



The Messenger

March
2021

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church



Notes from Nancy



We have started of our Lenten journey - a time for deep reflection and meditation. In the middle of a busy week we gathered for Ash Wednesday to remember what we try to forget: sin and death are killing us.

And this is our beginning. A season of lengthening days, the gift of time stretching toward life. Time to prepare to be born anew by water and the Spirit. Time to practice the way of Jesus, to tend the earth, to remember the poor, to do things that make for peace. Time to turn and return to God who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. This is our beginning and our end. *"Worship Guidebook for Lent"*

As I write this, the weather folks are predicting snow and very cold temperatures after sunny and warm days. But even in the midst of cold, I do know that the southerly breezes and the tulips and the smell of spring rain are just out of reach..... and I know our Redeemer lives!

For me this is an extraordinary time of the year. Not only is our weather in turmoil but our souls as well as we struggle to understand the events leading up to Easter.

We continue to contemplate the suffering and death of our Lord at the hands of the crowd gathered - people like you and me.

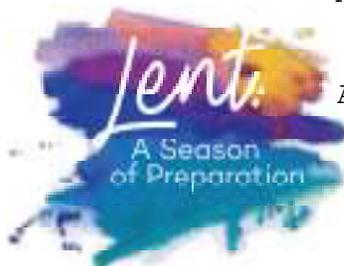
But thankfully as Christians we already know the end of the story = we already know the Good News of Easter - we already know the great gift we have been given.

Jesus said, "It is finished," with that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

John 19:30

*"Words of chance muttered by a desperate martyr?
No Words of intent, painted by the Divine Deliverer on the canvas
of sacrifice."*

No Wonder They Call Him the Savior - Max Lucado



As we continue our journey to the Joy of the Resurrection, I invite you to join with our faith community for prayer and reflection on-line each Wednesday during Lent.

Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ's Love



“Christ on Trial”

Sermon series for Lent

CHRIST MOST CERTAINLY WAS ON TRIAL. Two thousand years have come and gone since Caiaphas and Pilate passed judgment on Jesus in Jerusalem. And though the verdict passed down at that trial was a miscarriage of justice, the result fulfilled God’s purpose: to save the world by sacrificing God’s Son.

CHRIST MOST CERTAINLY IS ON TRIAL. His saving act, his being in the world, his radical teachings all demand a reaction. Every human heart must wrestle with questions like: Who is this Christ? Is he who he claims to be? Christ demands a reply. Daily, Christ is on trial.

AS HE IS AGAIN THIS LENT. This is a series of services in which court is in session to determine who Christ is. Eye witnesses will share accounts of their encounters with Jesus. “Christ on Trial” examines evidence that demands a verdict: Who is this Jesus. . . . for you?

Voting Members needed for Synod Assembly! June 4-5, 2021

The Central States Synod Assembly will be virtual this year. Immanuel needs 2 voting members to attend (preferably 1 male and 1 female). Voting members must have reliable access to the internet. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the synod and is charged with electing members to the Synod Council, other synod committees, and Churchwide voting members when needed, voting on a budget and other resolutions that are presented to the assembly. For more information about the Synod Assembly, visit <https://www.css-elca.org/assembly> If you are interested in serving as a voting member for Immanuel, please contact the church office at 825-4750.

Congregation Council Action from January 2021:

Approved motion to update check signers.

Midweek Lenten Worship

Lenten services will be posted on our Facebook page each Wednesday. Lenten offering will be given to DVACK. A special basket will be in the narthex for these donations. Offerings may also be marked for DVACK and mailed to the church.



The Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK) provides free, voluntary and confidential services to primary and secondary victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, teen dating violence, elder abuse and human trafficking. DVACK recognizes each person’s situation requires personalized services and offers a wide range of outreach services to meet the needs of survivors. DVACK is also pet friendly and provides emergency safe-shelter for victims fleeing abuse as well as their pets.

DVACK is the only accredited domestic violence and sexual assault agency within our ten county catchment area. We take great pride in upholding the rights of survivors and treat all seeking our services with the utmost respect, dignity and compassion while providing survivors trauma-informed, survivor-centered services.

All services are free, voluntary and confidential.

DVACK welcomes:

- Women, Men and Children
- All ages
- All ethnic and racial identities
- LGBTQ+
- All socioeconomic classes
- All religious and spiritual beliefs
- Individuals with disabilities
- Pets
- Survivors recently assaulted
- Survivors who were assaulted a long time ago
- Survivors still living with or having contact with their abuser
- Survivors who do not have contact with their abuser
- Survivors who have reported the assault
- Survivors who do not want to report the assault
- Survivors who have received support services before from us or other providers
- Survivors seeking services for their first time

For more information, visit dvack.org

24-hr Hotline: 1-800-874-1499 or 785-827-5862

If there is peace in your heart,
 you will find it impossible to hate.
 If there is honesty in your heart,
 you will find it impossible to judge
 another.
 If there is love in your heart,
 then that is all there is.
 Fear is gone, as is judgment
 And the desire for violence.



—Kim Hauenstein, United Protestant Campus Ministries
 Cleveland, Ohio



2021 Summer Camp

Camp Tomah Shinga will be open this summer with a modified schedule and COVID protocols in place! Don't forget, Immanuel pays half of the Early Bird cost for our students to attend. Early Bird registration ends April 1, 2021. <https://camptomahshinga.com/register>
 PLEASE let Mindy know if you register for camp (so the church can pay its share) or if you need additional financial assistance.



Save the Date Saturday, April 17

8:00 am to 12:00 pm
 Community-wide clean-up day.



Thank you church family for your prayers and cards of sympathy. They are very much appreciated.

Kay Swisher

Thank you to everyone who helped deliver Valentine's Day flowers! Your support of the youth ministry is appreciated.
Immanuel Youth Group

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

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

CONTACT US:

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March 14 Daylight Savings

Set your clocks ahead one hour.



Altar Guild
March 17 at 5:15 pm
 Monthly meeting

Potted Tulip will be used to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. **Orders are due March 22.** The cost is \$12 each. You may pick up your tulips after the 11am worship on Easter Sunday, April 4. They must be picked up no later than April 11. Please use the enclosed Order Form to purchase your tulips.



Palm Sunday March 28

Congregation will remain seated while waving palms.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF Season of Hope

As we approach Lent, so many of our neighbors around the world are longing to experience — to truly touch, hear, see, smell and taste — the hope that only Jesus can bring. Meanwhile, we know that many of you are restless and eager to be Christ's hands and feet in a world reeling from hardship.

During this sacred time, Immanuel will join Lutheran World Relief in serving our poorest neighbors by providing real, tangible hope. We will be gathering items for Personal Care kits to help fill LWR's empty warehouse shelves. Items needed are:

- Lightweight bath towels (between 20"x40" and 52"x27")
- Bars of bath soap (8-9 oz bars, in original wrapping)
- Toothbrushes (adult size)

Items collected through Easter Sunday, April 4.

"Always show kindness and love to others. Your words might be filling the empty places in someone's heart."
 —Mandy Hale