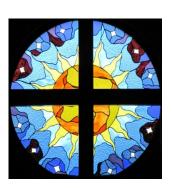
## Immanuel Lutheran Church

Children of God, called to proclaim the mighty acts of Jesus through lives of love and servanthood.

## March 2018 Newsletter



## Weekly Services and Communion

Sunday ~ 8am & 10:30 am

Faith Formation ~ 9:15 am

Wednesday ~ 6pm

## Office Hours

Weekdays

9am ~ 1pm

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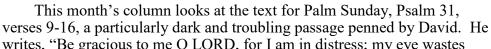
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by Peter J. Weller

"But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.' "

writes, "Be gracious to me O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

"I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

"But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love." (Psalm 31:9-16)

It is believed that David wrote this psalm while hunted and persecuted by Saul. In their rivalry for the throne of Israel, Saul sought to kill David, but David was able to survive with the help of the prophet, Samuel, the high priest, Ahimelech, the king of Gath, Achish, and an army of 400 men raised at the Cave of Adullam. From there, David went on to raise a much larger army.

By helping David, these individuals and their friends became enemies of Saul. To find, defeat, and kill David, Saul, unleashed a war of annihilation against those he suspected of helping David. Thousands were slaughtered. But, when Saul wiped out the entire town of Nob, including the priests, he lost both the moral high ground among the people and his ability to lead. Ultimately, the Philistines defeated and killed Saul, which paved the way for David to become king of Israel.

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Find us on Facebook at Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa or online at luthwash.org.

Come visit us at 1226 East Washington Street, Washington, Iowa 52353

Church ~ 319.653.3950

Pastor Howard ~ 319.333.7758

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! Psalm 133:1

Monthly Updates (Month to date)

General Funds  $\sim $12,504$ 

Benevolence, gifts outside of church ~\$44

Monthly expenses ~ \$12,000~\$15,000

Building Fund Gifts ~ \$1,069

Monthly payment ~\$810

Debt reduction ~\$643 (Jan pymt.)

#### Attendance

Sunday, January  $28 \sim 8$  am  $\sim 43$   $10.30 \sim 46$ 

Wednesday, January  $31 \sim 12$ 

Sunday, February  $4 \sim 8$  am  $\sim 30$   $10.30 \sim 48$ 

Wednesday, February  $7 \sim 10$ 

Sunday, February  $11 \sim 8$  am  $\sim 36$   $10.30 \sim 36$ 

Ash Wednesday, February  $14 \sim 72$ 

Sunday, February  $18 \sim 8$  am  $\sim 44$ 

 $10.30 \sim 41$ 

Wednesday, February  $21 \sim 53$ 

## Sunday, March 11th

is daylight savings time.

Be comfy and cozy and come to worship God in your pajamas.



Laurie Wittmayer-ONeill would like you to know she has a new email address: llwittmayeroneill@gmail.com Please update your records.

#### **Christian Sympathy**

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the families of

+John Simmering (Dave's Dad, Rachel Quigley's Grandpa)

+Elmer Womack (brother-in-law of Steve Bay)

may their families find comfort and peace in the promise of the resurrection of Christ.



## **February Milestones**

1) I got a solo in choir! Mikaila Matheson

2) I taught for 100 days! (As a first year teacher at Lincoln) Kelli Gapinski

#### **Wandering Worshipers**

Peter & Sandy Weller worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Grace Lutheran Church in Ormond Beach, Florida on January 14, 2018

Richard Schmidt worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines, Iowa on January 28, 2018.

Yaro and Mary Chmelar worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Westtown Church in Tampa, Florida on February 4, 2018.

**World Day of Prayer** 

The World Day of Prayer will be Friday, March 2 at 1:30 pm at the United Presbyterian Church. This is a wonderful tradition that has existed for many decades. Mary Gail Lyons and Judy Venzke will participate in the program. Focus this year is on the South American country of Suriname. Christians in that country will have prepared the service. The theme this year is "All God's Creation is Very Good". Come learn about Suriname and join your prayers with women and men throughout the world.



## Birthdays for March

- 1- Yaro Chmelar
- 2- Laurie Pemberton
- 3- Marty Baker
- 6- Julie Hill
- 7- Sid Manfull
- 8- Joyce Blitsch
- 9- Vickie Rebling
- 11- Deidra Baker
- 17- Margie Runaas
- 20- Ryan Jones
- 20- Neil Giesmann
- 23- Taylor Bartholomew
- 24- Tom Gaughan
- 24- Nathan Giesmann
- 26- Ashlee Statler
- 26- Cody Jones
- 28- Kelli Gapinski
- 30- Nora Gutierrez

## Anniversaries for March



18- Stan & Kristin Jones

## **Upcoming Meetings**

Finance– Thursday, March 1 at 6:30 pm

Council— Sunday, March 4 at 12 pm



# There is a DIRE need for peanut butter!! It's protein month at Immanuel!!

Please consider donating proteins to send to HACAP this month.

Other items will be accepted and appreciated as always.

Tuna and Peanut Butter will be our focus items. HACAP sends out 150 jars of peanut butter each month.

Thank you, truly, for your generosity!!

Ladies Night Out will be Tuesday, March 20 at 6:00 pm at Dino's.

Come, eat good food, and enjoy fellowship.





LUTHER LEAGUE (Youth Group) 6th – 12th Graders

When: Sunday, March 18th

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church

Why: Game Night Fun

**Who:** 6th - 12th Graders

(members and non-members... friends are WELCOME!)

**Time:** 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm **Supper:** Sub sandwiches

Leadership: Katie McWhirter, Angela Taylor, and Pastor Howard



#### Wednesday Holy Communion Lenten Services ~ Water Witness

Our worship format for Wednesday evening Lenten Services ("Hagar Discover's God's Well" February 28<sup>th</sup>, "The Israelites Escape" March 7<sup>th</sup>, "The Israelites Drink" March 14<sup>th</sup>, and "Naaman Washes His Leprosy Away" March 21<sup>st</sup>) is *Holden Evening Prayer*. The **services** are at **6:00 p.m.**, preceded by a **soup supper** at **5:00 p.m.** During our sermon ponderings, we will be navigating through Scripture and life experience as communities and people encounter the waters of baptism as both raging and peaceful. Still, seeking to be about more than water, The Water and The Witness intends to draw participants in to a deeper encounter with the One who both calms and stirs these waters, the One who draws all creation into his own life, death, and resurrection. Bound together in baptism these promise-filled waters carry the faithful people forth to become the creation God intends, to proclaim God's transformative powers, to live a reconciled life. These worship services promise to be very meaningful; as we draw closer to Christ. Take time out of your hectic schedules to join us for these Wednesday evening worship opportunities.

#### March 2018, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we're grateful for our many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving their communities! Maybe you've never had a social worker involved in your life. Yet, whether you realize it or not, you've had the benefit of their behind-the-scenes work in your community. Social workers help people help themselves in overcoming life's most difficult circumstances or managing challenges of everyday living: poverty, abuse, mental illness, depression, addiction, disability, and many other situations. Iowa wouldn't be the same without the patience, guidance, and empowerment that social workers provide. Happy National Professional Social Work Month! If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah. Whitford@LSIowa.org. Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

#### A Home Full of Love

Many of Cheryl's favorite memories involve raising her two children, watching them thrive, and counting the shoes in the doorway each night to see how many of her children's friends she would be making dinner for. As her children grew up, Cheryl knew there were more Iowa youth who needed a loving family and support system like hers. That's when her family began adopting. "We were a welcoming family, and we really didn't want that journey to stop," Cheryl says. Since starting her journey as an adoptive parent 20 years ago, Cheryl has welcomed 19 adopted children into her family and her children range from ages 9 to 35. They come from different backgrounds and cultures, and Cheryl says it's been enriching to celebrate those differences in her home. Iowa has a great need for more foster and adoptive families like Cheryl's. She says it has been a learning experience to raise so many different children but together, her family has found lots of love and laughter along the way. "People will say to us, 'God bless you that you've done this.' We don't see it that way," Cheryl says. "We see it as how blessed and thankful we are to have a family that's so big."

#### Continued from page 1

While David was a hunted man, he had to be devious, deceitful, and cunning in order to survive. To know him or to be his friend, was dangerous and life-threatening. No wonder he was an object of dread, a horror to his neighbors, and people fled from him. Truly, David feared for his life and must have felt deep despair and very much alone.

Yet, David never lost the faith and confidence that God was with him and protected him. Even in the darkest moments, he believed that God would save him, if not in this world, then certainly in the next. From these kinds of experiences, David came to know and trust in the Lord.

Have we ever felt as though we were in the depths of great despair? Have we ever seen ourselves as the scorn of our adversaries, a horror to our neighbors, an object of dread to our acquaintances? Have we felt that those who see us in the street flee from us? Have we passed out of mind like one who is dead, that nobody notices us? Have we become like a broken vessel? Have we heard the whispering of many as they scheme together against us? Have we known anyone who has felt any of these things? We should consider ourselves very blessed if we have not.

Jesus felt these same things that David described in this psalm, especially after his arrest: the scorn of his adversaries, the horror of his neighbors, an object of dread to his acquaintances. Even his disciples fled from him. In her commentary on these verses, Nancy Koester wrote, "Central to this Psalm is the confession of trust in God. Preachers call their hearers to look upon Jesus' suffering through the eyes of faith. Psalm 31:9-13 can be used to help people picture Jesus on the cross. . . 'an object of dread,' 'horror,' and 'scorn.' There is no hope of rescue, for Jesus has 'passed out of mind like one who is dead' (31:12). His body is broken like a smashed vessel, his eye wasted from grief. Strength fails and bones waste away. Around his broken body, betrayal is in the air, so thick you can smell it. Enemies sneer and snicker, neighbors flee in terror. . . .

"No voice of consolation comes from the bystanders. But if Jesus had prayed this entire Psalm, there would be inner consolation: 'I trust in you, O LORD, I say, "You are my God," my times are in your hand' . . . . Into your hand I commit my spirit. . . . '" (Psalm 31:5, 14-15)



Dear Church Family, Thank you for supporting us on our trip to Quake. My favorite part was the band. From: Avery Six

Thank you for helping pay for Quake. I had a really fun time and left feeling closer to God. Sincerely, Rob Taylor

Thank you for all your support while

time. My favorite part was meeting

we went to Quake. I had a great

Dear Church Family,

all the people.

From: Aden Six

Dear Congregation - I want to thank everyone for supporting us at Quake. It was really fun and I enjoyed my time with my roommates. One of my favorite parts was eating dinner with Wes, an Inspirational speaker from Hollywood. I also like the activities we did (food packaging, untangle the bullying mess, and the cool factor). Crazy dress night was a lot of fun too. Thanks to our chaperones. Caitlin Kroll

Dear Congregation— Thank you for supporting our weekend at Ouake. I learned a lot and enjoyed my time there. My favorite part was packaging food and family time. Thank you to Pastor, Jason, and Barb for chaperoning. Lucas Kroll

Congregation,

Thank you for

Thank You Pastor Maureen thank you for taking us to QUAKE I had such a fun time and you got us there safe. Jason, Barb thank you for staying with us in our room and helping us when we need something. Thank you to the congregation for supporting us and letting us go to QUAKE it was such a blast.---Emma Lueck

Dear Congregation, I thank you for the amazing opportunity to attend Quake this year. I enjoyed going to a place where everyone worshipped God. l also loved the music, and the people. Once again, I truly thank you.

supporting us in going to Quake. We had a lot of fun doing the following things: meeting new people, and creating memories, we also met a guy who produces movies in Hollywood, we couldn't have done it without you. Thank you for everything! Taylor Bartholomew

Sincerely, Mikaila Matheson

Dear Church Family, Thank you for letting me go to Quake. All of us had a blast and can't wait to go back next year. My favorite part of Quake was the speeches they gave. Thank you for your support. From: Ajay Six

Thank you for the support you give us with fundraising money, prayers and kindness. We went to Quake in Des Moines and had a good time. Sincerely, Ryan Jones

THANK YOU to the congregation for your generous support, both prayerfully and financially, of the youth of Immanuel. We had a wonderful weekend in Des Moines at Quake. Through the music of the band The Junker Georges and the testimonies of speaker Wes Halula, the Quake participants were drawn to being courageous as Jesus has already conquered the world. It was a fabulous weekend to deepen our faith in Jesus our Lord and Savior and bond as a youth group. Again, thank you for making this experience possible for our youth. - Pastor Howard



Thank you to Lee Buchholz for drying the apples for our Valentine treat sales. Your willingness to help the youth is greatly appreciated!!

THANK YOU to Avery, Ajay, and Aden Six for preparing the paper to cover the sanctuary's stained-glass windows. Pre-measuring and cutting the paper will make it easy to cover the windows. Thank you also for weekly covering the windows as a confirmation project.

THANK YOU to Marty Baker; Taylor and Clayton Bartholomew; Callie Brink; Linda Brown; Issac Giesmann; Cody and Ryan Jones; Lucas, Caitlin, and Viv Kroll; Emma and Thomas Lueck; Barb and Mikaila Matheson; William and Lauren McWhirter; Lason Montz; Kenzie Quigley; Allison Rebling; Addison, Avery, Ajay, and Aden Six; Jason, Rob, Emma, and Grace Taylor; and Audrey, Quinn, and Claire Wubbena for leading worship on Sunday, February 25th. Your enthusiasm and love for God radiated throughout the service. The Holy Spirit was active through you as we were drawn closer to the love of God. Your leadership was confident in God's presence and your singing was as jubilant at the celestial choir's. Our youth are all future pastors for the ELCA! Take courage; Jesus has conquered the world!

**THANK YOU to Aaron, Avery, and April Six** for moving the large, heavy cross into the Chancel and for covering the first two windows for Lent.

Pastor Howard and Friends at Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you all for everything you did for the Steven Bennett family before and after his passing. I'll cherish all the help that people came forward and did so much. Thanks also to the ladies that prepared and served the funeral luncheon. Thank you so much Pastor Howard for all the visits to Steve. You were an inspiration. I cannot thank you enough for all that you did. Steve and I were certainly blessed to find a <u>super\_church</u> family.

May God Bless you all, The Bennett Family

Immanuel Lutheran Church will be hosting a Community Irish Fiesta

ITS TIME TO FIESTA on Saturday, March 17th, 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm.

This is a fundraiser for Washington Against Hunger. (Food packaging event, Sunday, May 6th)

Plate 1: 3 Beef Tacos (choice of hard/soft shell), rice and beans

Plate 2: Chicken Enchilada Casserole, rice and beans

Plate 3: Roasted potato slices covered with cheese sauce, topped with shredded/diced pork, slivered green onion, diced tomatoes and a dollop of sour cream

We will also have baskets of chips and homemade salsa (made fresh that day). We will serve coffee, iced tea, or lemonade. For an extra donation you can choose a virgin margarita or a virgin strawberry daiquiri. It will be a freewill donation for the plate meal, but a suggested donation is \$8.00 +.



#### **Volunteer of the Month**

Mary Gail Lyons

My life has been blessed by God in so many ways, why wouldn't I work for Him? Things could have turned out so differently in my life had my neighbor, Mrs. Stenzel, not stopped by and asked my mother if she could stop by on Sunday and pick up my sister and me and take us to Sunday School. I now can reflect and see that God has been in my life and the lessons He has given me have made all the difference in a life of chaos to a life of trust and peace. I do not hesitate to say "Sure, I will do this or that", I owe this to the God I love and cherish.







Immanuel will host a vendor/craft show on Saturday, April 7th, 9 am-12 pm. The funds raised will go to Lutheran Campus Ministry, to thank them for all they do. If you or someone you know is a crafter or vendor for: Avon, Tupperware, Scentsy, Pampered Chef, 31, Norwex, or other, have them contact Deb Tisor at crazyhistorian@hotmail.com or text to 319.653.1625 for more information. The space would be 10X10 and cost is \$25. We will rent tables for \$5 each until gone, and \$5 for electricity use.

Space is available but will go fast, please contact Deb soon!!

#### The Water The Witness

"The Water The Witness", the theme for the upcoming 2018 synod assembly, calls us to make the connection between the waters of our baptismal witness and the world's water-related need.

Do you know that it is predicted that by summer, Cape Town, South Africa will become the first major world city to completely run out of water? The population of 4 million people won't have access to running water. Globally, 1 in 4 people drink from contaminated water sources. Sure, they have water, but by our standards, we cannot fathom drinking it to survive.

I'm sure that none of us think about when we flush the toilet or let the water run while we brush our teeth. Turning on the washing machine or the dishwasher seem like a normal task but imagine life without those simple luxuries! Water is essential. And the waters of baptism are a reminder of what this project is all about. We, at Immanuel Lutheran know that we need to have a ministry, not only locally, but globally. Council has purchased a blue five-gallon bucket from the Office of the Bishop. The words on the outside of it are simple: "The Water The Witness." You will see the faucet and the water droplets outside of the sanctuary. The water droplets can be purchased to add money to the bucket for our contribution to this cause. We will then take this bucket to the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, May 18-19.

How can you help? It's simple: You will see the droplets hanging and you can purchase them for \$1, \$10, or \$50. Every bit helps us to fill the bucket with our love and generosity.

Remember the next time you turn on your faucet at home and don't think twice about drinking the water from it that we are blessed to have this luxury and that so many around the world do not. Let's help others to have this essential part of life.

## A five-gallon bucket can save lives







#### Lent: What is it? Why is it?

The highlight of the year for Christians is Easter, the day when our Lord rose from the dead. Lent is a forty-day (not counting six Sundays in Lent) season of preparation for Easter. It always begins on a Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, six and one-half weeks before Easter. It ends on Holy Saturday, the last day of Holy Week, which immediately precedes Easter Sunday.

"Lent" is an Old English world for spring, the season when the days lengthen. Why 40 days? We remember the 40 days in the ark surrounded by water, the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the wilderness for purification, the 40 days that Jesus fasted and was tempted in the wilderness, and the 40 days of preparation for Easter baptisms. During Lent God's people: fast, pray, demonstrate acts of love, and long for the baptismal waters of Easter – our spiritual rebirth. Lent is not required anywhere in scripture, but a custom Christians have practiced for most of the last two thousand years.

The color used in the sanctuary is purple, a color which symbolized both the pain and suffering leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus as well as the suffering of humanity and the world under sin. Purple is also the color of royalty and so anticipates, through the suffering and death of Jesus, the coming resurrection and hope of newness that will be celebrated in Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. Simply put, Lent is a time to carefully examine our relationship with God and for spiritual renewal.

Pastor Howard invites you to a discipline of making the sign of the cross upon your forehead with God's baptismal water. Remind yourself that through your baptism you are a claimed, beloved child of God and an inheritor of all of God's promises through Jesus Christ.

#### "Now the Feast and Celebration" Worship Liturgy

Beginning Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Evening will resume to "Now the Feast and Celebration" worship. Immanuel Lutheran recognizes that not everyone is available to worship on Sunday mornings. Desiring that all people: repent and receive God's forgiveness, hear God's Word, receive Christ through Holy Communion, and be sent into the world to serve God through serving our neighbor, Immanuel invites you to join us for worship on Wednesday evenings. The service liturgy is "Now the Feast and Celebration" by Marty Haugen. The scripture and sermon proclaimed during the Wednesday service is what was proclaimed the previous Sunday. Can't make it to Sunday worship? Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m.

#### **Valentine Cookies and Dried Apple Slices**

Thank you to everyone who pre-ordered your Valentine cookies and dried apple slices from the confirmation youth. You were very generous with your ordering and monetary donations. Your orders/gifts raised \$840 toward sending the confirmation youth to Confirmation Camp at Camp EWALU. The cost to send one confirmand to Ewalu's 2018 confirmation camp is \$479 (that's the early registration discount). We thank you for your generous support of the confirmation youth: Ryan Jones, Lucas Kroll, Ajay Six, Avery Six, Aden Six, Rob Taylor, and Quinn Wubbena.



#### First Communion Retreat

All children in the 2nd grade, along with their parent(s)/guardian(s), will participate in a First Communion retreat. This retreat will be held on **Saturday, March 24th** (1 p.m. – 5 p.m.). As part of the learning experience, the children will prepare the Communion bread to be used during worship on Palm and Easter Sundays. The children will receive their First Communion on Sunday, March 25th (Palm Sunday).



## **Holy Week Worship Highlights**



Palm Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>: 8 a.m. Worship, 9:15 a.m. Faith Formation, and 10:30 a.m. Worship

**Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**: Holy Communion, Wednesday Worship, 6 p.m. ~ "Now the Feast and Celebration"

**Maundy Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>:** Foot washing, Holy Communion, and stripping of the Altar, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>: Tenebrae (Service of Darkness), 7:30 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>: SonRise Worship 7 a.m., Breakfast served by the Luther League 8 a.m., Worship 9 a.m.

## Maundy Thursday Service: Thursday, March 29th, 7:30 p.m.

With nightfall our Lenten observance ends, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days (Triduum) of Jesus' death and resurrection. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's Table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world. Join us this Maundy **Thursday**, **March 29**<sup>th</sup>, **for service 7:30** p.m. Come, gather as a family as Pastor Howard washes the feet of <u>pre-selected</u> people. Come, gather as a family around the Lord's Table and feast on the meal Christ prepares for us. Come, gather as a family as we witness the stripping of the altar reminding us how Jesus was stripped of his garments during his trial. Come, gather as a family as we enter the Triduum.

## Community Cross Walk Friday, March 30th, Noon

The Washington Area Ministerial Association is still working out the details for this annual event. The starting location will be publicized in Immanuel's weekly announcement page and on the Facebook page "Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa". Let us join together with our brothers and sisters in Christ and remember together the Passion of our Lord.

## Good Friday's Tenebrae Service: Friday, March 30th, 7:30 p.m.

This service commemorates the suffering and death of Christ and dates from the eighth century. It represents the darkness that fell over the earth as the Son of God was crucified. Candles symbolize Christ, who is our Light and the Light of the world. The Christ or Paschal candle is also lit this evening. The tradition of the use of the Paschal candle dates back to the fourth century. We will rehear the seven last words of Christ spoken from the cross. After each reading of scripture, a candle will be extinguished, and sanctuary lights are turned off until we are in darkness. The extinguishing of candlelight, in a darkened church on Good Friday, portrays the fading light of the world as Christ was leaving it. The Paschal candle remains lit. The glow from the Paschal candle indicates that death only seems to triumph over Christ, and points toward the coming resurrection. After the altar candles have been extinguished and the Paschal candle is removed, the strepitus is heard. (The strepitus is a loud noise representing the earth shaking and the rocks splitting at Jesus' death; Matthew 27:51. The loud noise also foreshadows the "great earthquake" at the opening of Jesus' tomb on Easter morning; Matthew 28:2. This action also acknowledges that the meaning of the cross is fulfilled.) The Paschal candle is then returned to the chancel to portray the hope of the Resurrection. Following the Lord's Prayer, the service ends and we leave in silence.

## Easter Worship; Sunday, April 1st

Join Immanuel Lutheran as we proclaim the good news that Jesus is RISEN! That death could not hold Jesus in the tomb, but God's love raised him from the dead. This joyous news will be proclaimed at a "Son-Rise" Holy Communion service; 7 a.m. The Luther League will serve a delicious breakfast at 8 a.m. The second Holy Communion celebration Easter worship will begin at 9 a.m. Invite your family and friends to join us for worship and breakfast or breakfast and worship! The day promises to be fabulous ~ God's April Fool joke on Satan!





Service Date	Greeters	Ushers	Readers	Acolyte	Communion Setup/ Clean up
March 4	8 am Rich & Deidra Baker and family 10:30 Alan, Vicki, and Allison Rebling	8 am Gary Fischer, Ray Poe, and Steve Vetter 10:30 Aaron & April Six and family	8 am Michael Howard 10:30 Jon Runaas	8 am Emma Taylor 10:30 Aden Six	Set up— Bev Bailey Clean up/Set up— Kristin Jones Clean up— Naomi Erickson
March 11 Pajama Day!!	8 am Ken & Susan Baker 10:30 Phyllis Hagensick and Vi Kruse	8 am Rich & Deidra Baker 10:30 Stephen Bay, Bob Coker, and Dale Venzke	8 am Deidra Baker 10:30 Mary Gail Lyons	8 am Rob Taylor 10:30 Mikaila Matheson	Set up— Bev Bailey Clean up/Set up— Mary Gail Lyons Clean up— Judy Venzke
March 18	8 am Bev Crandall and Carol Woodruff 10:30 Mike & Virginia Jorgensen	8 am Tom Gaughan, Brad Kroll, and Katie McWhirter 10:30 John & Peg Harris and Marty Westen	8 am Tom Gaughan 10:30 Mikaila Matheson	8 am Caitlin Kroll 10:30 Kylee Statler	Set up- Tricia Kroll  Clean up/Set up- Ray & Alta Poe  Clean up- Bev Bailey
March 25	8 am Ray & Alta Poe 10:30 Sherry Ives and Doris Moore	8 am Gary Fischer, Michael Howard, Steve Vetter 10:30 Brian & Carrie Lueck and Ben Striegel	8 am Gary Fischer 10:30 Peter Weller	8 am Lucas Kroll 10:30 Claire Wubbena	Set up— Tricia Kroll  Clean up/Set up— Ray & Alta Poe  Clean up— Naomi Erickson



#### By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism

Pastor Howard will continue leading an adult class on Luther's Small Catechism on **Sunday mornings** beginning, Sunday, **March 4<sup>th</sup>**, **9:15 a.m.** We will continue to use Luther's Small Catechism as our text along with the brand-new publication *By Heart* which is a richly illustrated, in-depth exploration of the Small Catechism.

Join us for this class and deepen your understanding of the Lutheran tradition. We'll be studying the Sacraments: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Each class is independent of the previous class  $\sim$  so jump in and join us!