

# The Church Messenger

“THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE TREASURE HIDDEN IN A FIELD, WHICH SOMEONE FOUND AND HIDDEN; THEN IN HIS JOY HE GOES AND SELLS ALL THAT HE HAS AND BUYS THAT FIELD...” MT 13:44



Grace and peace.

As we continue along in this season of Lent, I imagine many have attempted to forego their favorite dessert, have started some form of Bible-reading plan or devotional, given up alcohol, or in my case given up asparagus. ☺ Oh, and thanks Jeannette for dropping that dish of asparagus at the parsonage in order to tempt me from my resolve... ☺

However, Lent is a time for us to focus on Jesus Christ, and to prepare ourselves to meditate on the sacrifices he made to redeem our lives and to reconcile us with God the Father. It is hard to imagine a person who is willing to endure trials, temptations, beatings, ridicule, and an agonizing, humiliating, and painful death for others. So when we look at this passage in the Gospel of Matthew, and realize how *‘for the joy he goes and gives up all’* for the purchase of us, the treasure in the field, a whole new level of appreciation and gratitude enters my heart.

As we continue this Lenten journey, walking with Jesus towards the cross, and come to that day that we commemorate as the day of his sacrificial death let us imagine this paraphrase of words spoken that by Pope Francis:

Imagine for the moment the gaze of Christ, *the crucified Christ*, with allowing Jesus to look upon us at the very moment that he gives of his life for us, and draws us to himself...

This look from the crucified Jesus, offering himself for us in the spirit of joy, because he knew that this purchase would grant him the pearl of great price, the treasure in the field...

Consider again these words of our Lord and Savior:

Take and eat, this is my body, given *for you*...

May God’s peace consume you as we approach this solemn occasion before the Resurrection Celebration on Easter Sunday.

Pastor Ken †

## Worship Schedule

9 AM — Sunday Worship

10 AM — Coffee Hour\*

5 PM (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month) — Family Service, light dinner served afterwards.

\*If you would like to host a coffee hour, please call Michelle or Ronnette at the office (715) 695-3511.

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**WINDOW FUND UPDATE**

Please continue to use the "Window" fund envelope for contributions to pay for the stained glass repairs. In order to pay the stained glass window bill in January, we had to borrow \$6,400 from the general fund. That is the reason our checking account is in the red. Once the stained glass bill is paid back, contributions to the Window Fund will go toward the fellowship windows.

Jim Tocko  
Council President

**CREATIVE BEGINNINGS  
EARLY LEARNING CENTER**

**APRIL FUN DAYS**

April 2 .....Mismatch Day  
April 17.....Easter Party

**BIRTHDAYS**

Bennett .....April 2  
Cassie .....April 3  
Lucas .....April 5  
Hadley.....April 7



**FIRST COMMUNION**

First Communion for third graders will be on Maundy Thursday. The children will be learning about communion during Sunday School. We ask that parents join their children during Sunday school for communion instruction on March 30.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ken at

**STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S EARTH**

By Jim Tocko



**THE MAN WHO PLANTS A TREE**

by Richard J. Dorer

The man who plants a tree  
Must first prepare  
The faithful earth  
By moving duff or sod'  
And cherish in his heart  
A silent prayer  
For working  
Hand in hand with God.  
It is a sacred task,  
To plant a tree,  
That always should be done  
On bended knee.

The artisans may strive  
For years to raise  
A structure reaching  
To the vaulted sky,  
That well deserves  
The everlasting praise  
And words of wonderment  
From passerby,  
But he, the humble man  
Who plants a tree,  
Is fashioning  
His nations destiny.

As you view a tree with its branches extended toward the heavens, it reminds me of the pastor raising his arms in prayer during the service.



## DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Greetings from your Daughters of the King, Ruth Chapter! Thank you so much to the ILC Council, to Pastor Ken, and to the Congregation. Thank you for all your prayers and support throughout our time of discernment, and in the Celebration of our Installations and Daughter Admissions.

Lela Joscelyn, DOK Province V Vice President, drove all the way from Milwaukee to officially give us our Charter and admit new Daughters Janet Cole and Amanda Taylor, along with Sara Heck, to the newly formed Ruth Chapter (named for Ruth Garson Strand, of Strum, WI). Then, the new Chapter formerly installed Pastor Taylor as their Chaplain. You may not have realized this, but history was being made, when ILC started our little Chapter. We are the 3rd Lutheran Chapter in the World. Hopefully, there will soon be more, as this is a Great new opportunity for women in the ELCA; a Calling to a Vocation of daily Prayer, Service, and Evangelism for the Lord.

Since 1885, the mission of the Order has been the extension of Christ's Kingdom through prayer, service, and evangelism. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as Daughters is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to reflect God's Love throughout the World.

Our regular monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month, from 11 a.m. until Noon. We usually meet in the Church Office. All women are welcome.

There has also been a request for a Junior Daughters Chapter (ages 7-21). If enough girls are interested (at least 3 or more), we could start a Chapter sometime this year.

If you feel called to this fulfilling Vocation, or you are interested in beginning the National 12-Lesson Study Guide, please call the Church Office (715) 695-3511, or Sara Heck (715) 695-3229, to ask questions or to find out when the next Study begins. Informational brochures can also be found on the table, in the Church Narthex.

for His sake,  
Sara Heck

## MONEY MATTERS

### March 2 –March 8

General Fund Contributions .....	\$5,742.00
Expenses.....	\$3,988.30
Net Income (Loss) .....	\$1,753.70

### March 9 –March 15

General Fund Contributions .....	\$2,878.18
Expenses.....	\$4,950.37
Net Income (Loss) .....	(\$2,072.19)

### March 16 –March 22

General Fund Contributions .....	\$3,552.44
Expenses.....	\$2,575.80
Net Income (Loss) .....	\$976.64

### March 23 –March 24

General Fund Contributions .....	\$2,158.00
Expenses.....	\$1,132.72
Net Income (Loss) .....	\$1,025.28

### March 2-March 24

Total Contributions .....	\$14,330.62
Total Expenses .....	\$12,647.19
Net Income (Loss) .....	\$1,683.43

### March Budget 2014

Contributions .....	\$16,851.00
Expenses.....	\$18,441.89
Net Income (Loss) .....	(\$1,590.89)

**Loan Balance..... \$5,050.00**

**General Fund Balance (3/24) .....\$1,977.02**

### Percent of Monthly Budget Allowance

(including anticipated payroll & pastor expenses for March 31)

General Fund Contributions .....	85.0%
Ministry Expenses .....	40.1%
Benevolences.....	100.0%
Office Expenses.....	35.9%
Property Expenses .....	14.6%
Insurance Expense.....	200.2%
Pastor Expenses .....	105.0%
Payroll Expenses .....	97.6%

# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Opening prayer by Pastor Ken.

Mary Gullickrud outlined the steps necessary to establish the church website with Jamie Stendahl as coordinator and Mike Tonn as facilitator. Motion by Howard, second by Michelle to proceed with website. Motion carried.

JANUARY MINUTES APPROVED.

Request for sponsors for the coffee hours will be solicited. The third Sunday will feature a Fellowship brunch.

Pastor visits to the shut-ins is being coordinated by office staff. The third Sunday of the month will be acoustic Sunday featuring the talents of the members of our congregation. Pastor will attend a continuing education conference in Minneapolis in May.

Copies of the fee schedule for the use of the church and Personnel Policies were shared with council members to be reviewed at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Jim Tocko



Easter Plant Order Form

The Altar Guild presents this opportunity for you to purchase an Easter plant in thanksgiving for, or in memory of, a loved one. The plant would be for placement in the Church on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

To order a plant, complete the form below and return it to the Church office by April 14<sup>th</sup> along with full payment. Please make checks payable to Robbe's.

*(check one below)*

I will contribute a plant

I will give a monetary contribution to the General Fund

*(check one below)*

In memory of

In thanksgiving for

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Plants will be available for pick-up following the Easter Worship Service or the following Monday. The cost of the plants are as follows:

Lilies..... \$8.00                      Mums.....\$8.50                      Azaleas ..... \$9.50

# APRIL SCHEDULE

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



### **Greeters**

- April 6 Tracie & Rick McSorley & Family
- April 13 Brian & Candace Schadrie & Family
- April 20 Matt & Ronnette Nelson & Family
- April 27 Maxine & Dennis Ulberg



### **Readers**

- April 6 Tera Gullicksrud
- April 13 Alex Larson
- April 17 Matt Nelson
- April 20 Matt Nelson
- April 27 Joyce Russell



### **Acolytes**

- April 6 Maiya McSorley
- April 13 Rizzo Bates
- April 17 Meghan Hering (Maundy Thursday)
- April 18 Roselia Jacobson (Good Friday)
- April 20 Colin Larson (Easter)
- April 27 Sean Larson



### **Communion Helpers**

- April 6 Maxine & Dennis Ulberg
- April 17 Jim Tocko & Marie Murrell
- April 20 Dean & Carolyn Boehne



### **Altar Guild**

- April 6 Gloria Wagener
- April 17 Deloris Sather (Maundy Thursday)
- April 20 Gloria Wagener/ Barb Adams (Easter)

- Robes Wyllis Olson
- Flowers Ruth Gullicksrud & Ruth Gilbertson



### **Ushers**

- \*Peter Koxlien, Connor Koxlien, Jeff Koxlien, Gabe Koxlien, Terry Koxlien, Rick McSorley, Cade & Kyle McSorley

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>April 2014</b>						
<b>6</b> 9 am Worship/ Communion 10 am Sunday School  Coffee Hour Host: Michelle Peaslee	<b>7</b> 3:45 pm Youth Choir 4:30 Guitar Class	<b>8</b> <b>Text Study</b>	<b>9</b> 1:30 pm WELCA – The Easter Story  5:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper Host: ILC Council  6:30 pm Lenten Service	<b>10</b> 9 am – Noon Quilting  3 pm – 5 pm Feed My People Mo- bile Food Pantry  Strum Village Hall	<b>11</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>12</b> 11 am – noon Daugh- ters of the King (ILC Office)  5 pm Family Service Followed by a light dinner
<b>13</b> 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School  Men's Group <b>Palm</b> <b>Sunday</b> Breakfast	<b>14</b> 3:45 pm Youth Choir 4:30 Guitar Class	<b>15</b> <b>Text Study</b> 9 am – 11 am Food Pantry at Immanuel Lutheran Church – Fellowship Hall	<b>16</b> 1:30 pm Hope Circle- Diane Thronson  6:30 PM Confirmation Banquet	<b>17</b> <b>Mauudy Thursday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> communion for 3 <sup>rd</sup> graders	<b>18</b> <b>Good Friday</b>  ILC & CBELC Office Closed	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9 am Worship/ Communion  10 am Sunday School No Coffee Hour	<b>21</b> 3:45 pm Youth Choir 4:30 Guitar Class  Newsletter Deadline	<b>22</b> <b>Text Study</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9 am – Noon Quilting	<b>25</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School  Coffee Hour Host: To be determined	<b>28</b> 3:45 pm Youth Choir 4:30 Guitar Class	<b>29</b> <b>Text Study</b>	<b>30</b>			

## BIRTHDAYS

Moltzau, Michelle	04/01	Guenther, Wayne Jr.	04/14	Erickson, David	04/22
Semingson, Elmen	04/01	Herman, Valerie	04/14	Franson, Linda	04/24
Bauer, Bennett	04/02	Larson, Susan	04/14	Peterson, Sarah	04/24
Shermo, Vickie	04/02	Yarrington, Esther	04/14	Schadrie, Gracie	04/24
Nelson, Wyatt	04/05	Anderson, Doris	04/15	Austin, Barrey	04/25
Hanson, Ramona	04/06	Engen, Ruth	04/15	Johnson, Gracie	04/25
Howard, Virginia	04/06	Hollister, Beulah	04/15	Johnson, Emma	04/25
Rogness, Kelsey	04/06	Glenz, Lilly	04/16	Kisor, Ann	04/25
Brion, Hadley	04/07	Holstad, Roxanne	04/16	Petersen, Debra	04/25
Finstad, Mildred	04/07	Semingson, Logan	04/16	Gullicksrud, Florence	04/26
Nelson, Larry	04/08	Glasspoole, Parker	04/17	Kruger, Gregory	04/26
Rindal, Nicole	04/08	Gullicksrud, Steven	04/17	McLean, Alyssa	04/29
Brion, Joanne	04/09	Maug, Cory	04/17		
Brown, George	04/09	Skoug, Ander	04/17		
Russell, Joyce	04/09	Tonn, William	04/17		
Moltzau, Ronnie	04/10	Davidson, Diane	04/18		
Nelson, Nicole	04/10	McSorley, Richard	04/18		
Ottestad, Gary	04/10	Olson, Wyllis	04/18		
Toft, Helen	04/10	Zingsheim, Michael	04/18		
Ellifson, Carmen	04/11	Brian, Irene	04/20		
Kensmoe, Bradley	04/11	Frank, Brian	04/20		
Guenther, Melissa	04/12	Nelson, Matthew	04/20		
Anderson, Grace	04/13	Toft, Robert	04/21		

*"May you have all the joy your heart can hold,  
All the smiles a day can bring,  
All the blessings a life can unfold.  
May you have God's best in everything."*

*Happy Birthday!*

## MEMORIALS



### In Memory of Wade Halverson

#### *General Fund*

Don & Judy Haukeness  
Clarice Bergerson  
Margaret Severson  
Paul & Ruth Eide  
Frances Eide  
Spencer Bradison

#### *Window Fund*

Tom & Gloria Wagener  
Howard Hanson  
Michael & Mary Peterson

#### *St. Paul's Cemetery*

Joan Brenengen  
Donald & Harriet Gilbertson

#### *West Beef River Cemetery*

David & Diane Thronson  
Sue Larson  
Edith Olson

### In Memory of Levi Call

#### *Window Fund*

Dave & Marlys Bjorklund

#### *West Beef River Cemetery*

Joanne Brion

### In Memory of Glenn

#### Haukeness

#### *General Fund*

David Back, Andrea Volbrecht & Family

#### *West Beef River Cemetery*

George & Peggy Brown

### In Memory of Harvey

#### Christenson

#### *General Fund*

Dale & Mary Pederson

### Memorial Funds

CBELC  
Endowment Fund  
Immanuel Chapel Fund  
Immanuel General Fund  
Immanuel Building Fund  
Immanuel Library Fund  
Immanuel Music Fund  
Immanuel Sunday School  
Immanuel Youth Fund  
Immanuel Window Fund  
Hamlin Cemetery  
St. Paul's Cemetery  
West Beef River Cemetery

***When writing a check,  
please make the check  
payable to the individual  
memorial fund.***

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Strum, Wisconsin! We are a church family of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, who as disciples of Christ, are gathered together to *embrace, encourage, and extend faith, hope, and love in Christ*. Embrace, encourage, and extend: these three descriptive words sum up the mission of our congregation in following the command of Christ to love one another. Through worship, education, fellowship, and service, we share that love for each other and our community so that lives may be enriched and faith strengthened. Immanuel Lutheran Church is a congregation that is steeped in history while also engaging the context of the village of Strum, the community as a whole, and the world. Come and see! There is a place for you!

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

Pastor ..... Rev. K D Taylor  
 Administrator ..... Michelle Peaslee  
 Custodian ..... Ronnette Nelson  
 Organist/Music Director ..... Jeanette Tobiason  
 Sunday School Directors ..... Tera Gullicksrud & Sherry Bjerke

**Creative Beginnings Early Learning Center**

Director ..... Keri Whitwam  
 Administrative Assistant ..... Michelle Peaslee  
 Lead Teacher—Forest Friends Room..... Theresa Bjorgo  
 Lead Teacher—Lily Pad Room ..... Samantha Tetzlaff  
 Lead Teacher—Monkey Room ..... Dusti Miland  
 Assistant ..... Ronnette Nelson

**Council Members**

President ..... Jim Tocko  
 Secretary ..... Kris Husby  
 Treasurer ..... Michelle Peaslee  
 Member-at-large ..... Dan Bjerke  
 Member-at-large ..... Howard Hanson  
 Member-at-large ..... Marie Murrell

ILC Office ..... (715) 695-3511  
 CBELC Office ..... (715) 695-3954

**Dial-up Service ..... (715) 695-3906**

[www.immanuel-strum.com](http://www.immanuel-strum.com)

