



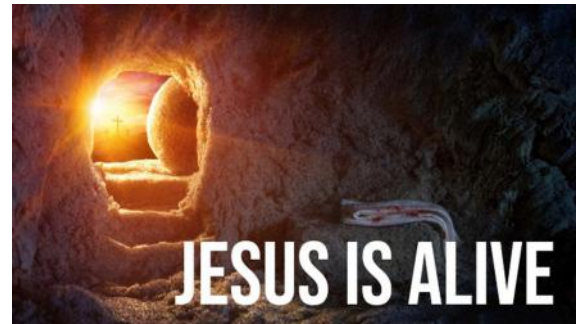
The Immanuel Echo

The Newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church
Manitowoc, WI
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

April 2024

HE'S DONE IT BEFORE

“I don’t want to die. I want to live.”



A man sitting in the adjoining seat said these words to a complete stranger as they were flying over the Caribbean Sea between Puerto Rico and Antigua. A horrific lightning storm was swirling around them. Ten seconds before he said this, the airplane had lost all power and began to dip rather suddenly towards the deep blue Caribbean waters below. Thankfully, the airplane regained power after only a few agonizing seconds, and they quickly climbed back to our cruising altitude.

“Death scares me,” he went on, “because I don’t know anything about it. I only know how to live.”

When it’s a choice between something you know and something you don’t know anything about, the decision’s pretty easy. Most everyone is more confident with the familiar. That’s why this man wasn’t the first person to express himself in this way. And he won’t be the last. Who can feel more confident about dying than living since we only know about life?

But Jesus had never died before either. Yet, as he hung on the cross, he knew it was coming. He had even told his followers the day before that *“it was for this reason (dying) that he came to this hour”* (Jn 12:27).

Jesus CHOSE death, and he did so with YOU in mind. Jesus CHOSE death to prove to YOU that those who follow him have no reason to be afraid of death.

Think about it like this: If the pilot of your plane guaranteed beforehand that the flight would land safely, that he had flown through worse storms and made it, that the backup generators on the plane would keep any power outage from harming you, you’d be much more confident despite a storm.

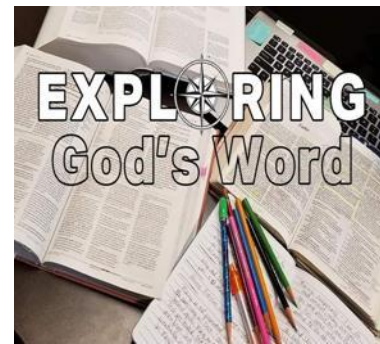
Jesus makes such a greater guarantee when he tells us we don’t have to be afraid of death. And he proved it by living after he died. The dead body of Jesus was placed in a grave on Friday evening, but he rose from the dead three days later.

Faith in Jesus is meant to take death’s scare away. The living Jesus gives you the confidence that your own grave will be empty, just like his was. He tells ALL his disciples, *“Because I live, you also will live”* (Jn 14:19). Enjoy your Easter season. Enjoy your EVERY season!

~ Pastor Matt Zimpelmann

Sunday Family Bible Study

Join us for Family Bible Study on Sunday mornings between worship services to dig deeper into God's truths for us in our lives. During challenging times and joyful times, we learn to fix our eyes on Jesus, His truths, how vital He is in our lives, and our eternal future. Each week we explore a different topic so join us anytime. God has so much to tell us, to help us, at all times!



Our study is taught in a relaxed, family atmosphere. All ages are welcome! There are activity pages for the children that correlate with the lesson being studied, and they participate in the beginning of Bible study with their parents. At 9:50am, children are welcome to go with a teacher to the room across the hall. There they learn and explore the same portion of God's Word through felt board, video, crafts, etc. and sing praises to Jesus. At 10:10am the children are brought back to their parents in Bible study. Parents have the option of their children staying with them for all of Bible study; in this case parents with little ones may wish to bring along a snack or coloring book for them.

Our Bible study is held in the Fellowship Hall (church basement) from 9:20 AM to 10:15 AM.

Womens Bible Study—Jude

Women of all ages are invited to join us for Women's Bible Study on **Saturdays, April 6th and 13th at 9:00 AM.** We meet in the Conference Room in the church office.

Currently, we are enjoying a study of the last of the general epistles, Jude. This is a short, intense letter written by Jesus half brother. Though this book is short, it is very timely, containing warnings against Satan's lies and Satan's liars. He alerts Christians to the dangers to their faith and encourages believers to persevere in their faith in Christ—that we must Fight for the Faith.



Bring your Bible, if you don't have one, please let me know and we will supply you with one. There is a study guide and we will also be using The People's Bible Jude book for reference as well. We have copies of both available. If you are planning to join us or have any questions, please contact Judy Fuerbringer at 920-973-3355 or judynglenn@ameritech.net.

Join us to be refreshed & strengthened by the words of our Savior!!

Opportunities for Men

Here are several opportunities for all the men to grow in God's Word!

† **Men's Prayer Group** meets on **Tuesdays, April 2nd and 16th at 7:30 AM** in the Gathering Room.

† **Men's Bible Study**— **Saturdays, April 6th—8:00 AM** at Grace Lutheran and on **Saturdays, April 13th and 27th—8:00 AM** at 1st German Lutheran.

"For where two or three gather in My name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20



Esther Circle Meeting



Esther Circle is the group that takes care of the altar area of church as well as set up the special arrangements for Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Our next meeting is on **Sunday, April 7th at 11:45 AM, following the late worship service.** We meet in the Fellowship Hall located in the lower level of church.

We are in need of more help! Please join us at our meeting to find out more or to becoming a part of Esther Circle (no commitment required).

Contact Judy Fuerbringer at 973-3355, with any questions.

Luke 25:51 - "While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven."

As we look forward to the ascension of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the concept of giving takes on special significance. As Christians, giving is seen as a reflection God's love and generosity towards humanity. It is a way for us to express our gratitude for the blessings that we have received and to demonstrate our faith through action.

Christian giving is not just about material possessions, but also about giving of oneself - one's time, talents, and resources - to help others in need. It is a way to show compassion and care for those who are less fortunate, following the example set by Jesus himself during his time on earth.

The act of giving in anticipation of the ascension of Jesus Christ serves as a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice he made for all of us. It is a way to honor his teachings and to continue his mission of spreading love and kindness in the world. By giving generously and selflessly, we can embody the spirit of our Lord and Savior and make a positive impact on those around us.

Blessings on your month,
~ Tom Wurm, Financial Secretary



LWMS Shoreline Circuit Spring Rally 100 New Missions in 10 Years

WHEN: Saturday, April 20th—9:00 AM to Noon

WHERE: Immanuel Lutheran—Manitowoc

REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM—9:00 AM

TOPIC: "100 New Missions in 10 Years" -

WELS Home Missions 2023-2024—This is a big goal. Why start 100 new home

missions? Do we have the manpower and resources?

How does synod plant new churches? Come & Find Out!!!

SPEAKER: Pastor James Borgwardt, Northern WI District
Mission Board Member

DEVOTION: Pastor Matt Zimpelmann

LUNCH: 12:00 PM—Included—Hosted by Ladies of Immanuel



LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY 61ST ANNUAL CONVENTION

THEME: 1 Peter 2:5 "Being Built Into A Spiritual House."

WHO: Women and Men of the WELS

WHERE: Sioux Falls Convention Center at
Sioux Falls, South Dakota—1201 North West Ave

WHEN: June 27-30, 2024

WORKSHOPS:

- A. The Impact of Indigenous Art and Music on Missions by Dr. Terry Schultz, Missionary, Multi-Language Productions
- B. Trends in Engaging Your Community by Rev. Mark Birkholz, Mission Counselor
- C. Navigating Changes with an Unchanging God by Rev. Ben Foxen, One Africa team
- D. The Real Missionary Wives by Panel of Current and Former Missionary Wives

FEATURED HOME & WORLD MISSION SPEAKERS

1. Build On; Build Up; Build Out by Rev. Craig Wilke, Brandon, South Dakota
2. The Antidote to Secular Life by Rev. Conifer Berg, Europe Mission Team, London
3. Living Stones by Rev. John Holtz, Native Christians Network

FEE SCHEDULE:

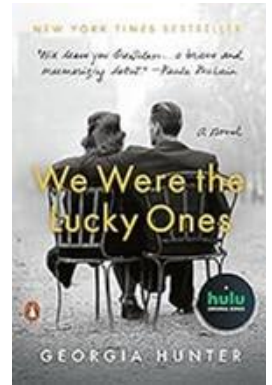
1. Early Bird before April 1, 2024—\$225
2. Regular April 2-June 15, 2024—\$260
3. Weekend Only (Saturday-Sunday)—\$175

To register online, visit 61.lwms.org/registration



BOOK CLUB

Our Book Club is meeting is on **Friday, April 12th at 1:15 PM** in the Gathering Room. The book for this month is *We Were the Lucky Ones* by Georgia Hunter. “It is the spring of 1939 and three generations of the Kurc family are doing their best to live normal lives, even as the shadow of war grows closer. The talk around the family Seder table is of new babies and budding romance, not of the increasing hardships threatening Jews in their hometown of Radom, Poland. But soon the horrors overtaking Europe will become inescapable and the Kurcs will be flung to the far corners of the world, each desperately trying to navigate his or her own path to safety. Driven by an unwavering will to survive and by the fear that they may never see one another again, the Kurcs must rely on hope, ingenuity, and inner strength to persevere. An extraordinary novel, *We Were the Lucky Ones* demonstrates how in the face of the twentieth century’s darkest moment, the human spirit can endure and even thrive.”



For those who are wanting a book, please call Ardis Haag at 682-1004.

WELS WOMEN’S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

THEME: Acts 1:8 - Empowered To Proclaim • You Will Be My Witnesses

**WHERE: The Ingleside Hotel, 2810 Golf Road
Pewaukee, Wisconsin**

WHEN: July 28-30, 2024

The foundation for the conference is Luke’s account of the spread of the kingdom of God through God’s chosen apostles and everyday believers. Learn from these early Christians how you too can be emboldened and empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the Word!



WHO IS THIS CONFERENCE FOR?

Everyone! This conference is for any woman who is passionate about the spread of the Good News of Jesus in our world today, no matter her age and background. New to the faith or seasoned, married or single, this conference will encourage, equip, and empower you in your walk of faith.

The keynote speakers and breakout sessions will focus on the work of the Holy Spirit as recorded in Acts and its application to us as 21st-century Christian women as we are empowered to proclaim the message of Jesus. The breakouts will emphasize growing in faith despite fierce cultural adversity, and you can choose breakouts that best suit your individual needs.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Four inspiring keynotes and a wide variety of breakouts—you choose what interests you
- In-depth spiritual growth sessions
- Delicious meals, snacks, and refreshments
- Many opportunities to connect with other women and network
- Curated marketplace of WELS women-owned shops
- Uplifting worship and devotions
- Ministry displays with helpful resources

WELS Women’s Ministry invites all WELS women to get away and be strengthened in all your callings.

REGISTRATION (THRU MAY 31ST):

1. Early Bird— until April 30, 2024—\$150
2. Regular May 1-31, 2024— \$175

Register and learn more at WELSWMCONFERENCE.NET

UPCOMING EVENTS



- ▶ **April 1st**—Easter Break—No School
- ▶ **April 7th**—Immanuel Social Studies Fair
- ▶ **April 12th**—Lakeshore Lutheran Music Festival at MLHS
- ▶ **April 13th**—MLHS Academic Fair for Grade School
- ▶ **April 22nd-26th**—Volunteer Appreciation Week
- ▶ **April 24th**—Administrative Professionals Day
- ▶ **April 26th**—Grade 7-8 Field Trip to Chicago
- ▶ **May 17th**—Immanuel Entertainment Night—the entire school participates in this night of fun!

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION—PIE

Partners in Education (PIE) is a parent organization that plans social events and fundraising for Immanuel School. Serving this school year as contact person is Jaimie Carlson.

This year, our fundraiser is for LED lighting in the north classrooms. The cost is \$18,000.

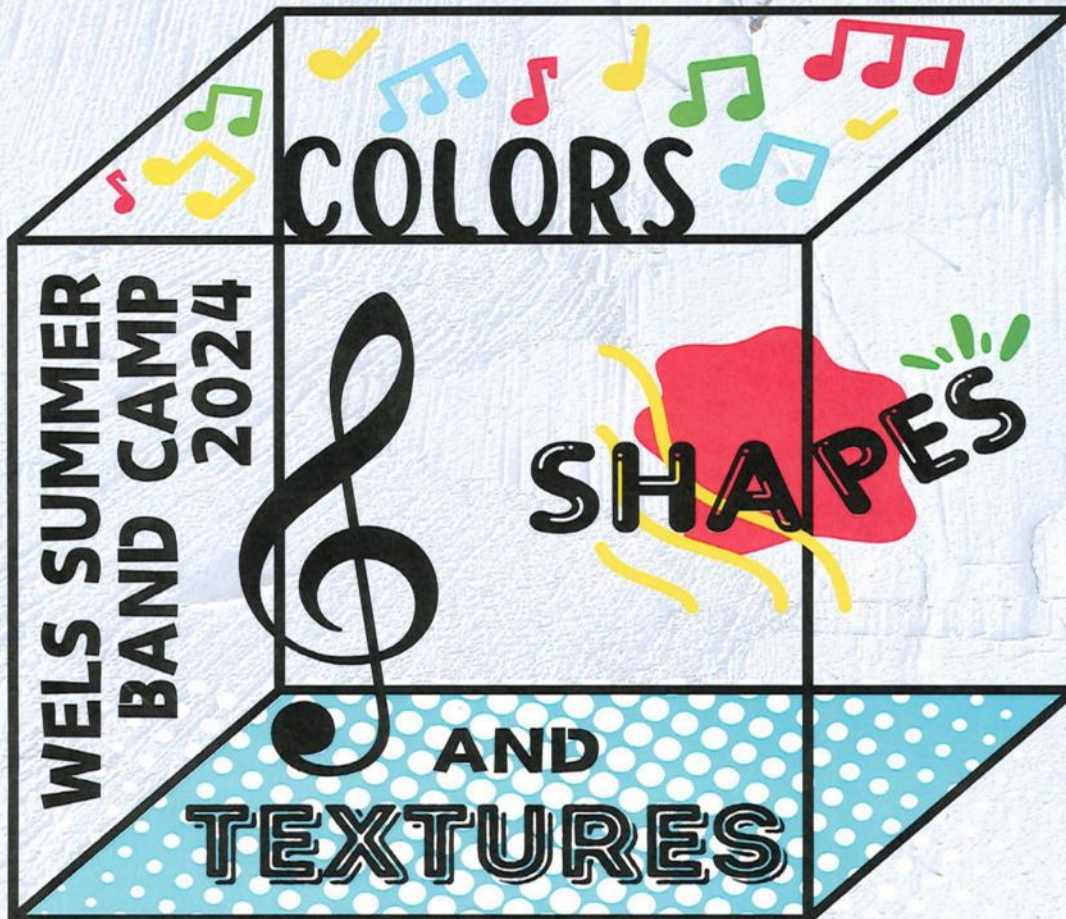
READ-A-THON THANK YOU!

Thank you to Ms. Audrey and Gracie, Pastor Bowe, Pastor Zimpelmann, Manitowoc Public Library, Ms. Schmill and Sophie, Lieutenant Sweney, Drew Holper, and JJ Sweney for volunteering to read at our Read-a-thon fundraiser. We had an amazing time reading books, learning about the library summer reading program, learning about therapy dogs and swapping books. Also many thanks to our sponsors: Cawley Co., Twin Rivers Vue Dairy, Doneff Co., Schnell Electric, YMCA, Strand Adventures, Family Aquatic Center, Village Inn on the Lake Hotel, Dairy Queen, Cousins Subs, Starbucks, Culvers, Papa Murphy's. We raised over \$5,000 and had a lot of fun. Each student came home with a Starbucks cup full of free goodies for around town.

We have about \$2000 left to reach our goal for new LED lighting in the classrooms. Please contact the church office if you are to help us reach our goal. Every contribution is appreciated. Thank you!

Thank you for your support!

Please contact Jaimie Carlson at 920-242-4286 to see how you can assist with our events. We are looking for parent volunteers for the many events we have planned. Our events help give back to the school, create social events for students and parents and support the staff.



JUNE 23-28, 2024

Camp will be held at
Wisconsin Lutheran College | Milwaukee, WI



WISCONSIN
LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Visit our website to learn more and to register:

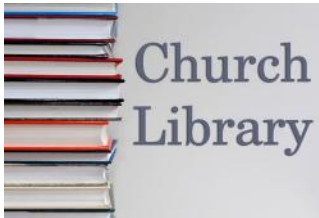
www.welssummerbandcamp.com

Students entering 6-9th grade in 2024 are eligible!

For questions or more information,
please contact our Camp Administrators



Prof. Daniel Hubert daniel.hubert@wlc.edu
Angela Hohenstein angela.hohenstein@kmlhs.org



You may stop in at the Immanuel church library at any time. It is located in our church basement. You will find books, music, & videos. Check out is self-service.
~ Laura Rozoff, Church Librarian

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.." 2 Peter 3:18

HYMN STORIES

Have you ever wondered about the background of our hymns? Hymns fall into two major groups:

1. Objective Hymns which focus on what God has done for us and are based on Bible truths and events.
2. Subjective Hymns which tend to look at the Christian's response to God's grace and tend to deal with human feelings and emotions.



Many of the objective hymns are rooted in the early church and especially the period of the Reformation and include many of the old German Lutheran chorales. The subjective hymns more frequently arose from the development of the English reformation, especially the influence of the Methodist movement with hymn writers like Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts. Many of these hymns were poetry later set to music and originated from dramatic events in a person's life. *JESUS LOVES ME* was written by Anna Warner at the bedside of a dying child. *ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS* was created by a Sunday School teacher as a marching song for kids. *JESUS SAVIOR PILOT ME* by Edward Hopper was created for sailors. *AMAZING GRACE* was written by a slave trader who converted to Christianity and left the slave trade.

If you find all these stories fascinating like I did, you may want to check out *101 Hymn Stories* by Kenneth W Osbeck (call # 793.9 Osb).

~ Laura Rozoff

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY

Join **Mornings with Mommy** for our April playdate on **Thursday, April 11th from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM** for **He is Risen!**. This is a fun and interactive playdate—a place where Moms and Caregivers can mingle with each other and enjoy activities with their children. We will be celebrating the Easter story with themed activities, crafts, story time, songs, snack and our annual Easter egg hunt. For ages birth to 5 years old. Meet new friends and Moms in a welcoming environment!



We will meet in the Fellowship Hall, located in the lower level of Immanuel church. Please contact Andrea at 715-220-1439 or aldolan@gmail.com with any questions and to secure your spot and allow us to plan in advance. Feel free to invite a friend too!

Like and follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with future events.

2024 SEMINARY SCURRY 5K & Kids Dash Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

5K Family Run-Walk & 1/2 Mile Kids Dash

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

Check-in @ 9:00 AM; Races Start @ 10:00 AM

ALL Participants Must Register—Registration Fee: \$20.00

T-shirt & Lunch is included for all participants.

All are invited to a free lunch, bounce house, and face painting after the race, and childcare for those adults wanting to participate in the run.

Register at: <https://cjfury.wufoo.com/forms/seminary-scurry-2024-registration-form/>
Event information & registration on Seminary Website—www.wisluthsem.org



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund (ILEF) founded in 2003

**“Every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father...” James 1:17a**



The word Endowment isn't a word we use in everyday financial discussions. As a result, having or needing an Endowment Fund at Immanuel may not be understood. We have all heard of or talked about Checking and Savings Accounts, Certificates of Deposit, 401Ks, IRAs or Money Market Accounts. We understand how these accounts “work” since many of us own one or more of these accounts right now. We're comfortable with them. We use them to hold our funds temporarily or long-term so that the deposited money will grow for future use.

Immanuel's Endowment Fund is no different than any of the aforementioned accounts. The Fund is used to hold donated money for growth and future use to support Immanuel's Church and School. The dictionary describes the word “endow” as “to furnish with funds for support.” So you can think of Immanuel's Endowment Fund as a Savings Account, or a Money Market Account where the monetary donations given to the Endowment Fund will never be spent. The fund will continue to grow in principal as donations are given and only a portion of the investment earnings are used for Immanuel's mission. It is a smart investment to ensure the continued support of our Church and School now and in the future. As the Fund grows, that support becomes more significant.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund are gifts from the heart that keep on giving and further Immanuel's work and mission of spreading God's Word.

If you have questions about the Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund (ILEF), someone from the Endowment Committee will be happy to contact you. Endowment Fund brochures, contribution envelopes and bookmarks are available upon request or at the information center in the Gathering Room at Church.

Committee Members:

Anton Doneff, Chairperson

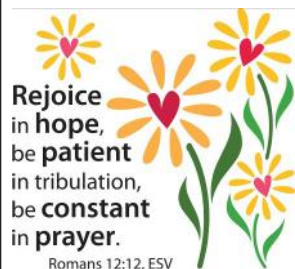
Jason Sweney, Secretary

Dave Nickels, ECHO articles

Scott Stuckmann, Treasurer

Dave Ramseur, Grant Request Coordinator

Member News



Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Romans 12:12, ESV

Dear Savior, We rejoice in your resurrection this month. You endured the cross, scorning its shame, to give yourself as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. You rose from the dead to defeat death for us and win for us eternity in heaven. We confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts, and haven't loved our neighbors as ourselves. But we give thanks that we have the forgiveness of sins and eternal life through your passion, death, and resurrection. Lead us to rejoice in your saving grace this month and every month, as you hold our hand through our lives all the way to eternity. In your name we pray. Amen.

Pastoral Acts

Transfers In

Cassandra Grys, Shaun (and Reagan) Vetting, Natalie Wentker, Laura Freels, Siedschlag family (Herman, Rochelle, and Nathaniel),

Adult Confirmands

Tanya Tesarik, Jacob Lueptow, and Alyssa

Baptisms

Maisy Schmitt,

Peaceful Release

Hannah Ruerhdanz, Kayla Piaskowski (Gilman)



Gifts and Memorials

♥ Many thanks for the gifts of love for our Savior Jesus Christ for Immanuel.

Serving Our Lord

2024 Church Council

God has richly blessed our family of faith with so many gifted people. One of the ways in which God's people have been gifted to serve is in the area of servant-leadership. So that your leaders are available for you to contact with ideas, encouragements, or concerns, we've listed the names of your Church Council here. Feel free to also use the following e-mail address to contact the entire Council: council@ilutheran.org. (One e-mail sent to that address reaches all the Council members with e-mail.)

- Larry Verlinden, President
- Reed Kabelowsky, Secretary
- John Gnewuch, Treasurer
- Dave Ramseur, Board of Elders
- Tom Wurm, Financial Secretary
- Nate Hochmuth, Family Ministry
- Ron Nicklaus, Evangelism
- Terry Welnicke, Property
- Matt Carlson, Board of Education

APRIL GREETERS

04/07/2024

- 8:00 AM—Bob & Shirley Blattler
- 10:30 AM—Gary & Lynn Markowski



04/14/2024

- 8:00 AM—Virginia Temme
- 10:30 AM—Jan & Sally Carlson

04/21/2024

- 8:00 AM—Daryl & Lisa Kliment
- 10:30 AM—Matt & Jaime Carlson Family

04/28/2024

- 8:00 AM—Mark & Joanne Gaedtke
- 10:30 AM—Judy Fuerbringer

THIS MONTH USHERS

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 04/04/2024 6:30 PM—Team 13 | 04/25/2024 6:30 PM—Team 13 |
| 04/07/2024 Early—Team 4 | 04/28/2024 Early—Team 2 |
| 04/07/2024 Late—Team 6 | 04/28/2024 Late—Team 9 |
| 04/11/2024 6:30 PM—Team 10 | |
| 04/14/2024 Early—Team 5 | |
| 04/14/2024 Late—Team 7 | |
| 04/18/2024 6:30 PM—Team 11 | |
| 04/21/2024 Early—Team 1 | |
| 04/21/2024 Late—Team 8 | |





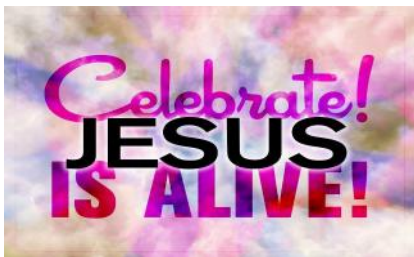
IMMANUEL

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APRIL 2024

The Newsletter Staff

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Sue Schroeder
Mary Ann Raduenz

Mailing: Jenny Lemke

Worship & Contact Information

Worship Schedule

Thursdays: 6:30 PM

Sundays: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM



Pastoral Staff

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† **Church Office—684-3404**
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Immanuel Lutheran School

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