



The Trojan Times



5th Grader Wins Regional Spelling Bee!

Puzzle Contest Winner!

Congrats to Wyatt Lien, an 8th grade at Immanuel Lutheran and reader of the Trojan Times! He has won the drawing for the puzzle contest last month.

With his win come some bragging rights, and a gift card to Target.

Thank you to all the participants of this contest. Best of luck next time!



Elijah Elledge is a 5th grader here at Immanuel Lutheran School. After winning the school spelling bee on December 8, 2022, he proceeded to win regionals on March 2, 2023, at South Central College.

I was able to interview him and ask him some questions about the spelling bee. Elijah said, "It felt good to win both our school's and the regional spelling bee." He also added that he was surprised he won, which makes sense as he was one of the youngest contestants. After 13 rounds in the regional spelling bee, he won a paid trip to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. in May!

Elijah expressed he is excited to be going to Washington D.C. I asked him a few questions about how he prepares for the spelling bees, and he said, "I study a lot online." He also told me that spelling comes to him as combination of natural talent and studying. He said, "When I get nervous I close my eyes to help me focus while I think." He went on, "My favorite part of the whole process is meeting new people."

Elijah is a newer student at Immanuel and I asked him if he had ever gotten into a spelling bee at his old school. He said he had gotten in the spelling bee, but has never won before.

All of us here at Immanuel are wishing Elijah good luck as he goes to Washington D.C. in May to compete in the National Spelling Bee!

By Rebecca Heinze



UPCOMING Events

Senior Class Trip
April 24th-28th

ILHS Banquet
May 6th

High School Choir Sings
May 14th

Finals
May 17-19th

Last Day of School
May 19th

ILHS Graduation
May 19th

*Interested in joining the Newspaper Club next year?
Contact Mrs. Hilary Lien @
church@immanuelmankato.org
for more information!*

CAL Review

Championship & 3rd Place Win

The basketball season for Immanuel Lutheran is over almost as fast as it came, finishing with our annual C.A.L tournament. We congratulate our girls varsity for winning 3rd place in the tournament and the boys for winning the championship! Their triumphs have earned a recap of that exciting weekend.

Starting with the girls' team- The Lady Trojans came into the tournament as 3rd seed out of 5 teams. They were set to play the #2 seed: Willmar Community Christian, where they lost, putting them into the bracket for 3rd place. In their next game they played against Cambridge Christian. They won that game to put them in the 3rd place game, where they would play to win 3rd place. The girls took the lead by four points with only a few minutes remaining, and won that game with a score of 46-37 and won 3rd place in the tournament. Congratulations to the girls and their coaches!

Now for the boys' team. They started the tournament as the #2 seed out of 7 teams. Their first game was played against Faith Foreston Christian School in which they came out victorious. In the next game they faced the Rochester Area Homeschool, where they won and moved on to the championship game. In the championship game, they were matched up with the 1st seed Willmar Community Christian. In a tense nail-bite inducing game, our boys won 40-3 after having scored 2 shots at the free throw line with 5 seconds left. Congratulations to our boys team and their coaches!

We thank our players again, who we couldn't have the league without, the coaches who help our players learn and develop, and of course our athletic director for helping schedule all of our games this year. And as always, GO TROJANS!

By: William Lien Sub Editor for The Trojan Times

Banquet Prep

It's my favorite event of the school year- the Juniors are scrambling to write a script, plan food, and pray they have the time and energy to put together a Banquet.

If you don't know what Banquet is, it is a dinner and show the Junior class puts together to honor the Senior class and thank them for their time and service to this school and church.

I am, however, not a Junior. Being a Senior, I am not allowed to know anything about this year's Banquet, and it will all be revealed on Banquet night. So you might be wondering why I am writing this article. I have no clue what this Banquet is. But I want so badly to know.

So, I have a secret. I can read minds. If you're reading this article, I know exactly what you're thinking. Tell me your secrets, Juniors. I can picture the gym, dark, with bright lights on a huge stage. The stage has a... Live elephant? Wow, you really went all out. The stage is painted as a jungle theme, with monkeys and coconuts hidden in the trees. Jaxon Libby and Jake Olmanson dressed in tiger print... The tables have huge, genuine diamonds in the center. Hopefully they let me keep them; I have college to pay for.

The show has Addi Miller and Ginny Strand chasing the boys around, and the elephant showers all the guests with water. During the show, Jaegar Hanel is pulled on stage, and his marvelous suit (which has snaps on the sides) is ripped off, revealing another tiger skin outfit, and the show is finished with a huge round of applause from the crowd. We Seniors have tears streaming down our faces; this was the most beautiful Banquet yet.

Good luck, Juniors!

By: Tatum Stratton

Senior Spotlight(s)

One of the seniors in the spotlight for April is Nyeleap Dojiok. Nyeleap has been attending Immanuel Lutheran for four years, coming as a freshman in high school. Nyeleap's plan for after high school is to go to South Central College and get a degree in social work. Nyeleap wants to get a degree in social work because she has a passion for helping people who are struggling in tough times. Recapping on high school, Nyeleap said that her favorite class is shop class. She noted, *"It's a very chill class where you get to learn skills for real life, like how to fix things and use tools."*

Nyeleap's favorite things about Immanuel are that she has found really good friends and is able to play the sports that she likes without worrying about making it onto a team. She said, *"I like being able to participate in sports because it would be harder in public school."*

One of Nyeleap's favorite non academic activities that Immanuel offers is Whitewater Winter Camp. *"It's a good way to get away from school and spend a weekend with friends,"* she noted, *"It's nice to disconnect from school, social media and family, and spend the whole day hiking."* Another non-academic activity that Nyeleap enjoys is basketball. She said, *"I ended up enjoying it and having fun with the team. It made my day to play after school."*

Nyeleap's biggest life lessons that she learned while being at Immanuel were don't be afraid to share your opinion and don't be afraid to try something new. Lastly, Nyeleap was asked for an interesting fact about herself or something that people might not know about her. She responded and said, *"I have nine siblings, but none of them go to Immanuel."* Nyeleap will certainly be missed after graduation, and we are thankful for her being able to attend Immanuel and pray that the Lord is with her as she moves on to the next chapter of her life.

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Dear Reader

Dear Reader, this question has plagued all people for centuries. We have the chicken, the road... All we lack is the "Why?".

I am a mere high school student, and I haven't touched a chicken since I was a little lad in a petting zoo (the chicken took a fat chomp outta my finger), so I have no answer for you. I do, however, have jokes.

10 answers to the question, "Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?"

To warn the people on the other side that the sky was falling.

To block traffic.

No one knows. But the road will have its revenge!

Because he was free-range.

Because he was social-distancing.

He thought it was an egg-cellent idea.

To go where no other chicken has gone before.

To avoid this joke.

To get away from Colonel Sanders.

Nobody knows.

I hope this clears things up for you, Reader.

Till next time,

Anony



If you have a question for Anony please place it in the white envelope next to the church office in the back of the Immanuel sanctuary. Your question could be featured in next month's article!

Happy writing!

Track Begins

As the snow starts to melt on the sidewalk and you are able to go on a walk or run, it is a visual reminder that the track season is here.

Immanuel co-ops with the Saint Clair High School for track. When asking one of the older members, Jake Olmanson ('24), about why more students should join, he said, "I like track because I think running is fun, and it is a great experience to do a sport with a different school and make new friends." He went on to say, "If you are not a fan of running, that's fine because track is so much more than just running. There are also field events like shot put, discuss, high jump, long jump, triple jump handles, pole vault, and so many more events. It is also a great way to meet new people, and we have lots of fun in between events at track meets and at practice."

This sounds to me like a compelling reason why students should join track.

We are blessed with a great opportunity for our students in this track co-op, and we are very grateful to our Athletic Director and the Saint Clair school for allowing us to do this.

By: Luiz Reyes

Senior Spotlight(s) Continued

The second of the three senior spotlights for the month of April is Nyapieth Makuach. Nyapieth is a senior who has been going to Immanuel Lutheran School for three years.

Nyapieth's plan for after high school is to attend Minnesota State University and study engineering. She wants to study engineering because, "I like that I can do things to come up with new ideas. I also like that it combines scientific and mathematical knowledge together." She also likes math and science classes the best because she likes to understand and solve problems.

Nyapieth's favorite thing about Immanuel is the sports that it offers and that it's a Christian-centered community.

Nyapieth was asked about her favorite memory from her time at Immanuel. Her favorite is when her class went to Washington Park (a park a couple blocks away from the school) to walk around and get fresh air. She also said that she enjoyed going to Washington, D.C. her junior year.

The biggest life lesson Nyapieth has learned at Immanuel is, "Don't worry if you make a mistake, everybody makes mistakes."

Lastly, I asked Nyapieth if there were any interesting facts about her that most people might not know. She said, "I like to play tennis and I wanted to play it as a sport."

The Immanuel community is very thankful for Nyapieth's presence and kindness, and she will be very missed after graduation. May the Lord be with her in every step of her life!

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Senior Spotlight(s) Continued

Austin Lien is the third senior featured in the spotlight for the month of April. Austin Lien has been at Immanuel Lutheran since 2nd grade and is a member of the church. Austin's favorite thing about Immanuel is that it's a Kindergarten through 12th grade school, which isn't very common. Austin's plans after high school are to go to our synod college, Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, Wisconsin for seminary to become a pastor. Austin said, *"Since I was in second grade, people have been telling me that I should be a pastor. My freshmen year I started considering it, and I job shadowed both pastors and I found out that I really enjoyed it. Since then I've been pretty set."*

Austin said that his favorite class was Mr. Schrader's physics class last year. When Austin was asked what his favorite outside of school activity that Immanuel offered was, he said, *"I liked Washington, D.C. a lot because we were able to explore that part of the U.S. and we got to see history."*

The biggest life lesson that Austin has learned from his time at Immanuel is, *"Don't let things bother you and move on from them."*

When asked if he wanted to share anything that people might not know about him Austin remarked, *"No, not really. I'm a pretty boring person."*

To end the conversation, Austin was asked what his favorite memory was from his time in school. He said, *"Any trench game with the younger classes. I like getting to interact with younger kids."*

Austin will be missed next year and we pray that God will be with him as he pursues his plans for the future.

By: Rebekah Busch Chief Editor



Alumni Day Recap

Alumni Day 2023 went off with a bang! People showed up early to decorate, the food was delicious, the atmosphere friendly and exciting and friends from all times and ages were present to enjoy the games and festivities. Austin Lien ('23) was in charge of organizing the nitty gritty details and did a marvelous job. There were funny commentators for every game, great warm up music, and even a few breaks for younger siblings and students to enjoy. A huge thank you to everyone who pitched in to make this day a great success and one to remember!

