



The Sasquatch Search



Sophomore Fundraiser

On November 3rd the sophomore class held their fundraiser to raise money for their class fund. This year the sophomores did something a little different than the usual 5k; they held a Sasquatch Search at Seven Mile Creek Park.

The objective was to find and count all the sasquatch cut outs that were hidden on the trail - a bonus being finding the 'golden sasquatch' for the grand prize! For a fun twist, an actual sasquatch was lurking out there, getting ready to jump out at anyone who would spot him!

At the end of the trail, participants were to meet back at the shelter and share how many they had spotted. If you had the right number you were awarded a prize!

The weather was a bit chilly and wet but not terrible. It fit the theme perfectly as it resembled the wet cold weather that Washington typically experiences, which is the natural habitat for the sasquatch. Before setting out, Mrs. Beth Greve (the sophomore class advisor) handed out T-shirts and some fun items like sasquatch merch and treats, and then gave a brief

New Idea This Year

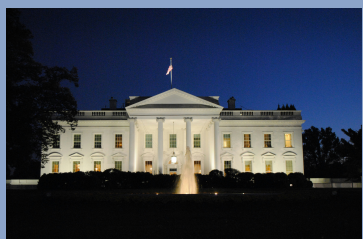
overview of the objective of the event and some instructions.

The entire event lasted a little over an hour and a half, and the participants were of all ages. The sophomores had thirty-five registered 'seekers' and two people unaffiliated with the school had seen the event advertised and came to participate! That was very nice to see.

The winners with the correct count were Eli Olmanson (5th grader at Immanuel), his twin sister Bethany Olmanson (5th grader at Immanuel) and Emma Heinze (freshman at Immanuel) who found the golden sasquatch. Some honorable mentions who came within three for the sasquatch count were also recognized. They were Coltin Olmanson, Mila Hubbard, Norah Wakefield, Colleen Olmanson, and Mr. and Mrs. Rick Mariner.

The sophomores put on a very fun and interactive event from the search to the gathering in the park pavilion where the sophomores offered cookies and hot apple cider. Overall they had a good turnout and everyone looked to be having a great time. Nice job sophomores!

By: Leah Dick



Washington DC Trip

The Junior Class got back from their trip to the capital. Page 2



Movie Op Ed

'Am I Racist?' is a heavily debated film. Check out this writers opinion! Page 3



Fall Drama

ILHS is putting on a show! Here's how the progress is going.

It's November, we're getting towards the tail end of fall and heading into winter. Harvest is almost over and Thanksgiving is coming up. This is a time when people think about what they are grateful for. There are so many Thanksgiving devotions out there because being thankful is a big part of the Christian life. As we head towards the Christmas season and reflect on the wonderful gift of Jesus coming down in humble human form to save all of mankind this is more evident. So many people have written about gratitude I didn't know if I could write anything that would be new or interesting. But have I realized and started to even appreciate that gratitude isn't revolutionary.

From the first book in the Bible, Cain and Abel give offerings to God in thanks for what He had blessed them with. Isn't it amazing that thankfulness isn't new; it's as old as mankind. Thankfulness is not something new you have to discover by studying the Bible to

Thanksgiving Devotion



figure out how to please God. Thankfulness and gratitude are things we're taught from a really young age. When you'd ask your parents for something as a little kid they'd probably say something like, 'What do you say?'. In that way they taught you to show your gratitude for what you've been given. We can do the same thing to God. All you have to do is talk to Him in prayer and thank Him for what He's given you just like you did when you were a child. Isn't it amazing that the very same

God who created the whole universe with just His words is the very same God you can talk to any time of the day? And talking to Him isn't the only way to show your gratitude; living a life that honors God, serving in church, and helping your neighbor are all ways of showing your thanks to your Heavenly Father.

It's important to note, however, that just because you go through the motions of good works doesn't mean that you're doing it out of gratitude. If you find yourself

acting a certain way with the hopes that you will look good, or people will talk highly of you, that's not living a life in thanksgiving to God. If you're living your life and doing good works out of a heart filled with gratitude, you're doing good works because of what Jesus has done for you, and because the Holy Spirit is working in your heart to do good works. The difference is your heart.

Having a heart posture of thankfulness is something the Bible talks about too. As we learn in 1 Samuel 16:7, while other people can't see our hearts, the Lord can and He wants our works to come from a place of faith and gratefulness.

This time of year, think about the many blessings that God has bestowed to you, the big and the ordinary things. Let us try to find a way to show God our gratitude this Thanksgiving season, doing so from a heart of faith, and thanksgiving.

By: Rebecca Heinze

Washington DC Tour

The Class of 2026's D.C. trip was far from ordinary this year. What was a well-thought-out trip soon looked very different from the plans. The Junior arrived in D.C. at 11 pm on October 15th, hopped on a bus to drive to their Airbnb, and started walking. Unfortunately, the AirBnB was not in a safe area, and they had to leave. So they searched for a hotel until they found one at about 3 am. Once they found one, they went to bed before getting up the next day to go to the Bible Museum.

After the Bible Museum, they had lunch, walked around D.C., and saw several buildings and the Ulysses. S. Grant Memorial. The next day was a trip to Mt. Vernon.

The third day of the trip started off with a trip to Ford's Theater, a trip to Shake Shack and the Holocaust Museum, and ended with the National Mall. The Juniors went to many monuments but unfortunately didn't get to make all of the ones they planned to see. However, this was junior Daniel Priebe's favorite day. He said, 'This was the best day...the National Mall was great because it was free and fun'.

Finally, on the last day of the trip, the Juniors went to Gettysburg. They took a driving tour, saw a video and a Cyclorama at the Gettysburg Museum. They finished the trip off at a restaurant not far from their hotel, where strangely enough they met the granddaughter of the person who made and designed the Korean War Memorial.

Although the trip was more eventful than planned, the Juniors had a great time getting more memories that are sure to last them a lifetime.

By: Rebecca Heinze

Photos on page 4.

Fall Drama

This year, the ILHS Drama club is presenting a play called *You Can't Be Too Careful*. This show is under the direction of Mrs. Holly Pringle.

The main characters in the story are some delightful 50-60 year old ladies by the names of Alice, Madge, Edna, and Harriet. The four main ladies are playing a game of bridge when they are interrupted by bank robbers who are desperate for a hideout. This show is a comedy that will keep the audience entertained!

The cast for *You Can't Be Too Careful* consists of nine 9th-12th grade students from Immanuel. Rehearsals are in full swing, and the enthusiasm for the show is evident already!

Performance dates are November 22-24. On Friday, November 22, there is a Mocktail hour at 6:15pm. On Saturday, November 23, at 7pm, there is another performance. The final performance is on Sunday, November 24, at 1pm.

Tickets can be purchased in the school office. Please call 507-345-3027 or email the school secretary for more information.

The cast hopes to see you there!

By: Rebekah Busch



Am I Racist? Movie Op Ed

Lately I've been thinking a lot about my whiteness, and I'm concerned about it. You're probably wondering, Leah, why are you thinking about that of all things? Why are you concerned about something you can't change?

I know I can't change my DNA, but in today's society and all over the media I'm exposed to ideas such as White-Privilege, white people oppressing people of color, white people being inherently racist, and so on.

This is troubling because I don't think I have any more privileges than any other American, and I don't think I'm oppressing anyone with the color of my skin. I definitely don't think I am racist. I don't say disparaging things about others because they are of one ethnicity or another. I don't or treat anyone differently based on race. So, what does it mean that white people are inherently racist? Am I racist?

I thought no better way to find out if I'm racist than to watch Matt Walsh's new movie *Am I Racist?* Matt Walsh is an American commentator who hosts a show that talks about culture, news and politics.

Upon going to watch the film, I was expecting to learn if I was actually racist by my very existence, and if I am, what I should do to help colored people not be oppressed by me. Little did I know I would come out with something different entirely.

The movie starts off with Matt Walsh pondering about the same question I found myself asking. He starts his journey by attending a class to learn about how people of color supposedly navigate 'white spaces.' He met with others on their journeys of 'decentering their whiteness,' but as the class progresses, his classmates start treating him with contempt as they eventually find out what he does for work, and ask him to leave! That was supposed to be a safe place, and they started judging him. He should be accepted just like everybody else, but he wasn't. After that experience, he decides he needs a better disguise to continue on his journey because if they can't accept him as Matt



certainly they will as a D.E.I (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) certified expert.

Once he was a D.E.I certified expert and had a new look, things started looking brighter for Matt. He was able to start talking to people with PHDs, equality activists, and even the esteemed Robin Diangelo, the author of "White Fragility." With each interaction, which came at a steep cost - some interviews costing him up to \$50,000. He was told that white people are born and raised to look down on people of color and to elevate themselves. Each conversation had the same points about how terrible white people are, but none actually had a solution to make this learned racism stop! Is this a train we are all just stuck on forever?

Matt decided to expand who he was talking to. He headed out to the streets and spoke with some 'regular people' about their experiences. He then went down South to smaller towns where he talked with different people from all walks of life about their view of race and racism in America. He found it shocking that black and white men alike said that nothing he heard and learned from all the experts mattered. He was told that focusing so much on race isn't fixing any problems; it's just causing them.

Finally, Matt has a breaking point where he comes to the realization that what he's doing is not helping anything and the only thing coming out of this so-called movement is self-hatred and a wider divide between people who are all equal and loved in God's eyes.

This movie was very well done. It helped me realize that while I'm not racist; I am privileged, because I live in one of the freest countries in the world, a blessing given by God.

By: Leah Dick

Senior Spotlight- Jack Stratton

Our senior spotlight this month is none other than Jack Stratton. Jack has attended Immanuel since the 3rd grade.

After high school, Jack plans to go to Immanuel Eau Claire with the plans to complete his four year Pre-The degree and move onto Seminary to become a pastor in our synod. He's looking forward to growing in his faith and knowledge of Scripture.

When I got to talk to him he summed up his senior year so far as, "eye opening" with the best part about the year being "the feeling of being almost done." Jack seems to feel some pressure being a senior, especially with unseen responsibilities such as being a role model for younger students.

He wanted to let new freshmen and soon-to-be highschoolers know this about highschool: "Missing assignments are your worst enemy" and "Stay in school kids don't do drugs."

Out of all the classes he's taken throughout high school his favorite has been biology because of how interesting he found it to be.

Out of all the teachers his favorite teacher is Jesus Christ. I followed up and asked him if he had any advice for ILHS teachers and his response was "Be more like Jesus." Seems like great advice for anyone!

To wrap up our interview I inquired about his all-time favorite memory among us at ILHS. He smiled and recalled, "2024 banquet burnout when we had the boxing match."

We wish you all the best, Jack, as you start this new chapter of your life, God's richest blessings in your pursuits!

By: Leah Dick



Immanuel Lutheran Church

Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice

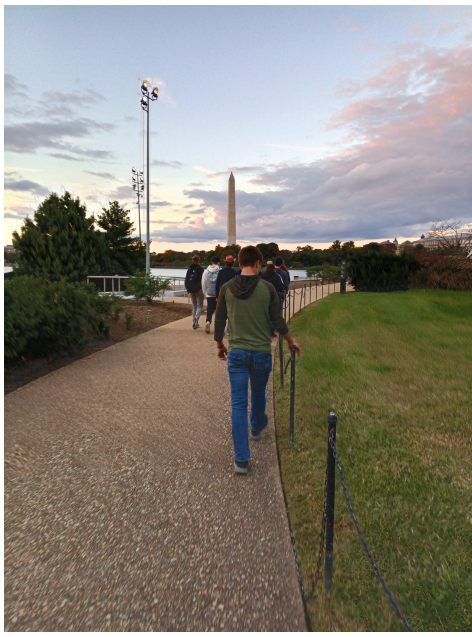
Thanksgiving
Pie Palooza

WEDNESDAY NOV 27 @ 7PM

»» ««

BRING A PIE OR TWO TO SHARE, AND JOIN
YOUR CHURCH FAMILY FOR A 'PIE PALOOZA'
IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT AFTER SERVICE!

Made with PosterMyWall.com



A huge thank you to everyone who helped fund this trip by participating in our various fundraisers throughout the years! A massive thank you to Mr. Benjamin Hanel for planning and running this annual trip to our nation's capital. Another enormous thank you to the chaperones for making time and keeping us safe. The Lord has blessed us richly with you all!

-The Junior Class of ILHS