



## ***THE MANGER ~ April 2009*** ***IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER***

Our Vision: To be a welcoming Spiritual community that nurtures an intimate relationship in our daily walk with Jesus and invites participation through sharing our spiritual gifts to the glory of God.

Office: 501 S. Clinton St., Grand Ledge MI 48837  
Phone: 517.627.6310; Website: [www.immanuel-gl.org](http://www.immanuel-gl.org)



Worship with us every Sunday  
at 8:00 am or 10:30 am  
Christian Education  
Sunday @ 9:15 am  
for all ages.

### **Staff & Team Leaders:**

Pr. Rick McKenzie, *Pastor*  
[rmckenzie@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:rmckenzie@immanuel-gl.org)  
Denise Lund, *Office Administrator*  
[dlund@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:dlund@immanuel-gl.org)  
Jim & Kristin Crooks, *Church Maintenance*  
Carol Espie, *Office Maintenance*  
Sue Schnarr, *Director of Education*  
[sschnarr@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:sschnarr@immanuel-gl.org)  
Lyn Danes, *Director of Kids Hope USA*  
[ldanes@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:ldanes@immanuel-gl.org)  
Ellen McKenzie, *Choir Director*  
[emckenzie@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:emckenzie@immanuel-gl.org)  
Bill DeWitt, *Gathering Team Leader*  
[gathering@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:gathering@immanuel-gl.org)  
Sue Schnarr, *Preparing Team Leader*  
[preparing@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:preparing@immanuel-gl.org)  
Den Graeber, *Serving Team Leader*  
[serving@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:serving@immanuel-gl.org)  
John Van Hoesen, *Support Team Leader*  
[support@immanuel-gl.org](mailto:support@immanuel-gl.org)



**MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 9**  
7:00 pm Passover Service

**GOOD FRIDAY - April 10**  
12:15 pm Tre-Ore: Scripture &  
Prayer Service  
*at Trinity Episcopal Church*  
*201 E. Jefferson, G.L.*

7:00 pm Community Tenebrae  
*at Wacousta Methodist Church*

**HOLY SATURDAY – April 11**  
7:00 pm The Vigil of Easter

**EASTER SUNDAY - April 12**  
8:00 am Early Worship Service  
10:30 am Festival Worship Service



The church office is open Monday-Friday  
from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The staff and team leaders at Immanuel are here to serve you.

If you have any questions or concerns,  
please call or e-mail us; we will be happy to talk to you.

AN EASTER PROCLAMATION: John Chrysostom (344-407 A.D.):

This Bishop of Constantinople and preacher at the Hagia Sophia wrote the following Easter Proclamation. It is preserved in his "Catechism Addresses." Is it any wonder that his name, Chrysostom, translates as "golden tongue."

*If any person is devout and loves God, let him (her) come to this radiant triumphant feast.*

*If any person is a wise follower, let him enter into the joy of the Lord, rejoicing.*

*If any have fasted long, let him now receive refreshment.*

*If any have labored from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward.*

*If any come at the third hour, let him keep the feast with thanksgiving.*

*If any arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings for he shall not be deprived.*

*If any delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near fearing nothing.*

*If any have waited even until the eleventh hour, let him not be alarmed at his tardiness.*

*For the Lord will accept the last even as the first.*

*Therefore, all of you, enter into the joy of your Lord.*

*Rich and poor together, hold high festival.*

*Diligent and heedless, honor this day.*

*Both you who have fasted and you who did not fast, rejoice together today.*

*The table is full; all of you, feast sumptuously.*

*The calf is fatted; let no one go away hungry.*

*Enjoy the feast of faith; receive the riches of God's mercy.*

*Let no one bewail his poverty, for the fullness of the kingdom is revealed.*

*Let no one weep for his iniquities, for forgiveness shine forth from the grave.*

*Let no one fear death, for the savior's death has set us free.*

*He who was held prisoner by death has annihilated it.*

*By descending into death, he made death captive.*

*He angered it when he tasted of his flesh.*

*Isaiah saw this and he cried,*

*Death was angered when it encountered you in the lower regions.*

*It was angered for it was defeated.*

*It was angered for it was mocked.*

*It was angered for it was abolished.*

*It was angered for it was overthrown.*

*It was angered for it was bound in chains.*

*It received a body and it met God face to face.*

*It took earth and encountered heaven.*

*It took that which is seen and fell upon the unseen.*

*O Death, where is your sting?*

*O Grave, where is your victory?*

*Christ is risen, and you are overthrown.*

*Christ is risen, and the devils have fallen.*

*Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice.*

*Christ is risen and life reigns.*

*Christ is risen and not one dead remains in the grave.*

*For Christ being raised from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep, and to him be glory and honor, even to eternity. Amen.*

I wish I had said that! How I am inspired reading it again. I hope you are, too. See you at Easter on earth and in heaven! PR

**KEEPING THE GREAT THREE DAYS:**

**April 9-11**

*“Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, even death on the cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him.”*

*(Phil. 2:8f)*

So sings the oldest Christian hymn found in the Bible. The world’s salvation and ours are celebrated by Christians each year at the time of the Jewish Passover. The passion narrative and the resurrection are told over the course of the Three Days. Our sorrow, our life, our joy. The message is God’s grace in sacrifice and victory.

“Therefore God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name; that ...every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Phil. 2:9ff)

**“Marty Miller” ON PRAISE SUNDAY, April 19  
(only one service at 10:30 this Sunday)**

We will celebrate Easter in a service of praise led by *Marty Miller*. Marty is a solo performer from Belmont, MI. He has brought his music and his message to congregations all over the Midwest. On April 19 he will sing for us, as well as lead us as we lift our hearts and voices to the risen Christ. Come, rejoice and commune. Bring some friends. Marty’s style is easy pop. He is laid back and fun. Most will enjoy his style. You can hear Marty’s music on his website: [www.martymillermusic.com](http://www.martymillermusic.com).

A freewill offering will be collected after the service to cover his expenses and to thank him for his special ministry to us.

NOTE: There is only one service on this Sunday at 10:30.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** at 7:00 p. m.

Maundy is from the Latin for “Commandment.” We remember Christ’s new commandment given at the institution of Holy Communion. Our service this year will be the traditional liturgy: absolution, foot washing, Holy Communion, Stripping the Chancel.

**GOOD FRIDAY** 12:15 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal

According to the Gospel of John, Jesus was crucified at noon and died at 3 p.m. So the Good Friday afternoon service is called “Tre-Ore.” (3 hours). The service is not 3 hours long. Rather it takes place during the hours Jesus was suffering. We gather at 12:15 p.m. The Church is open all afternoon for prayer.

Fr. Nixon McMillan and Pr. Rick will lead the service at Trinity Episcopal Church beginning at 12:15 p.m. All are welcome. Pr. Rick will be preaching.

All are welcome...and expected.

Church tradition calls for this to be a day of complete fasting: sunrise to sunset; or at least meatless, especially for those with dietary considerations. The purpose is devotion and prayer.

7:00 pm Community Tenebrae

**EASTER VIGIL at 7:00 p.m.**

All Christian hope flows from the mixture of the cross and the empty tomb. The apostles mix them for all time in the baptismal font. Paul recorded in Romans 6. All Christians renew their baptismal covenant with Christ during the Vigil on Holy Saturday. It is our revival service.

The Vigil is a joyful Easter celebration. Some come on Saturday. Some worship both Saturday and Sunday morning.

**APRIL HOLY DAY for home devotions**

APRIL 25: St. Mark, Evangelist

1<sup>st</sup>: Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 57

2<sup>nd</sup>: 2 Timothy 4:6-11, 18

Gospel: Mark 1:1-15

*Almighty God, you have enriched your Church with Mark’s proclamation of the gospel. Give us grace to believe firmly in the good news of salvation and to walk daily in accord with it, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**OUR LENTEN ALMS**

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday offerings will be included in your Lenten almsgiving. They are divided between PASTOR’S DISCRETIONARY FUND and (the Bishop’s) CENTER FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY, to be constructed in DeWitt this year.

## BIG OPPORTUNITY

...to attend this year's Synod Assembly to help the Church do its business, to be inspired and to learn so much about what the Lord is doing. You know, we used to call our attendees "delegates." But Synod Assembly Delegates gets shortened to SAD, which is just not accurate. Now we call you Synod Assembly Voting Members, which can be shortened to SAVM (or "Save 'Em") This is more in tune with what the Lord is about!

Volunteer with Pr. Rick. (1 female, 1 male) We will sign you up and get you affirmed by the Church Council. You will be official.

North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly

The Lansing Center May 17-19 (Sunday evening to Tuesday afternoon.)

We will be commuters with meals included.

### COMMUNITY SOUP NITE: WHO DO YOU KNOW?

Who do you know who might benefit from the Community Soup Night? Could you mention it to them? Could you invite them to come with you so they can not feel strange? Could you drop off an information flyer to them? Flyers are available in the Entry Way.



### GRADUATING: WHO DO YOU KNOW?

Who do you know who is graduating this Spring? Those earning Associates, Bachelor's, Master's degrees and above. We would like to recognize them. Please let the office know who, along with other info.



## EARTH DAY, APRIL 22

*Kim Winchell*, diaconal minister for Earthkeeping Education and Advocacy Ministries, North/West Lower Michigan Synod.

Throughout the 1990s, I became increasingly involved in synodical and statewide ecumenical efforts to awaken the people of God to care for creation. Those years were a time of rich learning, formation, and preparation in discerning my call to ministry. Along the way, I stopped using the term environmental stewardship in favor of Earthkeeping. Why? Because I think one of the deepest reasons why humankind does not care for Earth that sustains us is that too many people do not know or feel their inherent biological, ecological connection to the rest of the natural world. Referring to what we should care for as simply "the environment" fosters the sense that it's something "out there" and separate from us...

Earthkeeping, on the other hand, is drawn from Genesis 2:15, where God places Adam (humankind) in the garden to "tend and keep it." Earthkeeping, then, denotes a more intimate caring and keeping, modeled upon how God cares for and keeps us. We are, after all, made in the image of God.

Kim Winchell, "Beyond Earth Day"

### April 19 - After the 10:30 Service

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship at the Earth Day Fair, a time to celebrate the environment.

### Special Recycling Events

April 4 Regional Book & Textile Recycling Collection 8am – Noon 483-4400 [www.lansingmi.gov](http://www.lansingmi.gov)  
Ingham County Road Commission, 5613 S Aurelius Rd. (between Jolly & Miller)

April 17 Book Collection Event 2pm – 6pm 543-368 [www.eatoncounty.org](http://www.eatoncounty.org)  
Charlotte Area recycling Authority, 201 Hall St, Charlotte

April 18 Second Annual Greener Delta One-Day Event 10am – 4pm 323-8500 [www.greenerdelta.org](http://www.greenerdelta.org)  
Hayes Middle School

May 14, 15, 16 Delta De-Junking Days 323-8500 [www.greenerdelta.org](http://www.greenerdelta.org)

## THANK YOU'S

From Sherry Wellman, General Federated Women's Clubs MI President: *Everything went very smoothly and attendees really like the location and our church... We had 87 people attend... Hopefully we will use the church again in 2010..*

From Bishop Schleicher: *We commend you for your embrace of the ministries we collectively support: seminaries and colleges; missionaries and mission developers; communities and congregations stressed by disasters; camping ministries, and much more... 2008 tells us of great generosity in this synod. (Immanuel contributed \$38,953 to the mission of the Church in 2008.)*

A big thank you to the Upkeepers Team for all the repairs and fixer-uppers... that they have done.

### EASTER FLOWERS

Lilies, Tulips, and Mums will be placed throughout the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 12. To order plant(s) please call Bev Becker, church office or complete a form in the Narthex. Last day to order is Sunday, March 29



## ACTIVITIES



### Relay for Life

Friday/Saturday

May 15/16 4:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Relay for Life is a life changing event that brings together more than 3.5 million people across the country each year to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against a disease that takes too much.



### LUTHER LEAGUE II

Meeting at the Log Jam Restaurant at 12:00 noon Monday, April 13. Please call Vera Ford (627-5213) or Joy Powis (627-7067) by April 9 if you are going to attend.



### Women of Immanuel Mini-Retreat

Sunday, April 26, 2009



2:00 - 4:00 pm

Join us for a spiritual journey where you'll discover how valuable you are in the eyes of Jesus. Secret Prayer Pals will be revealed.

### IMMANUEL'S ANNUAL LUGNUT OUTING:

IMMANUEL'S ANNUAL LUGNUT OUTING: Mark your calendars for Friday, July 17, 2009 for Immanuel's next Lansing Lugnutt outing. This is one of the Christian Nights at Oldsmobile Park as well as a LAFCU fireworks night. Tickets are \$8 a seat and can be reserved by calling Orv Erickson at 517-645-2865, emailing him at oerickson@sbcglobal.net or just see him after church some Sunday. Tickets must be ordered and paid for by Sunday, May 31, 2009. We have 70 seats reserved but we can get more. Come join us this year for a great night out with the family. GO NUTS!!!!

# April 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 Handbells 6:30 God's Crusader's	2 7:15 Choir	3 8 pm AA	4 8 am AA
5 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 S School 10:30 Worship	6 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Community Soup Night 6:30 LIFT	7 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:30 Staff Meeting 12 Upkeepers	8 6:00 Handbells 	9 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:00 Service	10 <b>Good Friday</b> 8 pm AA	11 <b>Holy Saturday</b> 8 am AA 7 pm Service
12 <b>Easter</b> 8:00 Worship 9:30 Breakfast 10:30 Worship	13 4:30-6:30 Community Soup Night 6:30 Church Council	14 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:30 Staff 10:00 Memorial 7 Boy Scouts	15 10 Toddler 6:00 Handbells 6:30 God's Crusader's	16 	17 8 pm AA	18 8 am AA
19 <b>Praise Sunday</b> 10:30 Service  6:15 SNL	20 10:30 Frozen Chosen 4:30-6:30 Soup Night 7 Team Meetings	21 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:30 Staff 2 IV Team 7 Boy Scouts	22 10 Toddler 2 Hope Circle 6:00 Handbells	23 7:15 Choir	24 8 pm AA	25 8 am AA
26 8:00 Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 Worship 2-4 Women's Mini-Retreat	27 6:30 LIFT 4:30-6:30 Community Soup Night	28 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:30 Staff Meeting 7 Boy Scouts	29 10 Toddler Time 6:30 Handbells	30 7:15 Choir		

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Bill Frysinger (4/3)  
Barb Roush (4/5)  
Peg Sattler (4/5)  
Chelsea Buckley (4/5)  
Peggy Sattler (4/5)  
Annette Ryan (4/7)  
Donny Willems (4/7)  
Fred Gehlhaar (4/8)  
Elaine DeClercq (4/9)  
John Van Hoesen (4/9)  
Vanessa Crambell (4/10)  
Jeff Everts (4/11)  
Gil Baptista (4/11)



Amelia Hofmeister (4/11)  
Sophia LaViolette (4/11)  
Tom Sullenberger (4/12)  
Sean Riley (4/12)  
Kira Ayoub (4/12)  
Mathew Bonette (4/14)  
Avery Riggs (4/14)  
Jason Morrall (4/14)  
Jessica Brown (4/16)  
Pat Graeber (4/17)  
Andrea Graeber (4/17)  
Lucas Smith (4/17)  
Karl Berner (4/18)



Katie Bryant (4/23)  
Mike Pitchford (4/24)  
Erin Hubert (4/24)  
Delaney Fedewa (4/24)  
Owen Smith (4/26)  
Chris Frysinger (4/27)  
Allan Blaske (4/27)  
Carisa Flanders (4/27)  
Alan Goschka (4/29)  
Angie Blake (4/30)  
Donna Gibbons (4/30)  
Abby Osburn (4/30)  
Ritch Lewis (4/31)



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Bill & Donna Gibbons (04/01) Rick & Linda Merrifield (04/07)  
Tom & Nicole Sullenberger (04/17) Tim & Linda Hubert (04/19) Tim & Teri Sime (04/20)  
Eric & Beth Hart (04/20) Jim & Carol Espie (04/28)

## **HEALING PRAYER MINISTERS.**

Thank You from the Healing Prayer Ministers. Sunday March 8, 2009 was a reason for us to rejoice over the commissioning of our four new Healing Prayer Ministers and the renewal commissioning of those of us from the first class. We want to thank you for your rejoicing with us and the warm welcome for our new Healing Prayer Ministers, Lisa Baptista, Jeannie Boerger-Dixon, Barb Roush (and Annette Ryan who was unable to be with us). The rest of our Healing Minister Prayer Team are, Donna Gibbons, John Kingsley, Jim Krenek, Joan Nolff, Barb Roush, Nicole Sullenberger

We look forward to having Healing Prayer teams available to you each Sunday morning in the care room. We will be there for you after Communion and after each service.

Our prayers with and for you can be for illness, stress, in making a decision, for a friend, family member, of thanksgiving, whatever you feel the need of prayer for.