

2024 IMMANUEL STAFF AND COUNCIL

Staff

Lead Pastor.....Nate Loer
 Youth & Family
 Spiritual Gifts Coordinator.....Elana Seibert
 Administrative Secretary.....Tracy Church
 Custodian.....Ellen & Doug Carlstrom
 Bookkeeper.....Jil Fiemeyer
 Choir Director.....Deb Haraldson

Council

President.....Mike Brunsberg
 Vice President.....Margie Anderson
 Secretary.....Jeanne Olson
 Treasurer.....Jena Osberg
 Financial Secretary.....Sue Johnson
 Financial Vice-Secretary.....Jane Bagstad
 Congregational Life.....Peggy Larson
 Education.....vacant
 Finance.....Bryan Greenwaldt
 Outreach.....Rick Johnson
 Property Management.....Steph Drange
 Worship and Music.....Anne Oldakowski
 Youth.....Katie Johnson

Immanuel Lutheran Church Office 218-631-2738



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 403 SE 2ND ST
 PO BOX 69
 WADENA, MN 56482

Immanuel Lutheran News

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
 403 2ND ST SE—PO BOX 69
 WADENA, MINNESOTA 56482



*Called and united through the Gospel of
 Jesus Christ, our mission is to proclaim
 and respond to God's presence among us.*

April 2024

From the Desk of Pastor Nate...

Grace and peace to you in the name of the risen Christ. Just as we journeyed through 40 days of Lent, we rejoice for 50 days in the risen Lord, Jesus!!

This month, as we continue our year-long deep dive into Mark's gospel, we look at Jesus' continued ministry in Capernaum (Mark 2:1-3:35). This section is full of actions on Jesus' part that stir all kinds of controversy. Most of the controversies involve Jesus doing something and the people around him saying, "Can he do that?!" or "He shouldn't be doing that!" Some of the highlights include:



1. Jesus not only healing a paralyzed man, but forgiving his sins (2:1-11). Can he do that?!
2. Jesus calling a tax collector named Levi to be one of his followers (2:13-17). And by the end of the day, he's eating a meal at Levi's house with all kinds of tax collectors. This is the first meal Jesus shares with others in Mark's gospel. And he is eating with some of the most despised people in Jewish culture. Can he do that?!!
3. Jesus heals a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath (3:1-6). Jews were not supposed to do work on the Sabbath day. Can he do that?!!
4. Jesus not only heals people with unclean spirits, he appoints his 12 disciples and gives them authority to cast out unclean spirits, too (3:7-28). The religious authorities don't like this and say in so many words, "He can't do this!"
5. And when Jesus' own family members would like him to quit hanging around with such questionable people (3:31-35), Jesus says that those who do the will of God are his mother, sister and brother. Both men and women have a place in this emerging kingdom! Can he do that?!!

Yes he can. Jesus is the Lord of the universe. And it is his will to cross boundaries that others are not always willing to cross. Jesus is willing to go to places that others aren't always willing to go. And those who follow him across those boundaries are named as part of his family.

Keep reading Mark's gospel, my friends! As you see Jesus crossing boundaries, remember that he will go to the ends of earth to save you from sin and death, too. Follow him – and become part of his family.

Humbly in Christ,

Pastor Nate

Pastor Nate

FINANCIAL UPDATE



GENERAL FUND	
2/4/2024	3265
2/11/2024	4053
2/18/2024	5005
2/25/2024	2291
Electronic Giving	410
Direct Deposit	9154
TOTAL GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	24178
EXPENSES	
Benevolences	440
Programs	1463
Staff including taxes and benefits	24694
Operations	427
Building Expenses	1875
TOTAL EXPENSES	28899
Gain/Loss	-4721
General Fund Register Balance as of 02/29/2024	96327

	RESTRICTED			
	Balance 2/1/2024	Gifts & Additions	Payments	Balance 2/29/2024
Backpacks for Kids	\$7,547	\$142		\$7,689
Bell/Carillon	\$250			\$250
Cooking Matters (Ministerial Association)	\$1,094			\$1,094
Congregational Life	\$2,000			\$2,000
Easter Giving Blitz	\$100			\$100
Good Samaritan	\$3,414			\$3,414
General Reserve Funds	\$10,849			\$10,849
Giving Tree	\$1,718			\$1,718
Global Mission	\$1,615			\$1,615
Infant Care Kits	\$50			\$50
Library Fund	\$125			\$125
Luther Crest Scholarships	\$472			\$472
Lutheran World Relief	\$250			\$250
Medical Mission	\$5,000			\$5,000
Ministerial Fund	\$300	\$100		\$400
Organ Fund	\$537			\$537
Parish Nursing	\$487			\$487
Piano Fund	\$538			\$538
Soup Tuesday	\$559	\$182		\$741
Scholarship Fund	\$8,070			\$8,070
School Kits	\$15			\$15
Sunday School	\$292			\$292
Thrivent Micro Grant	\$2,000		\$250	\$1,750
VBS	\$377			\$377
Wadena Food Shelf/Food Shelf	\$1,512	\$50		\$1,562
Wed. Night Faith Formation Supper	-\$254	\$218	\$59	-\$95
Wednesday Offering	\$669			\$669
Worship and Music	\$2,514			\$2,514
YAGM	\$7,116			\$7,116
Restricted Fund Register Balance	\$59,216	692.00	309.33	\$59,599

BUILDING FUND	
Building Fund Balance 2/1/2024	22368
Deposits & Interest	344
Payments	
Building Fund Register Balance 2/29/2024	22712

The council met on Sunday, March 10, 2024. President Mike Brunsberg called the meeting to order.

Congregational Life: *Peggy Larson*– *Did not meet* – The Bingo/baked potato event on February 25 was a lot of fun. Thank you to all of the volunteers. Wednesday Lenten meals are running smoothly. Thank you to everyone who has participated in preparing soup/bars or served meals. We provided muffins, fruit and drinks for the reception for new members on Sunday March 10, 2024. It was a nice way to welcome those who have joined our congregation. Peggy brought up for discussion pairing with other congregational committees in order to promote more community involvement in activities.

Outreach Evangelism: *Rick Johnson*– *Will meet 3/11/24* – Rick mentioned that the card for visiting members has been completed and will be printed.

Parish Education: *Vacant*–*Did not meet*

Property Management: *Steph Drange* – The committee met prior to bingo and the baked potato bar to garner suggestions. Many suggestions were given. Pastor Nate and Steph met on Thursday March 7th to discuss the suggestions. Steph will reach out to Doug and Ellen as well as local contractors to gain bids and ideas. Not all suggestions can be accommodated. Once a plan is determined, more information will be shared with the congregation. The April meeting date is yet to be determined. If there are any additional suggestions, please see either Pastor Nate or Steph Drange.

Worship and Music: *Anne Oldakowski*– *Did not meet* – We are not meeting in March, but we will meet again in April as the Lenten and Easter services have been planned. There are still some sign-up spots available for Lenten services. Easter Sunday is March 31 with two services at 8:30 and 10:00. Graduate Sunday will be on April 28th.

Youth Leadership: *Katie Johnson*–*Met on March 6, 2024* – 1. PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST: a. Prep day– Saturday, March 23 at 9 a.m. b. Serving–Sunday March 24 8:00–9:30 am c. Menu–pancakes, sausage links, fruit, juice, milk 2. EASTER EGG FILLING: Wednesday, March 27. Pizza will be served. 3. EASTER EGG HUNT: March 31 following both worship services. Sam and Anna will help setup; however more helpers are needed. 4. YOUTH LED SENIOR WORSHIP: April 28. More seniors are being contacted to help with the service. OTHER ACTIVITIES BEING PLANNED: Senior scholarship deadline Friday, March 29, Senior Recognition Sunday, April 28, with breakfast at 8:30, Nerf Wars April 14th in the Fellowship Hall, VBS August 11–15. Volunteers Anna, Sam, Ben, Amsale, Kelanie and Katie F. Next meeting will be on April 3, 2024.

Immanuel Church Women: *Diane Teigland*– The ICW continues the quilting ministry as well as Bible study from the Gather magazine. At the end of the year we made monetary donations to Women of the ELCA, Katie’s Fund, Lutheran World Relief, and Luther Crest. Letters were received expressing what those gifts meant to those organizations.

Lead Pastor: *Pastor Nate Loer*– 1. Lent is underway. I like the change of pace from our usual Wednesday programming. I’m grateful for our musicians, kitchen workers, and other volunteers who make Lenten Wednesdays possible. 2. Hank Greenwaldt died on February 9. His full memorial service will be April 5 in Bertha, but I had a chance to preside at a smaller memorial service February 19 in Clarissa at the care center to make it easier for Jo and the other residents there to attend. 3. Carole Peterson died February 27 and I was honored to preside at her service on Friday, March 1 at Karvonen Funeral Home. 4. We continue to have a great response to our weekend feeding backpacks program. Soup Tuesday raised 741 dollars for this program. Additional funding has also come from Lenten meal offerings. Council discussed other ways to raise funds for this program. • **Coming Up:** 1. We have had several deaths at Humphrey Manor from people connected in some way to Immanuel. Nancy Nordquist and Thomas Johnson. We have been asked to host their funerals at Immanuel. I can think of no greater honor than that people would ask us to do this, and that we can host those who grieve. 2. Maundy Thursday is March 28, which includes first communion for 6, 5th graders. Elana and I have been enjoying tag-teaming on a class with them. 3. Good Friday is March 29 and will include a number of anthems from our Sanctuary Choir. 4. Easter is March 31 with services at 8:30 and 10. 5. Wednesday Discipleship resumes April 3 for 5 weeks. 6. Our next Backpacks food pack is April 4 at 2:30 pm.

Financial Secretary Report: *Sue Johnson & Jane Bagstad* – Total of Sunday and Wednesday general offerings counted and deposited in February, 2024 \$15,306.00. This does not include other electronic deposit offerings.

Treasurers Report: *Jena Osberg*

GENERAL FUND

Total General Contributions: February 2024	\$24,178.00
Total Expenses:	\$28,899.00
General Fund Register: Balance as of February 29, 2024	\$96,327.00
Building Fund:	\$22,712.00

Finance Committee: *Bryan Greenwaldt* – *Did not meet.*


Other Business – The council discussed ideas from the Visioning Document including the new directory and how to obtain pictures of the Immanuel’s members, their addresses and telephone numbers. An additional preliminary discussion was held concerning organization of the council and committees.

Motion made by Steph Drange to adjourn. Jena Osberg seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm with the Lord’s Prayer.

**WEDNESDAY DISCIPLESHIP APRIL 3rd
CONTINUES THROUGH MAY 1st**

We will begin gathering for Wednesday Discipleship again starting on Wednesday, April 3rd! Please join us for the next 5 weeks through May 1st as we wrap up the 2023-2024 education year. Wednesdays will begin with our congregational dinner at 5:15 pm, followed by worship at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. Education hour for kids grades K-9 will meet 6:45 pm - 7:30pm. Remember that all are welcome to join the Sanctuary Choir for practice in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm. Watch for updates on what dinner will be each Wednesday!!



Dinner Club will meet
Tuesday, April 16 @ 5:30 pm
Larry's Family Pizza

SUNDAY WORSHIP MINISTRY

Sign up outside the church office to usher, lector, assist with communion, and/or provide special music.



Senior Sunday



Sunday, April 28, 2024
Brunch 8:30am
Senior Led Worship 9:30am

OPAL'S LIBRARY



✓ CHECK IT OUT
DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS, A VARIETY OF BIBLES (ADULT AND CHILDREN), REFERENCE BOOKS, CHILDREN'S BOOKS, AND FICTION

Women's Discipleship

Block Cutting - Monday, April 1 @ 9:00 am
Monday, May 6 @ 9:00 am

Bible Study - Tuesday, April 9 @ 1:30 pm
(March Gather Study)
Tuesday, May 14 @ 1:30 pm
(April Gather Study)

Quilting - April 15 & 16 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
May 20 & 21 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Wednesday night Lenten meals. It was wonderful having so many people prepare delicious soups and desserts for us to enjoy before service. To those who served the meal and cleaned up, your help was very much appreciated! And to all who joined us for dinner and fellowship, we love seeing you!

~ Congregational Life Committee

HAPPY Birthday
Iona

JOIN IONA FISKUM AND FAMILY IN A CELEBRATION OF IONA'S 90TH BIRTHDAY! CAKE AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED FROM 2-4 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH. NO GIFTS PLEASE!

What's Happening

- April 1 - Easter Monday - OFFICE CLOSED
9 am - ICW Block Cutting
- April 2
9 am - Staff Meeting
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
- April 3
12 pm - Rotary (#2 D. Haraldson)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
7:30 pm - ILC Youth Council Meeting
- April 4
1 pm - MAC/NAPS
2:30 pm - Food Pack - WDC Elementary
- April 5
12 pm - Catholic Charities Frozen Meal Distribution
- April 7
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
- April 9
9 am - Staff Meeting
1:30 pm - ICW Bible Study
(March "Gather")
- April 10
12 pm - Rotary (Catered)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
- April 11
6 pm - Northstar Round Table
- April 14
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
10:45 am - ILC Council Meeting
2:30 pm - Kelanie Oldakowski Senior Piano Recital


- April 15
9 am - ICW Church Mice
- April 16
9 am - ICW Church Mice
9 am - Staff Meeting
5:30 pm - Dinner Club @ Larry's Family Pizza
- April 17
12 pm - Rotary (#3 N. Overland)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
- April 21
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
- April 22
7 pm - Book Club @ Sharon Boline's
- April 23
9 am - Staff Meeting
11 am - Dementia Support Group
(Friendship Room - all are welcome!)
- April 24
12 pm - Rotary (Catered)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
- April 27
2-4 pm - Iona Fiskum's 90th Birthday Celebration
- April 28 - Senior Sunday (Senior-led Service)
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
8:30 am - Senior Sunday Brunch
1:30 pm - Julie Whynott Piano Recitals
- April 30
9 am - Staff Meeting

Sunday Worship Schedule

- 8:30 - Coffee Fellowship
- 9:30 - Worship (LIVE on YouTube)
- 9:30 - Radio Broadcast 920 AM or 101.7 FM

Wednesday Discipleship Schedule

- 5:15 pm - Congregational Dinner
- 6:00 pm - Worship
- 6:45 pm - Evening Prayer Service
- 7:00 pm - Sanctuary Choir Practice
(All are welcome to join the choir!!)



Backpacks for Kids



Our next food pack for the WDC Weekend Backpack Program is **Thursday, April 4 @ 2:30 pm in the Elementary cafeteria. This is our final food pack of the year, and we hope to pack up around 350 bags of weekend food for local kids in need.**

BOOKCLUB

Monday, April 22nd
7pm @ Sharon Boline's
1114 King Ave SW, Apt 404
Our April book will be decided soon!
We meet every 4th Monday of the month (Sept - May).
Anyone interested is welcome to attend!

