



THE TROJAN TIMES

Volume #2, Issue #5

Friday, February 2, 2024

Whitewater Trip 2024



On January 26th Immanuel students in high school, and some sophomores in college, took the annual trip to White Water State Park in Altura, MN. They were joined by our sister school Immanuel, Eau Claire at the camp.

White Water is a fun, exciting camp that takes place every January for a long three day weekend. Where students can hike trails and participate in other fun activities like playing games and hanging out around the fire.

Per tradition, before arriving at the state park, the group stops for an hour or two so the kids can learn and enjoy a unique experience together. This year they stopped at two places, Minnesota National Eagle Reserve, and Lark Toys.

The students enjoyed the stops and had lots of fun. White Water is popular with the young adults, it is an amazing opportunity to get outside and admire God's beautiful creation with friends across the two schools.

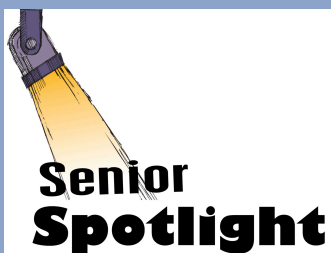
The weekend went smoothly this year, and had no serious injuries like in the past two years, even though some students weren't thrilled with the lack of snow.

Lack of snow aside however, it was another successful fun trip to White Water.

By: Leah Dick



Thank you to all those who organize this camp opportunity each year. Another massive thank you is due to all the chaperones who joined us for this adventure. Thank you! See you next year!



SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS
THIS ISSUE FEATURES TWO OF OUR CLASS OF 2024!



IMMANUEL VS IMMANUEL
OUR TWO SISTER HIGH SCHOOLS ARE GOING HEAD TO HEAD!



WE ARE K-12TH, IS THAT IMPORTANT?
YES. HERE'S WHY.

ILHS Mankato vs ILHS Eau Claire Game

On Saturday, February 3rd Immanuel Lutheran High School, Mankato will make the trek out to Immanuel Lutheran High School, Eau Claire, to face off in some fun and competitive basketball games. The Boys JV will start at 12pm followed by the Girl's Varsity and the Boy's Varsity will conclude the day.

Both ILHS's are in the CLC Synod, and they are the only two high schools that our church body has. It's a pretty great thing to have all these young people together in one spot for a day playing a sport they are passionate about with people who confess the same truths about God, His Word, and salvation. Immanuel in Eau Claire has a larger school body than our high school, with their students coming from all over the United States to stay in their dorms. Even so, each time the two schools have faced each other it has been a good match up.

After the games the head cook from Eau Claire is going to serve dinner for the players and their families! We are looking forward to this time of fellowship and basketball!

Lent Begins

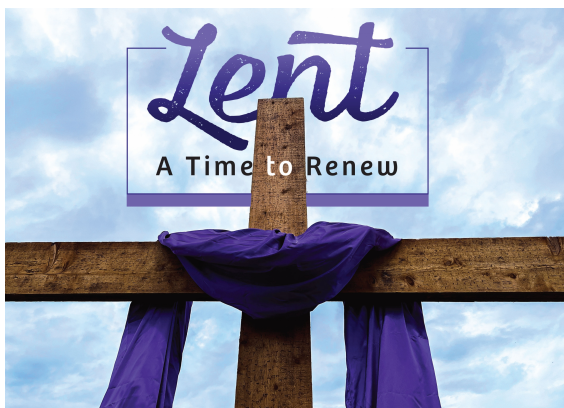
The church's Lenten season is just about to begin.

It starts this year on February 14th which is Ash Wednesday. The Lenten season is the portion of the church year that prepares us for Jesus'

death. We start to focus on studies, sermons and hymns that portray final parts of Jesus' ministry before Holy Week. This involves things such as Judas' betrayal, lots of questions from the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the chief priest planning to kill Jesus. This part of the new church season is a heavy reminder of Jesus' suffering and dying for our sins. The Lenten season leads us into Holy Week. During Holy Week is when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, instituted the Holy Sacrament of Communion, was betrayed by Judas, died, and rose again.

Come worship with us at Immanuel this Lenten Season!

By: William Lien



Senior Spotlight- Lydia Schmid



Lydia Schmid is a senior at Immanuel Lutheran School. Lydia came to Immanuel when she was in first grade and has been here for 12 years. Lydia has accomplished many things in high school. She currently plays golf in the spring with Mankato East High School and was their number one player last season. She was also voted their MVP last year! During her time in high school, she was given the Wheaton Scholarship, which is awarded to the juniors who have the highest GPA. Lydia is also proud that she has kept good grades throughout high school. Lydia has plans for after high school as well. She is planning to go to Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato to complete her generals. She is also going to live on campus for a semester. Lydia has set her sights on this because she has already completed part of her generals through PSEO, she likes the school, and she already knows some people there. Lydia also likes that it's close to home because "If I get tired of cafeteria food I can come home and have a good meal." She also chose this school because it is a good stepping stone if she would decide to go to another school. However, before Lydia goes on to college and dorm life, her goals for the rest of the school year are "Survive, live, and get through it." She is also aiming to get good grades for the rest of the year as well as avoid the "senior flop." Reminiscing on past years, the most valuable class that Lydia took was Biology because "It was difficult, but it was interesting to see how the world works." Outside of class, Lydia is not only an MVP golfer, but she also plays the mandolin and is trying to learn the trombone. Another interesting fact about Lydia is that she has not taken hot lunch at Immanuel since she was in second grade. When high school is over, Lydia will miss the familiarity of Immanuel. "I'll miss the familiarity of it. I know what I'm doing, I know everyone. It's comforting to know that it's the same." Lydia's advice to younger students is to pay attention in class, and do the assignments because it will help you if "you just try to care a little bit". While seemingly contradicting her last statement, Lydia would tell her younger self "don't care too much and try to enjoy it for what it's worth". Although Lydia will be missed when she graduates, we know that she will go on to do great things! God bless you, Lydia! By: Rebekah Busch





Ambassadors

GROUP

JOIN US

EVERY SUNDAY @ 9AM



Bring a Treat

FOR THE
Meet and Greet



CHURCH BASEMENT
COFFEE &
FELLOWSHIP HOUR
SUNDAY FEB 4

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Senior Spotlight- Jacob Olmanson



Jacob Olmanson is in his last year of high school at Immanuel Lutheran School. He is one of the five students (in his class of eight) who has been at Immanuel since kindergarten. Jacob is very versatile and has many interests. He enjoys sports and plays soccer, basketball, and runs track. He is not only an athlete, but he also plays the trumpet and piano, and playing trumpet in the school band. His current hobby outside of school is collecting football cards. He also enjoyed his summer job working for Immanuel member Jay Hanel at Jet Black. *"It's pretty nice not to have to do school, work, and sports at the same time, but still get some cash on the side."* When he moves on from high school, Jacob is planning to go to trade school for welding. *"It seems like a better option to me than to go to a four year college. To go pretty much right into the workforce and to pay less for schooling than a lot over four years."*

Although he has plans for the future, Jacob's goals for the rest of the year are to finish with passing grades and make sections in track and field in the upcoming season. One of Jacob's biggest achievements in high school is being one of the valedictorians of his junior year. A class that Jacob enjoyed was *"Mr. Schrader's biology class because he explained everything well, went over it alot, and made it easy to understand."* Looking back on high school, the best thing that Jacob learned was *"that stuff you do will affect your future no matter if it's good or bad. You should always think about your decisions."* Seeing his friends and talking to them everyday is what Jacob will miss most about high school. His advice for younger students is *"you don't have to take it too seriously. Obviously, you want to get your stuff done, but it's not the end of the world if you mess one thing up."*

On a final note, Jacob is well accomplished in high school and there is no doubt that he will continue to accomplish more! We will miss you, Jacob, and God bless you in your future!
By: Rebekah Busch

We are a K-12 School, Is that Important?

For the last couple of years at Immanuel, the high school has been involved in helping judge the grade school's science fair. High schoolers (specifically upperclassmen) also have opportunities to be TA's (teachers assistant) in elementary classes. High schoolers have been paired up with grade schoolers this year during K-12 chapel. These are just a few of the specific things high schoolers can and have done to be involved with the grade school.

As an Immanuel High School student, you might ask why you should even get involved in the school day of these children? Whether you realize it or not, the grade schoolers look up to us, so we must set a good example for them. I don't know if you remember being their age, but you did look up to the older kids. When you were younger, there was always a sense of awe around older students, particularly those in high school. They look to us as an example, good or bad. So it's our responsibility to be on the solid Christian examples.

How does being involved set a good example? Well, getting involved with the grade schoolers, getting to know them, and assisting them with different tasks not only is somewhat fun for you, but it means a lot to the younger kids especially when you remember something about them (like their birthday), or congratulate them on some accomplishment (like how many points they scored in a basketball game). Showing care to the younger kids, and teaching them kindness is a great way to model how to act toward other people. Even others that you don't have obligations to.

Not only does spending time with the grade schoolers mean a lot to them, but it also gives you great memories, even after you graduate. When Austin Lien, an alumni who graduated last year, returned to visit his family over break, I had an opportunity to talk with him, and one of the things he mentioned was a couple of memories with some of the grade schoolers. He told me he enjoyed being a TA in P.E.

So should you get involved? Of course! There are great memories for you and a chance to leave a positive impact on the school and students for long after you leave Immanuel.

By: Rebecca Heinze



Devotional

Philippines 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

I like writing about things I've realized and learned from scripture. I feel like explaining it and writing it out helps me understand it better. So even if this isn't an article you think is amazing, that's okay, perhaps it will touch someone!

After the last article I wrote on John 5, I learned what I wrote above. I felt cool to have the Holy Spirit reveal something to me in scripture. I was hoping to do something similar this month, but I don't have anything crazy amazing to share. So I went on Bible gateway and the passage above was the verse that popped up for today.

One thought I had was, who is more honorable, true, just, pure, commendable, lovely, excellent, and worthy of praise than Jesus?

Jesus is the truth; He even says so in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life." He is perfect; He chose to die and sacrifice Himself on the cross so that you and I could have everlasting life by faith in Him. This life we can't obtain by ourselves! The Holy Spirit creates the faith in our hearts. In 1 Corinthians 12:3, the Bible says, "And no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit." Is it not amazing that our God not only provides a way for us to be saved but also gives us the very faith to believe and be saved? John 3:16 - 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.

The verse that leads into this devotional also reminded me of one of my favorite Christian songs *Praise* by Elevation Worship, Brandon Lake, and others. I like it, and it may or may not be for your personal style, but if you get a chance I'd still recommend listening to it. One of the lines in verse 3 talks about praising God when you feel like it and even when you don't. Jesus is always worthy to be praised. On days when we are so filled with the Holy Spirit and **want** to praise God, and even on the days when we feel crushed in spirit.

Finally, Paul (the writer of Philippians) ends this verse by saying if anything falls into these categories, to think about them. There's nothing more honorable, true, just, pure, commendable, lovely, excellent, and worthy of praise than Jesus. So I encourage you to open your Bibles today, pray, or just meditate on Jesus, and praise Him because He truly is worthy to be praised.

By: Rebecca Heinze

Modern Day Heros

You might be wondering why I chose farmers to be the subject of my Modern Day Heroes article this month. Many people have the perspective that farmers are just like anyone else; they are just the common man trying to succeed and do their job, but what most of the world fails to see is how greatly their work is needed by everyone else, and how they have been treated by the media and corrupt governmental powers.

Farmers are the ultimate definition of a hero. They produce so much more than just food on people's tables. Their crops go into necessary products that turn into fuel for vehicles, furnaces, and other such machinery; they grow and produce the basic materials needed for clothing and fabrics; and they help preserve the earth and water sources wherever they farm. To say we need farmers to do their jobs is an understatement.

Farmers all around the world have recently been protesting for more rights and to be able to farm freely and to not be penalized for emissions from machinery, methane and farm animal emissions. New Zealand has proposed taxing animal emissions- this is a fancy way of saying they want to implement taxation on animal farts and burps that enter the atmosphere. Protesting this idea, New Zealand farmers have driven through main city centers and in front of government buildings to bring attention to the trials they are facing with these proposed bills. Farmers in France, Belgium, and Germany have been blocking roads with tractor columns, hay and anything else they could use to block roads in protest of similar mistreatment in their countries. In the Netherlands a new court ruling of taxing and monitoring nitrogen emissions has created tons of backlash and protests. It went as far as the Netherland farmers electing their own pro farmer party, which swept the floor in elections this past year. A cause for great celebration for those people!

Governments restricting livestock emissions would cause farmers to cut part of their livestock, which in turn would directly impact the food supply we get from those farmers. Why are we biting the hand that's literally feeding us?

As Christians we know that the world is in God's hands, and He will choose when this world comes to an end. It is arrogant for people to declare that if we don't get rid of cows (methane), gas vehicles, tractors, etc. that the world is going to end at a predicted date. The very idea that we are ever going to get to zero carbon emissions is unrealistic, and arguing for it is harming our farmers who supply the world with food and other necessary products.

Farmers for their part just want to be able to do their job without being taxed out of their livelihood. A majority of people in my age demographic do not know what farmers are going through and the news is painting them to be anti- environmentalists when in reality they are just ordinary people who want to perform their job without penalty. Farmers are modern day heroes, and we need to stand with them to protect their work, and so governments around the world stop taxing them until they have nothing left. They're not only fighting for their jobs, they are also humbly working to put food on your table and mine, which is a noble profession. May the Lord bless the common farmer!

By: Leah Dick

