



The Manger

March 2010

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor's Word:

Holy Week is for Children

(NOTE: Holy Week begins March 28)

We hear it said, "Christmas is for children." I say, "Holy Week is for our children, too."

Worship in liturgical churches is always a sensory experience. It is even more so during Holy Week.

- Waving palms (and this year streamers and balloons, too),
- Washing bare feet, (and this year hands, too)
- Eating celery dipped in salt water,
- Carrying candles and linens out of the chancel;
- Dragging in a big cross,
- Lighting candles outside and trying to keep them from blowing out while you walk,
- Getting sprinkled with water from an evergreen bough.

These strange experiences can form lasting impressions in young minds to help remember the Bible events and their meanings, e. g., Jesus did this because he came to save me. In truth, they work for adult minds, too.

Parents, please make plans to attend Holy Week services with your children. Let them experience more of what our Church does to get the Word deep into us. The calendar can really work this year, if you are going to be staying around for Spring Break. You won't have to contend with late nights with school the next day.

Spring Break begins on Good Friday, April 2. So Maundy Thursday is not a school night, unless you have a school activity. Good Friday afternoon, when Jesus was being crucified, is not a school scheduled time. Likewise, Holy Saturday.

So, consider this year an opportunity to expose your children to some new things at church. There might be questions and discussion coming out of them to talk about parent-to-child.

Pr. Rick

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Staff:

The Rev. Richard McKenzie
Denise Lund,

Office Administrator

Sue Schnarr,

Director of Education

Lyn Danes,

Director of Kid's Hope

Ellen McKenzie,

Choir Director

Jim Espie, *Organist*

Carmen Karkau, *Organist*

Jim & Kristin Crooks &

Carol Espie,

Maintenance/Custodian

Team Leaders:

Bill DeWitt, *Gathering*

Sue Schnarr, *Preparing*

Den Graeber, *Serving*

John Van Hoesen, *Support*

Immanuel Lutheran Church
501 S. Clinton St.

Grand Ledge MI 48837

(517) 627-6310

Website: Immanuel-gl.org

E-mail: dlund@immanuel-gl.org

Sunday Worship Schedule:

8:00 & 10:30 am

Christian Education for all ages:

Sunday at 9:15 am

LENTEN MID-WEEK PRAYER is also about praying.

Each week our Drama Team will present a prayer skit. March's themes are:

3/03 "God Ain't Magic"

3/10 "The Prescription"

3/17 "No Distractions"

3/24 "The Prayer Restaurant"

Come for Soup at 6:15 pm. Come for Nighttime Prayer at 7:00 pm. Come to learn.

Come to pray with others. All services are held in the sanctuary.

LENTEN ALMS. Our extra giving during Lent will be split between

1) the *Grand Ledge Emergency Assistance Program (GLEAP)* which helps our neighbors with vouchers for food, transportation, medical, and sometimes housing and

2) the *Grand Ledge Food and Clothing Bank*, which can purchase various products by the pound to supplement the staples we all give directly. The Food Bank operates through the Seventh Day Adventist church.

May God bless both our generosity and those in need who will receive through our gifts.



HOLY WEEK IS MARCH 28 – APRIL 3/4

Holy Week spans from the end of March and the beginning of April. Palm Sunday is March 28. Easter Sunday is April 4.

PALM SUNDAY: 8 & 10:30 am (There *will be* Sunday School!)

Procession with palms (and children @ 10:30), Choir (10:30), Passion reading, Holy Communion.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 7:00 pm

Seder Meal Liturgy with the Lord's Supper, foot and hand washing, stripping of the altar.

Sign up at church, please, to help with planning.

GOOD FRIDAY:

Tre-Ore Liturgy: 1:00 pm

John's Passion, Sermon, Bidding Prayer, Procession of the Cross, Solemn Reproaches, Communion (according to the Episcopal tradition).

GL Community Tenebrae: 7:00 pm

1st Congregational UCC Church (aka, the church with the blue roof)
210 W. Saginaw Hwy., (M43 west of Jenne Street.)

HOLY SATURDAY: 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil

Service of Light, Easter Proclamation, Readings, Baptisms and Renewal of Baptismal Covenant, Holy Eucharist.

EASTER SUNDAY: 8 & 10:30 am (Breakfast between the services)

MISSION GIVING REPORT: JANUARY

Since this year you made a choice about where your Mission Giving will be sent, we thought you might be interested in what that looked like in January. We pass 10% of your General and Mortgage offering to God's work through the larger Church.

ELCA: \$1,838.57

LWR and Stony Lake Camp: \$387.50

(NOTE: We will disperse these quarterly.)

Haiti Relief:

ELCA Disaster Relief: \$543

LWR: \$397.05

(Includes the Sunday School offering.)

NOTE: Undesignated donations were divided equally between ELCA Disaster Relief and LWR.

The Sunday School is sending \$95.05 to LWR for Haiti Relief, even as the children continue to support Sandi, a child through World Vision.

The GL Food Bank: \$339 was given by SNL through the Soup Luncheon following worship January 28.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor Rick is teaching a class for all who are considering becoming new members of Immanuel. Current members are welcome too. The group meets Monday nights at 7 pm in Pastor's Classroom. Do you know someone who might like to explore their faith? Invite them to attend *with you*.

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

Girl Scout Recognition, Sunday, March 14 - We ask that all Girl Scouts and leaders wear their uniforms. This is for all ages from Brownies to leaders. There will be a special recognition coffee hour following the 10:30 service. If you were a Girl Scout or a leader in the past we also invite you to join us in this celebration of the Girl Scout program.

If you have pictures to share, please bring them down for the coffee hour. Thanks!

Immanuel Serving Resource Team

Luther League II

(Immanuel senior citizen group)

Monday, March 8

Lunch at the Log Jam

See you there at 1:00 pm



MEMORIAL & SPECIAL GIFTS TEAM

Please join us - the Memorial & Special Gifts Team would like one person to join our Team. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am. If you might be interested, please contact Marge Galvin, Dorothy Foltyn, Bev Becker or Barb Roush.

CALL FOR ASSEMBLY "DELEGATES"

Our North West Lower Michigan Synod meets in assembly annually. Each congregation sends two lay voting members: one female, one male. Would you volunteer to attend? Contact Bill Frysinger or Pr. Rick

- May 20-22, Thursday noon through Saturday noon.
- Held in the Lansing Center, so we will commute.
- The congregation will pay registration costs, including meals.

Assembly is the one time that all congregations meet for worship, inspiration, fellowship, displays and to do the business. Two unique features this year:

- Thursday picnic on the Capital lawn with our state representatives: Rick Jones for us.
- The Southeast Michigan Synod will be meeting jointly at the Lansing Center.

Assemblies are educational and inspirational events for those who attend. Our theme this year is "For the Lord Loves Justice."



EASTER FLOWERS

Lilies & Tulips, in pink, red, orange, purple and yellow, will be placed throughout the sanctuary to decorate for Easter Sunday, April 4.

Flowers will be \$10 each.

Order forms will be available at church or call Bev Becker, 627-2025

Last day to order is Sunday, March 14



March Holy Days (for home devotions)

March 19 Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16 Psalm 89:1-29

Romans 4:13-18

Matthew 1:6, 18-21, 24a

Our God, from the family of your servant David you raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of his blessed mother. Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and obedience to your commands, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

March 25 The Annunciation of our Lord (9 months until Christmas)

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalm 45

Hebrews 5:5-10

Luke 1:26-38

Pour your grace into our hearts, O God, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son, Jesus Christ, announced by the angel, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection for he lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Do you read the Bible daily? Here are daily readings from the New Testament for Year C. Let's strive to read the Bible each day during Epiphany and Lent. After each reading, ask, "What one thing will I take with me today (tonight)?"

2 Lent:

March 1: Romans 2:1-11

March 2: 1 Cor. 10:1-13

March 3: Luke 13:22-31

March 4: Rev. 2:8-11

March 5: Rev. 3:1-6

March 6: Luke 6:43-45

3 Lent:

March 8: Romans 2:1-11

March 9: Romans 2:12-16

March 10: Luke 13:18-21

March 11: 2 Cor. 4:16-5:5

March 12: 2 Cor. 5:6-15

March 13: Luke 15:1-10

4 Lent

March 15: Rev. 19:1-8

March 16: Rev. 19:9-10

March 17: Luke 9:10-17

March 18: Phil. 2:19-24

March 19: Phil. 2:25-3:1

March 20: John 11:45-57

5 Lent

March 22: Heb. 10:19-25

March 23: 1 John 2:18-28

March 24: Luke 18:31-34

March 25: Heb. 2:1-9

March 26: Heb. 2:10-18

March 27: Luke 22:1-13

Holy Week:

Monday: John 12:1-12

Tuesday: John 12:20-36

Wednesday: John 13:21-32

Thursday: 1 Cor. 11:23-26

Friday: Heb. 10:16-25

Saturday: Romans 6:3-11

(Do you appreciate this list each month? Let me know by email or contact, please. Pr. Rick)

GROWTH AND FUN: OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!

- Go to www.elcalivingwater.com Find out that camp is for youth and adults and families; for singles and couples, or parents and kids, all year round!
- Go to www.mittensynod.org, click on News and Events, then on Bishop's Letter February 2010 and see that our Synod is offering a Foundations of Christian Spirituality workshop April 23 in Lansing.
- Also on the Synod website, News and Events, check out the mission trip to Honduras.
- Go to www.godlovesmarriage.org (Lutheran Marriage Encounter) to see that couples can reignite or to www.retrouvilleoflansing.catholicweb.com to see that couples can rebuild their marriages.
- Contact Barb at barbkissling@comcast.net or 349-0188 to connect with this summer's Lansing area Thrivent for Lutherans build for Habitat for Humanity.

TRANSITION TEAM NEWS

The Transition Team made a presentation at the 2/14/10 Congregational Meeting of their proposal for the transition when Pastor Rick retires. There are informational meetings on 2/28/10 between services. The proposal will be presented again at the Special Congregational Meeting on 3/7/10 before discussion and voting on the proposal. We hope that as many people as possible in the congregation can attend this meeting as it effects our entire future. If you have questions, please feel free to contact one of the Transition Team members.

They are Mike Proper, John Van Hoesen, Lynn Colby, Larry Kruth & Wayne Christiansen.

AMONG OUR MEMBERS

DEATHS:

Eileen LaCombe

Eileen lived to be our eldest member, reaching 100 years on June 1, 2009. She came to GL in the early 1950's when her husband bought and published the Independent. She lived to enjoy her grandchildren and great grandchildren, to enjoy many trips with her friend, Margaret, to touch many lives with her faith through ELCW and LSSM, her wisdom, her engaging hopefulness, and love of literature and the Lord.

Peggy Hellsten

Peg was member at Immanuel over about a 40 year period. She and Ben moved to NC after retirement; then back to GL. Of late, Peg moved to Royal Oak to be near her daughter as her health declined. Peg was very involved in volunteer work in the church and the community for many years.

The communion of saints is God's family on both sides of the great divide. We celebrate their reception into glory and pray for the peace and hope that keeps us close in Christ.

FROM THE HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY

A friend's daughter showed up at my home on Monday with a gift of Paczki. What a reminder of the church season we are in. Nicole's gift was taking me to a doctor's office where three hours were taken up with tests and seeing the doctor.

Our faith gives us the knowledge that God, our loving father, through Jesus Christ, wants us to pray for one another. We all benefit through these prayers. In the healing ministry, we avail ourselves of every avenue of healing given us by our Lord, including doctors and all those in the medical profession. They like us are all part of God's creation and they too need our prayers as they use their gifts God has given them. (James 5:14-16)

We are dependent on one another as we pray for those who are ill during our Sunday service. God hears our prayers. As we request prayers for our Healing Prayer Ministers God hears. Wherever we pray, God hears and acts. As we pray for others we are praying with Christian love, God hears. As individual members of the body of Christ, we are all united through prayer. (Luke 7:21-23)

The Healing Prayer Ministry is a way of life for those who are involved with it. We try to be more alert to others needs and do what we can to effect healing. We are called to use our gifts for ministering for and by those in our community of faith and witness. (Matthew 18:19-20)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2010	1 10:30 am Frozen Chosen 4-6 pm Soup Nite	2 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11 am - 3 pm Quilting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	3 10:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Handbell 6:30 pm God's Crusaders 6:15 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service	4 7:15 pm Choir	5 8:00 pm AA	6 8:00 am AA 10:00 am Yoga
	7 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:15 pm SNL	8 4-6 pm Soup Nite	9 10:00 am Memorial 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	10 10:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Handbell 6:15 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service	11 7:15 pm Choir	12 8:00 pm AA
14 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	15 10:30 am Frozen Chosen 4-6 pm Soup Nite 7:00 pm Team Meetings	16 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11 am-3 pm Quilting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	17 10:00 am Toddler Time 2:00 pm Hope Circle 6:00 pm Handbell 6:30 pm God's Crusaders 6:15 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service	18 7:15 pm Choir	19 8:00 pm AA	20 8:00 am AA 10:00 am Yoga 1:00 Karl Berner Memorial
21 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:15 pm SNL	22 4-6 pm Soup Nite	23 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	24 10:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Handbell 6:15 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service	25 7:15 pm Choir	26 8:00 pm AA	27 8:00 am AA 10:00 am Yoga
28 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	29 4-6 pm Soup Nite	30 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	31 10:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Handbell	April		
				1 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Seder Meal	2 Good Friday 1:00 pm Tre-Ore 7:00 pm Community Service	3 Holy Saturday 7:00 pm Vigil of Easter



March

BIRTHDAYS

March 2 Dale Goldie
March 3 Carol Espie, Genevieve Ketola
March 4 Lauren Martinich, Jerry Marcus
March 5 Jane Goebel, Fay Boerger
March 6 Fred Roush, Lyn Danes, Ashley Bower, Mindy Turner
March 7 Brad Matzke
March 8 John Martinich
March 9 John Burg
March 10 Mike Wesley, Robert Liss
March 11 Carol Weigel, Anne Matzke
March 12 Adam Van Hoesen, Patty Riley
March 14 Phil Hill
March 15 Adam Fracker, Anthony Gatewood
March 16 Julia Hoornstra
March 18 Gary Lass
March 19 Trystan Lane
March 22 Scott Hoornstra
March 23 Steve Dyke
March 25 Jessica Proper
March 26 Helen Kollman, Emily Rosier, Betty Hoffner
March 27 John McKenzie, David Saxton
March 29 Tony Holland, Jacob Hickok, Kristin Crooks
March 30 Amanda Gatewood
March 31 Marlaine Teahan

ANNIVERSARIES

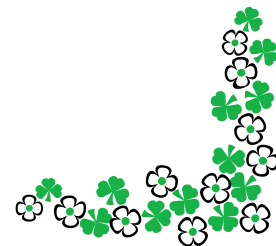
Barb & Bob Walker

Lauren & Yvette Rosier

Scherrie & Jim Bryant

Lynne & Rick Fracker

Carolyn & Jim Drown



PRAYER REQUEST

Britt Riggs, Dick Van Gilder, Kelli Cardwell, Elder Erickson, Lloyd Hoffner, Dianne Boerger, Peggy Sattler, Billie Bryant, Jack Hernden, Felicia Becker, Connie Starr, Millie Stimer, Nickie Nicholson, Tom Straatsma, Kathy Straatsma, Nancy Zakrajsek, Ruth Buckley, Fay Boerger, Mary Twitchell, Diane Osburn, Ruth Hildenbrand, Joan Nolff, Jack and Jean Anderson

