

Immanuel Lutheran Church

March / April 2024

## Grace to you and Peace Siblings in Christ,

I write to you on Ash Wednesday, and so that is where my thoughts and heart is today; thoughts of our mortality and thoughts that God is not done with us yet. Today we begin the journey of Lent. I wonder what you and God will partner together on this Lent? I wonder what you will learn? I wonder how you'll change? I wonder how God's tender mercy will wash over you once again?

At Immanuel this Lent we're exploring the theme of, "God in the Desert." Remembering Jesus' wilderness experience after his Baptism, when the "Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him." (Mark 1:12-13). I encourage you to be open to the experience of the desert wilderness this lent and with God's help, to let go of the fear of the emptying of self, the letting go, the journey of the desert. Jesus is with you. You can walk through your own wilderness exploration of your heart, your life, your spirit with him. On the other side of the desert, we will be changed people through the kindness of the Spirit.

Before the month of March is over, we will walk through Lent and Holy Week and we will celebrate the joy and promise of the Resurrection on Easter, which is the last day of the month. It seems fitting that April fools this year falls on Easter Monday. Someone wittier than I, will have something to say about that!

Wherever you are in your life and in the life of your spirit, I pray that your Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are meaningful and nurture your faith, that God helps you and speaks to you, and that you are created anew once again through the life-giving and life-sustaining work of the Holy Spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bre



## Council Highlights

At the annual meeting held on Sunday, February 4, the 2024 Budget was approved as presented. Scott Couture was elected to fill the only vacancy on the Church Council. Ben Raymond, Walter Scanlon, and Hayley Smith were elected to fill positions as voting members of the Great Lakes Northern Synod Assembly and the Conference 8 Assembly. Terry Garceau was elected to fill the only vacancy on the Endowment Fund Committee. Kay Korpi and Kathy Sundine were elected to Fortune Lake Delegate positions.

At the Church Council meeting held on Tuesday, February 20, Walter Scanlon was elected to fill the position of President, Hayley Smith was elected Vice President, Mary Schlicht and Kerry Puckett both agreed to continue to hold the positions of Treasurer and Secretary. The council also heard about plans currently in motion for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.



## EASTER LILY REMINDER



**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR LILY FOR EASTER. THE ORDER FORM IS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE OR EACH WEEK IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN. FILL IT OUT AND RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE OR PUT IT INTO THE OFFERING PLATE BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27. THANK YOU FOR YOUR EASTER LILY DONATION.**



**IMMANUEL HAS A PAGE ON FACEBOOK! SEARCH FOR "IMMANUEL NEGAUNEE" AND "LIKE" US. ALSO, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.IMMANUELNEGAUNEE.ORG**

## Sunday School

In January, we learned where to find Jesus. In our story, Mary and Joseph were looking for Jesus and they found him in the temple. We learned that our church is one good place to find Jesus.

Jesus had a big job- to tell the whole world about God's love. Jesus needed helpers, so he called Disciples to help him. We learned that although the story said "Fishers of people", Jesus did not mean to catch people with a hook or a net! These disciples that Jesus called were fishermen, so Jesus used familiar fishing words to help them understand their new job.

January 14, Sunday School was cancelled due to road conditions.

Jesus protected his Disciples when a storm came up on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus was there in the boat to protect his disciples, but now when Jesus is in heaven, he has other helpers to protect us. As a follow up to our Bible Story, Trooper Kinnunen taught us about people who help protect us.

In February, Sunday School has been especially exciting! Our story was *Jesus Feeds 5000 Families*. We learned how one boy shared his small lunch with Jesus. Jesus blessed the food and gave it to God as an offering. God multiplied that little lunch so that there was enough food to feed more than all the people who live in Negaunee- and there were leftovers!

God created the whole world- and it was good. Food is part of that good creation. Food keeps our bodies healthy. We learned that Jesus and the disciples had extra food, so they shared it. We are expected to do the same. Jesus calls us to share. When we share our offering, God uses it to bless his people. We can't do BIG things by ourselves, but God can.

We received a **Thrivent** grant **Kids Helping Feed Hungry Kids**. We learned about Food Pantries. There are many families in our community who may have a hard time feeding their family some weeks if they get sick and miss work, or have an unexpected expense- car repairs, high prices.

We talked about what families would need at these times. We remembered how the boy shared. We had the money from the grant to share! All the classes brainstormed God's good foods that help keep them happy and healthy.

We made shopping lists from the brainstorm. On February 11, the older class and several adult helpers went to Super One and bought bags and bags of things so **Kids Helped Feed Hungry Kids**. The kids talked about how good- and fun- it was to be

working together to help others!

Super One donated a Grocery Cart for us to keep at Immanuel and use for our ongoing food collections. The Social Ministry collaborated by setting up a Food collection. On February 18, the Sunday School children put some of their food in the Grocery Cart. During the Offering, they pushed that cart up the aisle accepting food donations to add to their offering. All was offered to God so his helpers can protect and **Feed Hungry Kids**.

Our Good Samaritan lesson extended the theme of caring for neighbors. The theme we discussed was "Don't spend time trying to figure out who is your neighbor. Spend your time being the **Good Neighbor!**"



The Care Clinic is having a **diaper and baby wipe drive** until March 14th. They are in particular need of diapers sizes 3-6. Donations can be dropped off in the stewardship area outside the fellowship hall. Thank you so much for your generosity. All donations will supply the Ishpeming Center.



## Noisy Offering

The Youth will collect the noisy offering on the first Sunday of each month to help fund their transportation to New Orleans this summer.



# Women of Immanuel

## Recycling

In January, the women's group looked at recycling efforts at Immanuel. Some areas had Recycle containers. Sunday School had made brown bags with Recycling logo to be used in classrooms.

The bottleneck seemed to occur with getting the recycling materials appropriately put out for Tuesday morning pickup. Our recycling containers were too small or flimsy for curbside.

As a first step, a large blue recycling cart was purchased. The cart is in the back entry to accept paper, plastics and metal waste from Immanuel activities.

## Kitchen /Food Ministry

Our Food Ministry is expanding! Sunday Morning coffee fellowship is the most frequent use. Bible Study groups use the kitchen during the week. Evening groups are serving meals. Prayer Breakfasts meet monthly. Lenten Soup Suppers are upon us. Funeral luncheons are served less frequently. Community meals are planned for several times a year. Several time a year, our women's group uses the facility for fundraising. Occasionally families rent our facilities for showers, graduation parties, etc.

New uses mean users new to our kitchen. The main equipment is beautiful and top notch. However, some of our organization and storage may be a little quirky. We will be inviting a User's Group to look at how to best support our Food Ministry with safe and efficient practices.

As part of Food Ministry, we have contributed money to the Sunday School Kids Helping Feed Hungry Kids shopping trip.

## Women's Bible Study

Two Bible study groups meet in March and April. Bible studies are from the *Gather Magazine*.

Miriam Group:

9:30 Bible Study followed by lunch.

Tuesday, March 19

Tuesday, April 16

Abigail Group:

1:30 Bible Study and Dessert

Wednesday, March 20

Wednesday, April 17



## March Theme

Rivers: Springs of life and hope

Fresh water. Most of life on our planet depends on it. From the rivers in Eden, the prophetic springs in the desert, Jesus' baptism at the river Jordan, the crystalline river of life in

Revelation, will show rivers as sites of healing, restoration, identity and imagination.

## April Theme

Food: Daily bread for the health of the world

Most of us hunt, harvest and forage in grocery store aisles. We've forgotten the ways our food first comes to us—from fields, flocks, forests and farms. Considering our relationship with creation and our faithful stewardship of the earth means paying attention to the ways we eat.



## CHILI COOK-OFF at Immanuel, Saturday, March 9,

4:00 pm. Come and enjoy fantastic chill! Prizes will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place and bragging rights can be enjoyed for a

full year. For planning purposes sign-up sheets for chili, food, and attendance are by the Fellowship Hall **OR** call/text Danielle Songer at 906-250-1592 or Linda Sjolund at 517-242-5364.

Look who won the last Chili Cook-off!



## FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP

Registration is open. Scholarships are available for all. If you register by March 1, you will receive a free t-shirt and \$25 off. If you register by April 1, you will receive \$25 off. Please contact Stacy at 361-9123 or email her at stacymc6@gmail.com.

## NEW ORLEANS YOUTH TRIP

This summer, a group of youth from Immanuel is going to New Orleans for the national youth gathering. At this event, they will expand their faith through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. It is a unique experience for all those involved. They would really appreciate the continued support from the congregation. The youth are extremely grateful for all the generous donations that they have received. Without the love from you, they would never be able to go! The group is on their way to hitting their goal and could use your help. If you would like to donate, there are envelopes on a white board in the fellowship hall. Please put your donation in one of the envelopes and then put it in the offering plate. Thank you!



## March & April Mission Emphases



**FORTUNE LAKE**  
*A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI*

**IN MARCH**, our Immanuel's Fortune Lake Camp Scholarship Fund will be the Mission Emphasis

**(ME), enabling people from Immanuel, young and old, to participate in the outdoor camping ministries of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp (FLC) near Crystal Falls, MI.**

Outdoor camping ministry reaches people like none other. We'd like to encourage those connections by providing scholarship funds to our local youth, making it more affordable for them to attend a week of summer camp and other retreats throughout the year. In this special place, campers disconnect from the world in order to reconnect with God, each other, and themselves. Campers experience the beauty of God's creation, amazing camp staff, other campers, Good News themes, and all the fun that a week can hold.

If you wish to give to Immanuel's Fortune Lake Camp Scholarship Fund, use the *March Monthly Mission envelope* from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*

**IN APRIL** our ELCA World Hunger will be our Monthly Mission Emphases. The world provides enough food for all, but more than 800 million people around the world face chronic hunger. We believe in a God of abundance, so as a church, we live out our call in baptism to strive for a just world where all are fed.

ELCA World Hunger is this church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, at work. We walk alongside our partners and companions in the United States and more than 60 other countries. Generating unique solutions to local challenges starts by listening to our neighbors and communities. Then, together, we work and serve to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty – for good.

If you wish to give to ELCA World Hunger, use the *April Monthly Mission envelope* from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*



## FAITH FORMATION

Children and youth ministries are growing and need support the most right now, so those will be the main priorities for this committee.

### Child Safety

Northern Great Lakes Synod has approved a Child Safety policy. Immanuel will use it as a model to develop an Immanuel specific policy.

Immanuel hosted an Internet Safety learning session. Michigan State Police and NMU's Cyber Security Program were presenters.

### Infants and Toddlers

Young families are participating in worship and in Sunday School. As our enrollment grows, we are going to have to expand staff and reconsider signage, equipment and space allocation.

Busy Bags, quiet toys are available at entrances.

We plan to have a volunteer staffed Nursery during Holiday and Summer worship. At least 2 adults will be in the Nursery each week.

### Sunday School

It was decided to continue the current schedule again for next year- meet during worship, join families for Holy Communion and a children's sermon.

Our enrollment continues to grow, with most of the growth in the youngest ages. Right now there are 42 children enrolled, with an attendance rate of about 50%.

We are going to have to relook at our staffing and room allocation for next year.

### Vacation Bible School

Planning is underway for VBS which will be held June 10-14.

The theme is Mending God's World. Letters have gone out to neighboring congregations inviting them to participate. Several have already committed to help.



### Tweens and Teens

Confirmation students and leaders meet on the first Saturday of the month at churches around the county for instruction.

The second Sunday of the month, a county wide youth social event rotates between the participating congregations.

UPLift is an Immanuel group for Middle/High students that meets for food, fellowship and learning.

**Food as Ministry:** As opportunities are available, we will collaborate with other committees to support this new ministry.

Dinner for Internet Safety program

Youth Super Bowl Party refreshments

Sunday night supper prior to the worship service

UPLift dinners

In February, Social Ministry, Faith Formation and Sunday School collaborated to collect food for St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Negaunee. The Pantry has seen a dramatic increase in requests for food.

**FOOD LETS US LOVE EACH OTHER**

Why do you think God gives us so many amazing gifts? A clue can be found in the Bible:

**Hebrews 13:16** Do not forget to do good to others. And share with them what you have. These are the sacrifices that please God.

**Luke 3:11** John answered, "If you have two shirts, share with the person who does not have one. If you have food, share that too."

God is a big, loving, creative God, and He made a world for us. In that world, there is delicious, amazing food. He did all this because of His love for us!

**But God never meant for us to keep good gifts to ourselves.** Your ongoing food donations may be dropped off in the Grocery Cart near the Baldwin Avenue entrance.

**FOOD INSECURITY** As we did background research, we learned a new term: **ALICE**. ALICE is an acronym for:

Asset  
Limited,  
Income  
Constrained,  
Employed



ALICE is the growing number of families unable to afford the basics of housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care.

As the U.S. population ages, the number of food-insecure seniors (65 and over) is increasing. Food-insecure seniors more than doubled from 2001 to 2016, to 4.9 million.

The numbers are staggering. Here is a tiny snippet from *US Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey* done in late 2023 on Michigan families with children under age of 18:

Families who accessed free food in the past week: 278,855

Enough kinds of food wanted: 38,596

Not enough of the kinds of food wanted: 152,837

During this past week, how often did you **not** have enough food to eat: Sometimes-76,519, Often-10,903.

**Join us for a**

**CPR/AED**

**Training**

**(Cardio pulmonary resuscitation & Automated external defibrillator)**

**May 1, 2024**

**10 AM – 1 PM**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Register by notifying the church office**

**906-475-9161**

**OR email [office@immanuelnegaunee.org](mailto:office@immanuelnegaunee.org)**



We are encouraging people from across the ministries of Immanuel be trained in CPR and the use of the AED. This includes both Sunday worship services, quilters, various Bible Study and committee members, etc.

Our community will be a safer place with trained people in our midst.

**AEDs SAVE LIVES!!**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!**  
**Vacation Bible School** will be held at Immanuel from June 10-14, 2024 with classes for children Age 2 through Grade 5. Registration forms will be on the web page in early March. The success of our VBS program lies in having enough staff so the children can have a safe, fun learning experience. Our exact number of classroom staff will depend on our enrollment. We have several teachers, but need more. We need teacher assistants. Snack center has some volunteers, but need more- come for the whole week- or for one day. Our BIG need is for Playground helpers! Responsibilities will be to set up equipment. Play with the kids. Take down the equipment. This will take about an hour and a half mid-morning. Snacks will be included! **Please text Paulette Patron (906)361-1562- or leave a message with the Office for more details.**

# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 10:00 AA World Day of Prayer (worldwide)	<b>2</b> 8:00-10:00 Men's Bible Study/Breakfast
<b>3 3rd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship/Noisy Offering 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 5:00 New Member Meeting 7:30 AA	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's	<b>6</b> 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship 6:30 Choir Practice	<b>7</b> 10:00 Quilting	<b>8</b> 10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>9</b> 4:00 Chili Cookoff
<b>10 4th Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 7:30 AA <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>	<b>11</b> 5:30 Lion's Club	<b>12</b> 10:00 Bible Study 6:00-9:00 PEO 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's	<b>13</b> 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship 6:30 Choir Practice	<b>14</b> Quake 10:00 Quilting	<b>15</b> Quake 10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>16</b> Quake
<b>17 5th Sunday in Lent</b> Quake 9:30/6:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 5:00 Community Meal 7:30 AA <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:30 Miriam Circle 10:00 Bible Study 6:00 Executive Committee 6:30 Church Council 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's <b>1st Day of Spring</b>	<b>20</b> 1:30 Abigail Circle 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship 6:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Companion Congregation	<b>21</b> 10:00 Quilting	<b>22</b> 10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship No Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 7:30 AA <b>31 Easter</b> 8:30/10:30 Worship No Sunday School 7:30 AA	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10:00 Bible Study 7:00-9:00 Prison Ministry	<b>27</b> 6:00 Choir Practice	<b>28 Maundy Thursday</b> 10:00 Quilting 6:00 Maundy Thursday Service	<b>29 Good Friday</b> 10:00 AA 6:30 Good Friday Cantata at W.C. Peterson Auditorium at Ishpeming High School  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>30</b> 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt 6:00 Easter Vigil

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF EASTER</b>	10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's	6:00 Choir Practice	10:00 Quilting	10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	8:00-10:00 Men's Bible Study/Breakfast
<b>7 2nd Sunday of Easter</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship/Noisy Offering—Companion Congregation Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 7:30 AA	<b>8</b> 5:30-7:00 Lion's Club	<b>9</b> 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's	<b>10</b> Kinder Screening (8-4)  6:00 Choir Practice	<b>11</b> Kinder Screening (8-4)  10:00 Quilting 7:00 Financial Peace University	<b>12</b> Kinder Screening (8-4)  10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>13</b>
<b>14 3rd Sunday of Easter</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 7:30 AA	<b>15</b> Kinder Screening (8-4)  <b><u>BEACON DEAD-LINE</u></b>	<b>16</b> Kinder Screening (8-4) 9:30 Miriam Circle 10:00 Bible Study 6:00 Executive Committee 6:30 Church Council 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's	<b>17</b> Kinder Screening (8-4) 1:30 Abigail Circle 6:00 Choir Practice	<b>18</b> Kinder Screening (8-4) 10:00 Quilting	<b>19</b> Kinder Screening (8-4)  10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>20</b>
<b>21 4th Sunday of Easter</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 5:00 Community Meal 7:30 AA	<b>22</b> Kinder Screening Makeup (8-4)	<b>23</b> 10:00 Bible Study 6:00-9:00 PEO 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's	<b>24</b>  6:00 Choir Practice	<b>25</b>  10:30 Quilting	<b>26</b>  10:00 AA  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b>
<b>28 5th Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30/6:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30/7:00 Coffee & Fellowship 5:00-7:00 UPLIFT 7:30 AA	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Bible Study at Pasquali's				

# SERVING THE LORD . . . . . FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Comm. Asst.</u>	<u>Counters</u>
<b>3</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Kyle Saari Marty Saari	Kyle Saari Marty Saari	Kathy Sundine	Stacy McEachern & Youth	Vicki Lempinen Linda Sjolund
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Reuven Romback	Reuven Romback	Dan LaJoie	Dan LaJoie	Merry Bengry
<b>10</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Mike Frustaglio Larry Marta	Mike Frustaglio Larry Marta	Gary Suardini	Heidi Hill, Sara & Terry Garceau	Linda Ogea Connie Kemper
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Katie Ritzenhein	Katie Ritzenhein	Sheila Meier	Sheila Meier	
<b>17</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Jim Hayward Mike Lempinen	Jim Hayward Mike Lempinen	Kay Korpi	Kay Korpi, Val Paulson, Henna Paulson	Alice Mutkala Mike Frustaglio
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Diana Hetrick	Diana Hetrick	Taryn Gleason	Julie Mager	
<b>24</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Deb Moyer Cheryl Ulvila	Deb Moyer Cheryl Ulvila	Martha Hayward	Martha & Jim Hayward, Fae Collins	Fae Collins Dave Hallgren
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Deb Hicks	Deb Hicks	Kitty Raymond	Kitty Raymond	
<b>31</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>NEED VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>NEED VOLUNTEER</b>	Alice Zinsser	Paulette Patron, Alice & Bill Zinsser	Alice Mutkala Judy Hallgren
	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>NEED VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>NEED VOLUNTEER</b>	Jill Sladek	Dana & Sally Echelbarger, Walter Scanlon	Dave Hallgren



# SERVING THE LORD . . . . . FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Comm. Asst.</u>	<u>Counters</u>
<b>7</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Alice Mutkala	Alice Mutkala	Alice Mutkala	Stacy McEachern &	Fae Collins
		Jim Vercoe	Jim Vercoe		Youth	Juliana Herman
<b>14</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Valerie Paulson	Valerie Paulson	Hayley Smith	Hayley Smith, Toby Smith,	Vicki Lempinen
		Dean Patron	Dean Patron		Rory Smith	Linda Sjolund
<b>21</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Dave Hallgren	Dave Hallgren	Jill Sladek	Sara & Terry Garceau,	Linda Ogea
		Judy Hallgren	Judy Hallgren		Alice Mutkala	Merry Bengry
<b>28</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Doug Palomaki	Doug Palomaki	Valerie Paulson	Linda & Jim Derocher,	Alice Mutkala
		Kathy Palomaki	Kathy Palomaki		Walter Scanlon	Kerri Puckett
<b>7</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Katie Ritzenhein	Katie Ritzenhein	Kerri Puckett	Kerri Puckett	Linda Dillman
		Jim Vercoe	Jim Vercoe			
<b>14</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Carrie Villalobos	Carrie Villalobos	Kevin Krupi	Connie Kemper	
		Dean Patron	Dean Patron			
<b>21</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Connie Kemper	Connie Kemper	Sheila Meier	Sheila Meier	
		Diana Hetrick	Diana Hetrick			
<b>28</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	Diana Hetrick	Diana Hetrick	Paulette Patron	Paulette Patron	

# Companion Congregation Celebration

**April 7, 2024**

Enjoy worship as we celebrate our companionship with our brothers and sisters at Yombo Lutheran of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese (ECD) of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Africa.

Drs. Brian and Danielle Anderson will be our preachers. The Andersons have traveled to Tanzania several times and currently coordinate the synod's dental project in the ECD.

We will again incorporate some Tanzanian traditions in the worship and will even try singing some verses of hymns in Swahili!

During the coffee hour we will enjoy some Tanzanian snacks.

**BWANA ASIFIWE! PRAISE THE LORD!**



## **Prison Ministry Keryx #53 Weekend April 18-21, 2024**

Fellow Members of Immanuel,

Praise God that Marquette Branch Prison is reopening its doors to the Keryx Ministry program. Once again, a team of 25 Christian men will be conducting a Keryx weekend (Christian renewal) for a group of inmates at the Marquette Branch Prison. It is a condensed, life-changing course in Christianity offered to 24 new inmates every 6 months.

I am requesting your support in two ways:

1. We need our congregation's prayer support for the weekend. Prayer that the Holy Spirit will open the hearts and the minds of the inmates so that they may more fully receive and accept the message of divine love that comes through God's grace as revealed by our Lord Jesus in the Gospels. Also, we need prayers that the team will effectively reflect God's love for these inmates. A prayer vigil sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board next to the church office. You can pray wherever you are at the time you have chosen. A list of the prayer vigil, with first names only, is put up in the prison chapel and really touches the hearts of the candidates.
2. We need homemade cookies for the correction officers and prison staff as a reward and incentive for the additional responsibilities they have associated with our program. Cookies can be put in a disposable container in the church kitchen, labeled "prison". They need to be ready for pick-up by noon on Thursday, April 18th.

Thank you in advance for your support of this ministry,  
Jim Hayward

**"For I was in prison...and you visited me."  
Matthew 25:35-36**



## **LENT/EASTER SERVICE SCHEDULE**

- March 6, 5:00pm—Soup Supper followed by Lenten Service at 6:00pm
- March 13, 5:00pm—Soup Supper followed by Lenten Service at 6:00pm
- March 20, 5:00pm—Soup Supper followed by Lenten Service at 6:00pm
- March 28, 6:00pm—Maundy Thursday Service
- March 29, 12:00pm—Good Friday Service at Bethany Lutheran
- March 29, 6:30pm—Good Friday Cantata at W.C. Peterson Auditorium at Ishpeming High School
- March 30, 6:00pm—Easter Vigil
- March 31, 8:30am and 10:30am—Easter Service





**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** those members of our congregation who will celebrate birthdays in the months of:

**MARCH** . . . . .

- March 1 Kevin Jacobson, Philip Lindblom, Erik Ulvila
- March 4 Alex Carlson
- March 5 Alex LaFreniere
- March 6 Darlene Pepin
- March 7 Ethan Couture, Timothy Kjellman, Megan Syrjala
- March 9 Jacob Anderson, Lucas LaFreniere, Patricia Roberts
- March 10 Lindsay Hemmila
- March 11 Taylor DeWitt, William Makela
- March 12 John A. Hemmila, Avabelle Williams
- March 13 Barbara Cohan, Lori Marta
- March 14 Jerry Poutanen
- March 15 Nancy Kurin
- March 16 Jennie Meier, Karen Saari, Paul Smith, Luke Syrjala
- March 17 Kevin Bell, Becky Havel, LeAnn Makela, Susanna Suardini
- March 21 Dee Dee Larson
- March 22 Easton Saari, Brent Soeltner, Al Sundine
- March 23 Stacy McEachern
- March 25 Timothy King, Alice Mutkala, Landon Steele
- March 26 Taylor Maki, Ethan Wallner, Casey Williams
- March 27 Samuel Hayward, Debra Hicks, Karina Suardini
- March 28 Ashley Krook, Derek Larson, Nickolas Larson, Alexis Nelson, Valerie Paulson
- March 30 Reed Spickerman

**APRIL** . . . . .

- April 1 Joanna Champion, Robert Pynnonen
- April 2 Kaleb Collins, Douglas Jarvi, Tyler Thomas
- April 3 Tanner Annala, Hanna Kallioinen, Ethan Koski, Aleah LaJoie, Marina Pascoe
- April 4 Nicholas Sharon
- April 5 Simon Hamlin, Dorothy Hill, David Korpi, Jill Sladek
- April 6 Troy Henderson, Jayde Whitley, Scarlett Whitley
- April 8 Linda Dillman, Aaron LaJoie, Carole Spickerman
- April 9 Stephanie Miller
- April 10 Cooper Dost, Amara Wallner
- April 11 Derrick DuMoulin
- April 12 Luke Lawson, Shelli Miller, Victor Romback
- April 13 Chelsea Ault
- April 15 Danny Hill, Liliana Saunders
- April 16 Ronette Coduti, Luke DeWitt, Dale Jarvi, Ethan Roberts
- April 18 Mira Hill

- April 19 Rachel Lambertson, Amanda Miller, Eliza Williams
  - April 20 Luanne Skrenes, Kimberly Torreano
  - April 21 Becky DeWitt
  - April 22 Aaron Beckman, Delanee Lenten, Kathy Stambaugh
  - April 23 Connie Champion
  - April 24 Rudoph Gannon
  - April 25 Cheryl Kerkela
  - April 26 Kristin DeMarois, Madison Holcomb, Sherry Ulvila
  - April 27 Jennifer Larson
  - April 30 Alexandra Halverson, Jhon Jarvi
- Happy Birthday to All of You!!***

**CONGRATULATIONS! GOD'S BLESSINGS ....**

to those members of Immanuel who celebrate milestones in Their marriage in the months of



**MARCH & APRIL**

**20 YEARS & OVER**

- 03/03 - Ronald & Beverly Martin - 25 years
- 04/24 - Brett & Nicole Koski - 20 years

**30 YEARS & OVER**

- 03/15 - Jim and Diana Bergh-Hetrick - 33 years
- 04/02 - Kevin and Lori Bell - 30 years
- 04/28 - Steve and Valerie Paulson - 34 years

**40 YEARS & OVER**

- 03/31 - John & Vicki Makinen - 41 years
- 03/22 - Steven and Liisa Turri - 49 Years
- 04/24 - Michael and Paula Frustaglio - 48 years

**50 YEARS & OVER**

- 03/05 - Dan and Fae Collins - 56 years
- 03/20 - Ted and Millie Balzarini - 53 years

**SYMPATHY & GOD'S PEACE TO:**

the family and friends of **Rose "Bettie" Ahola** who passed away on Sunday, January 28. Her funeral was held at Immanuel on Saturday, February 10.

**MEMORIALS**

**IN MEMORY OF ROSE "BETTIE" AHOLA**

- June Jarvi
- Jonelle Collins
- Tom & Sandi Gauthier



**Web Page:** www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org  
**E-Mail Address:** Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org  
**Telephone:** (906)475-9161  
**Pastor:** Breanne Kinnunen  
**Parish Administrator:** Noreen Collins  
**Office Secretary:** Julie Vargason  
**Assistant Secretary:** Sharon Cottrell  
**Treasurer:** Mary Schlicht  
**Organists:** Connie Scanlon  
**Choir Director:** Connie Lindblom  
**Accompanist:** Vicki Lempinen  
**Ministers of Music:** Connie & Dan Lindblom

**EASTER EGG HUNT** We will be having an Easter Egg Hunt and Egg Dying Party on Saturday, March 30 from 10:00am—11:00am in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to fill and hide eggs, help out during the party or make a special treat to share, please speak with Pastor Bre or call the church office.

## SNOW ADVISORY

As we return to winter snows, please be advised that...

- Parking too close to the building in the east parking lot risks snow and ice falling on your vehicle. Please allow extra distance. Thanks!
- Although others will plow and shovel in advance of our services, there may be last-minute needs you discover with our entrance walks. Snow shovels and salt will be available at those entrances for your use, if you are able. Thank you for sharing in these family chores.
- If extreme weather forces a cancellation of Sunday or Monday worship, an alert will be given via TV6 and our church website at least an hour before the service start time. And even if worship is not cancelled, please use your common sense for your situation.



Thanks!



## ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS



VANCO Mobile is a free app and offers a better user experi-

ence with easy giving options, including giving to special funds. Here are the steps to follow: 1) **Search for Our Church;** 2) **Select Your Fund and Amount;** 3) **Enter Payment Method;** 4) **Choose to Cover Processing Fees;** 5) **Complete Your donation;** Review and complete your gift by clicking **SUBMIT**. That's all there's to it. And, *Thank You!*



**A special thank you to the following people for their help:**

**Bill Zinsser** for recalibrating the coffee makers in the kitchen!

**Paulette Patron, Connie Scanlon, Dana & Sally Echelbarger** for helping to purge and clean out the closet in the church office!

The Lenten Soup Suppers will continue into March. For each week, we will need your soups, breads, and /or any desserts you will be willing to make. There is a "sign-up" sheet posted near the Fellowship Hall doorway. Please sign up indicating you will be willing to make some of your delicious soup or dessert or bread. The supper starts at 5:00 pm followed by a short Lenten worship service at 6:00 pm. The dates for the soup suppers are: March 6, 13, and 20. Any donations made to this event goes to Immanuel's Youth for their upcoming trips. Thank you for whatever you are able to contribute. And, we look forward for your delicious homemade soups and desserts. Thank you all for donating your cooking skills and it's results. All of you are *WELCOME TO COME for supper.*



## HOSPITAL VISITATION

Please let us know if you go to the hospital or are planning on surgery. Due to privacy laws, we do not have access to any records at any hospitals. Patients sign a release form so the pastor can visit, but this is not always passed along. Be sure to call 475-9161 to inform us. We want to visit you!



## RECYCLING

We do battery recycling here at Immanuel. **ALL BATTERIES**, are recycled, including phone, hearing aid, & any others. Drop them off in the Stewardship area, into the appropriate bin.



## Northern Great Lakes Synod

Marquette, Michigan

Equipping the Saints for Ministry

**NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD** News – Visit:  
[www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)

**Lutheran Campus Ministry** @[www.nmulutherans.org](http://www.nmulutherans.org)  
228-8033

**NOTE:** If you choose **NOT** to receive the BEACON or would like to receive it by email, please notify the church office at 906-475-9161, or email to: [Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org](mailto:Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org)  
It is also available for pickup at the church and on our website.