- Maundy Thursday – Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School

A motion was made to accept the special collections, seconded, and approved.

Synod Convention is also coming up. The congregation has nominated the following district officers: President Matthew Harrison, First Vice President Peter Lange, and Regional Vice President Benjamin Ball. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Jerry Schukar was nominated as congregation representative to cast our ballot for Synod President via the internet. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Steven R. Hickerson

Pastor's Report for January, 2026 Council/Voter's Meetings

Received:

October 12 - Transfer in: Matthew Haake from Trinity Lutheran Church, Fort Morgan, Colorado

Transfer out:

July 13 - Adam & Jennifer Torbeck transferred to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Altamont

Release/Remove: none

Baptisms: none

Funerals:

April 22 - Lila Knecht

April 27 - Harlan Schukar (interment only)

Wedding:

December 28 - John O'Connell & Shanon Wagner

50 services (2 snow canceled for year)

Avg attendance 56 per Sunday

Avg communed 47 per Sunday

14 Evening services

Avg attendance 27 per service

Avg communed 19 per 4 services with communion

Rev. Timothy J. Landskroener

Pastor

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Augsburg

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Immanuel Lutheran Church - Shobonier, IL

Annual Financial Report

Jan. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Balance on Hand - Jan. 1, 2025			\$ 52,406.49
 <u>Received from</u>			
Envelopes	\$ 119,429.00		
Loose	\$ 10,166.46		
Church Memorials	\$ 1,000.00		
Interest	\$ 47.56		
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 29,792.43		
 Total Received	 \$ 160,435.45		
 <u>Disbursements</u>			
Pastor's Salary & Housing		\$ 60,046.32	
Pastor's Concordia Plan		\$ 31,346.10	
Pastor's Tax Assistance		\$ 1,801.92	
Pastor's Mileage Reimbursement		\$ 4,149.09	
Guest Speaker		\$ 700.00	
Pastor's Meetings & Lodging		\$ 541.70	
Continuing Educatuion (Pastor)		\$ -	
Vacancy / Guest Mileage		\$ 86.20	
Parsonage Utilities		\$ 2,733.07	
Church Maintenance		\$ 8,332.55	
Custodian Salary		\$ 9,100.00	
Church Utilities		\$ 9,209.85	
Church Insurance		\$ 24,293.92	
Church Supplies		\$ 1,476.83	
Groundskeeper Salary		\$ 6,000.00	
Organist Salary		\$ 3,250.00	
Office Supplies		\$ 4,095.72	
Secretary Salary		\$ 2,400.00	
Social Security Church Payment		\$ 1,605.04	
PayChex		\$ 1,599.05	
Lutheran Witness		\$ 712.08	
Portals of Prayer		\$ 447.23	
Sunday School/VBS Supplies		\$ 407.93	
Organist Mileage		\$ 227.50	
 Total Disbursed		 \$ 174,562.10	
 Balance on Hand - Dec. 31, 2025			 \$ 35,689.77

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Cemetery Fund</u>			
Balance on Hand - Jan. 1, 2025			\$ 20,997.43
Received for Fund	\$ 1,000.00		
Disbursed from Fund		\$ 2,740.38	
Balance on Hand - Dec. 31, 2025			\$ 19,257.05
<u>Building Fund</u>			
Balance on Hand - Jan. 1, 2025			\$ 4,988.01
Received for Fund	\$ -		
Expenses		\$ -	
Balance on Hand - Dec. 31, 2025			\$ 4,988.01
<u>Mission Work</u>			
Received From Envelopes (Synod)	\$ 10,050.00		
Received as Loose	\$ 614.00		
Total Missions Received	\$ 10,664.00		
Total Disbursed to Synod		\$ 11,003.00	
Special Envelopes Missions	\$ 750.00		
Loose Holiday Missions	\$ 1,586.00		
Total Received Special Missions	\$ 2,336.00		
Total Missions Disbursed		\$ 2,262.00	
<u>Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Funds Received</u>			
Choice Dollars	\$ 643.00		
Balance on Hand (All Church Funds) - Jan. 1, 2025			
			\$ 52,406.49
Received All Funds	\$ 175,078.45		
Disbursed All Funds		\$ (190,567.48)	
Balance on Hand (All Church Funds) - Dec. 31, 2025			\$ 36,917.46
Special Account - Property Maintenance			
Balance on Hand - Jan 1, 2025			\$ 43,371.05
Interest			\$ 37.90
Amount Dispersed			\$ (8,901.58)
Balance on hand - December 31, 2025			\$ 34,507.37
Total All Funds			\$ 71,424.83

	Receipts	Expenses	Difference	E-O-Y Balance	Concordia	Pastors Salary	Insurance	Total
2023	\$ 155,000.00	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 64,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 46,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 86,000.00
2024	\$ 164,000.00	\$ 171,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 52,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 49,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 96,000.00
2025	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 191,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 37,000.00	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 51,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 104,000.00
2026						\$ 53,000.00	\$ 26,000.00	

Ladies Aid meeting – Feb 2nd in the Parish Hall @ 7:00pm.

Lenten Services will begin Feb 18 for Ash Wednesday

2026 offering envelopes are available in the Narthex.

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

Sausage & Pancake Supper – The Men’s Club of St. Paul (Blue Point) in Altamont invite you to their Sausage & Pancake Supper on Sunday, February 1st beginning at 4:00 pm. Dine-in and carry-out meals will be available, a freewill offering will be accepted for the meal. Packaged rope and bulk ground sausage will also be available for sale. The church is located 4 miles north and 2 miles east of Altamont.

Annual Sausage Supper with full menu at St. Peter's Lutheran Church-School Gym St. Peter, IL All You Can Eat! Sunday, February 15, 2026 Serving starts at 5:00 pm. Sponsored by the Men of St. Peter's Lutheran Church (Carry Outs will be available).

Easter Sunday, our children will be singing special songs at the beginning and end of the church service. All children are invited to participate - please be sure they attend Sunday school to practice. We are so proud of how the children did in the Christmas program and are excited to see them share their talents again!

An Easter egg hunt will be held at 9:00 for the children. Donations of candy or monetary contributions will be greatly appreciated to help make this event special. Thank you for supporting our children!

Do you know that the way Christian’s go about their day and connect with members in their household is a critical aspect of spiritual growth? When the households of your church are spiritually vibrant, your church is more effective at faith formation, outreach, and community engagement. Come to learn more at the Central Illinois LLL District Convention hosted at Christ Lutheran Church in Normal on Saturday, March 21, 2026. All are welcome to attend. Rev. Dr. Peter J Scaer, Chairman and Professor of Exegetical Theology, Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne Indiana is the guest speaker.

Prayer Request – When prayers are requested, we ask that we are informed of the relationship of the person with our congregation. There has been concerns about names on prayer list & who they are. We will add the relationship to the prayers. This will allow members to ask about the individual’s progress in recovery. In an effort to manage the list more effectively, individuals will be placed on the list for a period of four weeks. If at the end of that time, those people still need additional prayers, they may be re-added to the list for another four-week term. This may be done as long as the individual continues to need the added strength of the church prayer for their special need.

Please Sign attendance books in the pew, so Pastor is better able to serve you.

Church Closings Update – Church closings will be announced on the Augsburg Facebook page. Closings will also be announced on local radio stations. Scott will send Church closing via text, if you would like that also. If you would like a phone call, please contact Pastor or an Elder with the number they can contact you.

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 many 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.

25. Faith

“...If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. (Matthew 17:20 KJV)

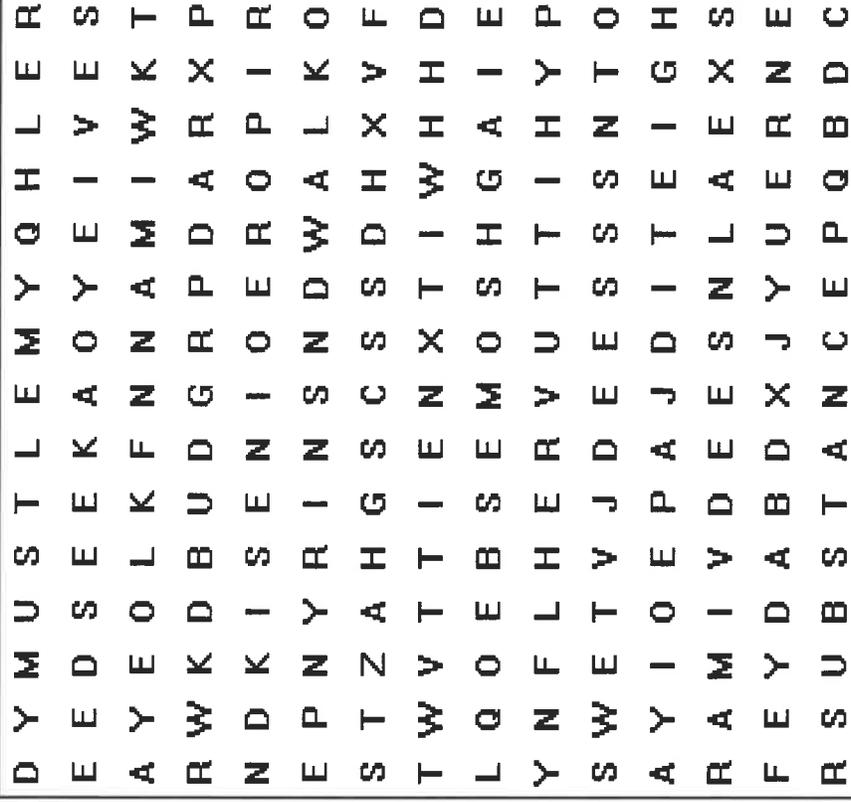
So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Romans 10:17 KJV)

For we walk by faith and not by sight... (Romans 5:7 KJV)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed y the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. (Hebrews 11:1, 3 KJV)

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (Hebrews 11:6 NIV)

What good is it, my brother, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? (James 2:14 NIV)... For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (James 2:26 KJV)



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25. Faith

BELIEVE	HOPEDFOR	SEED
BODY	IMPOSSIBLE	SEEK
DEAD	MUST	SIGHT
DEEDS	MUSTARD	SUBSTANCE
EARNESTLY	NOTHING	THINGS
EVIDENCE	NOTSEEN	UNDERSTAND
EXISTS	REMOVE	WALK
FAITH	REWARDS	WORKS
HEARING	SAVE	YONDER