



Rev. David McDonald  
*Administrative  
Vacancy Pastor*

Mr. Dean Jennissen  
*Principal*

Supporting the Ministry  
of the  
Lutheran Church –  
Missouri Synod  
at home and abroad

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Minnesota South  
District

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Immanuel Lutheran  
Church and School

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# The Newsletter

of Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Lakefield, Minnesota

March 2025

Volume LXIII, Issue 3

## March



### *Immanuel's Statement of Mission*

**"We Love Because He First Loved Us" - 1 John 4:19**

*Acknowledging with gratitude all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus, we the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School dedicate ourselves to educating, equipping (2 Timothy 3:17) and building one another up in love as part of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:16) and to the furthering of His kingdom in and around the city of Lakefield and throughout the world. (Acts 1:8)*

**JOINT BOARDS AND CHURCH COUNCIL** meets on Wednesday, March 26th at 8:00 p.m. All Board Members are asked and encouraged to attend. Communication between our Boards is a vital key in helping our congregation grow. Joint Boards meets in the church basement.

Meetings prior to Joint Boards are:

- Board of Congregational Services:  
Monday, March 10th at 5:15 p.m.
- Board of Elders:  
Wednesday, March 19th at 8:00 p.m.
- Board of Finance:  
Sunday, March 30th at 10:30 a.m.
- Board of Trustees:  
Thursday, March 20th at 5:30 p.m.
- Board of Ed:  
Wednesday, March 26th at 5:30 p.m.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONS** from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available. This year's devotions are titled "Servant of the Lord". Both regular and large print copies can be found on the welcome center in the narthex. Please help yourself to a copy.

**GIVING STATEMENTS** for 2024 are ready. Please write your name on the sign-up sheet on the window in the narthex if you would like one or give Amy in the church office a call at 507-662-5718.

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE** you may contact Pastor McDonald directly (507-993-1113 or [mcdonald.david66@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdonald.david66@yahoo.com)), Amy in the church office (507-662-5718 or [immanuel@immannuellakefield.com](mailto:immanuel@immannuellakefield.com)), or speak to one of the elders. This includes visits, prayer requests, communion for home bound members, among others. Pastor McDonald is our administrative vacancy Pastor.

## Ash Wednesday & Lent Worship Services

### Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Wednesday, March 5  
8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

### Lent Worship Services

Wednesdays, March 12 through April 16  
8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**BINGO AT VALLEY VIEW:** Our LWML will be playing Bingo up at Valley View on Sunday, March 9th at 3:00 p.m. Anyone who wants to come up and play with us is welcome for fun and fellowship with our friends at Valley View!

**JOIN US FOR LENTEN SUPPERS** on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Suppers will be served prior to our Ash Wednesday and Lent services which are at 7:00 p.m. Our boards at Immanuel plus our LWML will each be hosting a Lenten supper this year. A freewill donation will be taken. Here is a list of Lenten suppers for March:

- March 5: Soup served by the Board of Congregational Services
- March 12: Baked Potato Bar served by the Board of Finance
- March 19: Pulled Pork served by the Board of Trustees
- March 26: Tater Tot Hotdish served by the LWML

**EASTER FLOWERS:** We will be decorating the sanctuary with Easter Lilies and Blooming Plants on Easter Sunday. If you would like to purchase a flower to help decorate please fill out the form that is found elsewhere in the newsletter or call the church office. Orders need to be in by March 27th.

**NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER** for April through June are available on the welcome center in the narthex in both regular and large print.

**CONFIRMATION** will be held on Sunday, May 11th during the worship service. This year we have 4 confirmands:

- Kadence Daberkow
- Zadi Farmer
- Linkon Phillips
- Kaelyn Swanson-Voight

## Immanuel Lutheran School Early Childhood Open House

Preschool ~ PreK ~ Kindergarten

Monday, March 3  
4:00-6:30 p.m.

- Meet the teachers
- Check out the classrooms
- Open Gym
- Light Supper



# Immanuel Lutheran School Fine Arts Festival "Showcasing Your Strengths"

Friday, March 7  
6:30 p.m.

- ◆ Display of all K-8th grade Art Projects
- ◆ Public Performance of participating K-8th grade students in these categories: Vocal (individual and small group), Instrumental (individual and small group), and Public Speaking.



**REGION IV LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FINE ARTS AND SCIENCE FESTIVAL** will be held at Martin Luther JR/SR High School, Northrop on Saturday, March 8th. Students from seven schools are participating. Individual performances begin about 8:00 a.m. Large group music performances will be held following judging completion. Guests are welcome to join in celebrating the God-given talents of our students in Art, Music, Science, Creative Writing and Speech. Concessions will be available. The event is free and open to the public. MLHS is located 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.

## TIME TO CLEAN OUT THAT CLOSET, BASEMENT, OR STORAGE AREA!

Martin Luther High School in Northrop is having their "Spring Rummage Sale"! The dates will be March 27th-29th at MLHS. Last year they netted \$19,000 for school activities, tuition, and other school expenses. I am willing to pick up your treasures, clothes, knick-knacks, just about anything! NO winter clothes or coats, electronics or TV's please. I will be available March 1st-15th.

Give me a call! Thanks!  
Leann Henning 507-220-4448

## THANK YOU FROM THE YOUTH GROUP

- to all of you who came and ate and gave us tips at the Youth Group Pizza Ranch takeover. We raised around \$500. We have 5 youth going to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme is "Endure".
- to all who ordered Super Bowl subs. Our group had fun making and wrapping subs. We raised \$1,315 for youth group activities.

**FILL THE BOOT FUNDRAISER IN MEMORY OF BRANDON KRUMWIEDE** is at the Lakefield VFW on Saturday, March 8th. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Jackson County Conservation League Bingo starts at 6:00 p.m. with cash prizes. Jeremy Dewall Band will perform from 9:00 p.m. to midnight. Meal with a freewill donation. Proceeds go to the Indy Foundation which is a Minnesota based non-profit dedicated to supporting real-life warriors during their cancer battle. Lakefield VFW is located at 405 N Highway 86.

**FRIDAY FISH FRY** is Friday, March 14th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Prokes Hall at St. Joseph Catholic Church. On the Menu: Fish (all you can eat), Baked Potato, Coleslaw, Rolls, and Dessert. Cost: Adult's \$15, Children 6-12 \$10, 5 and under Free. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus with proceeds donated to community youth and family organizations. The church is located at 410 Broadway Ave., Lakefield, MN.

**2024 ANNUAL REPORTS** are now ready. Please help yourself to a copy. They can be found on the welcome center in the narthex.

## YOUTH CHESS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

Immanuel Lutheran Lakefield Activity Center

Grades: Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup>

Check in: 8:30-8:45 a.m.

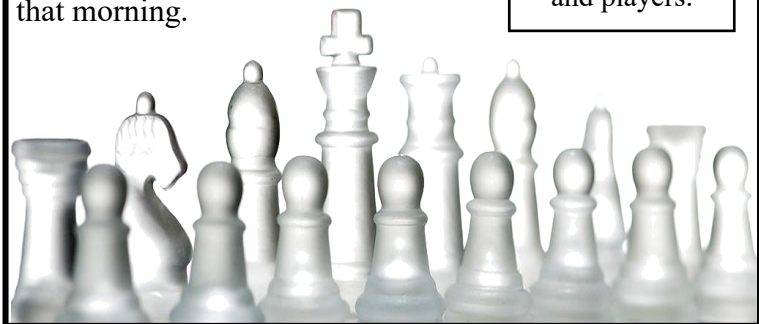
Round 1 begins: 9:00 a.m.

Cost: \$10

Pre-Register:  
online at [immanuellakefield.com](http://immanuellakefield.com)  
go to school tab  
click on youth chess  
call 507-662-5860 (ask for Amy)

Players who do not pre-register will need to register between 8:15-8:30 that morning.

Lunch available:  
All players will receive a slice of pizza and a beverage.  
Additional pizza will be sold in our concession stand for parents and players.



## OH WHAT A WEEK!

Fifty years ago, Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons released the classic song, "December 1963 (Oh, What a Night)". For those who remember it, Frankie hitting those high notes makes one amazed! At ILS maybe we'll have to publish a remake entitled "Oh, What a Week!" National Lutheran Schools was filled with activities that helped us celebrate God's continued blessings over our Lutheran Schools throughout the nation. Singing at church, a family meal, cereal and cartoons, movies, board games, packing Mercy Meals, tying blankets for Phil's Friends, sending greeting cards to our local elder care facilities, learning about children like us in Kenya, Tribal Olympics, a free throw contest, pep fest and our 53rd annual basketball tournament all created fun, laughter, smiles and memories... oh what a week indeed!

One of the most memorable activities during the week was a "Penny War" that took place to raise money for the supplies it took to pack 11,223 Mercy Meals that Orphan Grain Train sends to those in need. Our goal was to raise \$3,500 through donations and the War and we far exceeded that goal, raising \$4,283.77! \$1,543.77 of that total came from the Penny War. It was literally hundreds of pounds of coin and currency! Through friendly, yet fierce competition, we learned the meaning of the word, "sabotage" as silver canceled out pennies. We also learned that "God is able to provide exceedingly and abundantly more than we could ask or imagine." (Eph. 3:20)

A huge thanks to our students for having great attitudes and bringing smiles to our faces by exhibiting pure joy in their experiences throughout the week! Our hard working ILS staff created great opportunities for our students and put in many extra hours during the week... Thank you team! Our PTL, families, Board of Education, Immanuel Congregation, activity volunteers, concession workers, coaches, referees, scoreboard helpers... thanks for your help!

A fitting way to end the school week was to close our pep fest with the Doxology. As God's creatures here below, we praise God from whom all blessings flow! What a week. What a Savior we have in Jesus!

- Principal Jennissen

**CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER...** *A serious illness or death in your family; a personal crisis; a time of major decision making; a time of great joy; all of these times when pastoral care is vitally important. If you or a family member or a friend is experiencing any of these, please contact the church office. We, here at Immanuel, welcome the opportunity to provide spiritual care and guidance in difficult times, as well as to rejoice with you in times of joy.*

## LWML Happenings

### Lutheran Women In Mission

LWML will be hosting Bingo at Valley View Sunday afternoon, March 9 at 3:00. Please join us!

The March monthly meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, beginning at 5:30. Please come early to enjoy the Lenten Supper served by the Board of Finance in the church basement.

The members of LWML will host the weekly Lenten Supper from 5:00 – 6:30 on March 26.

Serving on Altar Guild for the month of March are Monette Berkevich, Dellynne Monson, and Tami Otterstatter. We thank them for taking care of the altar duties.

The LWML Spring Get-Together (Rally) for churches in our Worthington Zone will be Saturday, April 26 at St. Paul Rost Lutheran Church, rural Lakefield. Registration will begin at 9:00 with the opening at 9:30. The speaker will be Linda Medhus from the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, located in North Dakota. This is a Christ-centered residential treatment and educational center for children and their families. They serve boys and girls with challenging mental, emotional, and behavioral issues resulting from significant trauma, abuse, and neglect. Gifts from the Heart, consisting of toiletry and clothing items, will be collected for them during April. Please watch for a detailed list of wanted items and for the collection box in the narthex.

All women of the congregation are welcome to attend the Immanuel LWML meetings and activities. During the season of Lent, let's pause, remember, and contemplate what God has done and continues to do for us.

**Serve the Lord with Gladness**  
~ Psalm 100:4



### *Stewardship Moment...*

**Luke 9:36** – **"And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone."** *Moses and Elijah point to Jesus, speak about Jesus and His sacrifice, and then are happy to fade into the background. They know that what we need is Jesus. With our eyes focused on Him and Him alone, the rest of our lives comes into focus. He is primary, all else secondary. When that order is right in our lives, things truly fall into place. Or as Jesus Himself said, "Seek first the kingdom of God ... and all these things will be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).*

## Lutheran Hour Ministries

The Lutheran Hour may be listened to on Sunday –

KICD – 1240 AM, Spencer, IA at 10:30 AM

WCCO – 830 AM, Minneapolis, MN at 6 AM

KSUM -- 1370 AM, Fairmont, MN at 11 AM

KJLY – 104.5, Blue Earth at 6 PM

**KDOM, 103.1 FM at 10 AM**

KDCR, 88.5 FM at 1 PM

You may also listen anytime on their website: [lhm.org](http://lhm.org)

### March 2 "It's Best to Be with Jesus"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

*Life was not meant to be a do-it-yourself project. We need God's help, His strength, His gifts.*

### March 9 "Unless a Grain of Wheat Dies"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*Do you want a life that amounts to more than a hill o' beans? Hear how Christ's death and resurrection gives us life with God that can't be measured.*

(John 12:24)

### March 16 "Light of the World"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*Jesus is the Light of the world. However, He sometimes keeps that light out of the visible range. We can't see it, but it changes what we see.*

(John 8:12)

### March 23 "Even Me, Even You"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge

*Jesus the Good Shepherd invites all to be His sheep and find pasture. His words of promise will amaze some but anger others.*

(John 10:1-21)

### March 30 "The Difference Between Anger and Contempt"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler

*God gets angry at sin, but behind that anger, God is love. We believe this only because of Jesus.*

(John 11:35)

**SPRING RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE** at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop is on Thursday, March 27th, from 4:00-8:00; Friday, March 28th, from 8:00-8:00; and Saturday, March 29th from 8:00-12:00 with a \$3 bag sale. MLHS is located 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop

**LAKEFIELD MEAL SITE** is serving in-house and home delivered meals. Meals served at 11:30. Call 507-662-6714 to reserve.

**NO Half Price Meals in February**

- Tuesday, March 4th: Bingo at 12:30. Prizes awarded. Menu: chicken ala king, steamed rice, sliced carrots
  - Tuesday, March 11th: Pinochle at 12:30. Menu: chicken ala king, rice, carrots
  - Wednesday, March 12th: Game Day! Bring your own or play what's here. Menu: spaghetti/meatballs
  - Monday, March 17th: St. Patrick's Day. Meal: chicken fried chicken/gravy, peas, cookie, green jello
  - Wednesday, March 19th: 500 at 12:30. Menu: beef chili, broccoli, peach crisp
  - Monday, March 24th: Lakefield Birthday Party. Menu: baked pork chop, potatoes, mixed veggies, cookie
  - Tuesday, March 25th: Frozen meals only for those already reserved
  - Wednesday, March 26th: Pinochle at 12:30. Menu: Salisbury steak/gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, brownie
- Call Marless (507-662-5254) for card details and to schedule playing. All card games cost 10 cents to play.

### CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY AT THE

**LAKEFIELD MEAL SITE:** We have a spot just for you & 3 or more of your family and/or friends. We'd love to acknowledge your special day with a Free meal for you. Make your Birthday an event to remember. Reserve Your party's table by calling 507-662-6714.

### Stewardship Moment. . .

**Luke 13:3 – "No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."**

*The season of Lent is all about repentance: turning back to the Lord, away from our sins, in faith. We know that it is only in the Lord that we can find salvation. So, we do well in this season of repentance to examine ourselves, asking questions like, "What is trying to keep me away from Jesus?" "What is a temptation I face?" "What is a sin I need to repent of and leave behind?" Then we turn to the Lord for the strength to leave these sins behind, and for the courage to follow Him in faith and faithful living.*

# *Immanuel Lutheran School Highlights*

*"We love because He first loved us." -1 John 4:19*



- **CHAPEL OFFERINGS** for the 3rd quarter (ending on March 19th) are going to Hearts for Jesus—World Vision Ignite as they help provide access to clean water throughout the world.
- **CHAPEL OFFERINGS** for the 4th quarter (beginning on March 26th) will go to our Tuition Assistance Program.
- **PARENT PICK UP DAY—NO JCC BUS AFTER SCHOOL—TUESDAY, MARCH 4th**
- **ILS FINE ARTS FESTIVAL** is Friday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m.
- **REGION IV FINE ARTS FESTIVAL** is Saturday, March 8th, at Martin Luther High School in Northrop.
- **PRAIRIE ECOLOGY BUS** meets on Wednesday, March 12th from 2:15-3:45 p.m. in Mrs. Ackermann's classroom. It is for students in grades 3-6.
- **ILS CHESS TOURNAMENT** is Saturday, March 15th.
- **ALL SCHOOL CHOIR** sings at St. Peter Lutheran Church, rural Lakefield, on Sunday, March 16th at their 8:30 a.m. worship service.
- **LAST DAY OF THE 3RD QUARTER—FRIDAY, MARCH 21st**
- **PARENT DRIVE DAYS—NO JCC BUS—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26th AND THURSDAY, MARCH 27th**
- **NO SCHOOL—FRIDAY, MARCH 28th**

## *From the Principal:*

No Pain; No Stain (Removal)

We've all heard the saying, "No pain, no gain." You may have had a coach sometime in your past who has shouted those words as a means of encouragement when one's performance is slipping on the athletic field, court or mat. I'm not sure if any studies would back up this claim of pain creating gain, but a recent study of New Year's resolutions showed that 43% of resolutions are scrapped within a month and after three months, only 10% of respondents expected to continue their goal. This makes me think about **a promise kept** from God in our school year's guiding scripture from Hebrews 12:1-3. In verse 2 we are reminded that Jesus went to the cross for us because our sins were as red as crimson (Is. 1:18). Jesus endured that cross, despising its shame because there was and is nothing we can do about our sin problem. We can try good deeds, we can try harder (or "suck it up" as a coach might say), but our sins cannot be removed that way. As Isaiah 1:18 continues, "though our sins were like crimson; they'll be as white as snow" because Jesus, through His suffering, took the penalty we deserved and removed the crimson stain. That's good news! How about more good news? "... As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us." Ps.103:12 Or, one more: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Think of God's promises as the most powerful stain remover ever employed to a dirty uniform (or soul)!

Possibly it's sin that's brought your New Year's sprint to a walk, or crawl or halt. Remember, there's One whose "...mercies are new every morning." Lam. 3:23 Turn to Jesus, the greatest coach you'll ever have in your corner. His pain, our gain; the guilt, shame and stain, removed... forever!

*Immanuel Lutheran School  
Endure ~ Hebrews 12:1-3*

*Principal:  
Dean Jennissen*

*Teachers:  
Stacy Soderholm  
Natalie Schlager  
Cassie Ulbricht  
Stacie Soleta  
Kelly Ackermann  
Gretchen Benda  
Sarah Mattila  
LaDonna Peterson  
Raeleen Grein  
Phil Schult*

*Support Staff:  
Sheila Freking  
Pat Pohlman  
Amy Altman*

*~ Dean A. Jennissen, Principal*



- 2 ~ Whitney Bretzman  
Sherilyn Milbrath  
Michael Schulz
- 3 ~ Linkon Phillips  
Louise Rients
- 5 ~ Dale Dafoe  
Jada Milbrath  
Jeremy Rossow
- 7 ~ Shane Phillips  
Tammy Rossow
- 9 ~ Kason Farmer  
Delores Janssen  
Lori Kruger  
Keyton Kraus  
Lori Rossow
- 10 ~ Adrian Connell
- 11 ~ Linda Dempster  
Emily Somnis
- 12 ~ Gianna Froderman  
Brenna Moser
- 13 ~ Cheryl Grein
- 15 ~ Lisa Jennissen
- 16 ~ Dellynn Monson  
Kenny Pederson
- 17 ~ Emerson Hendrickson
- 18 ~ Emma Bergeron  
Olivia Bretzman  
Lily Rossow  
Allan Stevens
- 19 ~ Tyler Bale  
Atticus Regnier  
Dana Schmid
- 20 ~ Ardith Westergard
- 21 ~ Kody Burmeister  
Nathen Monson  
Jean Oelke  
Jordan Scholten
- 22 ~ Daisy Gettler  
Christina Nyborg  
Travis Dominic Rossow
- 23 ~ Clyde Daberkow  
Ami Jo Swanson
- 24 ~ Brooks Pigman
- 29 ~ Tara Boogerd
- 30 ~ Dennis Baumann  
Regan Farmer  
Kaylee Froderman  
Luke Henning
- 31 ~ Jean Hendrickson  
Jeffrey Luebben

**SAGES GATHERING XXXV** is May 5th-6th at the Country Inn & Suites in Mankato. This year's presenter is Rev. Dr. R. Reed Lessing with a theme of "Overcoming Life's Sorrows—Learning from Jeremiah", which is a book that Rev. Lessing wrote. Copies will be available to purchase. Banquet entertainment will feature the group, Gracenotes. Closing devotion led by Sean Martens, Assistant to the District President - Education and Commissioned Ministers. Cost is \$100 for 2 days including the banquet and Tuesday lunch. There will be a reduced cost for 1 day attendance. A block of rooms is reserved at the Country Inn & Suites. Reservations must be made directly with the hotel by individuals no later than Saturday, April 5th. Room rate is \$129 plus tax for Standard room (Double Queen Non-Smoking) or Studio (King/ Sofa Non- Smoking). Make your hotel reservations by calling 507-388-8555 and request a room in the SAGES room block. Complimentary breakfast for hotel guests. Country Inn & Suites is located at 1900 Premier Drive in Mankato. S.A.G.E.S. (Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving) is our LCMS Minnesota South District Older Adult Ministry.

#### **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY?**

- "Get Your Mitts on a Good Book" Winter Reading Program for adults and teens (grades 8-12) runs through March 31st. Register online or at your library.
- Story Time for kids is on Thursdays at 10:00
- Bedtime Story Hour is Thursday, March 20th at 6:30
- Elementary After School Program for K-4th graders is Thursday, March 13th at 3:45. Activity is Air Dry Clay Snakes. Registration required by calling 507-662-5782.
- Tween & Teen Scene for 5th-12th grade is Tuesday, March 25th at 3:45. Activity is DIY Canvas Bag. Registration required by calling 507-662-5782.
- Great Puzzle Race is Saturday, March 15th from 10:30-12:30. Register a team of 2-4 people to compete and see who can finish a 750 piece puzzle first to win a prize.
- Adult Monthly Programs
  - Wednesday, March 12th at 2:00: Native Pollinators with Janette Simon
  - Friday, March 21st at 2:15: Movie Matinee
  - Wednesday, March 26th from 1:00-3:00: Craft Café
- Book Club meets on Wednesday, March 5th at 3:00 to discuss "Between Shades of Gray" by Ruta Sepetys

**MAN UP MEN'S RETREAT** at Camp Omega is March 14th-15th. Come to be challenged and refreshed as Dr. Reed Lessing teaches us to read Exodus, the never-ending song, while telling the riveting story of the Israelites being delivered out of Egypt, out of slavery, and into God's care through the wilderness. Beside time in God's Word, this retreat allows for plenty of fellowship and recreational opportunities. Participants are invited to bring their own gear for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and target shooting to enjoy God's creation. Cost is \$131.50 for the Omega Lodge (hotel style rooms), \$96 Bunkhouse style shared lodging, or \$72 for Saturday only (no overnight lodging). More info? Call 507-685-4266. Register online at [www.campmoega.org/event/manup](http://www.campmoega.org/event/manup). Camp Omega is located at 22750 Lind Avenue, Waterville, MN.

## "BOOTS & BLING OH! WHAT A KNIGHT! DINNER

**AUCTION**" is at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop on Saturday, April 5th. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for auction preview and appetizers. A catered dinner of Grilled Boneless Pork Chop w/smoked bacon glaze, Sunrise Cashew Salad, Loaded Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, Breadstick, and Assorted Cheesecakes will be served at 6:00 p.m. The Live Auction will follow with Land Services Unlimited serving as our gratis auctioneers. Be ready for a spectacular night of fun with lots of games to win prizes. The committee is looking for donations of new items, handmade creations, unique packages, stay and plays, or gift certificates. Notification and pictures are appreciated before March 10th. Go to [www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com) to see pictures of Silent and Live Items. Tickets are \$40 and should be purchased by March 20th. They are available on the website or by calling the MLHS office at 507-436-5249.

**EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN:** We have an email prayer chain so we can pray for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ when they are in need. If you would like to be added to the email prayer chain, please email Amy at [immanuel@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:immanuel@immanuellakefield.com).

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL IS OPEN.

We appreciate your interest in Immanuel Lutheran School, an educational environment that promotes excellence and growth in the Lutheran Christian Faith where each child can strive to reach his or her potential. We believe that the parent is the child's first teacher. It is only through parents and teachers working together and showing mutual respect that we hope to achieve what is best for each child at Immanuel Lutheran School.

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES:

- Preschool - Child must be 3 years old by September 1 and potty trained
- PreK - Child must be 4 years old by September 1 and potty trained
- Kindergarten - Child must be 5 years old by September 1
- Grades 1-8 - Screening and/or interview is required prior to acceptance.
  - Applications are processed and considered in order to determine if Immanuel Lutheran School can meet the needs of the applicant.
  - Enrollment decisions will be communicated through a telephone call or in writing.
- Expectations for Immanuel School Families
  - Families are expected to attend all Parent-Teacher conferences and mandatory meetings
  - Families are expected to follow all policies and procedures as determined by Immanuel.
  - Families are expected to participate in PTL activities including fundraising.
- Hot Lunch Program
- Curricula - Religion, Math, English, Reading, Spelling, History, Penmanship, Geography, Science, Computer Education, Music, Art, Band, and Physical Education.
- Sports - Volleyball, Soccer, Basketball, and Softball
- Extra-Curricular - Chess Club, Regional Spelling Bee, Regional Fine Arts Festival, Prairie Ecology Bus, Yearbook
- School Day - 8:15-3:15 (Subject to change)  
Preschool: 8:30-11:30
- School Accreditation - NLSA (National Lutheran School Accreditation)

Admissions: <https://mytads.com/a/immanuellakefield>



## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

It's that time again for those with an account through Thrivent to direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars. Your Thrivent Choice Dollars can be given to Immanuel Lutheran Church or Immanuel Lutheran School. This can be done online at [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or by calling 800-847-4836 and when prompted saying "Thrivent Choice". Any questions can be directed to Curt Baumgard at the Lakefield Thrivent office at 507-662-5455





**A SPECTACULAR SCIENCE SHOW** will be held at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School on Tuesday, March 11th. Several scientists from South Dakota State University and MLHS Science Teacher Nate Watt will conduct amazing experiments for everyone to enjoy. Presentations are 9:00-10:30 a.m. for grades 1-6 and 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. for grades 7-12. The public is welcome. The event is free. MLHS is located 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.

**THE ENDOWMENT FUND** of Immanuel Lutheran is made available to members of our church who are advancing their education to be Christ-centered, life changing future church professionals or lay leaders (including pastors, Lutheran school teachers, principals, deaconess...) Parents encourage your children to consider this as a career choice. Please call the church office with any questions.

**DO YOU LIKE TO DRIVE?** United Community Action Partnership has a volunteer driver program in your community. Volunteer drivers help get people to appointments and social outings so they can continue to live independently and active within the community. If you might be interested, give Amanda a call 507-847-2632 ext. 1119 or email [communityconnection@unitedcapmn.org](mailto:communityconnection@unitedcapmn.org).

**MOMCO (MOM COMMUNITY)** a new young mothers group meets at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 8:30-10:30 a.m. All moms of young children are welcome for a time of community, learning, food, and childcare. Check out the flyer on the bulletin boards on how to register. Contact Immanuel Spirit Lake with any questions at 712-336-1010 or [lcmslakes@gmail.com](mailto:lcmslakes@gmail.com). Immanuel Spirit Lake is located at 2300 27th Street.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR NAME ON THE PRAYER LIST, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 507-662-5718 OR EMAIL [immanuel@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:immanuel@immanuellakefield.com)

We would rather hear it two or three times than not at all. Also because of privacy issues we need your permission.

**TREASURERS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY**

*Current Fund needed for February.....\$74,016*  
**Offering Received in February.....\$31,641**  
**+ Tuition Received in February.....\$5,983**  
**= Current Fund Total February.....\$37,624**  
*Current Fund needed each week .....\$18,504*

*If you have any questions,  
 please contact Jesse Ackermann*

**MARCH MADNESS BINGO** is on Sunday, March 9th, at 1:00 p.m at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Prokes Hall. Coverall Jackpot of \$100.00, Prizes including "Diemer Beef Bundles" and more. March Madness Surprises - Don't Miss out! Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus with proceeds donated to community youth and family organizations. The church is located at 410 Broadway Ave., Lakefield.

**HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE YOUTH SUMMER CAMP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES:**

◆ **CAMP OMEGA:**

- ~ Summer Guide: College-aged adults lead Bible Studies, sing, play, build fires, make lifelong friends, and love Jesus.
- ~ Youth Servant Leader: High school students aged 15 and older work with camper groups, lead games, give devotions, and more...

Apply at <https://campomega.org/get-involved/employment/summer-camp-counselors/>

◆ **CAMP OKOBOJI**

- ~ Volunteer Counselors: High School Seniors and college aged young adults guide campers throughout their week at camp by simply living together

Apply online at <https://www.campokoboji.org/volunteer-counselors.php>

**IMMANUEL BOOKSTORE NEWS: All cards are 75 cents.** Confirmation will be here before you know it and if you wish to order Bibles, Hymnals, Prayer Books, etc. for a confirmand now is the time to do it. If you wish to get your gift imprinted, that may take extra time.

Confirmation and Easter cards are available along with birthday, get well, wedding, anniversary, baby, baptism, thank-you, and sympathy cards. Graduation cards will be available soon. Stop by the bookstore and check out the selection. Once you have selected your card, you can either pay Amy in the office or leave it in the empty box by the cards.

**OFFICIAL ACTS FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

Membership:

Baptized: 588

Communicants: 431

ENTERING IMMANUEL...

LEAVING IMMANUEL...

...Release to Other Church—

Kelly Troe to Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Minnesota

**FOR LIABILITY REASONS** and safety issues we need to know who is in the church and when, especially as we host benefits and other events. All building use needs to be scheduled with Amy in the church office. Many groups and individuals for whom we are very thankful use our building, but we do need to remember to schedule rooms. Please call the church office to schedule an event or meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

**SPRING WOMEN’S RETREAT** is March 14th-15th at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Mankato. Mrs. Kristen Einertson is the keynote speaker on the theme, “In the Beauty of Holiness”. She is known for her blog, “All The Household”. Friday, March 14th is a social event from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for women age 21 and older. Saturday, March 15th is from 9:00-12:30 with lunch provided. Registration fee is \$25. Register online at <https://www.oslcmankato.org/2025-our-saviors-spring-womens-retreat/> The church is located at 1103 North Broad Street in Mankato.

**SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH** will be held at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School on Sunday, March 16th from 10:30-1:00. On the menu: Chicken Noodle Soup, Cheesy Potato Soup, Vegetable Beef Soup, Chili, Egg Salad or Cheese Spread on Crimp Bread (from Kiehl’s Bakery), Cupcakes, Bars, and Greg’s Homemade Ice Cream. Carry out available. Cost is a free will donation and proceeds will provide Student Tuition Aid to MLHS families. MLHS is located 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop

**IMMANUEL QUILTERS** have quilts for sale. They may be found in the church basement on the quilt rack or in the Narthex on the coat rack. We have all sizes for sale. Just as a reminder -- all proceeds go towards Missions. If you would like a quilt, but don't find one you like, please talk to Connie, Loretta, or Gail.

*Easter Flowers...*

We will again be decorating our sanctuary with Easter Lilies and Blooming Plants on Easter Sunday. If you would like to join us in this celebration of new life by donating a flower, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or return it to the office by **March 27** with your payment. Please make the check out to Immanuel Lutheran and write Easter Flowers on the memo line.

Your plant may be picked up after the 9:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, April 20th.

*I would like to purchase a flower to decorate our sanctuary—*

- A 4-6 bloom Easter Lily for \$20*
- A Daisy Mum for \$20*
- A Begonia for \$20*
- A Kalanchoe for \$20*

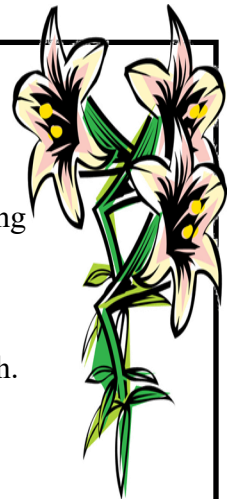
*My plant will be given in honor and/or memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

*Given by* \_\_\_\_\_ *Amount Enclosed* \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to take part in decorating the chancel area, but choose to bring my own plant (lily, mum, tulips, etc...) I will bring it to the church no later than Friday evening, April 18th.

*My plant will be given in honor and/or memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

*Given by* \_\_\_\_\_ **(Please return form to Church by March 27)**



**OUR MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES AND OUR HOLY WEEK SERVICES** will be led by Pastor Herr this year. He is preaching on the series “Good News of a Savior”. Here is the theme for each of these special services:



## *Good News from the Beginning:*

### THE GOSPEL IN GENESIS

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY • MARCH 5** *Life in the Ashes*

We live as both saints and sinners. We cannot free ourselves from the effects of sin, and the ashes we receive today are only symbolic of our hopes and faith. We live among the ashes of past attempts to live better lives. But it does not depend on us! God’s concern for His people in Genesis (our Lenten theme) and in Joel’s day has become Jesus’ entrance into time and space. Salvation is assured for all of us, just as it was for the apostle Paul’s readers. And the blessings of our Father in heaven are as certain for us as they were for Jesus’ hearers. Our continued sinning shows not the ineffectiveness of ashes, but rather, the need for the continued grace of God. So, today is a day to let that loving grace for Jesus’ sake get through our ears and into our hearts.

#### **LENTEN MIDWEEK 2 • MARCH 12** *A Savior Who Conquers Evil*

Who is the greatest conqueror ever to have walked on earth? Using the criterion of how much territory a conqueror ruled over, Genghis Khan might be considered the greatest conqueror in history. At the peak of his power in the thirteenth century AD, his rule extended over 4,860,000 square miles. Coming in at second place was Alexander the Great. The borders of his empire in the fourth century BC included much of Europe and North Africa and parts of the Middle East and Asia, totaling some 2,180,000 square miles. However, history reveals that massive empires like these did not survive long past the deaths of their warrior leaders.

In our worship, we acknowledge Jesus Christ as the “Conqueror renowned” (*LSB 554:1*) who “triumphed over cross and grave” (*LSB 551:4*). His coming to earth to bring about a matchless victory for us over evil and all that oppresses us is eternal and limitless!

#### **LENTEN MIDWEEK 3 • MARCH 19** *A Savior Who Give Us a New Beginning*

What are the odds of getting a do-over in our lives? In the world of sports, as in many other arenas, a second opportunity to begin again in a race or other type of competition is generally not possible. A false start in a race can lead to disqualification. Repositioning a move after completing one in a chess match is simply not permitted. Rules are rules, and that’s the way it is. There is no room for mercy. But it is different with our God, who offers forgiveness again and again to those who repent and turn to Him with contrite hearts.

In his explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed in the Small Catechism, Martin Luther confidently writes, “In this Christian Church He [God] daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers” (*LSB, p. 323*). Thank God for His most gracious do-overs!

#### **LENTEN MIDWEEK 4 • MARCH 26** *A Savior Who Give Himself in Our Place*

One of the newest jobs offered today is being a “tasker.” A tasker does jobs that people don’t have the time or the inclination to do—like holding a place in line for a concert, sports event, or for a sale. Websites and apps invite potential customers to describe their task, choose their tasker from the list provided, and thus get their job done. They even list locations where taskers may be hired across the United States or internationally. Taskers then choose from a list of jobs where they will take the customer’s place.

Throughout the season of Lent, we tell and retell how Jesus, the very Son of God, took our place and became a sacrifice to pay the price of our sins. This greatest of tasks He did not do for any material payment but because of His love for us!

## LENTEN MIDWEEK 5 • APRIL 2 *A Savior Who Unite Heaven and Earth*

Some of the tools and implements that make our lives easier do not have very lengthy histories. Although ladders of rope, wood, and stone have been around for thousands of years, the trusty stepladder that we use in so many ways actually wasn't invented until 1862, when John Basely of Dayton, Ohio, constructed a hinged ladder, so that it could easily be put away after use. Different types of ladders have aided humans for centuries. They assist a person to reach high places safely. The ladder in Jacob's dream did that and more—it reached down to him on earth with an affirmation of God's promises.

As we worship, God reaches to us with His promises of redemption, forgiveness, and love. What a great vision that is for us to share!

## LENTEN MIDWEEK 6 • APRIL 9 *A Savior Who Brings Good from Evil*

One of the most popular and lasting musicals of the past decades has been *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Originally written in 1968 as a fifteen-minute-long pop cantata for a performance at the Colet Court School in London, *Joseph* has grown in length and popularity. It has been presented in theaters around the world, from London's West End to Broadway and beyond, launching the lasting careers of collaborators Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. What has endeared the musical to thousands of performers and audience members is its colorful characters, catchy music, and the themes of forgiveness and new beginnings that shine through the presentation.

The story of Joseph is one in which the handiwork of God to bring good out of evil is clearly evident. The original story of Joseph from the book of Genesis is a clear preview of the Passion story, how Jesus brings good out of evil for our sakes, for us to learn from in our Lenten season.

## HOLY THURSDAY • APRIL 17 *Jesus Has Us Covered!*

Sin gets heavy. Sin can be embarrassing. We try to ignore it, cover it up, or pretend it doesn't exist. None of those things get rid of our sin or its weight on us. God doesn't minimize, excuse, or relativize sin. He places our sin on Jesus and nails it to a cross. God forgives our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. As we come to our Lord's Table tonight, God freely forgives us through the body and blood of Christ that comes to us in, with, and under the bread and wine.

## GOOD FRIDAY • APRIL 18 *"He Died!"*

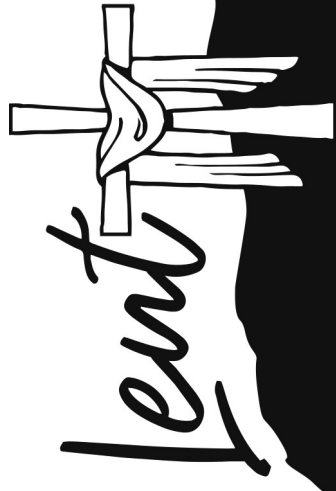
On Good Friday, we celebrate the day that Jesus died. This is a death He died willingly. As we remember His suffering and death, we know that is not the end of the story. And because of Jesus' death and resurrection, it is also not the end of the story for those who die in the Christian faith.



*Come to Calvary's holy mountain,  
Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain  
Flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide,  
Opened when our Savior died.*

*(LSB 435:1)*

# March 2025



|    | Sun                                                                                                                                                             | Mon                                                | Tue                                                        | Wed                                                                                                                                                                  |                                  |                                   |                                                     |  |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--|
| 2  | 9:00 Worship with Communion<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study<br>10:15 Bible Class                                                        | 3<br>4:00-6:30<br>Early<br>Childhood<br>Open House | 4<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                        | 5 Ash Wednesday<br>8:30 Ash Wednesday Worship<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>5:00-6:30 Lent Supper<br>7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship                                            | 6<br>6:30 ILS Fine Arts Festival | 7<br>6:30 ILS Fine Arts Festival  | 8<br>Region IV Fine Arts Festival at MLHS, Northrop |  |
| 9  | Lent I<br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>3:00 LWML Bingo at Valley View                           | 10<br>5:15 Bd Cong. Services Mtg                   | 11<br>PARENT PICK UP DAY<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir | 12<br>8:30 Lent Worship<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>2:15-3:45 Prairie Ecology Bus—grades 3-6<br>5:00-6:30 Lent Supper<br>5:15 LWML<br>7:00 Lent Worship                  | 13                               | 14                                | 15<br>ILS Chess Tournament                          |  |
| 16 | Lent II<br>8:30 All School Choir sings at St. Peter<br>9:00 Worship with Communion<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study<br>10:15 Bible Class | 17                                                 | 18<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                       | 19<br>8:30 Lent Worship<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>5:00-6:30 Lent Supper<br>7:00 Lent Worship<br>8:00 Bd Elders Mtg                                                     | 20<br>5:30 Bd Trustees Mtg       | 21<br>Last Day of the 3rd Quarter | 22                                                  |  |
| 23 | Lent III<br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study<br>10:15 Bible Class                                                           | 24                                                 | 25<br>6:10 Imm Ringers<br>7:10 Choir                       | 26<br>PARENT DRIVE DAY<br>8:30 Lent Worship<br>2:10 Confirmation<br>5:00-6:30 Lent Supper<br>5:30 Bd Ed Mtg<br>7:00 Lent Worship<br>8:00 Joint Boards/Church Council | 27<br>PARENT DRIVE DAY           | 28<br>NO SCHOOL                   | 29                                                  |  |
| 30 | Lent IV<br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Youth Group Bible Study<br>10:15 Bible Class<br>10:30 Bd Finance Mtg                                    | 31                                                 |                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                  |                                   |                                                     |  |

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School  
P.O. Box 750, 604 Bush Street  
Lakefield, Minnesota 56150  
507-662-5718

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Lakefield, Minnesota 56150  
Permit #21

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Worship Schedule —*

Sunday Morning Services  
9:00 AM

Sunday School  
Youth Group Bible Study  
Bible Class  
10:15 AM

Communion Celebrated  
1st and 3rd Sunday

Join us on our Lenten journey

*MARCH Monthly*

