



Immanuel's Story

March 2026

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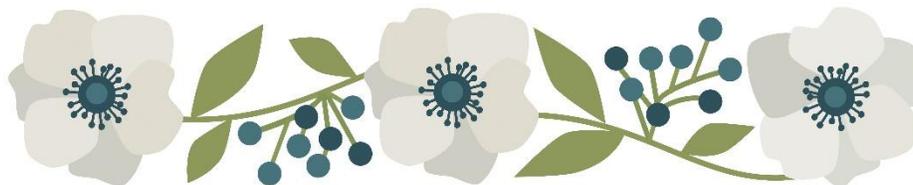
218.546.6010

Volume 41 Issue 3

Gracious Lord, we gather with
believers
across every nation and language,
united in your love.

Open our eyes
to the needs of our neighbors near and far.
Strengthen our hearts with compassion,
courage and hope. Make us instruments of
your peace in a world longing for healing.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen.*





Sola Scriptura, Solus Christus, Sola Fide, Sola Gratia, Soli Deo Gloria
(Scripture Alone, Christ Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone, Glory to God Alone)

... how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (II Timothy 3: 14-16)

Paul draws our attention to these familiar words. Verses 15, 16, of II Timothy 3. Here we learn that the Bible is all we need to make us wise unto salvation in Christ Jesus. Paul rejoices in this passage that Timothy has been taught the Holy Scripture from his youth. Paul continues to address Timothy as a young man, which may be of comfort to some of us because Timothy was perhaps forty-years old at this time. Timothy has known the Holy Scripture from his youth.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Because you have been made wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus through your knowledge of the Holy Scripture.

That is the very purpose for which those Old Testament Scriptures were written, to lead Paul and Timothy and you to a knowledge of salvation in Christ Jesus. We need no other book. No other teacher. The Word of God alone.

The Bible prepares us for the coming of Christ by showing us how sin entered into human experience in the beginning of human history, and how the contagion of sin spread through the human race across the ages, and how God, in the Old Testament, sought to deal with sin through His righteous laws and commandments.

But, oh, how God's people resisted, time and time again and, oh, how we resist today.

Finally in the pages of Holy Scripture, we see how God sent Jesus His Son, to take the burden of our sin upon Himself. To die in sin and for sin on the cross. To save His people from sin and then we read, in the New Testament, how Jesus rose again on the third day to give His people newness of life.

It is in the pages of Holy Scripture that we hear God calling a people into fellowship with Himself through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. The call comes to people,

*Come to Christ, ask Him to forgive you and He will forgive you.
He will accept you and give you new life.*

That's what we find in the Bible, and that is why we confess that whatever it is that man has to believe to be saved, is taught only in the Scripture.

God's Word is enough to lead us to salvation in Christ Jesus.



Birthdays

- 1 Jake Johnson
- 2 Tim Hummel
- 6 George Erickson
- 7 Kynsley DeCent
- 8 Jim Hakes, Ellie Lubovich
- 9 Karli Nixon, Jackie Wood
- 10 Vonda Bongs
- 11 Dan Beseman, Judi Hendrickson,
Jim Stolle
- 13 John Frahm
- 16 Debbie Kreller
- 17 Grant Gibson
- 20 Lori Ostrowski
- 22 Brody Kovatovich, Jeff Olson
- 23 Lyric Aulie, Bob Palmer
- 27 Brad Miller
- 28 Mary Ellen Perry, Addison Wood
- 29 Bonnie Goshey
- 30 Glen Kompelien
- 31 Nancy Jann

Anniversaries

- 4 Mark & Debbi Carlson (1977)
- 12 Jim & Donna Radinovich (1993)



ATTENDANCE

January 25	62
February 1	114
February 8	90
February 15	108
Wed Feb 18	61
February 22	85

MEAL WITH A MISSION, 2026

There are still 2 openings for Meal with a Mission. Contact the church office if your group or organization wants to sign up!



Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET REPORT

	<u>JANUARY 26</u>	<u>JANUARY 25</u>	<u>YTD 2026</u>	<u>YTD 2025</u>
BUDGET	34,858	35,848	34,858	35,848
GENERAL FUND GIVING	24,563	32,415	24,563	32,415
GENERAL FUND EXPENSE	27,103	35,435	27,103	35,435
NET INCOME	-2,540	-3,020	-2,540	-3,020

Major Capital Improvement Fund

January 1, 2026	Balance:	\$23,164.96
	Deposits:	\$611.84
	Reserve:	\$250.00
	Withdrawals:	\$0.00
January 31, 2026	Ending Balance:	\$24,026.80

Immanuel Forward Mortgage

01/2026	Balance:	\$89,584.07
	Monthly Payment	\$722.16 \$177.08 – Principal
	Principal Payments:	\$5,393.20
01/31/2026	Ending Balance:	\$84,013.79





Altar Guild – Lynette Dehning & Paula Kovatovich

SRT Leader – # 2 LuAnn Henrichs



March 1

Greeters: Jim & Paula Traylor
Lector: Nancy Evans
Offering Counters: Pam Ballard & Marian Freese
Lock up after Worship: Pat Neros

Ushers: Jeff & Marsha Olson
Communion: Paula Traylor
Tech: David Pundt & Jack Schubert

March 8

Greeters: David & Carol Pundt
Lector: David Pundt
Offering Counters: Paula Traylor & Elizabeth Mattson
Lock up after Worship: Char Kinzer

Ushers: Dale & Vi Klungness
Communion: Char Kinzer
Tech: Jack Schubert & Terri Wisniak

March 15

Greeters: Char Kinzer & New Council Person
Lector: Pam Klopfleisch
Offering Counters: Bonnie Goshey & Sandi Erickson
Lock up after Worship: Char Kinzer

Ushers: Nick Zilmer & Dan Beseman
Communion: Char Kinzer
Tech: David Pundt & Jack Schubert

March 22

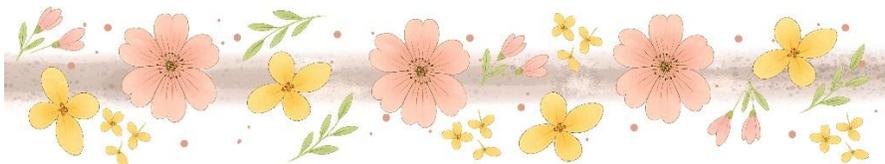
Greeters: Youth
Lector: Mark Carlson
Offering Counters: Erinn Hoyt & Darlene McNally
Lock up after Worship: Nancy Heise

Ushers: Youth
Communion: Tom Nixon
Tech: Dave Peterson & Jack Schubert

March 29

Greeters: Brian & Kim Marquart
Lector: Becky Pakarinen
Offering Counters: Erinn Hoyt & Elizabeth Mattson
Lock up after Worship: Dave Peterson

Ushers: Ron & Carolyn Mogen
Communion: Brian Marquart
Tech: Dave Peterson & Jack Schubert





Youth Ministry update

A big thank you to the people who stepped forward to be youth mentors this Lenten season. A big thank you to the youth and their parents who have stepped forward to help with the Lenten soup suppers.

The Youth Group is looking for opportunities to serve our community this spring. If you have some yard clean up, a small painting project, or know of someone who could use a helping hand, please let me know at youth@immanuelcrosby.org.

If you have a graduating high school senior this year and would like to participate in the senior blessing service, please let me know. We will provide materials for a tie blanket in the students' school colors, embroidered with Immanuel Lutheran and the students' name. The blankets are presented during the church service, usually the second week of May. A blessing for the students and their parents during this transition time.

I am in the planning phase of activities for the youth this summer. I am looking into the possibility of a short youth mission trip and more local service projects. I would also like to set up some fun events for our youth and as always, chaperones and drivers are needed. Let me know if you have ideas or are interested in volunteering this way.

March Lectionary Texts

March 1	Genesis 12:1-4a	Psalm 121	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17
March 8	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
March 15	1 Samuel 16:1-13	Psalm 23	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
March 22	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45
March 29	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14—27:66

A huge Thank You to everyone for all your support of the Food Shelf. Our "Souper" Bowl donations were \$1002.09! AWESOME!! Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Bob & Pat Neros
Mark Carlson

LENT What Is It All About?

Lent is a solemn Christian season of preparation, reflection and repentance leading up to Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday. It commemorates Jesus Christ's days of fasting in the wilderness. The focus is on three key elements: Fasting, Prayer, and Charity.

This is a time for self-examination, inner change and drawing closer to God. This has been done traditionally through abstaining from what we would consider "extravagance". Examples include not eating meat on Fridays, giving up social media, chocolate or alcohol. Things that may be important to our everyday lives.

Another important aspect of this time is increased devotion, reading Scripture, attending Lenten Services and making a spiritual pilgrimage to the scenes of Christ's suffering through the Stations of the Cross.

Charity is the act of giving, donating money and volunteering our time especially for those who are in need or suffering. Generosity and helpfulness, by showing concern and compassion for all our brothers and sisters.

Lent serves as a time of spiritual discipline and turning away from sin to renew our commitment to our faith in Jesus Christ. It is time to prepare ourselves to journey towards the cross with Jesus and to participate with Him in His life, death and resurrection.

All of this leads up to the celebration of Easter, Jesus rising from the dead where He was buried after His crucifixion on the cross. This symbolizes victory over sin and death, offering hope for eternal life.

It is because of Adam introducing sin and death into the world that makes Easter necessary. Jesus was sacrificed for our salvation. We are delivered by God from the power of sin, offering eternal life. A gift of God's grace through our faith in Jesus Christ.

Submitted by Paula Traylor

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 5:30pm

ATTENDEES:

X Meredith Bloedel

X Tom Nixon

X George Erickson

Mary Ellen Perry

Char Kinzer

X David Pundt

X Debbie Lindahl

X Paula Traylor

X Brian Marquart

X Pastor Ian Hewitson

OPENING PRAYER Pastor Ian opened the meeting with prayer.

CALL TO ORDER Vice President Brian Marquart called the meeting to order at 5:35pm. There was one addition to the agenda. Under Committee Reports, Manna for Malawi report was added.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Tom Nixon moved that the Financial Report be approved. His motion was seconded by Paula Traylor and passed on a voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel: Rich Aulie has decided to retire. Personnel Committee members have place want ads seeking a Music Coordinator on Indeed and have contacted the Crosby Ironton band director to see if there might be interested and available students to perform.

Manna for Malawi: David Pundt reported that the committee has met with Heather, one of the new owners of The Bridge Tavern where the 2026 Manna for Malawi fundraiser will be held on August 9 from 2pm to 6pm. The committee is selecting a band to perform at this year's event. The next meeting will be Sunday, February 22nd at 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We are looking for volunteers to lead the food and raffle teams.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Transition Profile Team Update:** The team includes LuAnn Hendricks, Terri Wizniak, Marian Serverson, John Klopfleisch, DeeDee Frahm and Paula Traylor. John Klopfleisch has agreed to chair the team. The group agreed to follow a Call Process Checklist as used by Salem Lutheran and begin with a Historical Overview to include Community Demographics. The group's next meeting will be March 20th at 6:00pm, location to be determined.
2. **Renting Immanuel East:** The Immanuel Forward team met and produced a lease agreement for a potential renter. Rent for Immanuel East will be \$1250 per month, security deposit set at first and last month's rent, \$500 pet deposit if appropriate. The

account will be paid through an autopay into the Immanuel Forward fund, by previous motion. Brian Marquart reported that all who volunteered or be assigned repairs on Immanuel East after renters take possession would need background checks to comply with existing law. Brian Marquart moved and George Erickson seconded a motion to authorize the President and Secretary of the Immanuel Lutheran Church Council to have signing authority for rental agreements.

3. Organization Structure Discussion: Pastor Ian Hewitson reported he and Debbi Carlson were working on an organizational flow chart to describe existing church committees.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Annual Meeting Minutes: The Annual Meeting minutes were tabled until the March 17 meeting.
2. Installation of Officers and New Council Members: Pastor Ian Hewitson will confer with Debbi Carlson to find an acceptable date.
3. Classical Conversation Homeschool request: George Erickson moved tha the CC Homeschool organization be granted the use of Immanuel Lutheran Church for the 2026/2027 school year per the Immanuel Facilities Use Agreement. Pastor Ian seconded his motion and it was approved by voice vote.
4. Camera Replacement: David Pundt moved we approve a bid from Stewart Sound Systems to install a moveable camera at the front of the church. The camera there now has one position. The funds will be taken from Account #1135, Major Capitol Improvements. Tom Nixon seconded his motion for discussion. The motion passed on a divided vote.
5. FYI: On previous motions, two new laptops were purchased for a total of \$2625, to be paid from an Immanuel Lutheran Church special savings account set aside for computers.

COMMUNION ASSIGNMENTS FOR APRIL: April 5-Brian Marquart; April 12-Paula Traylor; April 19-George Erickson; April 26-Char Kinzer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT: Pastor Ian Hewitson moved we adjourn at 7:27pm. Debbie Lindahl seconded his motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

March 17, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 9:30am Worship – Churchyard 10:15am Sunday School 10:30am MEAL with a MISSION for Immanuel Forward 11am Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian	2 8am-3pm Home School Community 4pm TOPS	3 9am Staff Meeting 9am Quilting 12pm Renewal Group 1:30pm Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian 3:30pm Bible Study – D. Kreller	4 8am Bible Study – N. Evans 10am Bible Study – P. Collignon 6pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Worship	5 7am Men’s Den 6pm Churchyard Practice	6 	7 9:30am The Right Path Recovery Mtg 	
8 9:30am Worship-Traditional 10:15am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee 11am Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian	9 8am-3pm Home School Community 4pm TOPS	10 9am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Ruth Circle 1:30pm Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian 3:30pm Bible Study – D. Kreller	11 8am Bible Study – N. Evans 10am Bible Study – P. Collignon 6pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Worship	12 7am Men’s Den 6pm Churchyard Practice	13 	14 9:30am The Right Path Recovery Mtg	
15 9:30am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee 11am Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian	16 8am-3pm Home School Community 4pm TOPS NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	17 9am Staff Meeting 9am Quilting 12pm Renewal Group 1:30pm Tabitha Study 1:30pm Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian 3:30pm Bible Study – D. Kreller 5:30pm Council Meeting	18 8am Bible Study – N. Evans 10am Bible Study – P. Collignon 6pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Worship	19 7am Men’s Den 6pm Churchyard Practice	20 	21 9:30am The Right Path Recovery Mtg	
22 9:30am Worship – Blended 10:15am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee 11am Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian	23 8am-3pm Home School Community 4pm TOPS	24 9am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian 3:30pm Bible Study – D. Kreller	25 8am Bible Study – N. Evans 10am Bible Study – P. Collignon 6pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Worship	26 7am Men’s Den 6pm Churchyard Practice Assemble/Mail Newsletter	27 	28 9:30am The Right Path Recovery Mtg	
29 PALM SUNDAY 9:30am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee 11am Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian	30 8am-3pm Home School Community 4pm TOPS	31 9am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Prepare Our Hearts Study with Pastor Ian 3:30pm Bible Study – D. Kreller 6pm Home School End of the Year Event	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <h1>MARCH 2026</h1> </div>				
			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; background-color: #FFD700;"> SRT #2 LuAnn Henrichs </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; background-color: #FFD700;"> ALTAR – Lynette Dehning & Paula Kovatovich </div>		

