

The Image

Immanuel Lutheran Church
3214 Golf Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701
May 2019



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Create-A-World Preschool

Like us on Facebook!

Bright Spot

“You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world.”

~Matthew 5:16, MSG

Immanuel Lutheran Church will be receiving a Bright Spot Award at our annual Synod Assembly to be held on Saturday, May 4th at Trinity Lutheran Church. We are receiving this award for our journey in becoming an RIC (Reconciled in Christ) congregation. Our new bishop, Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson, has implemented these celebratory awards to highlight ministry happening around the Synod. In receiving this honor, we are recognized in front of the Synod for having positive things happening at our church. So congratulations! People of Immanuel, you are shining your light for all to see.

There was great joy on Palm Sunday, April 14th, as our congregation celebrated the decision to officially welcome all people. We now hold the RIC designation, which makes a special point to welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. In doing so, we remind all people that their differences are gifts and their uniqueness is God-created. We are all different and yet we all belong. As Christians we are light, illuminating God’s colors in the world, as our scripture verse showed.

The Holy Spirit is indeed at work here at Immanuel. We see how lives are being shaped and changed for good. We see how God’s love is radiating from our doors and from our hearts. Whatever you do, never stop shining your light! Never stop showing up and offering yourself to the world. Because there is no one else in the world who can do that. You are needed! You are adored! God gives each of us a purpose to be co-creators and love-sharers in this life.

The Easter message reminds us that new life is possible. There is life beyond what we can see or understand. Each day we are given the peace and joy of knowing Christ as our Savior and the Holy Spirit as our ever-present comforter. Each day is a celebration because we know Christ has conquered death.

Thank you church for being a bright spot in my life and in this world!

Easter blessings!

Pastor Jamie Brieske



Pastoral Care

If you would like a visit or a call from Pastor Brieske, please call the church office, 715-832-7832, during office hours or the Pastor's cell phone, 715-563-3145, after office hours. Due to privacy concerns, we do not receive updates from the hospital about our members. Please leave information about the hospital and room number, your condition and if you would like to be included in the prayers. The pastor will make every attempt to see you in the hospital or after you return home.

Add Pastor's phone number to your contacts or have her card in your wallet in case of emergencies.

Contact Pastor Jamie: 715-563-3145

Home Communion/Eucharistic Ministry



*Those who eat my flesh and
drink my blood abide in me,
and I in them.*

JOHN 6:56, NRSV

Holy Communion is a sacred meal in which Christ comes to us in bread and wine. "This is my body given for you... This is my blood shed for you." We believe those words to be true. Christ is truly present in Holy Communion. When we receive the bread and wine of this meal, we receive his body and blood.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is one of God's gifts to us. Through the Sacrament, we are forgiven, strengthened, and assured of our Lord's presence now and forever. If you are unable to participate in the celebration of Holy Communion during regular worship and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the church office. We have volunteers who are equipped to visit you in your home and share the Body and Blood of Christ.

If you feel called to serve as a lay Eucharistic Minister, please speak with Janet Carlson, contact the church office at 715-832-7832 or attend our meeting on Monday, May 6, at 5:30 p.m. (at the church).

2019 Malawi Trip

The 2019 trip to Malawi is quickly approaching—our travelers will leave on June 17 and return on July 1. You can help support them in their mission by donating **school supplies and girls' underwear** for our Malawi friends and siblings in Christ. You can bring your donations to the church office. Thank you!



New WoW Communion Ware and Baptismal Bowl

Grace Alworth, a friend of Pastor Jamie's from seminary, and her husband Jim own a ceramics studio in Minneapolis. Immanuel commissioned Grace and Jim to make these beautiful ceramic pieces to use in celebrating the sacraments of communion and baptism. The communion ware will be used during WoW worship and is designed to keep gluten-free elements separate from non-gluten free. The cups are designed for intinction, with grape juice and wine in separate "compartments."

These pieces were given to Immanuel by the families of Joan and Rodger Stolp in celebration of Jo's 89th birthday and in thanksgiving for Jo and Rodger's many years of service and ministry at Immanuel (Jo is a life-long member!).



Ecumenical Inclusive Ministry Church

1 Corinthians 12:27

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. NIV



Inclusive Ministry Church, or IM Church, is a place for all to worship regardless of abilities or disabilities, on the 3rd Sunday of every month from 3 to 5 PM at Lake Street Methodist Church. Area churches take turns leading and serving each month. ***Immanuel is serving this month on May 19th.*** IM church starts with an activity pertaining to the lesson for the day, then proceeds to worship, followed by a light fellowship meal.

We need volunteers to be greeters and table stewards. The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd has volunteered to serve the meal. The greeters are welcoming, get people a name tag and direct them to a table for the activity. The table stewards lead the activity, worship and eat together with the people at their table. Instructions are provided for all leaders.

IM church starts at 3:00 PM and volunteers should be at Lake Street Methodist no later than 2:30 PM to help get set up.

As part of the core group of Inclusive Ministry Church, I attend IM Church most months to help. I can tell you that I get as much out of IM church as our attendees do. If you know of someone or a family that might like to attend, please reach out. We have options for transportation and we have a sign language interpreter. IM Church is for everyone, regardless of abilities or disabilities; come just as you are!

To volunteer, contact Janet Carlson, 715-456-0577 or faith4me.jan@gmail.com. I will have a sign-up sheet available starting May 5th.

Peace,
Janet Carlson, Care Ministry

Faith Formation Ministry

Saturday, June 8

The end of the school year is almost here! We're going to end our Learning year with a party at LoRusso's house. We'll meet at their house at 5:30 pm on Saturday, June 8. (Contact the church office if you are in need of their address.) Please bring a side dish or beverage to pass, they will be grilling & providing the meat.

Summer's Coming (really!)

Mark your calendar & reserve the week of July 29-August 2 to attend Vacation Bible School at Immanuel! We are excited to be hosting counselors from Luther Park Bible Camp again this summer, who will be our main leaders for the week. The theme for this year is, "Where All Are Blessed." As the week approaches, there will be lots of ways to get involved – some things to start thinking about would be: providing a meal for the counselors, providing a snack for the campers & counselors, housing the counselors, and/or providing a monetary donation. Registration forms are available now on the shelf in the Narthex.

Luther Park Registration

Are you registered for camp at Luther Park? If not, the time is NOW! Luther Park offers excellent camp opportunities for kids as young as kindergarten. Our Trust Fund has again agreed to offer 50% scholarships to Immanuel kids attending camp, which is applied to your account when you register. If you have any questions, talk to Alyssa!

Attention Graduates!

Our annual Graduation Milestone will happen during worship on Sunday, May 12. This Milestone Blessing is for graduates of all ages, and there will be a special gift from the congregation for those graduating from high school. Any graduate (high school or college) is welcome to participate in this blessing! If you would like a picture and/or description displayed at church, please have it to Alyssa no later than Wednesday, May 8. This year's high school grads are: Meghan Kavanagh, Maddy LoRusso, Keharron Bogstad, and Abby Dawley.

Welcome to Confirmation Milestone

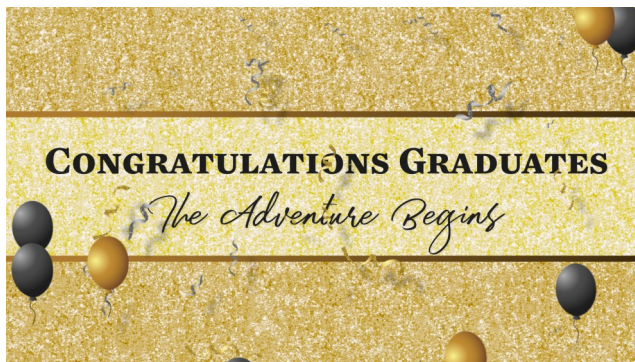
Current 5th grade students and their families are invited to join us for our last WoW of the school year, on Wednesday, May 8. We will share a potluck supper, and then have a milestone blessing and gift for our 5th grade students as they prepare to enter into confirmation classes in the fall. Our 5th grade students are: Kyelie Engedal, Emma Calkins, Ella Glynn, Bella Reuter, Landon Ivey, Hailey Rassbach, Alizah Felling & Riley Hansen.

Youth Led Worship Service

Our Journey of Faith year is coming to a close on **Sunday, May 12** with our Youth Led Worship Service. As always, this worship service will truly be completely led by the youth! They are busy writing prayers and picking out their favorite hymns to sing. Please let your child's class leader (or Alyssa) know if they will not be able to participate in worship, as we will be including all our kids in leading. It has been a great year, and we thank you for letting us grow with your children and walk beside them on their faith journey!

Summer Stretch

Join us for Summer Stretch! Summer stretch is a middle school ministry that involves service work in the morning and a "just for fun" activity in the afternoon. We will meet from 9 am – 4 pm, Monday – Thursday, August 12-15. We will end our week with a day at Valley Fair on Friday, August 16! Those **entering 5-8th grade** (and friends) can participate as campers, high school students can participate as counselors! Cost to participate is \$100, scholarships are always available. Talk to Alyssa for more information.



Summer Adventure Team update

Thank you for supporting our upcoming trip this summer! We are getting very excited about this adventure and are getting very close to meeting our fundraising goal of about \$17,000. We do have a few fundraisers still planned to help us meet this goal.

Upcoming fundraisers:

- Saturday, May 4 – Annual youth & ZIP team thrift sale! The sale will run from 8 AM – 2 PM. Please come shop—and spread the word about our sale!
- Saturday, May 4 – Chicken Feed! In addition to the thrift sale on this day, we will also be hosting a charcoal chicken dinner in the parking lot from 11 AM – 2 PM. The meal will include a ½ chicken, dinner roll, baked potato, and baked beans . Tickets will be sold prior to the event or can be purchased that day, and the cost is \$9 per meal. Beverages will also be available for purchase the day of the event.
- June 21- 23 – Festival Foods Brat Stand! The team will be at the Mall Drive Festival location all weekend making brats – please come & eat!



Life is full of moments that point us to God, and if we take the time to allow it, the Holy Spirit can teach us profound lessons about the Lord, life, and our own hearts. We call these teachable moments. At Journey Quest we train our staff to recognize and make the most of these moments to point each guest to Christ. This allows trips to be both physically and spiritually challenging to group members. Here is an analogy we use in one of our activities to make the Gospel come alive.

WHO'S GUIDING YOUR BOAT?

Rafting tends to bring out nervous tension and fear of the unknown. Our guides will use this and ask questions such as *"Who do you rely on to guide you through the rapids of life?"* As the trip progresses and the group starts to trust more, the guide might ask *"If Christ is the guide of the boat of life, where are you in relation to him? Are you in the boat listening for his commands? Are you pushing him out of the guide seat? Are you floating in the river trying to decide whether to ask for help? or Are you running away as far and as fast as you can?"* The guide uses this analogy to open a discussion about where each person is in their relationship with Christ. This analogy also provides an excellent opportunity to present the truth

CPR Certify Eau Claire

Cardiac arrest is still the number one cause of death in the United States, and one couple in our community has made it their mission to provide access to highly discounted life-saving CPR courses. Jon Krejchi is full-time firefighter/paramedic and part-time state certified EMS/fire instructor. His wife Serena is a full-time dispatcher and part-time deputy medical examiner. Through their occupations they both have noted the numerous positive outcomes from early and accurate emergency intervention from bystanders who have had CPR and AED training.

Immanuel will be hosting training classes (please register in advance):

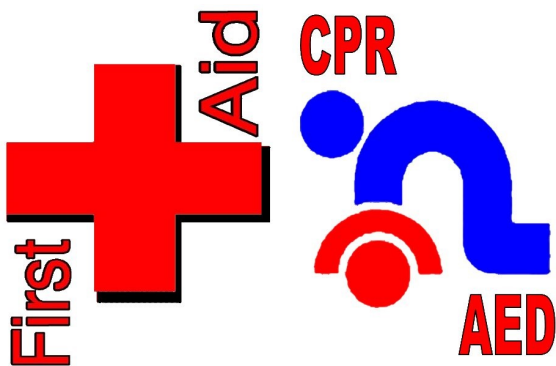
Sunday, May 12, 2:00 PM—4:30 PM

Sunday, May 19, 2:00 PM—4:30 PM

Sunday, May 26; 2:00 PM—4:30 PM

Cost is \$35, and you can register by calling Jon and Serena at 715-828-8573 or email them at mycompressions@gmail.com.

Spread the word! This is open to the public.



Anniversaries

05 Jerry & Brenda Hagen
09 Nick & Allison Haus
17 Paul & Kim Bowman
23 Thom & Barb Hokanson
25 Marty & Vicki Fankhauser
26 Kelly & Deb Kavanagh
26 Mark & Lauri Malnory
27 Loren & Emilie Anderson
28 Steve & Brenda Johnson
28 Todd & Julie Pickett
30 JonPaul & Jessica Dragseth

Birthday's

01 Holli Jacobson
01 Steve Mikelson
02 Tim Bowman
03 Julie Renz
04 LeRoy Johnson
05 Karl Buttel
06 Sara Hegde
06 Abby Pickett
07 Frank LoRusso
11 Emily Johnson
17 Pam Woletz
19 Mark Helland
20 Grant Johnson
22 Rosemary Boyea
23 Sonja Thomsen
23 Disa Wahlstrand
23 Nick Haus
26 Hemant Hegde
27 Erin Kavanagh
27 David Schaffer
28 Christopher Woletz
29 Logan Strehlau
29 Jackie Johnson
30 Chad Brieske
30 Nathan Hagstrom

**"MAY THE FAITH BE WITH YOU"
2019 SYNOD ASSEMBLY
MAY 4, 2019
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
EAU CLAIRE**

Pastor Jamie and Vicki Fankhauser will be attending this important event in the life of our Synod.

2019 Easter Message

May I have your attention please!
MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION for an important announcement!
MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION FOR AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT, NOW, PLEASE!!!!!!

What do we have to do to get the world's attention? We've got good news, great news, the best news, but we can't seem to get the attention of those who need to hear it the most.

For a few years in my former parish I sent out postcards and Facebook posts hoping to catch the attention of those who weren't members of my church and invite them to EASTER WORSHIP.

I used cute designs from OUTREACH.COM. My favorite was a photo of a fuzzy blue stuffed toy bunny with the caption: **Is the true meaning of Easter a little fuzzy?** On the other side of the card was an invitation to worship at Trinity, the church I served. This year they have a photo of an adorable baby wearing floppy fuzzy bunny ears and the caption reads: **Have you heard the real story of Easter?** They also have a post card with the photo of a green field filled with colorful Easter eggs ready for the Easter Egg hunt. The caption reads: **Hunting for more this EASTER?** These clever cutesy cards are designed to get the attention of the world and invite non-members to come to their worship services. It is not a terrible idea to send a postcard in the mail or post on social media inviting people to visit your church, but it is it working? Does sending a card capture the world's attention?

What does it take to get the attention of the world? What does it take to get the attention of the family that lives in the yellow house across the street from your church building?

Some seems to be so distracted, busy, engaged in daily living, or just getting by. Others seem anesthetized by mind numbing virtual reality activities on their computer, phone or TV screens. A few find time to worship at the gym, yoga class, running, or biking. Sometimes I just want to yell, HEY! LISTEN UP, I've got good news. But I know they won't be able to hear me over the din of daily life.

So what do we do? We know that guilt, shaming, and judging doesn't work. Should we just...Give up. Shut up. Close up? Nope. I'm too much of an optimist for that. I think there is one thing we as a church can do that might get the world's attention. We can sneak up and love them up.

I don't mean sneak up like stalking, that's illegal. What I mean is act like you love your neighbor in little ways so that eventually without you really knowing it, you DO love your neighbor and you can be in a relationship in such a way that you can invite them to know and love Jesus, the real Jesus, the Jesus of Easter.

Maybe the first step is caring enough about the folks that don't know the story about Jesus life death and resurrection to send them a silly post card. Maybe a baby step is caring enough about the children who won't hear the Easter story in Sunday school and inviting them to come to your church for an Easter egg hunt and before it begins tell them about Jesus in some simple way. Maybe you could care enough to get to know the name of the church neighbor in the yellow house and who knows where it will go from there. Care enough to get to know your neighbor, the Muslim family from Somalia that lives next to the grocery store. Care enough to get to know your immigrant neighbor, the Latino family that lives across the street from the school.

Maybe the only way to get someone's attention is to love them. That's how God got my attention.

God sneaks up on us, loves unconditionally, loves the world so much that he gave his only Son, and on the third day he rose from the dead, so that we might have life. That's the real meaning of Easter. That's the good news the world is dying to hear. They just don't know it yet. Maybe YOU can love someone enough to tell them about it.

It's Easter. Let's go love-in Jesus' name,
Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Assisting Minister	Dee Schlieve	Dave Langhus	Zan Degen	Dave Langhus
Lectors	Diane Kaufmann	Youth	Steve Issacson	Joan Pospishil
Ushers	Jim & Karen McCrady	Youth	Patty & Steve Isaacson	Barb & Thom Hokanson
Greeters	Strehlau Family	Youth	Cheryl & Jim Ulberg	Brittney Booth, Kaylee Stuttgen and Jaxson Bently
Bread and Wine	Rachel Neidermire	Melissa Tarpinning	Melissa Tarpinning	Melissa Tarpinning
Altar Care	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer

Worship Leader Coordinators

Interested in serving during worship?

Contact the coordinator below.

Lectors: Becky Wilcox-715-835-9784

Ushers and Greeters: Barb Hokanson-715-835-1524,

Bread and Wine: Melissa Tarpinning-715-858-1190

Fellowship sign-up

We all enjoy our fellowship time after worship with a little coffee and snack. There is always an open invitation to make coffee and provide a simple snack with your Immanuel friends. The sign-up is in Narthex by the front door.

Community Table

Each month Immanuel, along with our partner congregation Hope Lutheran Church, volunteers to help at the Community Table by serving anyone seeking a meal. No one is turned away. We always serve the 4th Wednesday of the month but there are other times when volunteers are needed. Sign up in the Narthex or contact coordinator Peggy Blomenberg at 715-456-3350 if you have questions.

Food Ministry

Come volunteer with the Food Ministry! The Food Pantry always needs greeters to support our guests who come to Immanuel seeking support to meet their needs getting food for themselves or their families.

Our pantry hours are Monday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 PM and Thursday and Friday mornings from 9 to 11 AM.

It is a huge leap of faith to come to an unknown place to seek help, and we at Immanuel want to welcome each person with a friendly smile and help them meet their needs. You can sign-up to volunteer on Sign-up Genius, which can be found on our website, or contact Dee in the church office.

May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 Noon-Material Witnesses Quilting</p> <p>5:15 PM WoW with Emmy Kegler</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 9:00 AM-6:00 PM Thrift Sale drop off</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Thrift Sale drop off</p>	<p>4 Synod Assembly</p> <p>8:00 AM-2:00 PM Church thrift sale</p> <p>11:00 AM-2:00 PM Chicken Feed</p> <p>8:30-9:45 AM Men's Group</p>
<p>5 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Journey of Faith Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Pospishil in the Sanctuary • Book Group in the Community room <p>5:30 PM Eucharistic Ministry meeting</p>	<p>6 5:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>7 6:30 PM Immanuel Yarners</p> <p>7 PM Wholly Yoga</p>	<p>8 10:15 AM Sr. Bible Study</p> <p>Noon-Material Witnesses Quilting</p> <p>5:30 PM-WoW potluck; 6:00 PM WoW and Welcome to Confirmation Milestone</p> <p>Last night of WoW, JoF, Confirmation & SHYN!</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>9 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>10 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p> <p>Building an Inclusive Church—workshop in Rice Lake</p>	<p>11 Noon-4:00 PM JONAH Immigration Simulation</p> <p>Building an Inclusive Church—Rice Lake</p>
<p>12 4th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM Youth Led Worship, Graduation Milestone 10:30 AM Fellowship 2:00 CPR Class</p>	<p>13 5:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 10:15 AM Sr. Bible Study 6-8th grade celebration CAW fundraiser at Cherry Berry 7:30 PM Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>16 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>17 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>18 8:30-9:45 am Men's Group</p>
<p>19 5th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM Worship, Church Music Sunday 10:30 AM Fellowship 2:00 PM CPR Class 3:00 PM IM Church</p>	<p>20 5:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>21 7 PM Church Council mtg.</p>	<p>22 Serving at Community Table</p> <p>10:15 AM Sr. Bible Study Noon-Material Witnesses Quilting 11:00 AM Camp Create year-end celebration 4:00-5:00 PM 6-8th grades FMP packing</p>	<p>23 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open 10:30 am & 2:00 pm CAW Graduation 11:00 am Camp Create year-end celebration</p>	<p>24 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p> <p>10:30 am CAW Graduation</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 6th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 2:00 PM CPR Class</p>	<p>27 5:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Noon-Material Witnesses Quilting</p>	<p>30 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>31 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>2 7th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship</p>	<p>3 5:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>7 9-11 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>8</p>

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"Church without Walls"

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Address service required

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Dated Material—Unless Delayed



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the
Northwest Synod of the ELCA*