

## Spring Concert Prep



# SPRING

# Concert

The Immanuel spring concert will take place on **April 16**. It is coming up fast and there are many eagerly anticipated performances.

There will be performances by the handbell choirs. These include grades 5-6 and 7-8. These performances are always a joy to listen to as they have a soothing and melodious sound. It is also entertaining to see the groups practice new and interesting handbell techniques.

Another group that will be performing are the ILS bands. The 5-6 grade band is made up of musicians who are new to their instruments. Even though they lack experience, they always play impressive pieces and sound wonderful! The 7-12 grade band is small in number, but always impresses the audience with pieces tailored to fit the talents of the small band.

Lastly, the Immanuel High School Choir will be performing. They are also a small group consisting of a dozen students and notably only having two young men in the group, one tenor and one bass. Despite this, they sing pieces that reflect their talents and show off their beautiful sound.

There is also a big group piece to end the concert. This piece will consist of the high school choir and the varsity band playing a surprise piece! Becca Heinze, a junior, participates in both band and choir. Becca plays the flute and has played it since the 5th grade. Her favorite band piece that she has played in highschool is *How to Train your Dragon*. Becca has sung in choir since her freshman year of high school and her favorite piece is *We Praise You and Acknowledge You*. She likes this piece because the tune of it is set to Jupiter, one of her personal favorites. Becca is excited to perform this piece and the others on the 16th!

The students are very excited to present the pieces that they have been working hard on. They hope to see you there!

By: *Rebekah Busch*



**Immanuel Doppelgangers**  
There are folks around here that look like famous people!



Caring for God's Creation

**'Useless' Animals**  
Taking a moment to address a concern in 2025.



**Banquet Set Up**  
The ILHS Banquet tradition continues....



### Senior Spotlight- Jordyn Mariner

Jordyn Rae Mariner is one of the ILHS seniors we will be focusing on this month. Jordyn has attended Immanuel since eighth grade and has participated in many extracurricular activities such as basketball, soccer, volleyball, drama club, and choir.

In my discussion with her, Jordyn made it a point to note some of her favorite things about Immanuel. She appreciated, "Smaller environment, and feeling comfortable to talk to teachers and everyone else." She also said "It has been interesting this year having my dad at the school." Mr. Rick Mariner accepted the call to join the faculty team, and was appointed to assistant principal at Immanuel this year.

Jordyn's favorite hobbies are basketball, reading, snuggling with her animals, and especially napping.

After graduation Jordyn plans to attend Immanuel Lutheran college in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and obtain her teaching degree in elementary education. Jordyn's long term goals are to graduate college, get called to a good CLC church community, and get married.

Her message to underclassmen is to "Find a hobby you enjoy outside of school along with still getting your schoolwork done." She also advises to get closer with the K-8 part of the school: "Because those kids look up to you and you're helping them learn about Jesus and it's good to have friends of all ages so they know that they are important and included in the school."

Jordyn has been a great student and friend here. She will be missed by many, but we wish her the best going forward and God's blessing.

By: Leah Dick

### Immanuel Doppelgangers

Doppelgangers are unrelated people who closely resemble each other. Here at Immanuel, we have some people who resemble characters from movies and shows you may recognize. So we thought we'd share who we think looks like whom and a little bit about each person.

An eighth grader at our school, Ryan Streeter looks like Lewis from Meet the Robinsons. Ryan plays saxophone in the varsity band and played grade school basketball this year.

In his free time, Ryan likes to play video games. Ryan also says that he wants to play baseball when he graduates from high school.

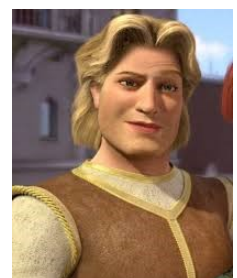
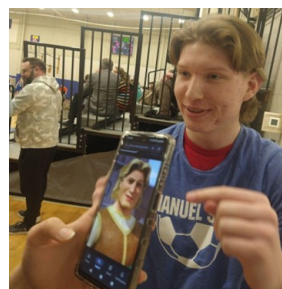
First off, a Junior from Immanuel Lutheran High School, Kaden Kruse. We think Kaden looks similar to Prince Charming from Shrek. Kaden is an athlete who plays soccer, basketball, and baseball. Kaden likes to play video games in his free time and is thinking about being an automotive engineer.

The last doppelganger we have at our school isn't a student, but the similarity is pretty uncanny. Our church's president, Mr. Zach Lien, looks like Chris Pratt. Mr. Lien is married to our church secretary and Newspaper Club supervisor, Mrs. Hilary Lien, and has six children. Mr. Lien works for the railroad as a locomotive engineer.

Another Junior who we think looks like a movie character is Cade Libby. We think Cade Libby looks like Edmund from the Chronicles of Narnia movies. Cade is a basketball player at Immanuel and enjoys fishing in his free time.

And in response to what he wants to do when he graduates, he replied with "HVAC technician."

By: Rebecca Heinze



Kaden Kruse & Prince Charming from Shrek



Edmund from Narnia & Cade Libby



Ryan Streeter & Lewis from Meet the Robinsons



Chris Pratt & Mr. Zach Lien

## If I had Free Time....

Free time seems to be elusive these days. So when I was tasked with writing this article I had a bit of mental roadblock when it came to even knowing what I would do with free time if I had it! After a bit of brainstorming though I think I found the perfect thing!

If I had a chunk of time open with no obligations I would probably travel to Queenstown, New Zealand where the Nevis swing is located. The Nevis Swing is the world's biggest and fastest swing with a swing arc of 300 meters and a 70 meter freefall.

If you're an adrenaline junkie like me you would be sure to enjoy this adventure.



Once you choose whether you want to swing backwards, forwards, alone or with a friend, you get dropped from a cliff using a special bungee system and swing over the valley until you slow down and are pulled back up to the platform that you jumped off of.

You also get the choice of having the crew push you off or launching yourself.

The cost for this thrilling adventure is \$325 for adults (15yrs+) and \$285 for children (10-14 yrs).

While that seems a little pricey, it is definitely something you would remember for the rest of your life, so to me I think it's worth it.

And there's more than just this swing at the facility! You could also go skydiving, bungee jumping, rafting etc. Check out their website <https://www.bungy.co.nz/> to learn more or to go on a thrilling trip.

So someday when I have the time, I will make my way out to New Zealand and get to try this fun experience.

By: Leah Dick

## Senior Spotlight- Mary Enter



Mary Karen Enter is our other Senior spotlight this month. Mary played volleyball her junior and senior year of high school and some of her favorite memories here were the volleyball games that they played at the other schools.

I had the chance to speak with Mary this past month and ask her some questions. Someone that has influenced Mary is Mr. Bob Heller: *"He has helped me with many things and just because he's himself."*

Mary's favorite teachers are Mr. Heinze and Mrs. Greve, because *"Mrs. Greve is really nice and Mr. Heinze is easy to talk to and makes things very easy to understand."* Mary stated her favorite class has been stats which is taught by Mr. Heinze. She likes stats because she thinks it's interesting to learn about.

Some of Mary's favorite hobbies include spending time with friends and shopping. Her plans after graduation is to *"get a job working with kids, perhaps in a daycare or something like that."* Her long term goals is to get married, have a good job and probably have kids.

Mary's outgoing message is, *"You are stronger than you may think,"* and some advice she has for underclassmen is to *"Make as many memories as possible and to make closer relationships with other students"*.

Thank you for your time, Mary, it's been such a blessing being your classmates. God's blessings with you and prayers for your future. You will be missed.

By: Leah Dick

## Useless Animals- Humans

My original goal in this article was to write about an uncommon or perhaps a stereotypically annoying species of animal or plant in an effort to show readers how God created everything for a purpose. However, during my research, I came across a shocking idea held by many people on the internet: that humans are the most useless and annoying species.

The first thought in your mind may be that, obviously, humans are not a useless species--and that's one hundred percent true. However, from a purely secular perspective, that harsh statement might actually have some feet to stand on.

There are many articles about what would happen if humans went extinct. According to these articles, there are many positive things that would happen if humanity's population went to zero. Wildlife would flourish. There would be no poaching, deforestation, habitat loss, or pollution.

This would lead to endangered species growing and nature thriving. The wilderness would thrive and cover the earth. There would be plants everywhere and there would be no threat of deforestation. Plants would take over man made structures. Another thing that is theorized would be that Earth's air and water would be clean. There would be no more greenhouse gases, no more burning fossil fuels--leading to a stable climate temperature. Marine life in the oceans would blossom and coral reefs would be colorful and full of life. Earth would be serene. Cities would be silent. There wouldn't be any hustle and bustle of traffic.

Sometimes, when I see these articles, I feel guilty. I wonder if all humans are good for is destroying creation, polluting the earth, and hurting animals. I feel responsible for habitat loss, deforestation, animal extinction, and polluted areas. I wonder if maybe humans are so harmful to the earth that we really are useless. Maybe it would be better if we were extinct. But, when I think this way, I forget the most important part--God. Maybe to an atheist this view is valid; maybe there is no hope. But to me, as a Christian, there is ONLY hope. We know that God created man in His own image. *"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them"* (Genesis 1:27). God wouldn't have created us if we were useless. God also gave humans dominion over the earth. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, *"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth"* (Genesis 1:28). [Continued Page 4](#)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
 SATURDAY, APRIL 19  
 10:00 AM  
 Happy Easter! Jesus is Risen!  
 Join us for an Egg Hunt!  
 Children 12 and Under  
 421 N 2nd St Mankato MN  
 507-345-3027  
 church@immanuelmankato.org

## Useless Animals- Humans

*Continued from Page #3*

God commands us to take care of the earth, so the real reason that humans don't is because of sin; not because we are useless creation. God also tells us that we are special to Him. If we are special to Him, He wouldn't have created us for no reason. *"Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows"* (Matthew 10:29-31). It's also important to mention that God has saved us through His Son, Jesus. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16).

How blessed are we to know that God loves us and created us for a purpose? We are not the most useless creation; we are the creation inspired by God's own image. What a privilege to know God's word and know the hope that we have through Him. So yes, from another perspective, humans may seem to be the most useless creation. But through God's perfect perspective, we are priceless.

*By: Rebekah Busch*

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
**Ambassadors STUDY**  
 Grades 9-12th  
 FRIDAY, 18TH APRIL  
 7:00-9:00PM  
 Topic *Christian Service*

## Banquet Update

Banquet is just around the corner again, and the Junior class is working to finalize all their plans before they start building the set in April. The director, once again this year, is our school's very own Mr. Bob Heller. Mr. Heller has been the director of our school's drama club and enjoys directing and theater. The producers this year are a team of two: Mrs. Sarah Kruse and Mrs. Katie Dick, moms of two of the Juniors.

The Junior class will be starting construction Friday, Apr 4, 2025 and has four weeks to construct and practice the script they wrote the last couple months. In order to do this, the junior class is looking for underclassmen who would be willing to work for a discounted ticket and also for any donations people would be willing to make.



With Banquet only being a month away, the Junior class is starting to feel the pressure that comes with running out of time. *"It's going pretty bad"* (Gaius Hensley) to *"The script has some to be desired...I like my role."* (Daniel Priebe). Mark Mayhew, who is new to our school, said, *"I'm excited, it's different and I didn't really care about Banquet at ILC. So I'm excited because it's so different."*

The Junior Class has meetings every Wednesday and has finalized the invites, menu, and selected a theme. They have sent out invitations, so check your mailboxes for your invites and RSVP!

*By: Rebecca Heinze*

For those who do not remember what Banquet is: It is a formal event where the Junior class writes, acts, and produces a show and dinner in honor of the Seniors. Academic and school awards are also given at this event.

Banquet will be held on May 3rd in the gym at starting at 5 pm. Dinner will be served at 6, with the show following at 7. This year's menu includes chicken marsala, roasted vegetables, and italian soda, as well as a few other sides and appetizers.

**Spring Cleaning?**  
 SAVE YOUR 'DONATE' PILE!  
 CHURCH-WIDE RUMMAGE SALE THIS SPRING  
 PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT OUR ATHLETIC PROGRAM!  
 STAY TUNED FOR DATES  
 CONTACT JACKIE FRIEDRICHS WITH ANY QUESTIONS