



## Drama Club Auditions



A new school year, another Drama Club performance. This year the ILHS Drama Club will be performing the play "The Day the Internet Died." There are plenty of changes for our Drama Club in 2023, one of them being the opening up to 7-8th grade students as members. The reaction and attendance of some of these younger students has been extremely positive. One theater workshop has already come and gone and had a high attendance!

Another notable change, drama is being directed by Mr. Bob Heller who will be replacing Mrs. Stephanie Roettger who has faithfully directed Drama for many years. Mr. Heller, in addition to directing, plans to make the drama club more of a year-long thing rather than just a singular season activity.

Auditions took place on Wednesday September 27, 2023 and went very well. The cast list has already been posted and the actors are gearing up to start memorizing and prepping for the job ahead. The drama producer, Mrs. Hilary Lien, had this to say, 'I was pleasantly surprised to have so many auditionees! Drama Club is only fun when you have people participating and we definitely do this year! I can't wait to see how they all work together and bring this show to the stage.'

This play will be different from last year in many ways. Last year's production was "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," which was a Broadway musical whereas this year Drama Club opted for a comedy. Last year the Drama Club lost four seniors who all played major roles; luckily we had plenty of eager replacements.

Even though auditions already took place you can still help drama with set work, tech crew, stage hands or by being an audience member!

Blessings on your efforts, Drama Club!

By: William Lien Chief Editor



SCHOOL DANCE

### DANCE IN THE WORKS?

ILHS NEW STUDENT COUNCIL PLANS A FEW EVENTS FOR 2023-2024.



### ILS NEW STAFF

MEMBER THERE IS A NEW FACE HELPING AROUND OUR SCHOOL THIS YEAR!



### FALL SPORTS

FIND OUT WHAT OUR TROJANS ARE UP TO THIS FALL!

If your school pictures are anything like mine, they haven't been the best photos. I don't like all of mine and would prefer it if they weren't displayed in my house.

Sometimes picture retakes are not just a nuisance but necessary. Keeping that in mind here are some tips to make your next picture retake or school photo look better.

**Clothing:** Depending on what background color you pick, you're going to want to pick an outfit that doesn't clash or blend in with your background. Here are some things you want to avoid when picking your outfit:

- \*NO bright neon colors or black
- \*NO tops with words or logos
- \*NO hoodies

**Hair:** Any hairstyle works, so don't stress. Just make sure whatever you decide feels like you!

**Smile:** Don't force it. You can practice ahead of time, or think of a time, event, or person that makes you smile when you're taking your picture. This will help make your smile more natural-looking.

## How -To- Picture Retakes



**Don't worry about perfection:** No matter what you do, no picture will be perfect, but if you try some of these tips, it will help make your picture capture who you are, and what you look like now, which you or your relatives can look back on.

So although school pictures and retakes are a nuisance, they *can* look good. Keep these tips and tricks in your back pocket for picture day next year and beyond!

*By: Rebecca Heinze Sub Editor*

## Student Council Elections

On September 8th, ILHS was presented the winners of their Student Council Elections. Before we dive into the results, let's talk about what the student council is.

In the words of Principal Brandan Heinze, "The student council is a forum in which students can learn and practice essential citizenship skills." Being a member on Student Council teaches students how to manage responsibility by giving them jobs to do and events to organize. The Student Council exists so students can, like Principal Heinze said, learn and practice valuable citizenship skills and give students the opportunity to have parties or events to put a little more 'fun' into school.

So, who won this year? The three candidates running for Student Council President were Mason Hanel ('26), Rebecca Heinze ('26), and Jack Stratton ('25). Stratton and Heinze had the idea to become co-op presidents, meaning they'd both be president and split the duties and responsibilities to make it more manageable.

After hearing the candidates give their speeches, the students got to vote for their president. The winners were Jack and Rebecca! I asked Mason Hanel if the results surprised him and why. He answered, "No, not really. I told people to vote for them."

We all appreciate his sacrifice.

When I asked Stratton about what to expect from the Student Council this year, he said, "We are planning on organizing more events or parties than the previous year." The student body will certainly hold him to that statement.

Additional election results were as follows:

**Freshmen President:** Wyatt Lien

**Freshmen Rep:** RJ Strand

**Sophomore President:** Mason Hanel

**Sophomore Rep:** William Lien

**Junior President:** Jordyn Mariner

**Junior Rep:** Rebekah Busch

**Senior President:** Jacob Olmanson

**Senior Rep:** Jaxon Libby

Look to these outstanding students if you have questions, concerns or comments that you'd like the Student Council to review.

*By: Wyatt Lien*



## Junior History Tour Prep

The Junior Class is getting ready to head off on their History Tour in Washington DC in mid October. The last two years of their high school careers have been spent earning money to pay for their class to fly out and stay in Washington DC for six days. During that time they sight see, museum visit, take a part in military ceremonies if possible and really step into United States History in a way that is more immersive than in the classroom.

Much of the prep work has already been taken care of and a huge chunk of the planning is done by Immanuel's history teacher, Mr. Benjamin Hanel. When it comes to securing flights, booking hotels and finding chaperones for this epic venture, Mr. Hanel keeps busy!

The student body at large at ILHS eagerly anticipates their turn on this annual trip, and are so very appreciative for all the work and energy that goes into making it a possibility.

We collectively pray for safety and good experiences for this Junior Class, and cannot wait to hear how it goes!

*By: Anonymous*



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School hold many events throughout the year; stay tuned to each issue to see what's going on there and join in the fun if you can!



## Ambassadors

GROUP

JOIN US

EVERY SUNDAY @ 9AM

**SENIOR CLASS FUNDRAISER**  
**PIZZA RANCH**  
 Wednesday, October 11th  
 4:30-8:30pm  
 The Senior Class of 2024 is holding a fundraising event at Pizza Ranch where you will see them busing tables and working alongside the staff. Bring your family for dinner that evening and support the Seniors!  
 Pizza Ranch  
 1551 Tullmore St Mankato, MN

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE DAY**  
 OCTOBER 14th | 1-3pm  
 Seven Mile Creek Park  
 47454 US-169 St Peter MN 56082  
 Join your church family for some outdoor fun! We will start with a bible study at 1pm and then you can pick an activity or two! There can be hiking, cornhole, badmitten, volleyball, or a pick up football and kick ball games. There is playground equipment on site for younger kids to enjoy. Bring your friends and we will see you there!

## Fall Sports

Fall sports for the Immanuel Lutheran Trojans is well underway. Immanuel offers soccer and volleyball for the fall season. Our teams are enjoying their time and experiences on the field and court and are anticipating the Christian Athletic League (CAL) tournament at the end of the season.

Our prayer for this season is that we play well and stay healthy and injury free. ILHS looks forward to another year of great sports and Christian sportsmanship. Go Trojans!

By: William Lien Chief Editor



Soccer Photo Credit: Mr. Tony Harris



Volleyball Photo Credit: Miss Kym Stelter

## Late Start vs Early Out

Two years ago the Mankato School District changed its 2-hour late starts to 2-hour early outs. I've talked to many students and the majority preferred the late starts. "We can sleep in." was the reason many students gave to me including ILHS Senior Jacob Olmanson. Another reason was "It's more efficient for the parents to drop their kids off late than to have to leave work early." said freshman Wyatt Lien. A small minority of the people I talked to said they liked early outs because, "School days feel shorter, then." (Jordyn Mariner, Junior)

Honestly, as teacher's kid's I actually don't benefit from either, but I'd rather get to school earlier and play basketball or other games with the other teacher's kids than watch everyone else leave early. Notably I'm not the only teacher's kid that feels this way. Austin Hart (Sophomore), who last year was in his words "one of the newspaper's biggest fans" said, "Even though I don't get to sleep in I'd rather come to school early and play basketball, than have to stay after school during an early out."

Despite how many of the students feel, this change seems to be here to stay, as Immanuel follows the same schedule for early outs as District 77. Beside petitioning the Districts School Board it seems that not much else can be done to change it.

By: Rebecca Heinze Sub Editor

## New to the Immanuel School Staff

Immanuel Lutheran School is a unique institution. This is showcased in the very fact that we are a K-12th grade school.

Mrs. Macias is Immanuel Lutheran's new 3-6 grade aide. As an aide she helps students with vocab, IXL, and aiding the students in any way she can. She is married to her husband Joel and has three children (ages 21, 11, and 6). I was able to sit down with her and ask her a few questions.



The last question I gave her was what area of her work she'd like to improve on. She said, "Math has changed so much since I was in grade school, so just academically improving in math to help the kids."

It was really nice to get to know some more of the staff that as a highschool student I don't interact with very much. I can tell that all the hard work she puts into helping the pupils she works daily with is already paying off.

Mrs. Macias has a contagious, upbeat attitude and a love for her Savior. We are so very grateful she has joined the team of Faculty and Staff at Immanuel Lutheran!

By: Rebecca Heinze Sub Editor

So much of who we are can be showcased in our hobbies and the things we do in our free time. One hobby Mrs. Macias enjoys is embroidery, "I've been embroidering since I was 8." She also is very talented at braiding hair.

## Freshmen Carnival 2023

On Sunday September 27, 2023 the Freshmen Class of 2027 at ILHS put on their first fundraiser of their high school careers. The Freshman Carnival is an event that Immanuel Lutheran High School has been putting on for years. It is an event that is organized by that year's freshman class and their class adviser. The freshman class organizes a multitude of carnival style games, a silent auction and concessions to earn funds to support their class for future needs such Banquet and eventually their

This Freshmen Class brought a few unique ideas to the table. Games this year consisted of the classics- ring toss, baseball toss, the famous cake walk, as well as some new games, Rocket League and Carnival Jail. Rocket League was pretty popular among the younger generation at Freshmen Carnival. It's a video game played on an Xbox. For a few tokens patrons get a certain amount of playing time. The Carnival Jail was pretty popular with the teens and adults. For this game you pay a certain amount of tokens to 'put someone in jail' for a designated amount of time. Teachers were not exempt from this tomfoolery- nor were parents!

Let's not forget or overlook the most delicious aspect of Freshmen Carnival-concessions. Down in the fellowship hall concessions were distributed and enjoyed. The main dish this year was smoked pulled pork sandwiches, chips, side of fruit or veggies, and a cookie. Numerous patrons visited Freshmen Carnival for the concessions alone as Mr. Bennett Olmanson's smoked pulled pork is the stuff of legend.

Once the Carnival had come and gone, I asked two members of the class, RJ Strand and Coltin Olmanson, if it was as successful



as they wanted it to be. Coltin answered, "I would say it was more successful than I thought with our class being so small." RJ said, "Yes, I think it was." I asked a freshmen parent, as a parent working on and organizing the concession side of the freshman carnival, how was your experience? They said, "Overall I had a great experience. We (the parents) were planning and organizing with several 'seasoned parents' who had done carnivals in the past so it was nice to have them to work with. There was little to no stress involved because everyone was pulling their weight."

A huge thank you to everyone who planned, participated and ran this event!

By: Wyatt Lien



**Immanuel is a K-12 Lutheran School located in Mankato, MN. If you are interested in knowing more about us we would love to hear from you!**  
**507-345-3027 or**  
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