



College is tough. People need Jesus. We're helping!

Eastern Illinois University
CONTACT: Pastor Kenneth Hoover
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"ILCM" (Immanuel Lutheran Campus Ministry) continues to work toward our goal of being a Christian home away from home for many who attend EIU. Students are an important part of Immanuel Lutheran Church's worshipping community. ILCM has been blessed to be fully back on campus and operating with in-person, socially distanced activities this semester.

Currently we meet every Tuesday evening for student-led Bible Study, this semester focusing on apologetics. In this study, we find answers in the Bible to our questions. We also understand various worldviews that we might encounter on campus when sharing the love of Christ.

Our "Unwind Wednesday" provides students the opportunity to gather in fellowship and de-stress from classes and homework. We enjoy board games and fun activities. We hold themed "Unwinds" highlighting holidays or events. This regular gathering enables us to check-in with one another, form relationships with new students, and show Christ's love to the campus.

A fun Trivia Night in April will invite college students, as well as congregation and community members to come together and face off in a game of knowledge. This event will be the first of its kind at Immanuel. We expect it to provide a great opportunity for all to interact as the body of Christ.

ILCM appreciates the ongoing support it receives from individuals, congregations, and the Central Illinois District as it looks forward to *Keeping Christ on Campus*.

As of March 15, \$4,150.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry.

Western Illinois University
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The members of Immanuel Lutheran Church continue to reach out and support the faith growth of WIU students through regular church services at the Chapel of St. Timothy the Learner, Bible study, and social activities consistent with COVID protocols.

Our regular 11 AM Sunday service at the chapel is led by our Interim Pastor Tom Baker of St. Louis. He is available for personal discussion after the service and by telephone during the week.

Each Wednesday, Immanuel members provide a home-cooked meal for our students. (The new Student Center kitchen, funded by alumni and friends during the building's 50th anniversary celebration, makes for a big help in the preparation of these meals.) Supper is followed by a Bible study led by Glenn Busse (B.A., 1969 and M.A., 1977). The current semester-long study is on the book of Ecclesiastes.

Despite mandated social distancing and other regulations, several social activities have continued. These include movie nights and occasional pre-service breakfasts.

Students continue to contribute to the campus ministry. For instance, they help to maintain the building and grounds.

One of our alumni, Wade Waterstreet (2019), a past resident of the student center apartment, is now in his second year at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Thanks to all who contributed toward the Endowment for *Keeping Christ on Campus*!

As of March 15, \$9,430.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry.

Please save us future stamps! Send your e-mail address to amyholmes@cidlcms.org
To donate to endowments for Central Illinois District campus ministry:
<https://www.lutheranlegacyfoundation.org/fund/central-illinois-district-campus-ministry/>



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Illinois State University
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A big “thank you” to all who have participated in this campaign, wherever your contributions were directed. We know the challenges that our campus ministry faces, and the fellowship we enjoy with our colleagues. As the tide rises, all the boats go up.

God is blessing His church with an abundance! You are God’s instrument in bringing about much-needed spiritual care for our young adults through Word and Sacrament.

Here in Normal, students at Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Heartland Community College, and Lincoln College are given the opportunity to worship together, learn more about Jesus from each other in Bible study, and engage in Christ-centered fellowship. Many are still cautious about large gatherings, and our services have reflected that concern. Some are struggling with additional anxieties beyond what one might expect to see in an otherwise “normal” year. The love of God compels us to reach out to those who are most affected by these trying times.

Our students are eager to come together to form a new Registered Student Organization (RSO) that will afford us more efficient outreach possibilities, and increase our presence and exposure at these schools. When we are allowed to use the lecture halls, we are planning a Speakers’ Forum to address post-COVID mental health and restoration. Through it all, our God is strengthening us with His promises, and we are reminded of our identity in Him by way of our baptism!

As of March 15, \$9,047.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry.

University of Illinois
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University Lutheran Church has been bringing the Gospel of Christ to students, faculty, and staff at the University of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign for the past 80 years. For all that time, the pastors serving here have been provided by the financial support of the Central Illinois District of the LCMS. Thank *you* for your help in continuing campus ministry in the CID — here at the U of I, as well as at the other university campuses.

Last year University Lutheran has received a new pastor, the Rev. Michael Schuermann. He succeeded the Rev. Rick Milas, who served at UniLu (as it’s affectionately called) for 25 years.

Also in the past year, the COVID-19 pandemic has created many challenges and blessings for the work of Christ’s church here. Pastor Schuermann has kept the doors open for people to keep on hearing the word and receiving the Lord’s Supper. It has been difficult this year to make connections with students apart from referrals received from their LCMS congregations or pastors. Usually there are several campus events that allow UniLu to meet people face-to-face and share Jesus, but none of those events have occurred this year.

However, at the same time, weekly social events and meals together after Sunday Divine Service have provided opportunity for our community to grow together in Christ. We are looking forward to a normal fall to come and the opportunity for many to hear the Gospel and believe and be saved!

As of March 15, \$10,750.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry.

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<https://www.lutheranlegacyfoundation.org/fund/central-illinois-district-campus-ministry/>