

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK
4th Sunday in Lent
March 14– March 21, 2021

YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT... www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org
Daylight Savings Time started today.
1 hour earlier - hope you're here!

- Sunday - 9:30 am - Worship Service (also live streamed)
- Sunday School online any time (ALL VIRTUAL)
- 7:30 pm - AA Group Meets (men & women)
- Monday - 6:00 pm - Worship Service
(A recording of Sunday's worship will be available online by Monday)
- 7:00 pm - Confirmation (in person at church)
- Tuesday - 9:30 am - Miriam Circle - will be doing brown bagging for lunch & using the *Gather* magazine for Bible study. Come join us - Fellowship Hall.
- 6:00 pm - Executive Committee meets
- 6:30 pm - Church Council meets
- Wednesday - 10:00 am - Bible Study discussing this coming Sunday's Scripture online via ZOOM - - go to: www.immanuelnegaunee.org and click on button: "WED 10AM BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM"
- 1:30 pm - Abigail Circle IS NOT MEETING UNTIL AFTER EASTER SEASON. STAY TUNED!
- 6:30 pm - Lenten Mid-week Worship Service
- Thursday - 10:00 am - Quilting at the church
- 7:00 pm - Confirmation Mentor's Group (ZOOM)
- Friday - OFFICE CLOSED
- 10:00 am - Women's AA Group Meets
- Sunday - 9:30 am - Worship Service (also live streamed)
- Sunday School is Virtual
- 7:30 pm - AA Group Meets (men & women)

+SYMPATHY & GOD'S PEACE TO: Christine Koski on the loss of her mother, *Annette Marie Jachimski*, on Thursday, March 4th. Also, condolences to Annette's husband, Edward, and all of the Jachimski / Koski Families.

+LENTEN WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM SERVICES We "do" Lent with the whole church. Though many common Lenten practices rightly invite us to individual acts of repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love, Lent is also a time for deepening of community. This Wednesday's Theme: "*In Community with Those on the Margins*"

+WE NEED HELP We're looking for volunteers to join the tech team to operate the live stream camera and AV projection during worship services. CAN YOU HELP? Please contact the Parish Administrator if you'd like to sign up. parishadmin@immanuelnegaunee.org

+MID-WEEK LENTEN FOOD DONATIONS FOR ROOM AT THE INN
In lieu of our Lenten Soup suppers we are collecting ingredients for chili soup. A box for the donations will be by the entrance to the Sanctuary. Paper products and coffee are also needed.



* * * NOTICE * * * *

IN-PERSON WORSHIP is also **LIVE STREAMED**
Sundays @ 9:30 am/Mondays @ 6:30 pm
The recordings will be on our website by Mon & Thurs
Church Council will continue to evaluate in-person
worship monthly. Please check with appropriate
contacts for small group meetings whether
they will be in-person or by Zoom.

FORTUNE LAKE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!!

Scholarships are available to campers of all ages. Register by **APRIL 1** and receive a **\$25 discount**. The scholarship will cover **about 50%** of the cost. For the regular full week, instead of paying \$395, your cost would be \$200. For **LEADERS IN TRAINING (LIT)** a **FULL** scholarship is offered. This 2-week program is a great opportunity for 10-12th grade persons who would like to experience life behind the scenes at Fortune Lake Camp as a leader. The scholarship form is found outside the sanctuary OR on Fortune Lake's website. Once ALL scholarship requests are in, the exact scholarship amount for you can be determined. For more info, or to get on the scholarship list, call or text **ASAP -> Stacy McEachern, 361-9123.** <—

+NEEDS OF THE WARMING CENTER (ROOM AT THE INN) The Room at the Inn is also in need of the following: paper products, coffee, **FRESH** vegetables & fruit, or donations. The persons are living at the Warming Center now, not at various churches. Their supplies are low. Thank you for any donations you can make.

+SUPERIOR CENTRAL CLUSTER 8 WOMEN OF THE ELCA
The Spring Cluster Meeting for 2021 has been cancelled. It was scheduled for April 25th, but, instead, a letter will be forthcoming to all associated churches of the ELCA, with information of its news and intentions. Stay alert!

+SUNDAY SCHOOL 2020-21 Sunday School IS ALL VIRTUAL. Sunday School is for **Age 3 through 5th Grade**. Packets include activities for ALL ages. **The packets are posted EACH SUNDAY**. Call the church if you do not know how to participate.



+IMMANUEL'S FUEL FOR THE JOURNEY
Is a new Facebook Group (under the church Facebook page) set up for reflection on the Daily Texts with Pastor Steve and other group members. Daily Texts (available in hardcopy on the upper hallway resource table or digitally online) take us through the Scripture in two years. Join, read, and add your reflections, or just listen to others.



+GIVING YOUR OFFERINGS – Thank you for continuing to financially support our ongoing congregational mission. Electronic giving is available on our website.





PRAYER CONCERNS OR OTHER NEEDS? Call Pastor Steve at (906) 458-2145 or click on "Share My Needs & Hopes" (under the Connect menu) on www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org. Or use the Connection Card at church or online.

"Gospel Message"
March 14, 2021
4th Sunday in Lent
"Look and Live"

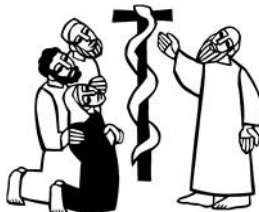
The cure for the ancient Israelites, following Moses, is to look directly at what is killing them, rather than avoid or hide from it. Healing occurs in the confrontation.

In today's gospel, Jesus likens his crucifixion to Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness so the Israelites might be saved from the venom of desert snakes. In doing so, Jesus communicates that he came so we might look at what is killing us. He came to shine a light on that which poisons our lives so we might live.

In today's gospel, we catch Jesus in the middle of a conversation with a Pharisee named Nicodemus, who is slinking around in the night to get a word in with Jesus, presumably so he is not seen. In this conversation Jesus gives a judgment that shines a light on Nicodemus: you, Nicodemus, seem to prefer the darkness because there is something you are doing that you want to hide, thus making it easier for you to live in the dark. This sounds an awful lot like the experience of shame. Jesus is naming the way shame has dictated Nicodemus's life, relegating him to shadows where he will not be seen for what he really is. Notice the lack of condemnation. Jesus is simply a light, showing Nicodemus to himself.

Jesus is also a light to us, showing us to ourselves. Looking at Jesus lifted up on the cross, we see the poison that is killing us: power used to protect the status quo; our instinct to blame one in order to save the rest. We see the fruit of our defenses against what the light reveals: the death of an innocent man at the hands of those in power.

Christ has come so that we will see what is poisoning us and that, in seeing, we might turn and live.



Next Week's First Reading: Jeremiah 13:31-34;
 Psalm: Psalm 51:1-12; Alternate Psalm: Psalm 119:9-16;
 Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10; Gospel: John 12:20-33

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Keep in Your Prayers** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Pray For: Kaelyn Amis, Glen Binoniemi, Kari Borchert, Bryon Butterfield, Wayne Connors, Elizabeth, Carrie Harvala, Audrey Heater, Christopher Johnson, Betty Kinnunen, Rodney Laituri, Anna Laurila, Connie Lindblom, Billy Jo Kaufman, Yvonne Marcom, Wendy Niemi, Yvonne Niemi, Ray, Jessica Roberts, Marty Saari, and all COVID patients.

Our Shut-ins: Bettie Ahola, Rudy Gagnon, Arlene Kivela, Charlene Kivisto, Michael Kjellman, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Butch Pynnonen, Lillian Rivers, Lynne Tossava.

Members in the Armed Service: Luke DeWitt, Dennis Koski, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Jacque Kurian, Mark (Samantha) Makela, Tanner Romback, Trevor Romback, Michael (Lauren) Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, Jason Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.

MARCH'S MONTHLY MISSION

In March, Fortune Lake Administrative Operations will be our monthly mission.

Fortune Lake's Staff & Board of Directors made the decision to operate Summer Camp 2021 at



FORTUNE LAKE
A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI

50% capacity to help keep our community safe during the pandemic. This means the camp will need the same amount of staff to serve half of the campers. The decision was also made NOT to raise camper fees, so as many people as possible can experience God's love at Fortune Lake. On top of that, COVID-19 protocols require less sharing of sports equipment, arts-n-crafts products, and Bible study supplies. All of this means it is going to be expensive to run summer camp!

However, our youth and families need camp now more than ever. Please help provide these much-needed outdoor ministry experiences to all who want them. God is faithful, and God often shows that faithfulness through people like you!

To be specific, extra contributions will be needed for summer staff salaries, cleaning and sanitizing supplies, additional equipment (air filters, hand sanitizing stations, etc.) and individual camper supplies.

If you wish to give above-and-beyond to March's Monthly Mission Emphasis, please the March Monthly Mission envelope from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*

Thank you for giving \$1,395.00 in February to the Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Scholarship Fund. The recipients will be richly blessed with your generosity! Thank you!

****YOUR 2021 ENVELOPE BOXES CAN NOW BE PICKED UP FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE****

Serving in Worship: Pastor Steve Solberg
Organist/Pianist/Musician: Connie Scanlon
Worship Services: Sunday @ 9:30 am; Monday @ 6pm
Office Hours: 8 am-2 pm, Mon.-Thurs. (or by appt.)

| ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE: | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 9:30 am USHERS/GREETERS | - Walter Scanlon - Alice Mutkala |
| 6:00 pm | - Reuven Romback - Kevin Crupi |
| 9:30 am LECTORS | - Valerie Paulson |
| 6:00 pm | - Reuven Romback |
| 9:30 am COMM. ASST.S | - V. Paulson & L. Dillman - D. Moyer & W. Scanlon |
| 6:00 pm | - C. Holcomb & K. Price |
| 9:30 am Tech Team | - Tyler Moore |
| 6:00 pm | - Mark Tatrav |