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Message from Pastor Fittje

Immanuel is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Being a Synod means that its members walk together united in doctrine, that is, we are united in HOW we confess that Jesus is Lord. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has its headquarters in Kirkwood, MO just outside St. Louis. In many ways people think of the Synod in much the same way they think about pastors. We know that they are important, but we are not entirely sure what they do day to day. This is where that joke, which needs to be taken out back and shot, comes from: Pastor, you only work one day a week! Yet, Pastors and the Synod as an institution have many, many irons at the fire at the same time. So that we can have a better understanding of what the Synod does as a whole and the resources it offers to its members like Immanuel, we will have two special guests for this month's Mission Festival on October 20th, Frank Kremer and Chaplain Craig Muehler. Frank Kremer serves as a Mission Advocate for the LCMS and has family ties to Lockwood through the Melvin Backs family. During the

Bible Study hour he will give a broad presentation on the Synod's ministries. He will help us learn what it is that Synod does. Chaplain Craig Muehler is the Director of LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces. He will be serving as preacher that Sunday on Ephesians 6:10-17 with the theme "Are you ready?" The mission committee will provide donuts and coffee during the Bible Study hour in the FLC for Mr. Kremer's presentation. Following the 10:30 service we will have a potluck also in the FLC. For this Mission Festival, we will take a special offering that will go toward our financial support for the work of the District and Synod. Please use your MISSION OFFERING envelope which is a white envelope bordered with yellow. I pray you will come and invite others to join for this festival as we celebrate our life and work together as Synod as fellow citizens of the Kingdom of God.

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In Christ,

Pastor Kyle James Fittje



Thursday, October 3 at 6 pm is the LWML Meeting when election of officers for the coming year will be held.



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Please bring your cancelled postage stamps and best choice labels to the Thursday meeting.



Enroll by Oct 15 for best pricing!

Now PRE-ENROLLING!
for Fall 2025, 9th & 10th graders



Note: Official launch date (Fall 2025 or Fall 2026) will be determined soon, and families will be notified of next steps towards enrollment!

(DETAILS ON PAGE 9)



**WORSHIP
ASSISTANTS**

Elder of the Month: Steve Allison

Asst. Elder: Mike Barber

Altar Guild

Paraments: Kayla Lasater & Jennifer Thieman

Communion: Kathryn Shaw & Reggie Obert

Altar Flowers: Linda Thieman

Ushers

8:00 10:30

Grant Hedeman

Dan Hawks

Randy Hayes

Wyatt Hawks

Mike Theurer

Lucas Eggerman

Roger Stone

Kyle Caldwell

GERMAN DINNER



St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Stockton will have a German Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, October 19th from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. On the menu: Bratwurst, Hot German Potato Salad, Sauerkraut, Cooked Cabbage, Green Beans, German Apple Cake or Cherry Chocolate Cake. Adults - \$12.00, Children 5-12 \$5.00, under 5 free. Proceeds will go toward the Youth attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering.

For more information, please call 417-840-1610.



ILS - OCTOBERFEST

October 26

Chili supper from 5 - 6 pm

Games and activities during and afterwards

NURSING HOME

Chipper Allen	RCF
Dorothy Davis	GSNH
Katherine Engelage	GSNH
Eloise Haubein	RCF
Mildred Link	RCF
George Mertz	RCF
Bea Roncovitts	RCF
Jean Schnelle	RCF
Virginia Shorter	RCF
Galen Hackney	St. Luke's

School News...From the Principal, Mrs. Cindy Miller

VISION STATEMENT:

Immanuel Lutheran School is a caring and loving Christian learning community where a high standard of academics challenges each student to personal excellence and by planting and nourishing the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ, inspires families to daily walk with Jesus.

ENDURE

2024-2025
STUDENT PLANNER

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission of Immanuel Lutheran School is to provide a Christian environment so as to educate and develop the mind, body, and soul of each child, enabling them to be disciples of Jesus Christ in this sinful world.

FACULTY & STAFF FOR 2024 - 2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Mrs Cindy Miller-Morgan - Principal
Ms. Donya Moll - Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Amber Baldwin - PK
Mrs. Kenadee Merrick - Kindergarten
Ms. Gunilla Ream - 1st/2nd
Mrs. Debbie Fearnow - 3rd/4th a.m.
Mrs. Amy Schnelle - 3rd/4th p.m. & 3rd/4th Religion
Mrs. Michelle Kleeman - 5th/6th & 1st/2nd Religion
Mrs. Natalie Cunningham - 7th/8th
Rev. Kyle Fittje - 7th/8th Confirmation
Mrs. Erin Osborne - Music
Mrs. Rachel Lewandowski - K-8 Art
Mrs. Peyton Wilkinson
Computer Technology
Mrs. Kristen Fittje - Library
Mr. Seth Meinzen - PE
Ms. Robin McCrery- Custodian

SCHOOL BOARD

Wes Spinks '24
Seth Meinzen '25
Michelle Brewer '25
Erika Black '26
Jordan White '26

First Quarter
Chapel OFFERINGS
Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry

Upcoming October Events

22nd & 24th - Parent/Teacher Conferences

23rd - 31st Red Ribbon Week

Theme: "Life is a Movie, *Film Drug Free*"

26th - Octoberfest - Chili supper 5 - 6 pm - activities afterwards



Blue Jay News

We have completed our NWEA beginning of the year assessments. The students worked hard on all of their tests. We are proud of the work the students have completed. Students are getting their class routines and expectations mastered. We have met with Mrs. Brewer about participating in the science fair. We are also working with Mrs. Brewer to increase our knowledge about science in our school. Contact Mrs. Brewer if you have a desire to assist with science learning at Immanuel Lutheran. Mrs. Kleeman's fifth and sixth grade class are doing community work projects for our community every Friday. They are getting ready to go to the Good Shepherd Nursing Home this month. Please contact Mrs. Kleeman if you have a project for our fifth and sixth graders. Mrs. Baldwin's Pre-kindergarten have begun learning about the letters of the alphabet. Kindergarten with Mrs. Merrick, is working on blends and greater than and less than. Mrs. Ream's first and second students are learning about symbols in social studies. Mrs. Schnelle and Mrs. Fearnow have done a great job making a smooth transition with the students. They are working on multi digit subtraction. Mrs. Cunningham's seventh and eighth grades are working on a research reports. All of the teachers are working hard with the students. We are looking for substitute teachers. Please contact the school office if you are available to substitute here at Immanuel. Pastor Fittje is our spiritual leader here at Immanuel Lutheran School and Church. We appreciate all of you for making Immanuel Lutheran School a success.



Update on Restored Hope Against Addiction

Classes continue at the Center of RHAA every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. Attendance is low at this point, of anywhere from 3-6 in attendance. We know that RHAA needs to change in that we may need to also provide a live-in location as there are not enough beds for people seeking recovery facilities. Or, another possibility is to partner with a recovery center in Stott City whereby once or twice a week the group in Stott City comes to the Center for RHAA for a meal and class. But then there is the transportation issue. I plan to meet again with the director at the Stott City facility to explore possibilities, as the RHAA Board has already met with the director. There is a lot of planning ahead for us.

In 1998/1999 we began and completed the building of a house for a family in the group that was in the recovery process, had completed RHAA classes, and stayed abstinent. A family was chosen and they leased the house for 4 years and have now purchased the home. The house was sold to the family for \$55,000. RHAA had about \$60,000 in the house not including labor and cost of insurance. I am pleased that this goal of building a home was met. One of the triggers for continued addiction is poverty and being forced to rent "houses in bad repair" at the cost of \$500-\$700 a month in order to obtain housing. So the recovering addict feels hopeless of ever seeing better days. By the grace of God and by your support, one family now lives recovered lives, has their children in our public schools, and the parents work full time jobs in Lockwood.

Every Monday, I lead a class for ladies who live in the housing unit in Greenfield. The class is called "Family and Friends" teaching spouses how to deal with loved ones who are addicted to alcohol and drugs or both. Most of all the 6 ladies that attend have been beat up by their spouses, ran for their lives, and now have gained safety. The goal of the classes is to educate these women on breaking the cycle of addiction in their families, in the lives of their grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. It is a long, slow, process of initiating change and these classes motivate these women to be motivated to maintain their efforts.

Thank you for your support, your prayers, and your encouragement, for your labor is not in vain.

Sincerely,
Pastor Griffin

Update on Cancer

By the grace of God and your prayers I still live! After 4 radiation infusions the CT scan showed that the neuroendocrine tumors in my liver and spine have not changed. The tumors did not grow but have not shrunk. The oncologist considers this a win and so do others who are living with cancer. I have accepted it as a win as well, but then in the back of my mind, I was hoping that after 4 rounds of radiation that the tumors would have shrunk. I still get tired by mid-day and I try and get a little nap in which does give me energy to complete the day. According to my lab reports my white blood cells, red blood cells, hemoglobin, platelets have been low for the last 3 months. The oncologist counseled me in knowing that radiation damages the bone marrow and it takes time for the bone marrow to regenerate so that it produces more white, red blood cells, platelets and more. Right now, every 4 weeks I go to Springfield Hulston Cancer Center for a lanreotide injection which is supposed to keep the tumors from growing. On October 28th I'll have another CT scan and then November 4th I'll meet with the oncologist to see what the next course of action will be.

In the meantime, I continue working with RHAA, pastor at Trinity Lutheran, Sarcoxie, teach classes in Greenfield, can vegetables from the garden, and try to keep my yard landscaped with the help of others. In God we live and move and have our being and may God bless us with health and strength to meet each day and have a mind like that of Christ to be a servant to all.

In Christ,
Pastor Griffin



The Lutheran Hour



October 6 "Fit to Be Tied" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A strong knot in the right place holds everything together. God made Jesus to be the "Master Point" to bind all people to Himself through faith.
(Genesis 30:8)

October 13 "Difficult People" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

With God, all things are possible, even how to deal with that difficult person in your life.
(Genesis 31:6-7)

October 20 "Children of God--No Longer Losers" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez

God turns lost losers into forgiven sons and daughters. Through Christ, we too become children of God's kingdom, members of His household.
(Hosea 12:2-6)

October 27 "God-Struggles" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's been said, everyone you meet is fighting an unseen battle. God calls us to enter the struggle of those around us because, in Jesus, God has entered our struggle.
(Genesis 38:28)

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE FOOD PANTRY



We are all aware of the tremendous cost increases at the grocery store (sometimes as much as 3 times).

Donations to the pantry have been extremely low, so any donation, however small, would be greatly appreciated.

Canned meat and proteins are in specific need (stew, beef, tamales, ham, etc.) as well as sugar, salt & pepper, cooking oil.

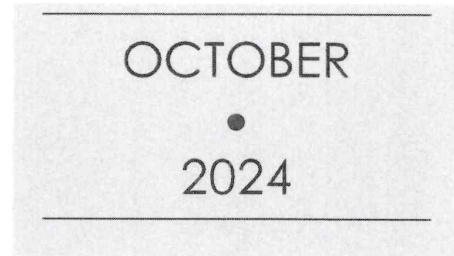
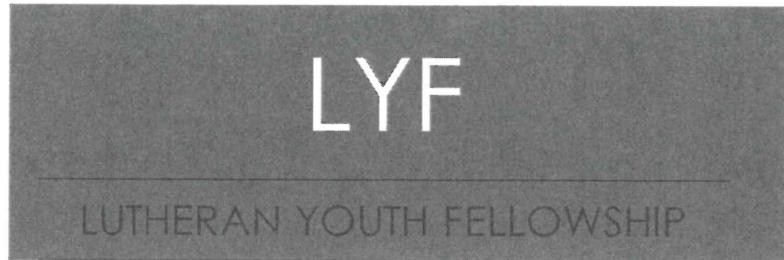
Also needed are basic personal hygiene items.

There is a red wagon the north entry where you can leave donations. Thank you.

LWML



The Bookstore is contained on a shelving unit located across from the meeting room and is run by the LWML. We have a variety of greeting cards by the box or by the card, as well as books, Bibles, gifts, etc. If there is something special you are looking for or need to order something from CPH, you can contact Robin Eggerman. Not part of LWML but also located on the bottom shelf are cookbooks and history books which can be purchased through the church office.



We discussed the 2025 National Youth Gathering at our September meeting! You have to be 14 OR entering 9th grade to be eligible. \$200 deposit and registration form due ASAP. Contact Annie with any questions.

We will have a walking taco food booth at Harvest Homecoming. All help is welcome!

Our October meeting will be JYF and LYF at Hedeman farms for a bonfire. Hot dogs and s'mores provided. Friends welcome.



Join us for Sunday School every Sunday at 9:15 am.

Monthly meetings are typically the third Sunday of the month.



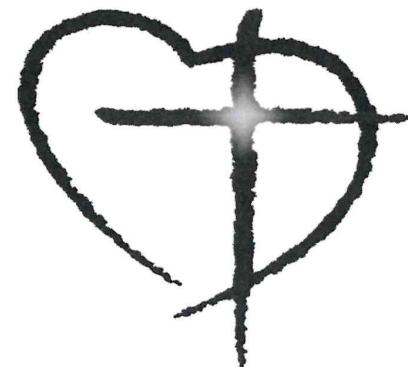
Grant and Annie Hedeman

417-343-2507 Annie

417-343-8787 Grant

anniem513@yahoo.com

Like Immanuel LYF on FaceBook!



Upcoming Events:

Saturday, Oct 5
Harvest Homecoming

Sunday, October 20
JYF and LYF at
Hedeman Farms
5 pm

Sunday, November 17
LYF monthly meeting

LCMS NYG:
July 19-23, 2025
New Orleans



Greetings in Christ Jesus, Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Classes are now in full swing here in St. Louis and my classmates and I are settling into what has become the new normal. No longer are we out doing ministry, preparing sermons and Bible studies, visiting the sick and homebound, or working with volunteer groups or youth. We are eyeball deep in classwork, assigned readings, homework, and the joys of student life. I think we are all trying to keep our heads above water!

Personally, this semester is going to be a hard one. I am finding it quite hard to balance my vocations of student, husband, and father. I feel overwhelmed with schoolwork yet guilty when I come home and isolate myself in our office to get schoolwork done when I could be helping with the girls, getting dinner ready, or helping keep the house clean. Pray for me! The work that I am doing in class is good, and will be to the benefit of my future congregation, but I don't want that vocation to overshadow being a dad to my two little girls. It feels like I am going full-tilt as a student to the detriment of my family. I need to work on that balance! Figuring out a work/life balance is something that I recognized I needed to work on over vicarage, and I guess God is giving me the opportunity to continue working on it this year as I juggle with schoolwork again!

I am really enjoying my preaching class this semester. We are talking a deep-dive into different kinds of preaching structures, and are working on how to arrange sermons in different and engaging ways. Looking ahead at the syllabus, we will be going over image-based sermons soon. I am really excited about those! Preaching with art was something that I enjoyed over vicarage, and I am eager to explore that further in more detail. There's much more work to be done than writing sermons, though! I am in two exegetical (Biblical language) classes focusing on the gospel of John and the Psalms, as well as my aforementioned Christian Literature class (which has been really fun!). I also have two classes with Dr. Joel Biermann, who is a treasure to be in a classroom with—albeit what many would call a 'tough' professor! Needless to say I've got my work cut out for me this semester... But I know that I can do it. I am also happily relying on Dreama's advice on the matter: "If you don't get all A's, they're still going to call you, 'pastor'!" I am truly blessed by her, aren't I?!

I hope this letter finds you well as we continue to wait together for the return of our Lord Jesus. As we continue to look to the sky and expect our Lord at any minute, do not neglect the vocations that the Lord has given you to do today! Hold me accountable to this, too! May our Lord bless and keep you now until Christ Jesus comes back to usher in the New Heavens and the New Earth, which will have no end. Until then, look to the sky and get those hands to work! (something I have to tell myself a lot, these days!)



Grace and Peace to you in our Lord Jesus,
The Eggermans

Tracy's Key Players Recital

Piano students from Tracy's Key Players studio put on a terrific show at Thiebaud Auditorium in Lamar on August 13. The show was called Outlaw Roundup: Not Your Ordinary Piano Recital. All students sang the opening song, Don't Fence Me In, which also featured Ardrew Hedeman whistling the tune. Each student was an "outlaw" who had a wanted poster showing their face along with their "crime". These "crimes" included such things as "squeezing a month of practice into one day", "checking phone during piano lessons", "extortion: requiring payment for playing piano", "being a drama queen-in-training", and even "being blonde". The sheriff, Dax Wolf, announced each "outlaw" while ringing a cowbell and hanging their poster as they came on stage. After playing two songs, the jailer, Dax Frickenschmidt, escorted each "outlaw" not to Carnegie HALL, but rather to Carnegie JAIL. With 18 piano students, there was a wide range of western songs to enjoy. Some of the classics included Desperado, Home on the Range, Red River Valley, The Streets of Laredo, and even theme songs from Little House on the Prairie and The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.

Intermission entertainment was provided by the ensemble of Bruce Wolf (guitar), Tracy Bean (piano), and Kynlee McCulloch who played drums for the song Apache. Kynlee also played a trumpet solo, The Lonely Bull. The students sang Deep in the Heart of Texas (with audience participation on the clapping) to kick off the second half of the show. The last performance of the night was a piano TRIO called Legend, played by Lauren Caldwell, Lyla Scott, and Molly Hedeman. The show concluded with the students singing Happy Trails to You, followed by Ardrew shooting off his cap gun. This definitely was not an ordinary piano recital, but it was a fun way to end the summer!





News & Updates:

God continues to go before us, and our Launch Team is thrilled to share the following updates from September:

- Trinity's voters gathered for a special congregational meeting on September 15th and voted unanimously to explore leasing space at Trinity to Springfield Lutheran High School. The next step in the process will include liaisons from Trinity and the SLHS Launch Team working through the drafted lease together. The agreed upon lease will then go back to Trinity's voters in the next month or two for final approval. We are so grateful for this support!
- Our governance subcommittee filed for our 501(c)(3) status with the state of Missouri, and has begun collecting nominations for the SLHS Board of Directors.
- The SLHS website went live! Check it out at springfieldlutheranhs.org.
- We hosted our first-ever SLHS event on September 19, where we announced our Founding Families program and opened pre-enrollment for the 2025-26 school year! Over 130 supporters attended, and it was incredible to meet with people of all ages excited to see a Lutheran high school launch in Southwest Missouri! Supporters from Springfield and surrounding communities were in attendance, including Branson, Monett, Freistatt, Lockwood, and Joplin.

How You Can Help:

- Please spread the word that pre-enrollment is now open for the 2025-26 school year! This applies to current 8th and 9th graders, who will be freshmen and sophomores next fall. Pre-enrolling by October 15 offers the greatest financial benefit for families through our Founding Family Program. Email us at info@springfieldlutheranhs.org to request a pre-enrollment packet with all the details!

Prayer Requests:

- For approval of our 501(c)(3) and tax-exempt status with government entities to be expedient.
- For the team from Trinity working to develop the lease agreement.
- For volunteers, donors, and staff to help launch the high school.
- For families to have peace, discernment and provision as they consider enrollment.

Many have prayed for years to have a Lutheran high school in Southwest Missouri, and we believe the time is now! We look forward to continuing to share regular updates moving forward. If you have any questions, comments, recommendations, or ideas, please send them our way at info@springfieldlutheranhs.org.

Thanks again for your support!

SLHS Planning Team



Hand-bells

Hand-bell practices have resumed at 6:30 Wednesday nights. Annie Hedeman is leading the hand-bells. We always welcome new "ringers" so feel free to stop by on Wednesdays.

Adult Choir

Anna Strong is leading the choir. We invite you to join the choir for practice on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM. All skill levels are welcome. You can join seasonally if you have time constraints.



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Octoberfest

October 26

Bible Knowledge Days

November 8 (upper grades)

Daylight Savings Time ends

November 3

Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 24

Thanksgiving

November 28

First Sunday in Advent

December 1

Midweek of Advent 1

December 4

Humble Stewards

As stewards, we are the recipients and caretakers of God's goodness, love, mercy, and grace. Stewards are managers of God's creation. We acknowledge God as the owner; therefore, we are to act not as owners but as managers because our lives and resources are simply on loan from Him.

The book of Daniel gives an account of a man who failed to recognize God as Creator and provider and exalted himself. King Nebuchadnezzar, walking on the roof of "his" royal palace, surveying "his" kingdom, was overcome by pride as he announced, *"Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty"* (Daniel 4:30)? He thought he was asking a rhetorical question, but God condemned him to live like an animal as a consequence of his pride.

Pride is destructive. It destroys gratitude to God for all His kindness to us. It destroys our desire and ability to serve others. It destroys contentment for it feeds our competitive nature so that we are not satisfied with just being wealthy or intelligent, but we want to be wealthier and more intelligent than anyone else.

Pride has no place in the life of a servant. First Peter 5:6 reads, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand that He may lift you up in due time." It is God alone Who can exalt us (Psalm 75:7). If Christ Himself, God's only begotten Son, humbled Himself, should we not follow His example and humble ourselves? Because Christ humbled Himself, God exalted Him (Philippians 2:9)

David, the shepherd-king, put our situation in proper perspective: *"When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what is man that You are mindful of him, the son of man that You care for him"* (Psalm 8:3-4)? The inference is that we are insignificant, yet David goes on to remind us of what we can be proud: *"You made [us] ruler over the works of Your hands; You put everything under [our] feet."*

Humility allows us to accept our smallness and God's goodness. In the words of Martin Luther, humility is the decision to "let God be God". We are stewards through humility. We are to honor Him with what we have, what we are, and what He will make of us.



Abilities Awareness

Monday, October 7, 2024

5:00-6:30 PM

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lockwood or via Zoom

Medicaid: Info, Tips and SSI; **Matt Waggoner, Information Specialist**

Statewide Director, Missouri Department of Mental Health

Missouri 529 Accounts: Making the MOST of your child's future;

Nicholas McDowell, Wealth Advisor, Mercer Advisors

Caring for or teaching someone with a developmental disability?

MU Extension and ECHO Autism partner to bring you expert advice and a place to connect. Let's build a support system connecting families to expert advice in rural Missouri.

Contact: Jill Scheidt 417-637-2112

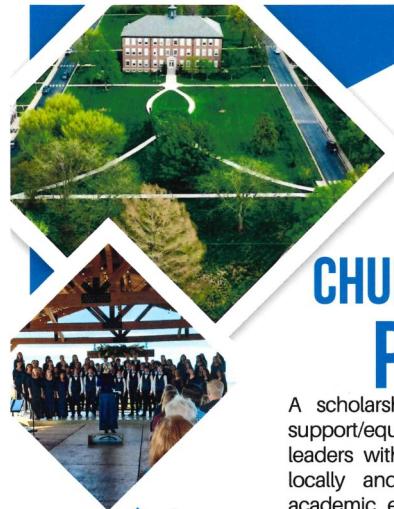
RSVP by Thursday, Oct 4, meal provided

If interested in child care, inquire by Thursday, Oct 4

*Free and open to all wanting to learn about developmental delays and finding or providing supports.



 Extension
University of Missouri



SAINT PAUL
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

CHURCH WORKER PROGRAM

A scholarship program designed to support/equip students to become leaders within our church community locally and worldwide. By Offering academic excellence, spiritual growth opportunities, and practical learning, we equip students to enter into joyful, faithful service to Christ and His world.

OUR PROGRAM

Exemplary Christian Education

Exemplary Fine Arts

Leadership Development

Tuition Assistance

Visit Our Website

<https://splhs.org>

Contact Us
660.463.2238 

Lutheran Student Center meal sign ups

We are looking for people to sign up to provide a meal for our weekly Prayer and Praise, Tuesday nights at 5:45 PM. We need enough food to feed about 25-30 people. Drop off at the center and we will serve it! We provide utensils and plates! Please consider bringing a dessert and some snacks as well! Our address is 848 S. National, Springfield, MO. Contact Carly at (636) 234-4081 for questions. We truly appreciate your help!

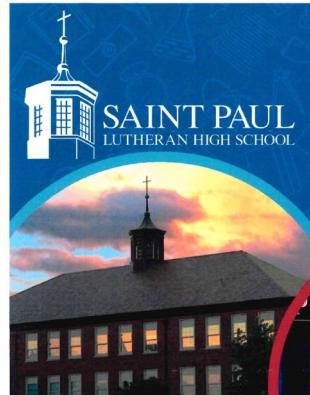


<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4EA4AD2CA1F94-50130450-fall#/>



SAINTS CONNECT
OCTOBER

Preparing Students to Declare Christ



FINE ARTS ACTIVITIES:

- Riverside Concert- October 20th, 4pm Eagle Bluff Ranch- Waverly.
- Fall-themed desserts & drinks
- following the outdoor concert overlooking the Missouri River.

HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES:

- Football- Oct. 18th Home vs. Wellington-Napoleon.
- Game begins at 7:00, streaming options on our website!
- Soccer- Oct. 17th Home vs. Oak Grove.
- Volleyball- Oct. 17th Home vs. Crest Ridge.




CONTACT US:
660-463-2238 
205 S. Main Street Concordia, MO 64020 
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