

# The Messenger

May 2024

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- <sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die;
- a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- <sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal;
- a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- 4a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
- a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- <sup>5</sup>a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together:
- a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- <sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose;
- a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
- <sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew;
- a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- <sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate;
- a time for war, and a time for peace.



Most of you will recognize this oft-quoted passage from the book of Ecclesiastes. This difficult book was the lesson for our WELCA meeting this month. You should all consider joining our WELCA group for an afternoon of devotions, fellowship, service, thought-provoking lessons, and good treats. So, as we now enter another spring of new beginnings, my question to you is this: What is it now a time for?

Many would answer that it is past time for rain. Those of us living closest to the land are held hostage to the vagaries of nature. Others, according to my Facebook feed, seem to feel our entire nation is in a state of moral and economic drought. Each day I read requests for us to pray for God to stop punishing our nation. I look around and I am left confused. I see only God's great blessings.

I would venture to say that virtually everyone reading this newsletter has food on the table, a roof over their heads, and clothes on their backs. We have the safest water in the world, the safest air, safest food, safest medicine. We have law enforcement and fire departments just a phone call away, education available for all, and social services to provide safety nets. We have the right to enter the worship places of our choice (although we don't all exercise that right) and the right to cast a secret ballot for the candidates of our choice (although we don't all exercise that right, either.)

I know we don't like to hear the word "privileged," but that is what we are compared to many in the world. I suggest it is time to stop feeling persecuted and realize how greatly blessed we are. It is time to stop greedily demanding more and more. It is time to stop acting like the Israelites in the wilderness never satisfied with what God provided. Rather it is time to drop to our knees and thank God for our cups which are overflowing abundantly. Amen.

# Synod Assembly Saturday, June 6-8

God richly provides for daily bread

— the earth can produce enough
food for everyone. Yet, many of our sisters and
brothers still go hungry.

As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Fifty years ago, Lutherans in the United States launched the World Hunger appeals to stand with their neighbors experiencing hunger. Now a core ministry of the church, ELCA World Hunger embodies our hope in God's promise and our faith that God is revealed in the neighbors we accompany together.

The Central States Synod is honoring this milestone and is committed to the ministry. That is why we have selected ELCA World Hunger as the recipient of our 2024 Synod Assembly Offering.

Donations will be collected this month for the Synod Assembly offering. Please mark your donation for "Synod Assembly Offering" and place in the offering plate on Sunday or mail to the church.



#### **Share Shed**

As warmer weather approaches, we will need to stock the Share Shed with summer items, i.e. clean summer clothes of all sizes, hats, rain ear, sun screen, insect repellant, deodorant, etc. Items may be left in the Shed or dropped off in the church office.

People hold many feelings on Mother's Day. We pray for those celebrating, mourning, yearning or experiencing mixed emotions. Wrap all in your care, God of love.

#### 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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|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Church office                                           | (785) 825-4750                  |  |  |
| Jacqueline Thornton, Pastor                             | pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org |  |  |
| Mindy Tillberg, Deacon                                  | office@immanuelsalina.org       |  |  |
| Church office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-12:30 pm |                                 |  |  |

During the month of May, the Missions Team will be collecting monetary donations for Project Salina.

Project Salina collects donations to purchase and distribute food to area residents who struggle to afford food. One of the times of greatest need is summer. During the summer months, when school is not in session, providing 3 meals a



day for children is often difficult for many families. Donations for Project Salina are divided between Ashby House, Salina Food Bank, Salina Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas and Salina Grace.

Monetary donations are encouraged for three simple, yet very important reasons: 1) Project Salina can purchase in bulk and is tax exempt, making your dollar go even further. 2) Monetary donations allows for purchasing food throughout the year reducing the amount of storage space required. 3) Purchasing throughout the year allows for better tracking of expiration dates, ensuring all food gets used.

Please mark your donations for "Project Salina" and place in the offering plate or mail to the church.

# Congregation Council Action from February 2024:

Approved motion to sell Roselawn cemetery plot that had been gifted to the church.

Approved Pastor's Compensation, Benefits, and Responsibilities for 2024.



Our hearts are so full! We wish to thank our Immanuel family for all the wishes on our 50th Anniversary, whether it be verbal, a phone call, card or your presence at our Open House! A special thank you to the congregation for the lovely flowers. Everything meant so much to us. Thank you!

Steve & Pam Michel

Thank you to everyone who donated items and helped assemble Lutheran World Relief Personal Care kits. On April 14 we assembled 55 kits. The kits will be shipped to the LWR warehouse this fall.

# Church

# Wednesday, May 1 5:30-7:00 pm

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

## Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 5



Please let the church office know if there are any recent high school and/or college graduates in your family.

## Joint Council Meeting Sunday, May 5 \* 1:00 pm

Council members of Immanuel, Redeemer & St John's will gather at Redeemer to explore shared ministry ideas. Council members are expected to attend. Please contact Janet Ireton if you are unable to participate.

# Mother's Day Flower Delivery May 10 & 11



We will be delivering flowers for the Dillon's on Cloud again this year! If you are able to help, contact Mindy or sign-up on the Youth Bulletin Board.

### **Be the Donkey**

Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

"When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey, and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?" she replied. "If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor."



Jesus told his followers they'd need to carry (or "take up") their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately

needs the good news of the gospel?



#### **Altar Guild**

Wednesday, May 15 at 5:15 pm Altar Guild Members, please attend

this meeting so that communion set-up schedule can be completed through the summer months. Altar Guild will not meet in June, July or August. Monthly meetings will resume on September 20.

#### Pentecost Sunday \* May 19

Everyone is invited to wear **RED** on this Sunday as we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension! Ty Tillberg will also affirm his baptism on Pentecost Sunday.



# Women **ELCA**

### Monday, May 20 at 1:30 pm

Join us at church for our monthly meeting! WELCA will not meet in June, July or August. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 16.



## May Worship Volunteers as of 04/24/2024

|                               | May 5                | <b>May 12</b><br>Mother's Day | May 19       | May 26 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Greeter                       |                      |                               |              |        |
| Usher                         |                      | Terry Oehmke                  | Terry Oehmke |        |
| iPad                          |                      |                               |              |        |
| Acolyte                       |                      |                               |              |        |
| Cantor                        | Pam Michel           |                               |              |        |
| Assisting<br>Minister         | Pam Michel           |                               |              |        |
| Lector                        |                      | Monica Davis                  |              |        |
| Children's<br>Sermon          |                      |                               |              |        |
| Communion<br>Assistant        |                      |                               |              |        |
| Altar Guild<br>Communion Care | Connie, Diana, Norma | Monica Davis                  |              |        |
| Fellowship Hosts              | Herron's             |                               | Stoppel's    |        |

## June Worship Volunteers as of 04/24/2024

|                               | June 2 | June 9 | June 16 | June 23 | June 30 |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Greeter                       |        |        |         |         |         |
| Usher                         |        |        |         |         |         |
| iPad                          |        |        |         |         |         |
| Acolyte                       |        |        |         |         |         |
| Cantor                        |        |        |         |         |         |
| Assisting<br>Minister         |        |        |         |         |         |
| Lector                        |        |        |         |         |         |
| Children's<br>Sermon          |        |        |         |         |         |
| Communion<br>Assistant        |        |        |         |         |         |
| Altar Guild<br>Communion Care |        |        |         |         |         |
| Fellowship Hosts              |        |        |         |         |         |