

German Festival 2025
Meeting Announcement & Official Festival Dates

We're excited to announce that the official dates for German Festival 2025 are set for September 19-20! We also invite YOU to join our fun and dedicated planning committee! Our first meeting of the year will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 7 PM. If you're interested in joining the team, contact Christina Curry, Rhoda Lange, or email us at il.german.festival@gmail.com with your contact info by March 1st. We'll fill you in on everything you need to know, including meetings, meetups/activities, and more. We can't wait to welcome new ideas and make this year's festival an unforgettable success!

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT
LUTHERANS for
LIFE

The 2025 New England
March for Life
is Wednesday, March 19!

Come and join us for the day!

10:15AM Worship Service with District President Beinke

Bethany Lutheran Church, 1655 Boulevard Avenue, West Hartford

11:00AM Travel to the State Capitol Building

210 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

12:00PM March for Life Rally

South side of Capitol Building, with Speakers:

Melissa Ohden (Abortion Survivors Network)

Jennie Bradley Lichter (March for Life)

Christopher Healy (CT Catholic Conference)

Peter Wolfgang (Family Intsitute of CT)

Kayeleigh Doyle (Homeshooling)

Jessica Power (Students for Life of America)

1:00PM - 2:00PM March around Bushnell Park

Immanuel Lutheran School invites you to walk the halls and enjoy the student's artwork and projects displayed throughout the building.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline for Sunday Bulletin is Wednesday at noon.
Please send articles and updates to Lydia at LROjas@ilcs.org

March 2, 2025

The Transfiguration of Our Lord



Please join us *after the first service* for Coffee, Tea, Juice, Cakes and Fellowship in the (OSB) Original School

Today's coffee hour donations will be given to our Parish Nurse.

Lutherans for Life have a meeting on Monday, March 3,
at 11am in the Parish Center.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

A Call Committee has been established and has already met with President Beinke to start the process of calling a Pastor. The committee members are: Howard Schmelder - Chair, Dawn Milano, Christy Hislop, Ryan Bodley, Norman Stone, Michael Krampitz and William Wentland.

We are currently working on a Congregation Self Study that we will be asking our members to complete and a form that members can also complete suggesting a particular pastor we should consider as part of our calling process.

These two documents will be available for pickup at the Church in the foyer and must be returned to the Church Office on or before Sunday, March 16th.

I want to encourage all of our members to become actively involved in this important task. If you should have any questions please contact any member of the Call Committee.

In HIS Service,

Howard J. Schmelder

Immanuel Lutheran School is excited to invite you to support by shopping our Christian book fair. You can access the site by scanning the QR code here and searching our school or going to this site: www.readyletsread.com/store/immanuel-lutheran-school-2. The link is also on the school website at the bottom. Then, simply shop just like you would on any other site. You can shop as a guest or make an account on the site so you can easily reference back to past orders.

The Spring 2025 book fair is from **February 24th(8:00AM)-March 9th (11:59PM)**.

All orders must be placed during this time. You will be notified when the class orders have arrived. (Shipping is free to the school!!) We will communicate with you about shipping & delivery times and pick up info.



SCAN TO
FIND YOUR
SCHOOL'S
BOOK FAIR

BOOK FAIR DETAILS

Ready? Let's Read! is an online book fair where you can shop for the whole family. Created as a resource for parents, teachers, and students, Ready? Let's Read! brings you exceptional products that don't compromise your values. We are proud to offer you a curated list of products that you can trust.

Access your school's unique store by scanning the QR code in this flyer and searching for your school. Enjoy shopping any time from February 24 - March 9. All orders must be placed by 11:59 PM on March 9. Your school will receive up to 20% cash back of total sales. Books are shipped FREE to your school! Your school will communicate all information to you about receiving your order. Enjoy shopping!

Upcoming 13 Day Trip to Israel with Pastor Nabil Nour

Pastor Nabil Nour, the 4th VP of the Synod and a retired Pastor, is planning on leading a tour to the Holy Land in August. If you are interested in joining him please send him an email at preachermanfootwasher@gmail.com and he will send you the itinerary and tour-enrollment form. The trip departs from Chicago on August 4th and returns on August 16, 2025. The price is \$5, 190.00 per person, including: air fare from Chicago to Tel Aviv and back to Chicago, hotel accommodations (for double occupancy) tips, entry fees and all meals.

We're Hiring!

Our Little Lamb toddler and infant programs are growing and we're hiring! We are seeking **early childhood educators** to work with children 6 weeks to 3 years old. Some childcare experience is preferred but training is available. We are also hiring **substitute teachers** for Immanuel Lutheran School. Please inquire with our Early Childhood Director, Susan Schneider at sschneider@ilcs.org or Principal Krueger at dkrueger@ilcs.org. You may also call the main office at 860-583-5631 to find out more.

Dear Members, Alumni & Friends,

I want to extend heartfelt gratitude for all those who have prayerfully and generously supported the steeple fund. *We have collected \$204,000 so far, bringing us almost one-third to our goal.*

For generations, the steeple of Immanuel Lutheran Church has been a symbol of faith and hope, standing tall as a reminder of God's presence in our lives and in our community. Now, this cherished part of our church needs your help. Years of weather and time have taken their toll, and significant repairs are needed to ensure the steeple remains strong for future generations. To meet this challenge, we have formed a Steeple Committee and established a new Steeple Fund, dedicated to this important restoration project.

We ask you to consider joining us in preserving this beautiful symbol of our faith. Every contribution, no matter the size, will bring us closer to our goal of \$300,000. Together, we can ensure that the steeple continues to inspire all who worship here and all who see it as a beacon of hope in our community.

Continued Donations May be Sent:

•**By Mail:** Immanuel Lutheran Church – Steeple Fund
154 Meadow Street,
Bristol, CT 06010

•**Online:** <https://members.myeoffering.com>

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to the church office at (860) 583-5649.

– *Howard Schmelder, Chairman of The Steeple Committee*

A Special Message From the Board of Christian Stewardship

– *Support Immanuel Through Your RMD –*

Did you know you can direct your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your retirement account to Immanuel Lutheran Church or the new Steeple Fund? This is a wonderful way to support our ministry and special projects, such as the critical steeple repair planned for 2025, while also receiving tax benefits by reducing your taxable income.

It's a simple and impactful way to contribute. We encourage you to consult your financial advisor or contact the church office to learn how to designate your RMD and make a meaningful difference in supporting Immanuel's mission.

2025 Ash Wednesday & Lent Schedule

As part of our annual Easter preparation the Christian Church participates in a season of repentance and renewal – the season of Lent. This year, **Lent begins on March 5 (Ash Wednesday)**. Immanuel Lutheran Church will offer two worship opportunities each Wednesday at 10:45am and 7:00pm. The schedule includes:

March 12
March 19
March 26
April 2
April 9

Make plans to join us!
Pastor Karner

SOUP'S ON



We will have **Lenten Soup Lunches** on Wednesdays during Lent after the 10:45 am Mid-Week Lenten Service. ***If any group or individual would like to volunteer to prepare a crockpot full of soup for one Wednesday during Lent, there is a sign up sheet in the office for all the lent Wednesday dates listed above. This is another wonderful opportunity for fellowship. Thank you for volunteering!***

THE IMMANUEL LUTHERAN FOUNDATION

Call for Grant and Scholarship Applications

Thanks to a generous gift, the Immanuel Lutheran Foundation has been serving diverse needs of the Immanuel Lutheran Church since 1997. The “General Fund” has provided financial support through a Grant Application Process to do those important “non-budgeted” things “for which we never seemed to have the money”.

It's Time! 2025 Grant Applications for the General Fund are being accepted now. Application Forms are available in the Church Office and returned there when complete.

Westfall Scholarship Applications are also available in the office and must be completed and returned to the office no later than Sunday, June 15, 2023.

The Directors begin the Grant Review Process in March and continue throughout the year as funding remains available.

Questions? Pick up a Foundation Brochure in the Church/School Lobby or contact one of the Directors; Bill Wentland, Andy Helming, Bob Wollenberg, Diane Read, Warren Kirschner.



Join us for a Church/School Potluck!

Lutheran Week Kick-Off Potluck
Following the All-School Sing
Sunday, March 16th, 2025
School Gymnasium



For the potluck, each school and church family brings one dish based on the first initial of their last name. For example: Pastor **K**arner, a **S**alad. Paul **T**essier, a **S**ide Dish.

A–M Salad (These are typically cold items. Some ideas: fresh green salad, antipasto platter, potato salad, gelatin salad, veggie salad, tomato salad, fruit salad, coleslaw, cold pasta salad, etc.)

M–Z Side Dish/Casserole (These are typically warm/hot items. Some ideas: hot potato salad, tomato pie, quiche, macaroni and cheese, Mexican casserole, enchiladas, baked beans, roasted potatoes, Spanish rice, scalloped potatoes, etc.)

We will finish up lunch with cake!

If you are not sure what dish to bring and need some ideas/recipes, or, if you have any other questions, you can email Christy Hislop at christyhslp@yahoo.com.



Immanuel Lutheran Church
154 Meadow Street
Bristol, Connecticut