



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Image

April 2023



**You are invited to worship with us during Holy Week:
Palm Sunday 9 am
Wednesday Dinner Church 6 pm
Maundy Thursday 7 pm
Good Friday 1 & 7 pm
Easter Sunday 9 am with breakfast and egg hunt to follow!**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
3214 Golf Road
Eau Claire WI 54701
Website: immanuelec.org
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715.832.7832**

Joy in uncertain times

April Greetings!

I wish you a meaningful holy week and a happy and blessed Easter, dear church.

Do you ever find it strange that we can switch so quickly from sorrow to joy as humans? From Good Friday to Easter

Sunday in a couple of days. And sometimes, even more peculiarly, we can hold both emotions simultaneously. This April, as we celebrate Easter, there will still be a lot we are praying for in the church including peace in the world, aid for those who suffered from natural disasters, and comfort for those who are sick. We hold the pain of the world and the suffering of Jesus in our hearts while we also move to the hope of the resurrection and the joyful parts of our lives.

Sometimes we wonder if we really should celebrate when there are still hard things in the world, when there is still pain and suffering and grief in our own families. But I think the Easter story teaches us that those are the exact times that we do need to feel joy. We need to praise God after we have gone through hard times, and even sometimes right in the middle of them. We need to celebrate good things when they come along even if things still aren't quite perfect. We need to live in God's peace, even amidst the turmoil of the world.



Even with uncertainty in our communities and in our personal lives, God leads us into a new future. Perhaps a future where we care for each other even more deeply because of the trials we have endured. Here a mindset can form where we consider the good of all, because we know what it's like to suffer. And after feeling disconnected, we can be inspired to reach out and seek community. Even in uncertain times, we can experience the goodness in this fragile life.

Jesus has given you the peace of the risen Christ.
Jesus has given you the gift of the Holy Spirit.
Jesus wants your joy to be complete.
So rejoice and be glad!
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

Pastor Jamie Brieske



We invite you to worship with us in April:

April 2 Palm Sunday - 9 am

April 5 Wednesday Dinner Church - 6 pm (no Livestream)

April 6 Maundy Thursday - 7 pm

April 7 Good Friday - 1 & 7 pm (7 pm Livestream)

April 9 Easter Sunday - 9 am

April 12 WoW Returns - 6 pm

April 16 Sunday Worship - 9 am

April 19 WoW - 6 pm

April 23 Sunday Worship - 9 am (Affirmation of Baptism)

April 26 Last WoW - 6 pm

April 30 Sunday Worship - 9 am (XYZ Milestone)



SAVE THE DATES: DAYLILY DIG
DATES: JULY 14 & 15 AND AUGUST 4 & 5
Hours: 9 AM - 1 PM



Tim Fehr picked two days in May for work days to move plants so that they can root and still bloom in time for the daylily dig weekends. In addition to moving plants, there will be an opportunity to weed for those who don't like shovel work! The two work days will run from 10 AM – 4 PM. Come for both/one, all or part of each day, as you have time. Lunch will be provided by a Thrivent Action team grant.

The work dates are: May 15 (Monday) and May 20 (Saturday).

Bring a friend who loves gardening and a million dollar view of Eau Claire!

Peace and Joy, Greg Kaufmann

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE by Sandy LaValley



John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst."

Addressing Hunger As FoodShare Benefits Are Reduced

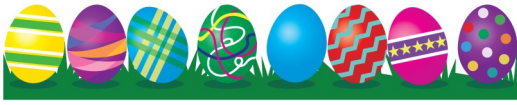
Beginning in March, the FoodShare households will receive only their regular benefit at the beginning of the month, not the additional payment they had been receiving (Covid relief). Seniors and families may see their \$281 monthly benefit drop to \$23. How can we respond and support?

- Continued support of Immanuel Food Pantry anticipating an increased demand not only from the loss of FoodShare benefits but also from the rising costs of food, gas, and other necessities due to inflation. [Watch last week's WCC Wednesday to learn about how one church is responding through a Community Fridge on their property.](#)
- Advocate for anti-hunger policies like [improvements to SNAP when the federal Farm Bill is reauthorized.](#)
- Learn about the extent, causes, consequences, and solutions to hunger in your community. One place to start is [WCC's Hunger at Our Doorstep: A Study-Action Guide for Congregations.](#)

Those visiting the Immanuel Food Pantry always express great appreciation for the food, gas cards, personal hygiene items, scarfs and hats, and can openers. Thank you so very much for your continued support!

Youth & Family Ministry News

Alyssa Engedal - familyministry@immanuel.org



Do you want to get Egged? Our 2023 Summer Trip team is offering a twist on the old prank of egging houses again this year - we'll egg you with Easter eggs! Here's how it works - sign up, give a donation

to our trip, and a member of our team will come to your house on Saturday, April 8 and hide 50 filled plastic eggs in your yard (or your neighbors yard, grandkids yard, etc!) We can't wait to EGG your house! Sign up in the Narthex or online [HERE](#) to Get Egged!

Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt - In addition to our Get-Egged fundraiser, our Trip Team will also be hosting a simple Easter Breakfast after worship on Easter Sunday. Sign up using Sign Up Genius to donate food items. Breakfast will be available after the 9 AM service. Then, at about 10:30, we will have an (outdoor, we hope) egg hunt for all the kids. We can't wait to see you and celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection together! Sign up [HERE](#) to provide food!



WoW Resumes after Easter! As a reminder, we will return to our "regular" Wednesday night programming following Easter, on April 12.

Affirmation of Baptism will be on Sunday, April 23 during the 9 am worship service. We are so excited to celebrate this faith milestone in the lives of our 9th graders, and invite you all to join us in rejoicing with them, their mentors, and their families!



Mark your calendars for summer!



Luther Park Bible Camp -- Registration is available now, and Immanuel's Trust Fund is offering 50% Sponsorships! Use the code "ILEC23" at checkout to apply the discount. There will be several Immanuel families attending the week of July 16 - come that week if you can! Camp is even more fun with church friends. Register [HERE](#).

Thrift Sale: Our thrift sale drop off will be June 5-7, and the sale will be June 8 & 9. Start that spring cleaning & save your donations!

Immanuel VBS: Immanuel will lead Vacation Bible School the week of June 19! Registration forms available in the Narthex at church or on our website [HERE](#).



Youth Trip 2023: We are heading to Tennessee! Our group of high school youth are looking forward to spending the week together. We will be staying at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, which is about 25 miles east of Nashville. We are hoping to spend some of our time serving our siblings in the Nashville area, as well as serving and exploring the park we're at. And, of course, having a lot of fun, growing in our faith & bonding through fellowship along the way!

Summer Stretch: This Middle School Ministry, full of fun and service, will be offered during the week of July 10. More information and registration can be found on our website [HERE](#).



2023 Youth Summer Trip Team Introductions



Alizah Felling:

Hi, I'm Alizah Felling. I am a freshman at Memorial High School and my favorite class is history. I have gone on one other church trip and had a lot of fun, so I am looking forward to going again!

Rylie Hansen:

Hi, I'm Rylie. I'm in 9th grade at North High School. I am looking forward to going on this trip and making new memories.

Campbell Dean:

Hi, my name is Campbell Dean. I am a junior at Memorial High School. This will be my third church trip, and I am really looking forward to this trip because it's close to Nashville and I love country music!

Carter Chapman:

My name is Carter Chapman and I am a senior at North High School. I am excited to go on this trip because I loved Tennessee the last time I went, and I look forward to spending time with friends that I don't see often.

Molly LoRusso:

Hi, my name is Molly LoRusso and I am a Senior at Memorial. I am excited for the 2023 trip to Tennessee because of the experience I had last year. I grew in my faith and grew stronger bonds with everyone who was there. I also want to help the younger kids feel connected, like I was helped when I was a freshman.

Keiran Tarpinning:

Hi, my name is Keiran and I am 16 years old. I am in 10th grade at Memorial. My favorite color is light blue and my favorite food is Chinese food. I am going on this trip to help others and enjoy myself.

Kyellie Engedal:

My name is Kyellie Engedal and I am 14 years old. I love to swim, dance and play soccer. I am on the Memorial Girls Swim & Dive team and really enjoy it. I am going on the trip this year to meet new people and build strong relationships. I'm really looking forward to it and thank you for your support!

Kaelyn Hansen:

Hi! I'm Kaelyn, I'm 17 years old and attend North High School. I enjoy playing softball and volleyball along with hanging out with friends and family. I am going on this trip to have fun with the church group and explore a new state I haven't been to yet. I enjoyed last year's trip and the beautiful sunrises and sunsets we got to see while staying there.

Landon Ivey:

My name is Landon Ivey and I'm a freshman at North High. I play football & hockey. I also like to hunt, fish, ride ATV's, golf & ski. I want to go on this trip because my older sister went on summer trips with SHYN when she was in high school and always said how fun it was. I am looking forward to the outdoor experiences and group activities.

Kaatya Modl:

Hello, my name is Kaatya Modl and I am 17 years old. I am very excited to be able to go on the trip again this year! Some things I really enjoyed from last year's trip were meeting new people, visiting Mt Rushmore and being outdoors. I am going on the trip again this year because I had a lot of fun last year and I am excited to grow closer with everyone!



GREEN TEAM NEWS

Your Immanuel Green Team encourages you to participate in the **EcoFaith Summit**, April 15 from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm You will get to hear and learn from youth, veteran practitioners, Native Americans, and other ELCA partners about how to become part of the solution rather than part of the problem!

In a moment of deep ecological crisis, this year's EcoFaith Summit calls us to become part of the Holy Spirit's subversive plot to pollinate an alternative way of being human for the sake of life. In this plot, we find our model and hope from pollinator species. These tiny, apparently powerless, often overlooked and disregarded creatures, whose drastic decline endangers so much we depend upon, are a key to the regeneration of life itself. Through worship, a keynote presentation, diverse storytellers, conversations, and engagement sessions, together we will be empowered to be participants in this unfolding plot.



Participants have the option of attending in person (\$25 which covers meals and reception) or virtually (Free). If you plan on driving to Duluth, please note that you can request free housing with some of our Superior area congregations! Just complete the google doc, [HERE](#), which is linked right on the Eventbrite registration form.

Earth Week Open House

The JONAH Environmental Task Force in collaboration with Beaver Creek Reserve and the Eau Claire County Office of Recycling and Sustainability are hosting the Inaugural Earth Week Open House. Over 30 organizations will be available to answer your questions about composting, recycling, energy audits and pollinator friendly lawns. There will be door prizes, kids activities and interactive displays. Come get inspired to adopt more sustainable practices in your everyday life.

When: Thursday April 20, 2023 **Time:** 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM **Where:** Brewing Projekt, 1807 N Oxford
Additional Info: Food truck available Beer and soft drinks available for purchase Free to all

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 01 Marty Gullicksrud
- 01 Greta Gullicksrud
- 02 Lang Jacobson
- 02 Aaron Larson
- 04 Paige Hedges
- 04 Erik Jacobson
- 07 Konnor Glynn
- 07 Hazel Hungerholt
- 08 Jan Bille
- 09 Isabella Larson
- 09 Kyle Malec
- 10 Judy Wolf
- 13 Barb Hokanson
- 14 Lisa Calkins
- 14 Erica Olson
- 16 Elsie Sorvaag
- 17 Monte Pedersen

- 18 Josette Lietzke
- 18 Chris Eilts
- 18 Ella Glynn
- 18 Tom Prissel
- 19 Pauline Anderson
- 19 Teckla Wahlstrand
- 20 Sabrina Hagstrom
- 20 Michael Stacy
- 21 Travis Stanke
- 27 Jerry Hanson
- 27 Justin Liebergen
- 29 Loren Anderson
- 30 Julie Pickett




- 11 Todd & Lynn Fox
- 13 Tyler & Carrie Hansen
- 26 Hemant & Karla Hegde



Church council meets monthly at 7 pm on the third Tuesday.

Once approved, Council minutes can be found [HERE](#), if you would like a copy mailed to you, please call the church office at 715-832-7832.



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 PALM SUNDAY 9 AM Worship 10 AM Fellowship & Learning Adult Forum with Deacon Lidixe Montoya | 3 1 - 3 PM Knit Together 4-5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3 | 4 9:30 AM—H3 | 5 HOLY WEDNESDAY 6 PM Dinner church with Communion Milestone | 6 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM Worship  | 7 GOOD FRIDAY 1 and 7 PM Worship (7pm will be Livestreamed)  | 8 Get Egged Summer Trip Fundraiser |
| 9 EASTER SUNDAY 9 AM Worship Followed by Breakfast and Outdoor Egg Hunt  | 10 1 - 3 PM Knit Together 4-5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3 | 11 9:30 AM—H3 | 12 10 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Meal 6 PM WoW Resumes 6:30 PM Learning 7 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Mentor Mtg | 13 Noon - 4 pm Material Witness Quilting | 14 | 15 ECO FAITH SUMMIT 9:30 AM—3:30 PM |
| 16 9 AM Worship 10 AM Fellowship & Learning Coffee and treats provided by Immanuel Green Team: Kick Off Earth Week April 16-22 | 17 1 - 3 PM Knit Together 4-5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3 | 18 9:30 AM—H3 7 PM Council Mtg | 19 10 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Meal 6 PM WoW 6:30 PM Learning 7 PM Choir Rehearsal | 20 Noon - 4 pm Material Witness Quilting EARTH WEEK OPEN HOUSE Brewing Projekt 5:30 - 7:30 PM | 21 | 22 5:30 PM Evening of Honor |
| 23 9 AM Worship Affirmation of Baptism 10 AM Fellowship & Learning | 24 1 - 3 PM Knit Together 4-5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3 | 25 9:30 AM—H3 | 26 10 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Potluck 6 PM Last WOW: 5th Grade Milestone 6:30 PM Learning 7 PM Choir Rehearsal | 27 Noon - 4 pm Material Witness Quilting | 28 | 29 Synod Assembly |
| 30 9 AM Worship XYZ Milestone 10 AM Fellowship & Learning | | | | | | |

Pastor Jamie Brieske

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*A congregation of the
Northwest Synod of the ELCA of Wisconsin*