

Immanuel's Word

Immanuel Lutheran Church-LCMS Bossier City, Louisiana

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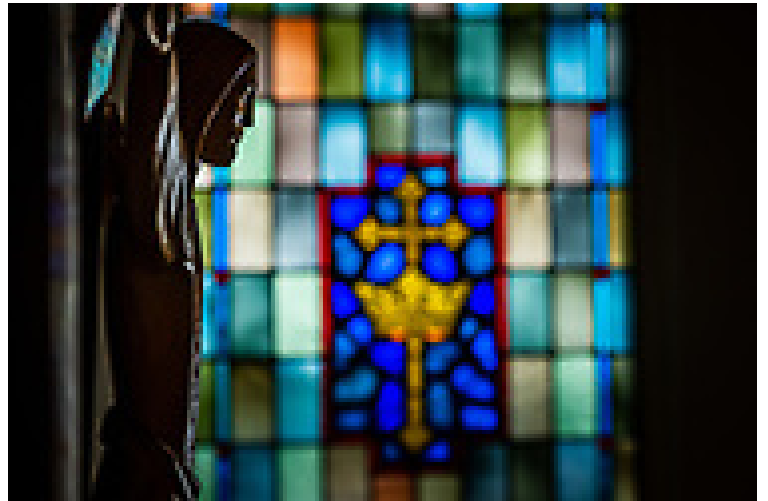
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Pastor's Word

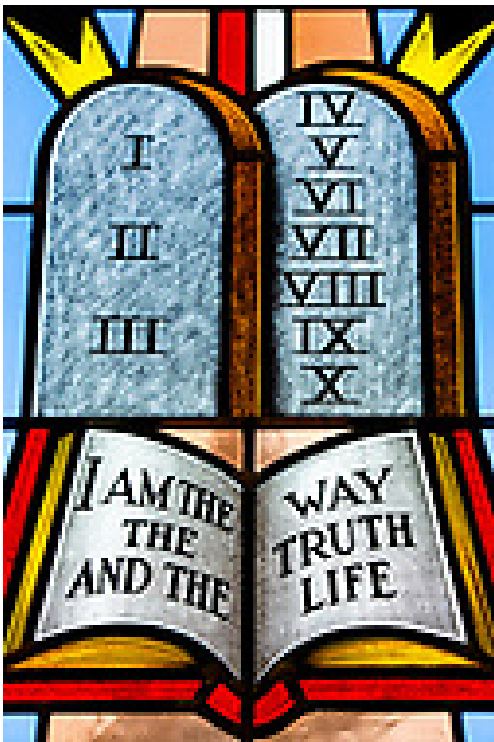
In the name of Jesus. Amen. Rejoice! Be Glad! *Laetare* is March 14! The Sunday in the middle of Lent is name *Laetare*, which means "Rejoice!" Rejoice ye with Jerusalem!

Isn't Lent supposed to be a somber and gloomy time? Aren't we supposed to be serious about repentance in Lent?

Yes, Lent is very somber as we take a hard look at our sins. Our sins are the reason why the Son of God dies on the Cross. That's the cost of our sins. But, despite popular belief, Lent is not a gloomy season and depression.

But the Cross is the source of our joy too! In Lent we hear about the forgiveness of our sins. In Lent we hear about faith, which is receiving what Jesus won for us on the Cross. There is no gloom in faith and thus there is no gloom in *Laetare*!

Continued next page



March Readings

March 7: Exodus 8:16-24
Eph. 5:1-9
Luke 11:14-28

March 14: Exodus 16:2-21
Gal. 4:21-31
John 6:1-15

March 21: Gen. 22:1-14
Heb. 9:11-15
John 8:46-59

March 28: Zech. 9:9-12
Phil. 2:5-11
Matt. 21:1-9

That's the joy that bursts through this week! Half way through Lent, the joy of the Cross of Christ bursts through! So much joy erupts that the violet of Lent goes away for and our pariments become rose. Our sack cloth goes away for a week and we fix our eyes on Jesus and the salvation that He will win for us on Good Friday!

Rejoice! Be glad! The Father has given His only begotten Son not just for our sins, but for the sins of the whole world. All our evil deeds, all the wicked things that we have done that we would be scared and embarrassed for the world to know about were put upon Him. He died for all our sins. He didn't miss a single sin. He got them all.

If that doesn't causing rejoicing, nothing will! Faith receives the forgiveness Jesus won for us in the Word and the Sacraments. The answer to our gloom is not located inside us, but outside in Jesus' gifts.

In Baptism our sins were washed away. Rejoice ye with Jerusalem! In the Absolution spoken by our pastor, our sins are forgiven. Rejoice ye with Jerusalem! In the Body and Blood of Jesus given and shed for us in the Sacrament, our sins are forgiven. Rejoice ye with Jerusalem!

How could we be gloomy any longer? How could we be sad? Everything that we could possibly be gloomy about was put upon the Son of God! So put on your rose (pink) on Sunday, March 14th, and lets show the world again that Lent is happy because Jesus has saved us in His Good Friday and Easter. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Sweet the moments, rich in blessing, Which before the cross we spend, Life and health and peace possessing From the sinner's dying Friend. (TLH 155, 1)

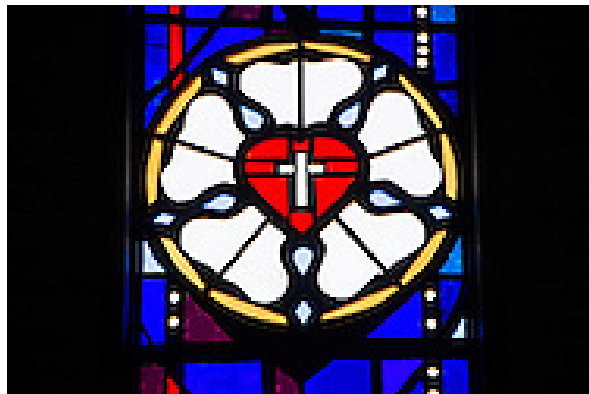
Rev. George F. Borghardt III
Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bossier City, LA
President
Higher Things, Inc.

From Our HeadElder

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are one day away from voting on extending a Divine Call to Pastor Chris Yeager for our Associate Pastor Position as I am typing this report for the newsletter. I am excited about the future of our church knowing that we will have TWO pastors serving our church members in a Harmonious Shared Ministry! I anticipate our church growing and becoming more united in the very near future. I truly believe that our Pastoral Leadership Team will provide the leadership to move our church in the right direction of delivering the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our members in the church and to people outside the church through our outreach programs. I believe that we have survived the pandemic by keeping our members informed and giving them weekly communion. Special thanks to Pastor Borghardt for his tireless effort to continue serving our members in this great time of need.

In Christ,
Jimmy Cox
Elder Chairman



Congregational President's Word

Greetings ILC Congregation!

I pray that this finds you well, still resistant to our nasty little virus friend and recovered from snowmageddon, and Happy Lent!!

As I write this, Feb 25, we are 3 days from the Divine Call Meeting to call Pastor Yeager. Whatever the outcome, it is God's will, not ours.

We are also 7 days past the water emergency that flooded the fellowship halls due to a thawed and ruptured frozen water pipe. I want to thank all the volunteers who showed up to help dry things out as quickly as they did considering the conditions, but especially Diane and Robin Ford who had walked to the church to set up for Sunday Communion and found the water and immediately made phone calls for assistance, and Beau and Cheyenne Jones who also walked immediately to the church to begin removing water and found the water valve under the snow and turned the water off!!! Good Job!!! We will have to keep an eye on the floor tiles in these areas to be sure they don't come loose or curl which will necessitate a decision to replace or not. BUT, in the grand scheme of things, considering the issues others have in their lives, businesses, and churches, we are and have been BLESSED and our "troubles" are minor and should thank God everyday for the many blessings we have received!! If you are experiencing any difficulties or issues though, please contact the church office, your Elder, or anyone that we might find a way to assist!

We celebrated Ash Wednesday last evening as we were unable to last week because of the storm, and it was well attended by 62, a good service!

Finally, I pray you have a Happy Lent as Pastor Borghardt is wont to say. May we all be prayerful and thankful that our Savior took all our sins upon Himself that we might have eternal life with him!!!

Thank all of you for all you do!!

Yours in Christ,

Mark Stevens
President, ILC

Board of Education News

Sunday School Easter Program, **March 28th**, Palm Sunday during Sunday School Hour., begins at 10:30 AM
Involves all Sunday School Children, JR High and SR High Youth.

Practice days for the Sunday School Easter Program, **March 13th, 20th, & 27th**. Time to be announced. Leaning toward **10A to noon**. Will confirm asap.

March 19th, Friday, Jr and Sr Youth Lock In! More info to come from the Jr and Sr Youth Leaders.

April 2nd, Good Friday, Weather permitting! 5P to 6:30P Jesus carrying the cross down Airline; from church to Airline HS and back.

April 4th, Easter Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your baskets! it will occur during the Sunday school hour! Jr and Sr youth will help hide the eggs. 5th graders and younger will hunt.

May 2nd, 9 AM Confirmation Service!

May ? during service, Graduating Senior Recognition! date will be announced.

June 6 - July 25th, 2021 Summer Sunday School will be in session.

June 14th - 18th, VBS!

Sunday School Lessons

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March 2021
Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Luke Anderson Steve Bull	2 Terry Rogers Rev. Borghardt	3	4 Lawson Deblieux	5 Barbi Huhn Phyllis Kirsch Casey Tonnies Chris Tonnies	6 Mary Jo Minks Billy Turnage
7	8	9	10	11	12 Janice Krusemark Nathan Sisemore	13
14 Lauren Hunter	15 Noah Hutchison Jamison Voigt	16	17	18 John Castanes	19 Michael Ekstrom Earl Tonjes	20
21 Alan Bruggeman Caleb Hunter <i>Anniversary Therese & Billy Turnage</i>	22 Joseph Morris	23 <i>Anniversary Barbara & Jack Russell</i>	24 Ruth Hutchison	25 <i>Anniversary Evelyn & Robert Gunderson</i>	26 Greg Hershberger Amy Snuffin <i>Anniversary Kaisu & Scott Andrews</i>	27 Madilyn O'Neal
28	29 Kristen Jenkins	30 Beth Swim	31			



**YOUTH SHOE
RECLAMATION
PROJECT
COLLECTION BOX
THE NARTHEX**

Financial Report For March 2021 Newsletter

Budget status as of 31 January 2021

Actual Income \$42,472

Actual Expenditures \$32,189

Budgeted income and expenditures \$40,479

Net Income (Actual Income minus Actual Expenditures) +\$10,283

2021 Church Operating Budget- The 2021 budget was set at the December Voter's Meeting. The yearly budget is complex and is worked during the last quarter to be presented to the Voter's Meeting held in December. Immanuel's budget is \$481,896, a strong but obtainable effort for the church. If you have any questions or suggestions about a budget item, please see someone in that board or a Finance Committee member.

Storm Update- February was a difficult month for Immanuel due to the continuing pandemic and the snow and ice storm. The church suffered a broken water pipe in the New Fellowship Hall storage room. There is drywall and suspected floor damage due to flooding. The acting trustees are evaluating the damage. Hopefully, the repair work will not be excessive.

Financial Secretary Position- Tammy Szekacs is the Treasurer's assistant, so if you have any financial questions, please see her or Charlie Johnson for help. Now we are looking for a person, or team, to train with our Financial Secretaries, Glenda and Earl Kroll, to aide them and to possibly assume the position in the future. Their position receives the weekly donations, deposits funds in our bank, and reports to the congregation. Pray for congregational solidarity, our pastor and all church workers, for the missions of the church, world peace, government agreement, for those involved with and suffering from the Corona Virus, other world disasters, and for those in need.

MITE SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY MARCH 7 AND 10!

**Thanks for supporting LWML and our mission
goals!**



Our March LWML meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16th, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Due to inclement weather, it was necessary to cancel our February meeting; therefore, we will discuss "More Than Conquerors" a Bible Study written by Shari Miller and led by Shirley Fortune which we had originally planned for February. (This Bible Study was featured in the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly, Winter Issue, 2020).

Please make plans to join us. Our in-gathering will be for Renesting Project. Items needed are NEW bed pillows, salt and pepper shakers, dish soap, laundry detergent or pods, tooth paste and tooth brushes, and kitchen and bath cleaners.

Thank you,
Shirley Fortune

Sewing Mission Outreach

Mission Outreach continues to meet and sew with donated fabrics and supplies. If you would like to learn to sew, you are welcome to come and we will teach you. Your first project will be a small quilt that will be donated to one of our local charitable services. Some of those organizations include the Neonatal Intensive Care Units at local hospitals, Care Pregnancy Center, Renesting, VA Home Health, Providence House, and Heart of Hope. After completing your first quilt, you may bring fabrics of your own and we will help you make a project of your own to keep. If you are interested in participating, let me know and I will give you more information and add your name to the email list so you will receive reminders of the meetings.

We schedule monthly meetings for one Friday-Saturday each month. These are posted on the church calendar. For 2021 we have January 29-30, February 26-27, March 26-27, April 23-24, May 28-29, and June 25-26. (Dates for July-December will be determined at a later time.) We meet in the Fellowship Hall and adjoining classrooms 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Occasionally we meet on a Friday when I and the church are both available; for these meetings I send an email notification out a few days prior to the meeting.

Cathy Ward

March 2021 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board of Education 6:00 PM	3 Divine Worship 7:00 PM Catechism 6:00 PM Moms In Prayer 9:30 AM	4	5	6
7 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM MITES SUNDAY	8	9 Preschool Board 5:00 PM Finance, Stewardship, Evangelism Boards 5:30 PM	10 Divine Worship 7:00 PM Catechism 6:00 PM Prayer Ministry 4:00 PM Moms In Prayer 9:30 AM	11 Board of Elders 6:00 PM	12	13
14 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Time Change Blood Drive	15	16 LWML Meeting 10:00 AM Church Council 6:00 PM	17 Divine Worship 7:00 PM No Catechism Moms In Prayer 9:30 AM	18 Newsletter Deadline	19 Jr. Youth Lock- in	20
21 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM	22	23	24 Divine Worship 7:00 PM Catechism 6:00 PM Moms In Prayer 9:30 AM	25	26 Sewing Mission 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM	27 Sewing Mission 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM
28 Divine Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM	29	30	31 Divine Worship 7:00 PM Catechism 6:00 PM Moms In Prayer 9:30 AM			

Congregational Concerns

BE KIND TO YOUR FAMILY

A death in the family, either expected or unexpected is a tremendous life changing experience. From experience I can say, you find yourself numb and unable to process actions and thoughts. You are expected in this confused state to plan the funeral, select a coffin and put together funeral service material. Why do this to your family?

Immanuel Lutheran staff has prepared a document called "**Funeral Guidelines**". This document benefits the bereaved by explaining what elements are significant in the funeral service. It provides liturgical guidelines, orders of worship and appropriate funeral music.

The information you provide for your family will be invaluable to them. You can request certain Biblical readings that are important to you. You can tell them what music you want at the funeral and elements of your life you would like to be mentioned in the service.

The information also helps the church staff contact family members and know what your wishes are. The form will be kept in the church office in a secure place known to Pastor. Please contact the church office to request one of these forms to complete and return to the church.
Love your family and be kind to them.

Board of Congregational Concerns

Ministering Among Us in March

ALTAR GUILD	Doris Moorehead, Anna Delong, Tammy Deblieux, Agatha McCall, Sheryl Keller	
USHERS	Aaron Castanes, John Castanes	
GREETERS	Tracey Schrader	
ACOLYTES		
<i>March 7</i>	Madi O'Neal	
<i>March 14</i>	<i>Ethan Froehlich</i>	
<i>March 21</i>	Keira Jenkins	
<i>March 28</i>	<i>Sloane Engle, Acolyte</i>	<i>Matthew Wright, Crucifer</i>
POWERPOINT		
<i>March 7, 21</i>	Tristan Jenkins	
<i>March 14, 28</i>	Kaleb Castanes	
A/V		
<i>March 7, 21</i>	Charlie Johnson	
<i>March 14, 28</i>	Lee Anderson	
ELDERS		
<i>W-March 3</i>	John Frederickson	
<i>March 7</i>	Ryan Hutchison & Scott Andrews	
<i>W- March 10</i>	David Langston	
<i>March 14</i>	Terry Rogers & Woody Lemon	
<i>W- March 17</i>	Mike McKim	
<i>March 21</i>	Scott Broberg & Woody Lemon	
<i>W-March 24</i>	Jim Owen	
<i>March 28</i>	Ryan Hutchison & Greg Hershberger	

CHURCH HISTORIAN NEEDED

We are looking for a dedicated church historian. This volunteer position would be responsible for collecting, recording, editing, and curating the story of Immanuel. The historian would be asked to oversee the transfer of old photographs, composite pictures, and memorabilia to digital medium for permanent storage. The historian would also be asked to record and preserve oral histories of Immanuel, update and possibly digitize our "life book." As our church grows in size and in age, storage becomes a premium. If you are interested, please contact the office. Thanks!