

The Messenger

April
2026

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

¹⁴ But this I admit to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our ancestors, believing everything laid down according to the law or written in the prophets. ¹⁵ I have a hope in God—a hope that they themselves also accept—that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.

¹⁶ Therefore I do my best always to have a clear conscience toward God and all people.

Acts 24:14-16



I awoke this morning to a windchill of 3 degrees. Oh, how I long for the warmth of Spring! Hope is what carries us through these last cold days of winter weather. And hope is what carries us through these last bleak days of Lent. Oh, how we long for Easter! Knowing the resurrection is coming on Easter Sunday, April 5th, is how we make it through the Good Friday crucifixion, April 3rd.

I remind myself that Lent lasts 40 days but Easter lasts 50. So we have the full month of April to enjoy both Easter and Spring. A time of rebirth and promise and hope. The month begins right in the middle of Holy Week, the most important time of the year for us. This is the week that brings us forgiveness and eternal life. This is the week when our Lord demonstrates the greatest love this whole has ever seen!

We begin April on Holy Wednesday, April 1st, commonly known as Spy Wednesday. Tradition has it that this is the day Judas conspires to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. We have no service on this day. Our Maundy Thursday worship will begin at 7:00 pm. This day we commemorate our Lord's gift of Communion at the Last Supper. Come join us for communion before we strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday, the day our Lord was taken to the cross in order to save the world. We leave the darkened church in silence to return the next day.

Good Friday service also begins at 7:00 pm. On this evening, we read the Passion of John and bring our bidding prayers before God. Once more we leave the church in silence to return on Easter morn. Our Easter service begins at 9:30 Sunday morning. The first day of the week, the first day of our salvation. Join us as we are once again able to sing Alleluia to our Lord and Savior. And yet we are not done! The Easter season lasts 50 days, until Pentecost. Fifty days of joyous celebration for all that God has done for us. Your church is waiting for you to come join in the celebration. Amen.

Pastor Jaegue

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

5th Sunday Special Offering * Sunday, March 29

Our 5th Sunday special offering in March will be a monetary collection to help support 4th Annual Camp Tomah Shinga Tough Camper Obstacle Race on April 11. Don't forget to bring your donations on Sunday, March 29!

Holy Week & Easter at Immanuel

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, March 29 at 9:30 a.m.



Our worship on this day is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

Maundy Thursday Worship

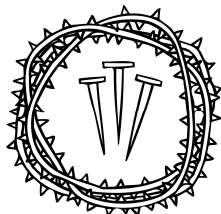
Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m.



On this night we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal, loving one another in humble service.

Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.



Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life.

Easter Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 5 at 9:30 a.m.



We gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus—which brings new life for us all! Stay after worship for a light brunch and a children's Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Youth!

"Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength" (Isaiah 40:31, NRSV).



Messy Church – Wednesday, April 1

All ages are invited to get messy together through crafts, activities, music, and Biblical storytelling! Our theme for April is “Easter Eggs-travaganza”. Pizza will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. and activities will start at 6:00 p.m.

A Season of Hope

We are putting God’s love in action by making Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits again this year! Across the globe, families have been suffering from compounding crises such as war, violence, natural disasters, disease and extreme weather. Kits will be assembled on **Sunday, April 12** during Fellowship.

Items needed are:

- Lightweight bath towels (between 20”x40” to 27”x52”)
- Bars of bath soap (4oz bars in original packaging)



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

Stewardship Event

The Stewardship Ministry Team will be hosting another congregational event in April following Sunday worship. The event on **Sunday, April 19** will address wealth management: **Strategies to Be Wise Stewards of Our Resources**. A light brunch will be provided. Please plan to attend!

Camp Tomah Shinga

Grab your oldest pair of running shoes, and get ready to get muddy and sweaty on April 11 at 9:00 a.m. We will see if you have what it takes to be the toughest camper of them all! Join Manhattan Brewing Company at the finish line to celebrate together. Get a free drink ticket when you leap over the fire! T-Shirt, food, water, and drink ticket provided for all runners. Prizes for top 3 finishers. Register online at <https://camptomahshinga.com/toughcamper>



On April 25 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tomah Shinga will host their **Annual Auction & Open House**. There will be an open house, tours of camp, a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new office, a dinner, and auction to support the ministries of camp. You can purchase dinner tickets and view the online auction by visiting www.camptomahshinga.com/auction. All are welcome to this evening

of celebrating all that God is doing through Camp Tomah Shinga!

Summer Camp registration is now open! All Immanuel students receive a scholarship for half of the early bird price at Camp Tomah Shinga. For more information about summer camp at Tomah Shinga visit <https://camptomahshinga.com/schedule>. For more information about Immanuel’s scholarship contact Mindy Tillberg at 785-825-4750.



Favorite Hymns



The Worship & Music Ministry Team invites you to submit your favorite hymns for the Easter season (Easter Sunday, April 5 through May 17). You may write your selections on your Connect Card during Sunday worship or email your selections to pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org

2026 Congregational Council

President – Randy Olson
Vice President – Dorothy Hanna
Treasurer – Gary Arpin
Secretary – Alisha Cooper

Ministry Team assignments:

Alisha Cooper - *Youth & Education*

Rick Gibson - *Property*

Dorothy Hanna - *Evangelism, Stewardship, Music & Worship*

Corlene Lange - *Evangelism, Finance, Worship & Music*

Kathy Herron - *Memorial, Missions*

Randy Olson - *Memorial, Property*

Mark Roberts - *Stewardship*

Randy Willis – *Missions*

There's Something Better Coming

The Easter season is a precious time for Christians to celebrate the source of our hope: Christ is risen, and he invites us to rise with him into new life. Easter reminds us that God is still at work, even in the places where we've felt stuck or discouraged.

Easter is an invitation to try again—with his strength—to break habits we thought were unbreakable. There's something better coming.

Easter is a chance to breathe new life into a marriage we feared was beyond saving. There's something better coming.

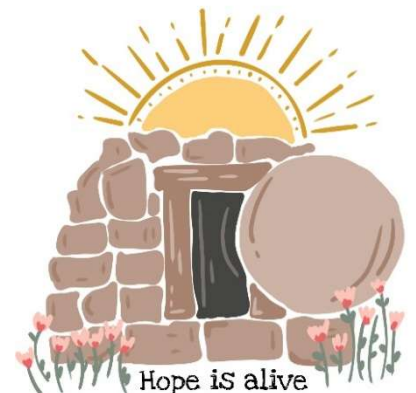
Easter is an opportunity to slow down, reach out, and reconnect with those we've unintentionally neglected. There's something better coming.

Easter is an invitation to look at our lack of love and seek God for compassion. There's something better coming.

Easter is a chance for all no-hopers to regain their vision of what can be! There's something better coming.

Easter is an opportunity to renew our faith. There's something better coming.

Easter is a chance to “renew our strength and mount up with wings as eagles; to run and not faint.” There's something better coming.



Thank You

Thank you for your prayers, cards, and phone calls following my surgery. I am thankful for your support.

Terry Oehmke

I want to extend our sincere gratitude for your generosity. Your gift of \$165 helps our efforts to provide for those experiencing food insecurity in Saline County, Kansas. It is only through the help of donors like you that we are able to remain a lifeline in this community.

(Thanksgiving Eve 2025 offering)

Karen Couch, Executive Director of Salina Food Bank

Odds & Ends

Congregational Council action for January 2026:

Approved recommendation to accept bid from Cotton Roofing (Houston, TX) to replace flat roofs as approved by insurance settlement.

Approved motion to utilize Kruse Corp (Wichita) for a leak survey, refrigerant recovery, nitrogen pressure test, and recharge of the sanctuary HVAC system not to exceed \$3,685.

Approved motion to allow purchase of 15 old black hymnals for a suggested price of \$50 with money to go into the Worship & Music budget.

Congregational Council action for February 2026:

Approved recommendation to purchase a used Konica Minolta bizhub C360i with a FS-536Sd finisher for \$5,000 from McPherson Business Solutions.

Approved motion to decline the request of a non-member wedding.

Approved the motion to take \$100 from the general fund to sponsor the Camp Tomah Shinga Tough Mudder race.

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.

	April 2 Maundy Thursday	April 3 Good Friday	April 5 Easter Sunday	April 12	April 19	April 26
Greeter			Rick G.	Rick G.	Rick G.	
Usher			Rick G.	Rick G.	Rick G.	
Acolyte	Amy V.		Cheyenne G.			
Cantor			Henry D.		Henry D.	
Asst Minister	Dorothy H.		Henry D.		Henry D.	
Lector				Kathy Y.		
Kid's Sermon				Liz D.		Liz D.
Communion Asst						
Altar Guild Communion Care	Dorothy H.		Monica D.	Connie B.	Dorothy H. & Monica D.	Connie B.
Fellowship Hosts			Youth		Stewardship	

CONTACT US:

Immanuel Lutheran Church ~ 255 South Seventh Street, Salina, Kansas 67401 ~ 785-825-4750

Pastor Jacqueline Thornton ~ pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org

Deacon Mindy Tillberg ~ office@immanuelsalina.org

April 2026

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1 5:30 Messy Church 6:30 Missions Team April Fools' Day	2 Maundy Thursday 5:30 Property 7:00 Worship	3 Good Friday 8:00 Men's Coffee 7:00 Worship	4
5 Easter Sunday 9:30 Worship 10:30 Brunch 11:00 Egg Hunt 11:00 Adult Bible Study	6 5:30 Finance Team Tartan Day	7 1:00 Worship Team	8	9 Unicorn Day	10 8:00 Men's Coffee	11
12 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship & Assemble LWR kits 11:00 Adult Bible Study Tulip Pick-up Deadline	13 7:00 Council mtg	14 Gardening Day	15 Messenger Deadline 9:15 Stewardship Team 5:15 Altar Guild	16 9:00 Evangelism Team	17 8:00 Men's Coffee	18 Lineman Appreciation Day
19 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship & Stewardship event 11:00 Adult Bible Study	20 Volunteer Recognition Day	21 7:00 Mutual Ministry Team	22 Earth Day	23	24 8:00 Men's Coffee Pigs-in-a-Blanket Day	25
26 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 Adult Bible Study	27 12:00 Foundation mtg	28 Great Poetry Reading Day	29	30 Adopt a Shelter Pet Day		