



October 2025



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

HOILP Restructuring

- Changing times is resulting in exploring changes in our HOILP structure
- Both councils have been working to restructure so that we have a viable path forward.
- Congregational meetings will be called in November to discuss and decide on changes (dates are not available at the time of publishing).

All Saints Sunday

November 2, 2025

As always, we will be commemorating All Saints Sunday on the First Sunday of November. On that day, you will be invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one who has passed away. We will have a special time during the service to lift up members of the congregations of HOILP during that service. If one of your loved ones has passed away this year, we will be asking you for a photo to include in the power point as we offer prayers in their memory. Please submit it to Debbie as soon as you are able.

Confirmation on Reformation

On October 31, 1517 – a young pastor and professor in Wittenberg, Germany posted 95 statements he wanted the church to discuss. This small act of faith turned into a world changing era known as the Reformation. That young man, of course, was Martin Luther – the name sake of our denomination.

Each year we celebrate this Church reforming and world altering action on the final Sunday of October – Reformation Sunday. It is also on that day that many Lutheran churches around the world hold their confirmation services.

On October 26th this year, five young people confirmed at Immanuel – the largest confirmation group we have had in many years. Brianna Betz, Jacob Nelson, Addy Rebholz, Natalie Rebholz, and Kendall Znaniecki will stand before the congregation and affirm the faith that was planted in them in their baptism. The congregation will confirm that faith and receive them as confirmed members of Immanuel.

There will be a cake reception following that service. You are invited to bring cards for the confirmands to commemorate this special event in their life of faith.

Leaf Peeping 2025

Where will the roads take us this year? No one except PJ knows. But what is known is that we will enjoy each other's company, share a meal together, and with cooperative weather, see some beautiful fall colors.

Leaf Peeping
October 21, 2025

Sign up today to be part of the leaf peeping trip. Sign up-sheets are at each church or call the office any weekday morning.



Images from 2024 Leaf Peeping Trip

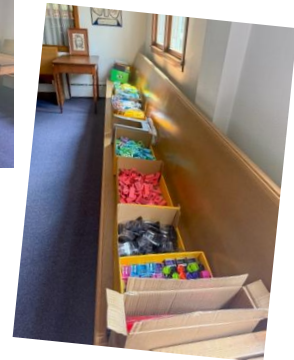
September in Pictures



Dinner Out after Filming



LWR Kits



Paw Paw Community Worship



Luke Gonzales Baptism



Harvest Sunday



Pet Blessing



Worship

4th Thursday Filming **October 23, 2025**

Readers – 6 p.m. @ Immanuel
Singers – 7:15 p.m. @ Immanuel

All are welcome to come for one or both as we prepare for this important ministry.

Ways to Share HOILP Worship

- Share our YouTube channel:
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

Worship Team

October 2, 2025

6:30 p.m. at Immanuel
All are welcome!

HOILP on the Internet

First

www.flcinlee.com

www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee

Immanuel

www.ilccompton.org

www.facebook.com/ilccompton

HOILP YouTube

www.youtube.com/@hoilp

Sunday Fellowship

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

Discipleship & Fellowship

N.I.C.E. Center Update

- Food/Miscellaneous Items: Canned Vegetables, Gravy, Gravy Mixes, Stuffing, Spices, Evaporated Milk, Shelf Stable Almond Milk (unsweetened), Canned Pumpkin, Canned Pie Mixes, Cake/Brownie/Cookie Mixes.

Leaf Peeping 2025

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Join PJ for a tour of Illinois colors. This has become a fun tradition at HOILP.
(sign up in overflow/narthex)

WELCA

WELCA President's Desk – Sarah Pfeifer

- Illinois Valley Pads in Peru is opening for the season. Frequently needed items: bottled water, sack lunch snack items, drink mixes, ALL paper products, cleaning products, gas cards. Please put items in the totes in the room next to the office. Thank you!
- Quilting continues. Check weekly announcements for dates.

Around the Parish

Immanuel

First

Council Highlights – September 18, 2025

- The General Treasury ending balance on August 31, 2025 was \$873.43. There was a net loss in August of (\$4,512.23).
- \$4,000.00 was borrowed from the Capital Improvement Fund to be used for operating expenses in August.
- Bishop Fidler attended a portion of the meeting to discuss options for the future, such as finding another congregation to join the HOILP.
- Kevin Ganz's name was drawn to be the tenant for the church farm in 2026. Paul Heiman's name was drawn as the backup.
- A motion carried to approve Brianna Betz, Jacob Nelson, Addy Rebholz, Natalie Rebholz and Kendall Znaniecki for confirmation.

Immanuel General Treasury – August 2025

	Month	YTD
Receipts for August	\$16,188.01	
Expenses for August	\$20,700.24	
Receipts YTD		\$125,876.88
Expenses YTD		\$158,437.71
Net/(Loss)	(\$4,512.23)	(\$32,560.83)

Weekly need for budget: \$3991.00

August average weekly offering: \$3247.00

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

Respectfully submitted – Harlan G. Eames

Church Office Hours

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

email: immanuelutherancompton@live.com

Council Highlights – September 21, 2025

- A special council meeting will be held on Sunday, October 26 after worship, to discuss future plans.
- A special congregational meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, November 9, to discuss and vote on future plans.
- Joint worship will be hosted by First on Sunday, November 23. There will be a fellowship lunch following the worship service; more details to follow. First Lutheran will have a regular council meeting after lunch.
- Benevolence for November/December will go to the Lee Fire Department.

Thank you to whoever eliminated the weeds in the First Lutheran parking lot! Your help in keeping the grounds looking nice is greatly appreciated.

October Benevolence Offerings
Immanuel – Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC)
First – World Hunger

VFW #4079 Auxiliary

Spaghetti Supper – Veterans eat free!

Saturday, October 11

Serving from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

VFW Post #4079 at 610 6th St., Mendota

Open to the public, veterans eat free, others please make a donation.

Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish

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

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

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Organization
U.S. Postage
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Compton, Illinois
Permit No. 1

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

October 5 – Immanuel (8:30)
First (10:30)
October 12 – Immanuel (8:30)
First (10:30)
October 19 – Immanuel (8:30)
First (10:30)
October 26 – Immanuel (8:30)
First (10:30)

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Pastor Jeff Schlesinger
(Cell) 815/878-4503
E-mail: photo.pastor1965@gmail.com

You can also check us out on Facebook!