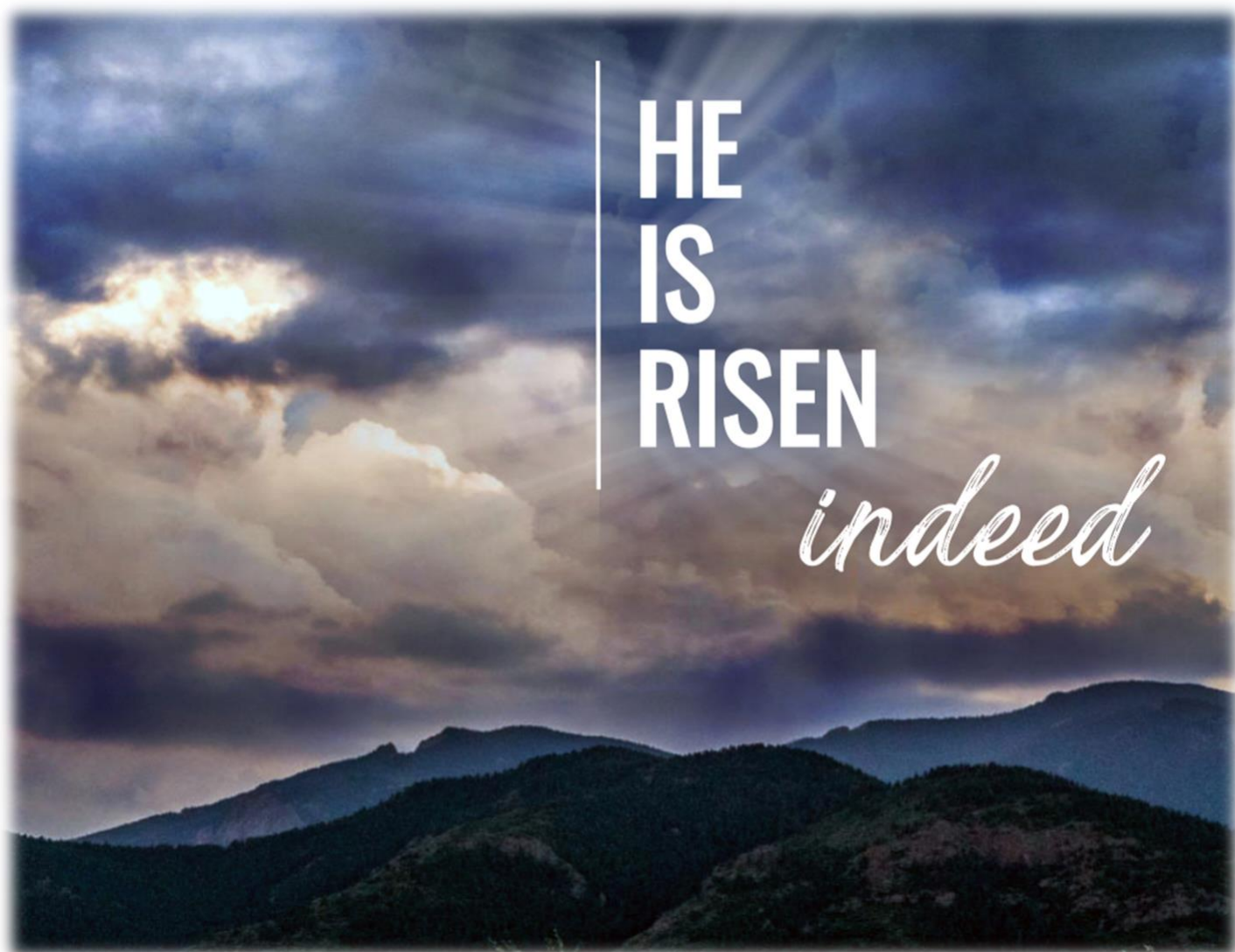


IMMANUEL'S Story

GATHER ~ GROW ~ GO



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Joyce Hollyday tells the story of a school teacher who was assigned to visit children in a large city hospital who received a routine call requesting that he visit a particular child.

The teacher took the boy's name and room number and was told by the classroom teacher on the other end of the line, "We're studying nouns and adverbs in this class now. I'd be grateful if you could help him with his homework so he doesn't fall behind the others."

It wasn't until the visiting teacher got outside the boy's room that he realized that it was located in the hospital's burn unit. No one had prepared him to find a young boy horribly burned and in great pain.

The teacher felt that he couldn't just turn around and walk out. And so he stammered awkwardly, "I'm the hospital teacher and your regular teacher sent me to help you with nouns and adverbs." This boy was in so much pain that he barely responded. The young teacher stumbled through his English lesson, ashamed at putting him through such a senseless exercise.

The next morning a nurse on the burn unit asked him, "What did you do to that boy?" Before the teacher could finish his outburst of apologies, the nurse interrupted: "You don't understand. We've been very worried about him. But ever since you were here yesterday, his whole attitude has changed. He's fighting back; he's responding to treatment. It's as if he has decided to live."



The boy later explained that he had completely given up hope until he saw the teacher. It all changed when he came to a simple realization. With joyful tears, he explained: "They wouldn't send a teacher to work on nouns and adverbs with a boy who was beyond hope, would they?"

God wouldn't send His Son to die and rise again for a people who were beyond hope....would He!?!? The resurrection of Jesus makes all the difference!!!!

Blessings! Pastor Paul



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1	Marv Hayes
3	Nathan Finnerty, Rock Gunter, Luc Payne
4	Iris Christenson, Molly VanHorn
6	Danielle Corey
7	Jim Bloedel
8	Ron Mogen, Audrey Wittnebel
9	Rick Koop, Terri Larson
10	Olive Bourgeois, Jack Schubert, Isabelle Thompson,
11	Jordan Anttila, Steve Heins
12	Carter DeCent, Megan Ward
13	Skyler Faulkner
14	Jay Hunter, Mary Nagorski
15	Lucy Christenson, Barb Rhodes, Nick Zillmer
16	Fred Van Krevelen
18	Cindy Albrecht
19	Judy Christenson
20	Steve Freese, Eric Nelson
22	Trey Jacobs, Jonothan Wittnebel
23	Denny Davis, Audrey Jacobson, Ryan Kovatovich
24	Mike Patrick, Dan Ustipak Jr
25	Sophie Androff, Bentley Hurd, Garry Nelson, Sandra Twigg
26	Wendy Flannigan, Marlys Lindert, Bruce Oliphant
27	Michelle Hage, Marek Koop
28	Curt Christopherson, Allison Johnson, Pamela Klopfleisch
29	Joyce Kallestad, Linda Peterson, Mary Peterson, Noah Reinhart, Jaidynn Unzeitig
30	Gavin Hoyt

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6	Ken & Sandy Johnson (1968)
8	Don & Judi Hendrickson (1995)
10	Randy & Amy Stanfield (1990)
13	Paul & Jill Mattson (1985)
18	Steve & Erica Perpich (2009)
20	Hal & Judy Kirchoff (1968)
25	Brian & Kim Marquart (1992)
27	Steve & Laura Heins (2001)
29	Jason & Paula Kovatovich (2006)
30	Jeff & Kelly Klein (2005)

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Wed, March 1		72
March 5	9:00 a.m.	114
	10:30 a.m.	<u>94</u>
	Total	208
Wed, March 8		68
March 12	9:00 a.m.	45
	10:30 a.m.	<u>30</u>
	Total	75
Wed, March 15		58
March 19	9:00 a.m.	114
	10:30 a.m.	<u>74</u>
	Total	188
Wed, March 22		82
March 26	9:00 a.m.	86
	10:30 a.m.	<u>93</u>
	Total	179

Putting the "HA" in Hallelujah...

Holy Humor Sunday service not only gives Christians an opportunity for ongoing celebrations of the greatest miracle in human history—Jesus' resurrection—it also gives each of us an opportunity to celebrate, and give thanks for, our own smaller resurrections in this world and this life.

Imagine this...

A Minneapolis couple decided to go to Florida to thaw out during a particularly icy winter. They planned to stay at the same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years earlier. Because of their hectic schedules, it was difficult for the couple to coordinate their travel plans. So the husband left Minnesota and flew to Florida on Thursday, while his wife planned to fly down the following day.

The husband checked into the hotel. There was a computer in his room, so he decided to send an email to his wife. However, he accidentally left out one letter of her email address and sent the email without realizing his error.

Meanwhile, somewhere in Houston, a widow had just returned home from her husband's funeral. He was a Baptist minister who was called home to glory following a heart attack. The widow decided to check her email, expecting condolence messages from family and friends.

But after reading her very first email, she screamed and fainted. The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

To: My Loving Wife Subject: I've Just Arrived Today. I know you're surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send emails to your loved ones. Since I've just arrived, I thought I would send you an email.

Everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then! Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was.

P.S. Sure is hot down here!

Thanks be to God, and His sense of humor!

Lovingly & Faithfully,
Sally Turk
Member Ministry Coordinator

Greetings ILC Families! Spring is coming!
Well...someday...maybe...ugh!

In Children's Ministry, we began a new unit in Sunday School covering the Armor of God. We spent the last couple of months learning about the Ten Commandments, and continue to enjoy our curriculum from Group Publishing titled, "Dig In." It's a very customizable curriculum, which allows us



to pick and choose what works well for us in our classrooms and time, as well as age appropriate material. Speaking of classrooms, you will find that our Nursery room is now being occupied on Sundays by BOTH nursery aged children, and our pre-k through 3rd grade students. We are trying different ways to utilize our limited spaces, to see what works best.

Calling all 5th graders! It's time to learn and celebrate First Communion. Learning sessions for caregivers and students will be held two Sundays

prior to Maundy Thursday. Sunday, March 26th following the 10:30 service, as well as Sunday, April 2nd, following the 10:30 service.

VBS will be here before we know it! Do you enjoy being creative, and having fun? Then we need YOU to join the VBS Decoration Dream Team! This year has an outer space theme, and so the possibilities for amazing decorations are endless! Contact Jill DeCent to voice your interest!

In Youth Ministry, confirmation students transitioned to Lent Season programming. Each student selected an adult to become their Faith Mentor, and meet each Wednesday following the evening service. This is an excellent opportunity for each youth to form a positive, lasting, and faith forming relationship with an adult. The hope and prayer is that these relationships are carried through years to come!

I am lifting up many prayers, as to how as a church, we can continue to support families as a whole. We have been given some great ideas following a meeting with Mark Holmen, Leader of the "Faith at Home" movement. We hope to form a strategy that will begin to lead us to being a "Faith at Home" church. Where can we meet families where they are, as well as support faith formation at home, as well as overall mental well-being?

God is so good. I feel truly blessed each day that I have been hand picked by the heavenly father to be here, in this position. God does not call the equipped, he equips the called!

Jill DeCent
ILC Family Ministry Coordinator



APRIL Meal with a Mission will be held on Sunday, April 16, 10am—Noon, hosted by Jill Mattson to benefit the Path of Hope. Everyone is welcome!

Dear Immanuel Church Family,

I am using this message to share with you the news about my upcoming mission trip to Malawi, Africa on May 21st through June 6th. I will be one of nine individuals who will travel to Africa for two weeks sharing the word of God, working on projects, visiting the farm, and helping feed the children at Kanyenava.



The orphaned and children at risk along with their caregivers are part of the Malawi Orphan Care Project (www.4malawi.com) which our congregation supports through donations and the Manna for Malawi (M4M) fund raising event in August. As you may well know, Malawi is a landlocked nation of 16 million who are some of the poorest people on earth. Most earn less than \$2.00 a day.

Volunteers at the project help feed approximately 850 children one meal a day, six days a week. Back in 2012 when Pastor Paul and Jill traveled to Malawi around 350 children were receiving one meal once a week. Over the years our Immanuel church family has been able to help feeding the children, drilling a well, sending many children to high school and several to college. Our M4M fundraisers have helped with buying property for a farm and a truck. We have also helped with contributions for chickens to be raised at the project.

The total cost of my trip is approximately \$4,000.00. My airfare expense of \$2,319.00 has been covered through the benevolences of ILC. I will be asking you for additional financial assistance through donations to help pay for my in-country expenses which include food, lodging, immunizations and a donation for the children's needs (clothing, shoes, school supplies, etc.). In 2014 part of fundraising for my trip was selling stock, "shares of faith." This was a way for individuals to be a part of our mission trip journey. In April I will be explaining how to participate in buying stock, "shares of faith" for our mission trip.

In person visits show the people of Kanyenava, Malawi, that our congregation truly cares for them through relationship building. Part of Immanuel's Mission Statement is to, "Go Forward in Faith to Serve Others in Jesus' name."

These are lyrics from a song that continually resonates through my brain from, "I the Lord of Sea and Sky." It goes like this, "Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart." I truly believe I am being led/asked to be part of this important mission trip journey. Please help me by being part of this journey through your donations and prayers. Thank you in advance for your support.

Have a Blessed Day!

Carol Pundt

Manna for Malawi

Our event this year will be on Sunday, August 20th at the Bridge Tavern. The band will be Wyld Ryce. Would you like to be on the planning committee this year? WE will be meeting at noon on April 2nd at the Bridge Tavern. Contact Pastor Paul or Terri Wisniak.

Last year we asked for volunteers to solicit businesses for silent auction items. That worked out so well so we will be doing that again. If you have been crafting during our long winter and have something you would like to donate, let us know.

This event is how we help feed and educate the orphans in Kanyenyeva, Malawi. Check out the progress reports from the project. They are on our website under Ministries. Remember how it all started? We became members of the MOCP and helped finance the building of a well and now the project has blossomed. To God be the glory.

Major Capital Improvement Fund

2/28/2023

February 1, 2023	Balance:		\$118,534.92
	Deposits	\$1,072.52	
	Reserve	\$250.00	\$500.00
	Withdrawals	\$0.00	
February 28, 2023	Ending Balance:		\$119,857.44

General Operating Budget Report

	Feb-23	Feb-22	YTD 2023	YTD 2022
Budget	38,309	35,074	76,618	70,148
General Fund Giving	31,399	23,654	62,953	69,171
General Fund Expense	35,835	25,699	77,094	55,383
Net Income	-4,436	-2,045	-14,141	13,788

For I know that my
Redeemer
 Lives, and at the last
 He will stand upon the earth.
 Job 19:25 ESV

Our Redeemer is Jesus Christ, Our Savior!

Redemption is God bestowing His Gift of Grace on us to deliver us from sin.

We are sinners. Because Adam and Eve committed the original sin, they doomed all mankind to be sinners.

The gospel is the good news that God knew what was going to happen. His "Plan of Salvation" was developed out of His love for us. The plan was the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus' actions would replace Adam and Eve's actions.

He did come and He did die for us.

Because Jesus shed His blood, we have received a pardon for our sins. Jesus succeeded in His mission and became our Savior and Redeemer.

The ABCDs of Salvation—What God is Asking You to Do

- A – Admit our sins
- B – Believe His Son Jesus is our Redeemer
- C – Confess God as Sovereign Lord
- D – Demonstrate commitment by making changes in our lives to live the way in which God has called us.

Easter is Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection symbolizes eternal life granted to all who believe in Him

Submitted by Paula Traylor



Psalm Sunday, April 2nd

Procession with Psalms: Matthew 21:1-11
 Psalm 31:9-16
 Matthew 26:14-27:66

Maundy Thursday April 6th

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Good Friday April 7th

Isiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm 22

Sunday-Easter, April 9th

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
 Matthew 28:1-10

Sunday, April 16th

Psalm 16
 John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 23rd

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 Luke 24:13-35

Sunday, April 30th

Psalm 23
 John 10:1-10

Memorials

- † *Given by Dave & Claudia Peterson in memory of Eloise Rose Thompson for Sunday School*
- † *Given by Dennis & LuAnn Henrichs in memory of Irma Gagnon for Milestone Ministry*
- † *Given by Dennis & LuAnn Henrichs in memory of Dwayne Johnson for Milestone Ministry*



Current Staff Email Addresses

Pastor Paul	pastor.immanuel23@gmail.com
Deb Eatros	finance.immanuel23@gmail.com
Sally Turk	members.immanuel23@gmail.com
Jill DeCent	Jilld@immanuelcrosby.org
Debbi Carlson	office.immanuel23@gmail.com
Judi Burson	music.immanuel23@gmail.com

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
6:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

(X) Jerry Decent, Box 50	(X) Kevin Martini, Box 213
(X) Nancy Evans, Box 61	(X) Pastor Paul Mattson
() Bonnie Goshey, Box 36	(X) Tom Nixon, Box 07
(X) Deb Koop, Box 114	(X) Peter Nordell, Box 222
(X) Bonnie LaPierre , Box	() David Pundt, Box 295

CALL TO ORDER**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Kevin moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Nancy. Motion passed unanimously.

READING OF THE VISION STATEMENT & MISSION STATEMENT

A vibrant, diverse, and healthy community of faith where lives are changed by God's love, given in Jesus Christ; Where people of all ages are invited and challenged to become followers of Jesus Christ in their daily lives; Where real people experience healing, help, hope and harmony.

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a community of Christians who welcome all people to GATHER in worship, to GROW in God's Word and grace, and to GO forward in faith to serve others in Jesus' name. We gather in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

CELEBRATING THE JOYS OF IMMANUEL:

Deb Koop filling in for Pastor Paul on Sunday. Quick response to the medical emergency on Sunday. Weekend to Remember in the cities went well. Lenten suppers and services are well attended and meaningful. Big thanks to those doing the snow cleanup this winter!

DEVOTIONS: BOOK-RESILIENT BY JOHN ELDRIDGE- INTRODUCTION

This month: Kevin Martini

Next month: Pastor Paul Mattson

PRAYERS

Gracious God, open our eyes to see the things that you are already doing in our midst. Surround us with your living presence and fill us with your Holy Spirit and help us to bless those things that you are doing among us in Jesus' name. Tonight, we pray for.... We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

COUNCIL BUSINESS**REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FROM FEBRUARY 2023**

Nancy moved to approve the February Financial Reports. Seconded by Bonnie L. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS ON THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 2023

Approved by e-mail in February.

OLD BUSINESS

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS- Personnel Committee: Nancy Heise is now the chair for the committee. The committee continues to ask for 1-2 new members. They will be meeting this week with Debbi Carlson as her 90-day probationary period is completed.
2. ERC UPDATE- The checks for repayment sent to the IRS have cleared. We have not had any further communication from ERC Specialists. Nancy moved to transfer \$50,000 of the ERC balance to Fidelity to be added as a laddered CD in the General Reserve Account. Seconded by Kevin. Motion passed unanimously.
3. INVESTMENT PLAN UPDATE-All funds approved to be transferred to Fidelity, \$195,000, have been invested into laddered CDs. A quarter of the CDs will be maturing every 6 months. Keven moved and Nancy seconded a motion to transfer \$10,000 from the Scholarship savings account at Unity Bank to a CD at Unity Bank. Motion passed unanimously. Kevin rescinded the above motion that included the words "Unity" bank and changed it to transfer \$10,000 from the Scholarship savings account at Unity Bank "any local bank offering good CD rates" Bonnie L. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE SERVICE CHANGES- COMMUNION, PASSING THE PLATE -HOW DID IT GO- We will NOT be moving to intinction for communion. We will continue to use the individual cups even when we move back to breaking bread in place of using wafers.
5. EMAIL UPDATE- We will be moving to Gmail accounts for all Church email. As soon as the accounts are set up for all staff positions the new email addresses will be communicated to the congregation.

NEW BUSINESS....

1. START OF RAISES RESOLUTION- There has been confusion on when raises start for the new year. The council will review a written resolution next month on this issue. Further resolutions will be developed as needed. Resolutions of issues that come before the council will be filed and kept in the office after they are approved.
2. ANNUAL MEETING FEEDBACK- No feedback has come to the attention of council members. Pastor Paul will notify the congregation when the Vision to Action planning will begin. Most likely early summer.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS FOR MAY

Copy assignments and place in the Ministry Coordinator office mailbox.

2023		9:00 a.m.		10:30 a.m.	<i>(notes/special occasion)</i>
May 7		Nancy Evans		Deb Koop	
May 14		Bonnie Lapierre		David Pundt	Mother's Day
May 21		Peter Nordell		Tom Nixon	
May 28		Kevin Martini		Jerry Decent	Memorial Weekend

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT

Peter moved, and Jerry seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next meeting set for April 18, 2023, 6:30 p.m.