

# Faith and Fellowship

Batavia has deep roots in religion

Batavia has come a long way since the early years when members of different religious sects met in small group gatherings in homes to share a common faith. Today, over a dozen churches of different denominations offer faith, support, education and more to the residents of Batavia. Many of these churches are included in the town's historic tours, reflecting the deep history of religion in Batavia and the variety of architectural styles.

The very first church was constructed in 1841 shortly after the arrival of the area's first settlers. In 1852, First United Methodist Church constructed a building on the corner of First and Lincoln Streets, after years of congregating in the home of William Van Nortwick on the corner of First and Water Streets. A new building was later constructed in 1887 at

the corner of Batavia Avenue and Wilson Street. The façade of the church was constructed of field boulders from area farms and interior woodwork from Georgia Pine. The building was a gift to the congregation from Captain Don Carlos Newton—Civil War Veteran and a wealthy Batavia Industrialist—and the Reverend E.H. Gammon. The church was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 and the building is still used for the sanctuary and nursery today.

Other churches, like Immanuel Lutheran began in the later 1800s, built a congregation and then relocated to more modern sites. These strong churches continue to offer faith, fellowship and education in more modern facilities with the same strong principles that helped start the church.



Swedish Mission Church, 1900



**HISTORICAL FACT:** The First United Methodist church constructed in 1887 was built in the French Romanesque style. This building was designed by S.S. Beman, famed architect of Chicago's Pullman Community and designer of the 1884 Studebaker Building on Michigan Avenue in Chicago.



**Love God.  
Love others.  
Serve.**

Join us as we open our hearts to the love and teachings of God. Embark with us on an exciting journey to discern God's vision for us personally and as a church.

- Active Youth Programs
- Christian Education for All Ages
- Child Care Available • Small Group Ministries
- Youth and Adult Choirs
- United Methodist Women
- Better Together Health Challenges Support Group
- Career Transition Workshops
- Alpha • Griefshare
- Journeymen Men's Fellowship
- Parent's Day Out
- Sunday Worship 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
- [www.bataviaumc.com](http://www.bataviaumc.com)

**Batavia United Methodist Church**  
8 N. Batavia Ave. (Route 31)  
Batavia, IL 60510  
630-879-7060



## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

950 Hart Road, Batavia C630 879 7163 S630 406 0157 [www.immanuelbatavia.org](http://www.immanuelbatavia.org)

**Traditional Worship - 5:30 p.m. Saturdays**  
**8 & 9:30 a.m. Sundays**  
**7:15 p.m. Mondays** (June 2-August 18)  
**Education Hour 9:30-10:30 a.m.** (September-May)  
**Contemporary Worship 10:45 a.m.**

Stephen Ministry, Men's, Women's, Senior's, Youth, and Early Risers weekly Bible Studies, Spirited Fitness, Quilters, Scrapbooking, Women's Retreat, JAM Sessions, Middle School Youth Group, High School Youth Group, Active Seniors, Confirmation, mission trips...

**Preschool for Threes and Fours**  
**Kindergarten through Grade 8**

Foreign language, fine arts, Technology Lab, Science Lab, band, choir, Boy and Girl Scouts, intramural sports Grades 5 and up, Outdoor Education, middle school class trips, preschool and grade school field trips, middle school electives, service projects...

Immanuel Lutheran School is fully accredited. Immanuel Lutheran School welcomes students of all races, creeds, and national and ethnic origins.