



The Immanuel Echo

The Newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church
Manitowoc, WI
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

March 2024

EXCHANGE RATE

Life works this way. Employees exchange their time for a paycheck. Fans exchange \$\$ for a seat at the game (and exchange even more for food at the game)! Every day we exchange time, money, effort, and emotion for what we hope brings us joy, peace, and satisfaction.

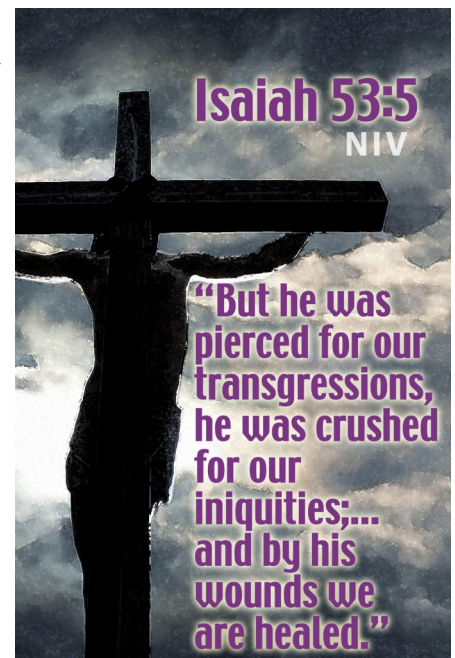
God works this way too. God doesn't want us to have any sin. He's so serious about that fact that he says the exchange for sin is eternal death. It's a terrifying prospect – something so common to every one of us leads to a death impossible to imagine.

But, God was interested in making his own exchange. Instead of holding us accountable for sin, he placed his Son under judgment instead. *"He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed"* (Isaiah 53:5).

Talk about an exchange! Jesus exchanged his life for ours. Wherever we've failed to live according to God's perfect standard, Jesus was pierced instead. Wherever we've perpetrated hurt and pain, Jesus was crushed in our place. And so the punishment that should have been ours is his. Paid for by Jesus.

Isaiah promises that through Jesus you have peace with God. Through his wounds you are given life with God. Through Jesus you are forgiven and loved by God. How can you ever say God doesn't love you – it's the exchange HE CHOSE to make!

~ Pastor Matt Zimpelmann





Lent is the season of the church year that we focus on Jesus' Passion. We take the time to realize what Christ did for us simply because He loved us so much.

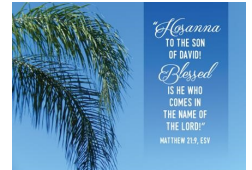
During Lent we have special midweek Lenten worship services on **Wednesdays at 4:00 PM and 6:30 PM.**

Join us for worship for the Lenten series: ***"Baptized into His Death"***. "St. Paul writes, "Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" (Romans 6:3) There is a connection between our baptism and Christ's passion. This makes Lent the perfect season to learn anew all that God's Word tells us about Baptism. We will see how we were powerfully connected in our baptism to all Christ's saving work. We will study again what our baptism means for our daily lives. And we will re-dedicate ourselves to the struggle of living the new life Baptism gives."

- † **March 6th**—*"A Sacrament, not a Sign"*
- † **March 13th**—*"A Great Power and a Greater Gift"*
- † **March 20th**—*"Baptism Is Needed by All"*

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

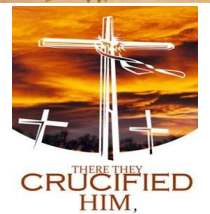
† ***PALM SUNDAY*** worship focuses on our Savior's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We worship and rejoice before our Lord at **8:00 AM and 10:30 AM on Sunday, March 24th.**



† ***HOLY THURSDAY*** is the day when our Savior instituted the Lord's Supper and was betrayed into the hands of his enemies. We celebrate at **4:00 PM and 6:30 PM on Thursday, March 28th,** with worship and Communion.

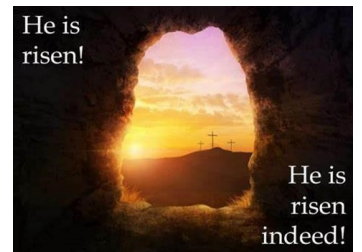


† ***GOOD FRIDAY*** is the day when Jesus died on the cross as our great Substitute. On **Friday, March 29th,** there will be a worship service at **1:00 PM** and at **6:30 PM.** Both services are the same.



RESURRECTION SUNDAY WORSHIP

EASTER is the day Jesus rose triumphant from the grave. We rejoice in Christ's victory over sin, death, and hell. There will be **three** opportunities to worship on Easter Sunday. Our Easter worship services will take place on **Sunday, March 31st,** at **6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, and 10:30 AM.** All the services will be the same.



JOIN US FOR EASTER BREAKFAST!

Let's celebrate our Savior's resurrection by joining together for a joy-filled Easter worship service! And, if you can, join your fellow believers for an ***EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST*** where our families can gather for fellowship! Easter Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday **following the 6:30 AM service and continuing to be served until approximately 10:00 AM.**



Choose the worship service that works best and join us for breakfast as you are able! The menu will include scrambled eggs, cheese, donuts, fruit, juice, coffee, and milk. **We so very hope you can join us!**

AND ... IF YOU COULD HELP... We are looking for smiling faces and eager hands to help with the breakfast. You could **help set up at 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Saturday, March 30th.**

ALSO ... WE CAN ALWAYS USE HELP ... on Easter Sunday from 6:00—8:00 AM and 8:00—10:00 AM, scrambling eggs, prepping food, and serving. If serving isn't your thing but you're willing to **help with cleanup,** we'd be so grateful for that **from 10:00 - 11:00 AM.**

Contact Nate Hochmuth at 920-860-9591 or by emailing nhochmuth@mlhslancers.org with any questions or to sign up to help.

Sunday Family Bible Study

Join us for Family Bible Study on Sunday mornings between worship services to dig deeper into God's truths for us in our lives. During challenging times and joyful times, we learn to fix our eyes on Jesus, His truths, how vital He is in our lives, and our eternal future. Each week we explore a different topic so join us anytime. God has so much to tell us, to help us, at all times!



Our study is taught in a relaxed, family atmosphere. All ages are welcome! There are activity pages for the children that correlate with the lesson being studied, and they participate in the beginning of Bible study with their parents. At 9:50am, children are welcome to go with a teacher to the room across the hall. There they learn and explore the same portion of God's Word through felt board, video, crafts, etc. and sing praises to Jesus. At 10:10am the children are brought back to their parents in Bible study. Parents have the option of their children staying with them for all of Bible study; in this case parents with little ones may wish to bring along a snack or coloring book for them.

Our Bible study is held in the Fellowship Hall (church basement) from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM.

LENTEN MEALS

Our theme for midweek services this year is: *"Baptized Into His Death"*. Jesus's death on the cross is what gives our baptisms their power too! So, this Lenten season, we'll focus our attention on the our freedom from death through his gift of Baptism. As Jesus fill our faiths, we can also enjoy good food for our bodies! Join us for dinner between services on the following Wednesdays.



- ◆ **Wednesday, March 6th— Handbell Choir hosting**
- ◆ **Wednesday, March 13th— Church Council hosting (Chili & Desserts)**
- ◆ **Wednesday, March 20th — Adult Choir hosting (Casseroles and Desserts)**

Opportunities for Men

Here are several opportunities for brothers in Christ to grow in God's Word!

† **Men's Prayer Group** meets on **Tuesdays, March 5th and 19th at 7:30 AM** in the Gathering Room (lobby).

† **Men's Bible Study— Saturday, March 2nd—8:00 AM** at Grace Lutheran and on **Saturday, March 9th and 23rd—8:00 AM** at First German Lutheran.



"For where two or three gather in My name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20

Womens Bible Study—Jude

Women of all ages are invited to join us for Women's Bible Study on **Saturdays, March 9th and 23rd at 9:00 AM**. We meet in the Conference Room in the church office.

We just started a study of the last of the general epistles, Jude. This is a short, intense letter written by Jesus half brother. Though this book is short, it is very timely, containing warnings against Satan's lies and Satan's liars. He alerts Christians to the dangers to their faith and encourages believers to persevere in their faith in Christ—that we must Fight for the Faith.

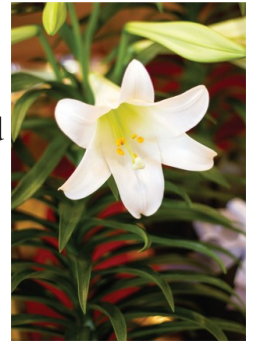


Bring your Bible, if you don't have one, please let me know and we will supply you with one. There is a study guide and we will also be using The People's Bible Jude book for reference as well. We have copies of both available. If you are planning to join us or have any questions, please contact Judy Fuerbringer at 920-973-3355 or judynglenn@ameritech.net.

Join us to be refreshed & strengthened by the words of our Savior!!

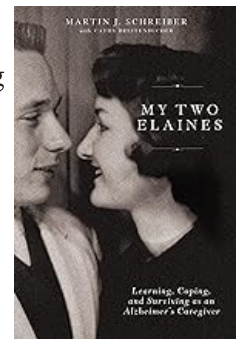
EASTER LILY SIGN-UP

Even though we're in the midst of the Lenten season, we are already preparing for to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. If you would like to help add some special honor as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection you can order Easter Lilies for our Easter morning worship services. The **cost is \$12.00** per plant (includes saucer). There are envelopes for signing up in the Gathering Room on the podium. Please fill out the front of the envelope, enclose your payment, then drop the envelope in the podium. Checks should be made payable to Ladies of Immanuel. The **deadline for ordering lilies is Thursday, March 7th**. All lilies can be taken home following the 10:30 AM Easter Sunday worship service. If you have any questions, please call or text Judy Fuerbringer at 973-3355.



BOOK CLUB

Our Book Club is meeting is on **Friday, March 8th at 1:15 PM** in the Gathering Room. The book for this month is *My Two Elaines* by Martin J. Schreiber. "In *My Two Elaines*, author Marty Schreiber, former governor of Wisconsin, watches his beloved wife, Elaine, gradually transform from the woman he fell in love with in high school, and who diligently supported his political career, to the Elaine who knows she is declining and can't remember how to cook a meal, and finally to the Elaine who no longer recognizes Marty or their children. One part love story, one part practical advice, this compelling book includes several unique elements."



For those who are wanting a book, please call Ardis Haag at 682-1002.

***Luke 6:38 - "Give and it will be given to you.
A good measure, pressed down, shaken together,
running over, will be put into your lap."***

Through our acts of generosity and kindness, we not only bring joy to others but also experience the true joy that comes from serving and helping those in need. Let us remember the words of Jesus, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap." (Luke 6:38).

Giving back to God through our offerings is a beautiful way of showing gratitude for all blessings we have received. It is way to honor God with our resources and to support the work of the church and those in need. Just we are called to be generous and kind others, we are also called to give back to God with a joyful and thankful heart. Let's continue to sow seeds of faith and generosity, knowing that God will bless us abundantly in return.

May we find joy in giving during this season of Lent knowing that our actions of love and compassion reflect the love of God towards us.

Blessings on your month,
~ Tom Wurm, Financial Secretary



Hornet Athletics Report

Our students have used their God given physical talents to glorify Him in athletics.

Soccer happens in the fall and is available to any student in grades 1-8. We had a 1-2 grade team, a 3-4 grade team as well as a 5-8 grade team. Each of the teams got to play in two tournaments. The students all played hard. One of the 1-2 grade teams brought home a 1st place trophy! We thank the coaches in grades 1-2 - Brad Weber, Christine Brockmann, and Jennifer Olson. Thanks go to Justin Skarvan and Krystal Gossen for coaching the 3-4 grade team and to Nate Reis, Jason DeVries, and Joshua Halligan who worked with the 5-8 graders.



Also available in the fall for the girls is **Volleyball**. We had a B Team made up of 5-6 graders and an A Team made of 7-8 graders from Immanuel and First German. The B Team, coached by Jaimie Carlson, Jennifer Holschbach, and Sara Stuebs (Thank You for coaching), played on four different Tuesdays and played against a number of other league schools. They also were involved in one tournament. The A Team had 12 matches and then played in the League Tournament at the end of the season in which they were the 3rd place winners! Thank you to A Team Head Coaches Amy Nelson, Cristin Svatek, and Mark Svatek.



Two of our students joined the **JR. LANCER CROSS COUNTRY** team (coached by Joel Putz!) and ran regularly in practices and meets in the fall. Then more joined those Immanuel runners for the League Meet held in October at MLHS. We had about 14 total on the Immanuel team.



Basketball started in October and ran into January. We had B Teams for boys and girls made of 5-6 graders and A Teams for girls and boys made of 7-8 graders. The A teams were joined by players from First German. Each of the teams played 6-7 regular season games and then played in a tournament at the end of the season. For our B Teams in the tournament, the girls played some good basketball and picked up a few wins. The B Team Boys also had some victories in their tournament. In the A Team Girls Tournament, our Immanuel/First German G Girls played some of their best basketball of the season and played exciting games. The A Team Boys made some big strides during their season. We thank the girls' coaches: Ryan Hulse, Joel Putz, Nate Reis, Cody Freemyer, and Trent Nelson and the boys' coaches Carrie Ott, Allie Conrad, and Guy Gast, with Justin Schneider of First German assisting.



Immanuel also has C Team basketball for the 3-4 graders. We had many practices for the 3-4 graders. They had opportunities to play on 3 Saturday mornings and then finished their season with.....a snow out! Yes, their last game was cancelled=oh, no! It was neat to see the progress they made! Thank You for coaching Justin Skarvan, Ani Clarksen, and Krystal Gossen.

Another team made of two ladies runs the canteen all year. Wow! Thank you to Tiffany DeVries and Amy Nelson for all their hard work.

Jr. Lancer wrestling is going on right now. It is available for any boy in K-8. They practice at MLHS with kids from other area WELS schools and then wrestle in a few tournaments.

For the students in grades 5-8, track will be starting in April. We get the kids into the League Meet held at Municipal Track in May.

UPCOMING EVENTS (there are other activities besides sports!)



- ▶ **March 11th thru 15th**—Spring Break—No School
- ▶ **April 7th**—Immanuel Science and Academic Fair
- ▶ **April 12th**—Lakeshore Lutheran Music Festival at MLHS
- ▶ **April 13th**—MLHS Academic Fair for Grade School
- ▶ **May 17th**—Immanuel Entertainment Night—the entire school participates in this night of fun!



Save The Date For VBS!!!

**Immanuel's VBS
(Vacation Bible School) is
July 29th thru August 1st**

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION—PIE

Partners in Education (PIE) is a parent organization that plans social events and fundraising for Immanuel School. Serving this school year as contact person is Jaimie Carlson.

This year, our fundraiser is for LED lighting in the north classrooms. The cost is \$18,000. Please consider donating by contributing at the church office or attending our Trivia Night fundraiser on Saturday, November 4th.

UPCOMING EVENTS—Mark your calendars!

MARCH

- ◆ **8th—Friday—Read-A-Thon Fundraiser—Kindergarten thru 8th grade**—PIE is hosting a school wide read-a-thon fundraiser on **Friday, March 8th**. The oldest students of each family will receive a donation envelope on February 23rd. Every family envelope returned by **Thursday, March 7th** to your classroom teacher will receive a prize for each student in that family. The top three donors will also receive a family grand prize. This is going towards LED Lighting and Gym fans.

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR READ-A-THON FUNDRAISER!

Are you a small business owner? Our Immanuel students are having a read-a-thon March 8th. They are looking for sponsors to donate to the PIE fundraiser. Would your small business be interested in donating to the cause? We have \$7,000 left to go. Please contact Jaimie Carlson 920-242-4286.

Thank you for your support!

Please contact Jaimie Carlson at 920-242-4286 to see how you can assist with our events. We are looking for parent volunteers for the many events we have planned. Our events help give back to the school, create social events for students and parents and support the staff.

EASTER IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

With Easter approaching, kids love hunting for Easter eggs and baskets full of candy. But is that really what Easter is about? What about the cross and the empty tomb? We want our children to understand the message of Easter. We want them to be as excited about Jesus and what He has done for us as they are about Easter baskets. The Church Library can help with this. We have many children's books on display for the Lenten and Easter season, from picture books to books suggesting how to make the Easter season special for your family. *Family Celebrations At Easter*, call #242.2 is one of these books. It has brief meaningful devotions for the weeks before Easter, fun projects and activities, and favorite hymns of the season. Have a blessed Easter Season!



~ Laura Rozoff

GriefShare is a support ministry to help people who are grieving the loss of a loved one whether recent or in the past. Each session is about 2 hours long. There is a short video on various topics presented by mental health experts who have also gone through the grieving process. This is followed by group discussion time. Between each weekly session there is a workbook that has daily exercises that point you to God's Word and help you work through your grief.



GriefShare **will continue meeting Thursdays thru March 24th**. We meet at Immanuel from 2:30 to 4:30 PM in the church Conference Room. If you are interested in getting more information or know someone who we should personally invite, please contact Larry Verlinden at 920-323-2297 or verlinden@comcast.net. More information and registration is available online at the GriefShare website, griefshare.org. There is a charge of \$20 per person which is to cover the cost of workbooks. Anyone is welcome to join the group at any time during the new session.

WELS EAST REGIONAL BAND FESTIVAL 2024

FESTIVAL CONCERT
SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2PM

MANITOWOC LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL
4045 LANGER CIRCLE,
MANITOWOC, WI 54220

CLINICIANS
JAMES RIPLEY
WES SCHMANDT

WELS REGIONAL BAND FESTIVAL
- MANITOWOC LUTHERAN -
MARCH 2024

MANITOWOC LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

Book By Michael Stewart Music By Charles Strouse Lyrics By Lee Adams Originally Produced By Edward Padula

BYE BYE BIRDIE
A Musical Comedy

March 8 - Lakeshore Lutheran School Matinee - 9:00AM
March 8 - Opening Night - 7:00PM
March 9 - Saturday Performance - 7:00PM
March 10 - Sunday Matinee - 2:00PM

For tickets and info visit www.milhslanders.org
\$10 - General Admission | \$14 - Reserved Seating

LWMS Shoreline Circuit Spring Rally

WHEN: Saturday, April 20th—9:00 AM to Noon

WHERE: Immanuel Lutheran—Manitowoc

REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM—9:00 AM

TOPIC: “100 New Missions in 10 Years” -

WELS Home Missions 2023-2024—This is a big goal. Why start 100 new home missions? Do we have the manpower and resources? How does synod plant new churches? Come & Find Out!!!

SPEAKER: Pastor James Borgwardt, Northern WI District Mission Board Member

DEVOTION: Pastor Matt Zimpelmann

LUNCH/FELLOWSHIP: 12:00 PM—Included—Hosted by Ladies of Immanuel



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund (ILEF) founded in 2003

**“Every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father...” James 1:17a**



What is an Endowment Fund?

We have all heard of or talked about Checking and Savings Accounts, Certificates of Deposit, 401Ks, IRAs or Money Market Accounts. We understand how these accounts “work” since many of us own one or more of these accounts. We are comfortable with them. We use them to hold our funds temporarily or long-term so that the deposited money will grow for future use.

Immanuel’s Endowment Fund is no different than any of the aforementioned accounts. The Fund is used to hold donated money for growth and future use to support Immanuel’s Church and School. The dictionary describes the word “endow” as “to furnish with funds for support.” So you can think of Immanuel’s Endowment Fund as a Savings Account, or a Money Market Account where the monetary donations given to the Endowment Fund will never be spent. The fund will continue to grow in principal as donations are given and only a portion of the investment earnings are used for Immanuel’s mission. It is a smart investment to ensure the continued support of our Church and School now and in the future. As the Fund grows, that support becomes more significant.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund are gifts from the heart that keep on giving and further Immanuel’s work and mission of spreading God’s Word.

Immanuel’s Endowment Fund (ILEF), focuses on the long-term financial future of our congregation. If you have questions about the Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund (ILEF), someone from the Endowment Committee will be happy to contact you. Endowment Fund brochures, contribution envelopes and bookmarks are available upon request or at the Welcome/Information Center in the Gathering Room at Church.

Committee Members:

Anton Doneff, Chairperson

Jason Sweney, Secretary

Dave Nickels, ECHO articles

Scott Stuckmann, Treasurer

Grant Request Coordinator

Member News



The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

† Savior, as we eagerly look to your empty tomb, remind us again WHY you had to die. It was OUR sin that placed you on the cross. And remind us again WHY you had to rise. It was for OUR forgiveness that you conquered sin, death, and Satan. Let all of these important purposes be present in our hearts, devotions, and prayers, as we go about our daily tasks. Thank you for your love! Amen.

Thank you!

From Immanuel Staff & Faculty for all the gifts and well wishes over the holidays. We are truly blessed by our congregation. Thank you!



Gifts and Memorials

♥ Many thanks for the gifts of love for our Savior Jesus Christ for Immanuel

Serving Our Lord

2024 Church Council

God has richly blessed our family of faith with so many gifted people. One of the ways in which God's people have been gifted to serve is in the area of servant-leadership. So that your leaders are available for you to contact with ideas, encouragements, or concerns, we've listed the names of your Church Council here. Feel free to also use the following e-mail address to contact the entire Council: council@ilutheran.org. (One e-mail sent to that address reaches all the Council members with e-mail.)

- Larry Verlinden**, President
- Reed Kabelowsky**, Secretary
- John Gnewuch**, Treasurer
- Dave Ramseur**, Board of Elders
- Tom Wurm**, Financial Secretary
- Nate Hochmuth**, Family Ministry
- Ron Nicklaus**, Evangelism
- Terry Welnicke**, Property
- Matt Carlson**, Board of Education

MARCH GREETERS

03/03/2024

- 8:00 AM—Julie Denfeld
- 10:30 AM—Larry & Linda Verlinden



03/10/2024

- 8:00 AM—Bob & Amanda Seal Family
- 10:30 AM—Gina Zimpelmann

03/17/2024

- 8:00 AM—Chuck & Linda Kauth
- 10:30 AM—Ann & Karen Winter

03/24/2024

- 8:00 AM—Bob & Sue Kempfert
- 10:30 AM—Sandy Stadelman & Helen Demsien

03/31/2024

- 8:00 AM—Jason & Amy Muench
- 10:30 AM—Ron & Toni Nicklaus

THIS MONTH **USHERS**

- 03/03/2024** Early—Team 2
- 03/03/2024** Late—Team 6

03/06/2024 LENTEN WORSHIP

- 4:00 PM—Team 7
- 6:30 PM—Team 13

- 03/10/2024** Early—Team 3
- 03/10/2024** Late—Team 8

03/13/2024 LENTEN WORSHIP

- 4:00 PM—Team 4
- 6:30 PM—Team 11

- 03/17/2024** Early—Team 5
- 03/17/2024** Late—Team 9

03/20/2024 LENTEN WORSHIP

- 4:00 PM—Team 6
- 6:30 PM—Team 13

03/24/2024 PALM SUNDAY

- 4:00 PM—Team 1
- 6:30 PM—Team 7

03/28/2024 HOLY THURSDAY

- 4:00 PM—Team 2
- 6:30 PM—Team 10

03/29/2024 GOOD FRIDAY

- 1:00 PM—Team 8
- 6:30 PM—Team 11

03/31/2024 EASTER SUNDAY

- 6:30 AM—
- Early—Team 3
- Late—Team 9



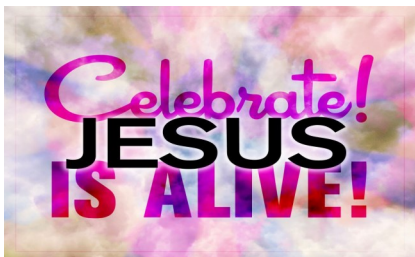
IMMANUEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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MARCH 2024

The Newsletter Staff

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Julie Denfeld
Beth Gaedtke
Janet Larsen

Mailing: Jenny Lemke

Worship & Contact Information

Worship Schedule



Thursdays: 6:30 PM
(during Lent there is no Thursday Worship)

Sundays: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Lenten Worship:
Wednesdays: 4:00 PM & 6:30 PM

Pastoral Staff

† **Pastor Matt Zimpelmann—208-861-3623**
pastorzimpelmann@ilutheran.org

† **Pastor Paul Bowe—262-853-2398**
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Immanuel Lutheran School

Preschool to Grade 8

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