

The Messenger

July 2023

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

God's Abundant Gifts

When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

Matthew 14:15-16

Many of you will recognize the above verses from one of the most beautiful miracles in the ministry of Jesus – the feeding of the 5,000. It must have baffled the disciples to have Jesus tell them to feed all those hungry people, especially when all they could find were 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. The need was so very, very great – almost unending. What little they were able to contribute must have felt like a drop in the bucket. Nevertheless, in faith, they brought what little they could find to Jesus, trusting that all things are possible with the Lord. And the people were fed. Our God is an amazing God!

As we here at Immanuel have added our little ministry of the Share Shed, bringing clothing, hygiene, and first aid items to our needy neighbors, I have come to a new appreciation of the miracle of the 5,000. So many ministries begin with a bang and then slowly die out. It's not like the ministry ends when everyone gets a shirt, jeans, a razor, and a pair of shoes. The poor will always be with us and so will the need for the Share Shed. It can be easy to lose enthusiasm when it seems our best efforts are just a drop in the bucket.

This is what I feared was the case when on June 15th, we ran out of clothing to put in the Shed. We had simply stopped receiving donations. So what did I do? First I prayed. Because everything we do should always begin with a prayer. A prayer that not my will but God's be done. And everything we do should end in a prayer. But in between, we do whatever we can do (remember the part about you feeding them?) I began posting on all the websites I could think of trusting that if this is a ministry God has sent to Immanuel, it would succeed. The donations started to trickle in, a few items here and there, a nice bagful on Sunday morning, enough to keep the Shed stocked another day, then two more days.



This morning (the 20th), a lady brought 4 boxes of clothing, closely followed by 2 ladies with 16 trash bags full of clothing, while yet another filled the shed with her donations. One lady said, "It feels so good to share." Indeed, it does. A relative is shipping a box from Topeka. The daughter of a friend is sending a shipment from North Carolina. A fellow minister is bringing 4 tubs of clothing from Hutchinson. Mindy says, "Feast or famine." Nailed it! Thank you to

all who have helped and continue to help make this little ministry happen. Never forget to pray, pray with persistence. It works. Our God is an amazing God!

As of 5/30/2023:

Revenue \$75,061.72 Expenses \$100,997.28 Deficit \$25,935.56



Congregation Council Action from May 2023:

Approved motions for constitutional revisions.

Approved motion to schedule a special congregational meeting on June 4, 2023 for the purpose of recommending the purchase and installation of a handicap accessible door at the north entrance and to authorize the church council to spend up to \$7,500 on a used copier when the current copier is no longer usable.

TH thank you!

Thank you very much for sending us a check for \$42 from your Advent offering. This is being added to the fund for getting one of our men a pair of glasses. He came to us legally blind and no glasses. Trinity Lutheran Church has been a big help too so now Dustin has enough to purchase his glasses. Thank you again for thinking if us. Bless you all!

Todd & Susan White, owners of Serenity Houses

Thank you to Dorothy Hanna, Janet Ireton, Deacon Mindy, and Pastor Jacque for serving as voting members at the Synod Assembly on June 3.

Deacon Mindy will be at the Rostered Ministers Gathering July 17-21 for continuing education. Help is needed to cover the church office on Tuesday, July 18 and Friday, July 21. Please let her know if you are able to help.

Pastor Jacque will be on vacation July 26-August 6. Please contact Pastor Del Strecker (785) 822-4355 if you have any pastoral care concerns or emergencies during that time.

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to <u>office@immanuelsalina.org</u> Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

CONTACT US:

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Mindy Tillberg, Deacon	office@immanuelsalina.org
Church office hours are	Monday-Friday 8:20 am-12:20 pm

Wed, June 7 5:30-7:00 pm



Noah & the Flood

Join us at Messy Church where all ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts and activities, music, and Biblical storytelling. Pizza dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm, activities begin at 6:00 pm.



Large print hymns are now available on Sunday mornings. They can be found next to the worship bulletins.

The Congregational Council has approved a silent auction of coins from the Gladys Heminger Trust. Coins will be on display in the display case in the upper hallway during the month of August. The coins will be auction as one lot. Watch for more information!



ANNIVERSARY

155th Anniversary Mark your calendars!

Immanuel's 155th Anniversary will be celebrated on May 4, 2025. Thank you to Jeri Clouston, Karla Arpin, Eugene Tillberg, Zoe Greenemeyer, Emma Greenemeyer, Corlene Lange, Connie Beisner, and Diana Looney for volunteering to serve on the planning committee.

Share Shed **Items Needed:**

- Volunteers to sort clothing
- Shoes Socks
- Clothing Blankets
- Personal hygiene items

Donations may be left in the Shed or dropped off at the church M-F, 8:30am-12:30pm.



Those in Salina & the surrounding area are invited to the "Seeds of Hope" Grief & Loss Support Group. The group is led by Hospice of Salina Chaplain, Mary and Social Worker, Giselle. The group meets at 730 Holly Lane on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm and on the 3rd Thursday of month at 5:30 pm. Refreshements are served. All are welcome. For more information contact (785) 825-1717 or mbridges@srhc.com or gscott@srhc.com

July Worship Volunteers as of 06/23/2023

	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Greeter					
Usher	Tom Davis				
iPad					
Acolyte	Tom Davis				
Cantor					
Assisting					
Minister					
Lector		Liz Diehl			
Children's	Mindy Tillberg				
Sermon	Williay Tiliberg				
Communion				Karla Arpin	
Assistant				Karia Arpini	
Altar Guild	Kathy Herron	Jo Srna	Connie Beisner	Corlene Lange	Kathy Herron
Set-up	Ratily Helioti				
Altar Guild	Kathy Herron	Norma Hodge	Connie Beisner	Corlene Lange	Kathy Herron
Clean-up	Ratily Helloll				
Fellowship					
Hosts					

August Worship Volunteers as of 06/23/2023

	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
Greeter				
Usher				
iPad				
Acolyte				
Cantor				
Assisting				
Minister				
Lector				
Children's				
Sermon				
Communion				
Assistant				
Altar Guild	Connie Beisner	Jo Srna	Kathy Herron	Monica Davis
Set-up	Connie beisner	JO 3111a	Ratily Herroll	
Altar Guild	Cannia Baisnar	Norma Hadaa	Math Hams	Diana Looney
Clean-up	Connie Beisner	Norma Hodge	Kathy Herron	
Fellowship				
Hosts				