



February 2026



# The Parish Voice

**First Lutheran Church**  
240 W. Hardanger Gate  
Lee, IL 60530  
815.824.2356

A Newsletter of Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
398 Church Road  
Compton, IL 61318  
815.539.6567

## Lent at HOILP

The season of Lent will kick off on February 18<sup>th</sup> with Ash Wednesday services at Immanuel at 7 p.m. Following that, Pastor Jeff will be leading a Bible Study on Wednesdays on this year's gospel – Matthew. You can come at noon, in the evening, or bop between the two. Sandwich makings will be available at noon so you can eat a light lunch while we study, while dessert will make its appearance in the evening to snack on over study.

Holy week will commence with Passion Sunday services on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and be followed with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services respectively. Maundy Thursday will take place in the evening at Immanuel while it is still being determined whether we will host our own Good Friday service or participate in a community service.

## Lent 2026

### *Ash Wednesday*

February 18, 2026

7:00 p.m. – Immanuel Lutheran

### *Wednesdays During Lent*

12:00 p.m. – Matthew over Lunch

7:00 p.m. – Matthew after Dinner

### *Maundy Thursday*

April 2, 2026

7:00 p.m. – Immanuel Lutheran

### *Good Friday*

April 3, 2026

TBD

Coming soon to a church near you...

## Bingo Blitz 2026

Back by popular demand!

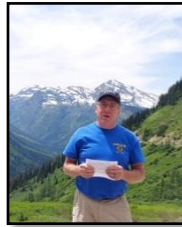
**February 21, 2026**  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Support N.I.C.E. and have fun at the same time. See details on flyers and announcements at a Lutheran Church near you!

# Worship

## Reading on the Road 2

Last summer we used videos of people reading the scripture lessons from all over the world. We invited people to let us know when they were going to be traveling near or far, sent them with a scripture lesson or two, and had them use their phone to read the lesson somewhere “on the road.”



That was a popular addition to our worship so we will be doing that again this year. But in order to take advantage of the winter trips you all take, we are introducing it much earlier. If you are able to help with this project, just sign up at church or call the Immanuel office.

We already have a set of lessons heading to New Zealand. But you need not be traveling somewhere so far away or as exotic. Reading from somewhere nearby like Starved Rock State Park, Navy Pier in Chicago, or among the rolling hills outside Galena, IL would be just as effective. As PJ says, “Down the road’ counts as ‘on the road.’ Either way, we are reminded that the word of God goes with us wherever we may be.”

## 2026 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Filming

Please consider joining us as we record footage for our video worship services. We gather monthly to record the liturgy and readings for the upcoming month/season. This has proved to be an efficient and enjoyable way to provide this valuable ministry.

Date	Readers	Singers
1/28 & 1/29	Lent Liturgy & Readings	Lent Liturgy & Songs
2/26/26	Passion Sunday & Holy Week	Passion Sunday & Holy Week
3/26/26	Easter Season Liturgy & Readings	Easter Season Liturgy & Songs
April	Do Not Meet	Do Not Meet
5/21/26	Summer 1 Liturgy & Readings	Summer 1 Liturgy & Songs
6/25/26	Summer 2 Liturgy & Readings	Summer 2 Liturgy & Songs
7/23/26	Season of Creation Liturgy & Readings	Season of Creation Liturgy & Songs
8/27/26	Autumn Liturgy & Readings	Autumn Liturgy & Songs
9/16 & 9/17	Advent Liturgy & Readings	Advent Liturgy & Songs
10/22/26	Christmas Liturgy & Readings	Christmas Liturgy & Songs
12/3/26	Epiphany Liturgy & Readings	Epiphany Liturgy & Songs

## 2026 Worship Team Schedule

- January 8, 2026 ✓
- February 5, 2026
- March 5, 2026
- April 9, 2026 – *if needed*
  - May 7, 2026
  - June 4, 2026
- July 2, 2026 – *if necessary*
  - August 6, 2026
  - September 3, 2026
  - October 1, 2026
  - November 5, 2026
- December 3, 2026 - *if necessary*

## Sunday Fellowship

Please consider providing simple little treats for fellowship time following worship at Immanuel or before worship at First. Sign up today!

## Ways to Share HOILP Worship

- Share our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@hoilp](http://www.youtube.com/@hoilp)
- Ask people to subscribe to YouTube channel
- Share and like the weekly Facebook post to worship
- Forward weekly email about worship to others.
- *And most importantly...*
- Invite people to worship with you on Sunday morning

Don't forget to **Share the Link to the HOILP Video service each week.** The simple click of the share button on FaceBook or posting the link to your other social media is a great way to share the gospel with our friends and neighbors.

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# Immanuel News

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## Council Highlights – December 18, 2025

- The General Treasury ending balance on November 30, 2025 was \$205.56.
- The net loss for November was (\$9,868.09). Expenses included a \$4,700.75 insurance payment. \$9,000.00 was borrowed from the Capital Improvement Fund to pay operating expenses.
- The council approved adding Michelle Wade as a baptized member.
- The council approved the Building & Grounds team exploring creating an area for wheelchair seating on the south side of the sanctuary.
- The nominating committee consisting of Kevin Ganz, Bob Kromm, Sarah Pfeifer and Kirk Ross fulfills the constitution bylaws requirements.

## Council Highlights - January 15, 2026

- The General Treasury ending balance on December 31, 2025 was \$6,390.46. There was a net gain in December of \$21,184.90.
- \$15,000.00 was repaid to the Capital Improvement Fund from the General Treasury in December.
- Thank you notes were received from Lincoln School in Mendota and NICE for donations received from Immanuel.
- The council finalized their recommendations for the annual meeting on January 25.

### Church Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Church office: 815-539-6567

email: [immanuel.lutheran.compton@live.com](mailto:immanuel.lutheran.compton@live.com)

## Immanuel General Treasury – November 2025

	Month	YTD
Receipts for November	\$11,314.78	
Expenses for November	\$21,182.87	
Receipts YTD		\$167,148.22
Expenses YTD		\$214,376.92
Net/(Loss)	<b>(\$9,868.09)</b>	(\$47,228.70)

*Weekly need for budget: \$3991.00*

*November average weekly offering: \$2405.00*

Let's keep up the good work! Thank you for your continued support.

*Respectfully submitted – Harlan G. Eames*

## Immanuel General Treasury – December 2025

	Month	YTD
Receipts for December	\$38,700.43	
Expenses for December	\$17,515.53	
Receipts YTD		\$205,848.65
Expenses YTD		\$231,892.45
Net/(Loss)	\$21,184.90	(\$26,043.80)

*Weekly need for budget: \$3991.00*

*December average weekly offering: \$7049.00*

Let's keep up the good work! Thank you for your continued support.

*Respectfully submitted – Harlan G. Eames*

## WELCA

### From the President's Desk – Sarah Pfeifer

- Items needed for PADS: All paper products, all cleaning supplies, all personal care items (new, not used), bottled water, sack lunch snack items, drink mixes. Place donations in the PADS totes in the room next to the office. **Thank you!**
- Quilting continues. Check weekly announcements for dates.

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## First News

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### Council Highlights - January 18, 2026

- The 2026 budget was reviewed and prepared for presentation to the congregation at the February 8 annual meeting.
- The need for Microsoft Office Suite software for the church computer was discussed. This will be researched soon; a purchase is needed.
- Plans for the January 25 brunch at Immanuel were finalized.
- Benevolence for January/February 2026 was changed to Heather Galbreath. March/April will go to Lee Lions Club.

Please remember that the Benevolence Box is located at the back of the church sanctuary. Check the display next to the box to see which organization, family, or individual is the current recipient. Donations are collected over a two-month period and then given to the designated recipient. A new recipient is then chosen for the next two-month period. Ask any council member if you have questions and thank you for your support and generosity!

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## N.I.C.E. Center Update

Food/Miscellaneous Items: Chunk-style soups, Spaghetti's, Chili, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Chicken Helper.

**Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church  
398 Church Rd. – Compton, IL 61318**

(First Lutheran – 240 Hardanger Gate – Lee, IL 60530)

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Compton, Illinois  
Permit No. 1

**Return Service Requested**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

February 1 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)  
February 8 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)  
February 15 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)  
February 22 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)

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[www.ilccompton.org](http://www.ilccompton.org)

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You can also check us out on Facebook!