IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL NEWSLETTER 2023



1002 Powell Avenue Erie PA 16505

814-833-4062

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE, NEW BEGINNINGS!!



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Grace & Peace From the Pastor's Desk

Matthew 28:5-8 "But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples."

Easter! The word may bring to mind Easter egg hunts, new clothes, bunnies and chicks, an Easter basket filled with chocolate bunnies, all sorts of things that we have associated with the celebration of Easter. But as Christians Easter means we are celebrating our heritage, the resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

Although Jesus was not the first person to be brought back from death, (there are accounts of Jairus' daughter, the widow's son, and of course Lazarus in the Bible), Jesus is the one who impacts the entire world. We have the "little gospel" given to us in John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

Jesus not only suffered on the cross for three hours one day, but he also silently took a beating that most likely would have brought him near the brink of death, had a crown of thorns pressed onto his head, and was humiliated as he was wrapped in a purple robe and sneered at by the Romans. And lets not forget that he came from the glorious kingdom to live in this world for 33 years. His entire life was a sacrifice. When upon the cross it is speculated that Jesus cried out to his Father "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46 and Mark 5:34) because he felt the presence of God leave him as he took on the sins of the world.

When Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus took Jesus' body and laid it in the tomb everyone knew he had died. It was a lifeless body that was laid in the tomb. The preparations for his burial were done hurriedly because it was almost the Sabbath day and that was a task that could not be done on the Sabbath. So the day after the Sabbath the women came to the tomb to properly prepare his body, but the tomb was empty! Jesus was not there. He did appear to Mary in the garden. She didn't recognize him at first, but when he called her by name she knew who he was. Jesus was resurrected! He appeared to the disciples later that day, and he walked the earth for 40 days longer and then ascended into heaven.

Jesus is still alive. He reigns in heaven with God the Father, and, when we allow him to, he reigns in our hearts. May Jesus always mean more to us than all the things that symbolize Easter.

If you would like to talk with me I am normally in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (I may be at a meeting with other pastors on Tuesday mornings so please call to make sure I'm in.) The office number is 814-833-4062. You can call my cell phone any time 724-557-2386. Please leave a message if I don't answer.

Grace & Peace, Pastor Karen

HAPPY RETIREMENT!



Congratulations to Lori Nemenz, Administrative Secretary, who retired on March 23rd, after seven years of service to Immanuel. Immanuel appreciates your hard work and thanks you for the wonderful job you have done keeping our members informed with communications, bulletins and newsletters. Enjoy your well deserved retirement!



WELCOME! NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY



Please join Immanuel in welcoming our new Administrative Secretary, Delani Kinzig! Delani who is a native of Girard, PA currently resides in Fairview with her husband Jared and her six year old son Langston. Delani is a graduate of Edinboro University and brings many years of clerical and computer experience to Immanuel.

Delani enjoys photography, hiking, and collecting rocks and beach glass along the lake.



If you see Delani in the office, please introduce yourself and welcome her to Immanuel!

HOLY BAPTISM CELEBRATION!

Patton William Sharp, Son of James Tyler Sharp and Marion Christina Sharp of Fort Drum, NY, and the Great Nephew of Cindy Eckman, was welcomed into the fellowship of the body of Christ through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 12, 2023.



Celebrating National Quilt Day!



The "Close Enough" quilt group celebrated the Lutheran World Relief's National Quilting Day Project on March 18th. The sewers hosted members of other local Lutheran churches and members from a local quilt guild. The Close Enough sewers demonstrated how quilts are assembled for Lutheran World Relief, sharing the dimensions and how they are layered and tied. Demonstrations included cutting the fabric with electric shears, sewing squares together, binding the quilts, assembling, tying and the use of a 'holey' sheet.

A \$250 grant was received from Thrivent to host the event. The grant was used to purchase new shears, needles, scissors, and pins.





Worship & Music In the news...

Please join us for worship each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. either indoors, or in our drive-in services. Sunday School K-Adult at 10:30 a.m. (Except Easter Sunday)

Confirmation Class April 2nd &16th 10:30 AM

You can find Pastor Karen's latest sermons in print on our webpage here <u>http://www.ilc-erie.org/worship-.html</u> <u>and the video is posted to our</u> <u>Facebook page</u>

HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

Service of Prayer & Healing April 2, 2023 7 PM

Maundy Thursday Worship Service April 6, 2023 7 PM Service begins in silence Communion – Last Supper

Good Friday April 7, 2023 7 PM Service begins in silence Experience the Gospel Readings

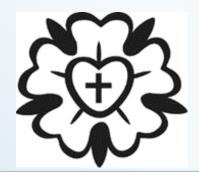
> Easter Sunday Service April 9, 2023 9:30 AM Christ has Risen!



CHOIR PRACTICE WILL RESUME ON THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 7:15 PM AF-TER EASTER SUNDAY

COFFEE HOUR 1sT SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

Stop by the lounge after church service. The Eckman's will be hosting.



Christian Education

~ Sharing the Good News ~



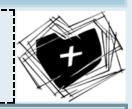
We are ready, willing, and able to lead your young children into the life of blessings & hope shared in Sunday School. We feel this provides a firm foundation for the years ahead, both smooth-sailing & those that are challenging.

Our small classes are ideal for sharing, caring, and formative discussion. Sunday school for K-Adult starts after our 9:30 worship – approx.10:30 am. Contact the church office for more information.

P: 814-833-4062

Pastor Karen or an alternate will once again be offering Adult Sunday School at 10:30

Join us for a lively discussion.





CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE & REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION IN THE SPRING OF 2023

ATTEND CLASS 1ST & 3RD Sundays of the month 10:30 am -11:30 am Ages 13 or older one Sunday a month, minimum, church worship attendance

Have your bulletin signed by Pastor Karen.



Registration for Summer Camp 2023 has begun. Please visit **www.lutherlyn.com** for dates, prices, details,

and registration!

First time campers get \$100 off with coupon code "FIRST". Visit lutherlyn.com/first for details.

For additional information, contact the camp office at 724-865-2161 or registrar@lutherlyn.com.





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	APRIL 2023 Worship Calendar for Immanuel Lutheran, Erie PA						
	Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector			
	4/2/23 9:30 AM PALM SUNDAY	Kostur.	Bob <u>Dorler</u>	Claudia <u>Skerlong</u>			
	4/6/23 7:00 PM maundy thursday	Kostur	Anita Byrne	Debbie <u>Madurski</u>			
	4/7/23 7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY	Kostur.	Jen Kuntz	Numerous readers			
	4/9/23 9:30 AM EASTER	<u>Kostur</u>	Bob <u>Dorler</u>	Bob Dorler			
HIP JS ?	4/16/23 9:30 AM	<u>Kostur</u>	Anita Byrne	Bob Dorler			
	4/23/23 9:30 AM	<u>Kostur</u>	Debbie Redditt	Bill Redditt			
	4/30/23 9:30 AM.	<u>Kostur</u>	Stan Holsopple	Barb Coughlin			

Altar Guild: J.Stewart/D.Dorler Counters: C.Skerlong/D.Madurski Ushers: Ushers as assigned by B. Dorler

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment – please find an alternate & notify the church office.



Lectors: Remember to adjust microphone towards you & speak into it for all to hear. We continue to offer our services indoor or via drive-in service so if you can't be with us in person in the church, join us in our parking lots or in the immediate vicinity of the church and tune to 93.7 on your FM dial each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. You can also listen via speaker in our Nursery or Kindergarten Rooms.





If you are sick or in the hospital, please notify the church office.

If you would like home communion or a copy of our newsletter, please contact the office.



Please remember the members of Immanuel who are "shut in," or having some health challenges and cannot make it to service, you may want to offer them a ride, give them a friendly call, send them a card.

The current Shut-In Mailing List is available in the office.

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Denise Arnold and family of Lucie Arndt, her sister, Lana Huhn The Botwright family Ian Byrne **Connie Cooper** Mary Hauser's sister - Alice Tillotson Jim & Lorraine Hornaman **Kyle Husted** Carol & Gordon Ketchel Janet Gray – Pastor Karen's sister Leslie Patrick Lewis-friend of Sandy Kocur, Sandy's cousin - Scott Farr and Sandy's close friend's son-in-law-John **Rick Kuntz Bishop Michael Lozano Diane McGranor** Zach Middaugh Kathy - friend of Lori Nemenz Carole Rickrode **Bob & Sharon Roemer** All of our members & friends who are grieving; Who are in nursing homes; Who are serving on the "front line" during the COVID pandemic All who are ill at home We pray for those in the military:

Scott Case– Navy, (C. Geddes nephew) Christopher Peterson – Navy (Grandson of the late Agnes & Chuck Peterson – serving stateside now per an update from Ann Neimann).

Congregational sympathy is shared with Denise Arnold and her family on the passing of her mother, Lucie Arndt, a longtime member of St. Paul's, who passed away March 26, 2023.

Member Update: Sharon Roemer is now a resident of Fairview Manor. Mailing address: 900 Manchester Road, Fairview, PA 16415 Your prayers & cards are appreciated.

Celebrations of Life and Love

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE SIGN-UP

WE ARE ONCE AGAIN POSTING OUR ALTAR FLOWER AND SANCTUARY CANDLE SIGN-UP SHEETS IF YOU WOULD CARE TO SPONSOR EITHER OR BOTH IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF SOMEONE -- IT WILL BE NOTED IN OUR WORSHIP BULLETIN.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CATHY'S FLOWER SHOPPE, WHO HAS BEEN PROVIDING THE FLOW-ERS FOR US FOR MANY YEARS HAS HAD TO INCREASE PRICES SO **FLOWERS WILL BE \$36/WK -**SANCTUARY CANDLE RE-MAINS AT \$5/WK. WHEN PAY-MENT IS MADE, PLEASE IN-CLUDE THIS NEW AMOUNT IN YOUR PAYMENT STARTING IN JUNE.

YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO BRING IN YOUR OWN PLANTS/ FLOWERS FROM YOUR GAR-DEN, ETC.

April Birthdays



- Travis Feiler Carole DelPorto
- Kylie Husted
- 18 Jason Kuntz & Bryan Timm
- 23 Carol Ketchel
- 24 Ron DelPorto/Lainey Bartlett
- 25 Bob Dorler & Kylie Nelson

Everyone enjoys receiving a card!



April

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10

17

April Anniversaries Congratulations! to those celebrating their anniversary

Did I forget you? Please e-mail me or call me with your birthdays, anniversaries or a special day you would like us to share.

<u>Ongoing Appeals</u> Capital Campaign - Boiler:

Funds for the boiler campaign currently show \$23,113.68 toward our goal of \$58,803.

Pennies for Poverty

collection is an ongoing effort in support of the Women of the ELCA – donations welcome in the Donation Center canister.



Upcoming In-MAY



ELECTION DAY BOOK & BAKE SALE

Tuesday **MAY 16, 2023**

Spring clean and bring in your unwanted books, CD's and DVDs.

Bake Goods needed!

Sign up on the bulletin board to work a shift.

Heavenly Father,

...walk with me today and grant that I may hear your footsteps and gladly follow where they lead.

...Talk with me today and grant that I may hear your tender voice, and quicken to its counsel.

...Stay with me today and grant that I may feel your gentle presence in all I do or say or think.

...Be my strength when I weaken, my courage when I fear. Help me to know that it is your hand holding mine through all the minutes of all the hours this day.

And when night falls down, grant that I may know that I am gathered to your Sacred Heart to sleep in love and peace. SOUP-OFF 2023

COOKBOOKS

Are available in the Lounge



Amen



Consider celebrating Earth Day with your community on or around Earth Day April 22, 2023. The Lutheran tradition as well as the Bible are full of language and theology for celebrating and caring for God's creation. Yet sometimes, in the rhythm of the liturgical year, it can be challenging to find a specific time to focus as a church community on the theme of creation. Earth Day Sunday provides just such an opportunity.

Congregations are encouraged to celebrate Earth Day Sunday either the Sunday before or the Sunday after Earth Day.

Since 1970, communities have taken one day each year to be especially mindful of the earth and its many gifts. There are a number of ways our congregations can celebrate and protect God's creation. Help Immanuel to answer God's call to be faithful stewards of creation. Consider volunteering and helping our Church Property Committee to maintain our church grounds and stop in to help with our landscaping to secure new plant growth. Reach out to our committee liaison, Bob Dorler to see how you can help.

Genesis 1:9-13 And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

FAITH IN ACTION

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Agreed to Differ # Resolved to Love # United to Serve



Green Corner NWPA Synod Green Team

MEADOWSCAPING: TO MOW OR NOT TO MOW

I almost feel like it's the creepy start of a horror movie when I see a perfect lawn that has little yellow flag on it....it's covered with 2, 4-D, Mecoprop-p and Dicamba and, of course, Round-up. https://www.insider.com/native-landscaping-doug-tallamy-lawns

Meadowscaping is more than planting a seed or planning a garden – it transforms ordinary spaces into a celebration of biodiversity, a habitat for birds and insects, and a home for native plants, beauty, and harmony. Meadowscaping is gardening with *pollinator-friendly, perennial native plants* — with the intention of building healthy, resilient communities. Planting native plants for birds and pollinators is the way to be responsible! We all pay a high price for the notion of "perfectly manicured lawn'. Perfectly manicured means gas machines, noise, pollution, bagging up valuable leaves, pesticide poisons and no habitat for butterflies and birds. Native plants grew before the 1550s when Europeans brought other plants here. Over thousands of years, native insects evolved to subsist only on specific native flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees.

Deer ticks carry disease and effect anyone who spends time out of doors in NWPA. Mowed lawns and nonnative plants do not sustain a healthy ecosystem that naturally discourages ticks. Replacing even 1/3 of manicured lawns with perennials, shrubs and trees provide a healthier ecosystem for native insects, which feed native birds, bats and other creatures who eat the insects, including ticks! If you're lucky native nonpoisonous snakes will eat mice, who carry deer ticks.

Mow less and create a native, healthy landscape around your home. You'll be caring for creation and creating self-sustaining natural, healthy habitats you can also enjoy. Doug Tallamy, an entomologist at the University of Delaware, wants to see lawns replanted with native North American flora, supporting a healthy array of native North American butterflies, moths and other arthropods, providing food for a robust population of songbirds, small mammals and reptiles. He even has a name for it: *Homegrown National Park*, an aspirational project to repurpose half of America's lawnscape for ecologically productive use. That would comprise more than 20 million acres, the equivalent of nearly ten Yellowstones. The intention is to unite fragments of land scattered across the country into a network of habitat, which could be achieved, he wrote in *Bringing Nature Home*, "by untrained citizens with minimal expense and without any costly changes to infrastructure." The plots wouldn't have to be contiguous, although that would be preferable. Moths and birds can fly, and you're helping them just by reducing the distance they have to travel for food. "Every little bit helps," Tallamy says. "Most people don't own 50 acres, so it's not going to be that hard. The minimal thing is, you plant a tree and it's the right tree." www,smithsonianmagazine.com/science-nature/meet-ecologist-who-wants-unleash-wild-backyard-180974372/

Go to these resources for ideas and resources about how to get started in your home landscape.

- www.americanmeadows.com
- www.kidsgardening.org/the-latest-meadowscaping
- <u>www.meadowmaking.org</u>
- www.bentonswcd.org/meadowscaping-benefits-surface/
- www.gardeningforlifeproject.org/about-doug-tallamy
- https://extension.psu.edu/pennsylvania-native-plants-for-the-perennial-garden

<u>NWPA Synod Green Team "Green Corner"</u> – Keep up to date with the Green Team on the Synod's website: <u>https://www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/nwpa-green-team.html</u> All past issues of the "Green Corner" can be found here: <u>https://www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/the-green-corner.html</u>

APRIL

2023



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1 April Fools Day	
10.20 Coffee bour	3 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Cho- rus 7 pm Flute Choir 7pm		5 Tops 9:00 am Book Study 6 pm Holden Service 7:00 pm Choir 7:45 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	6 Maundy Thurs- day Worship Ser- vice 7 pm	7 Good Friday Worship service 7 pm AA 7:30 pm	8	
•	10 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Cho- rus 7 pm Flute Choir 7pm	11 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	12 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	13 Choir 7:15 pm	14 AA 7:30 pm	15	
10:30 am Sunday School & Confir-		18 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Property Meeting 7:00 pm Tax Day!		20 Choir 7:15 pm	21 AA 7:30 pm	22 Earth Day	
9:30 am Worship	24 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship City Cho- rus 7 pm Flute Choir 7pm	AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	26 Tops 9:00 am AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	27 Choir 7:15 pm	28 AA 7:30 pm	29	
30 9:30 am Worship 10:30am Sunday School							

Immanuel Church Office 814-833-4062 Hours: Mon-Thurs. All are 8:00am-12:00pm Welcome immluthch@verizon.net

Staff

Pastor Karen Kostur 814-833-4062 or Emergency #: 724-557-2386 Pastor's Office Hours – Tues & Thurs.9:30am-2:00pm

Church Caretaker: Wally Coughlin Organist/Music Director: Bryan Timm Admin. Ofc.: Delani Kinzig

Sunday School

Coord: Anita Byrne & Janice Kreger Teachers: Anita Byrne & Pastor Kostur

Congregation & Church Council Officers

Pres:Debbie Redditt 814-449-1855 VP:Bob Dorler 814-833-2719 Sec.: D. Madurski 814-774-3590 Fin. Sec.: C.Geddes 814-734-1286 Treasurer: Bill Redditt

Additional Council Members

Cindy Eckman, George Pfeiffer, Sally Leubin, Cindy Geddes, Mary Hauser



Church Council Committees

We invite all members of Immanuel to join any of these committees and/ or offer your gifts where you can – many hands make light work!! Council usually meets the 2nd Sunday of the month

Christian Education Council liaison: Mary Hauser SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERED EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 A.M. CONFIRMATION 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

> **Communications** Council liaison: D.Redditt Committee Chair: vacant

Check out our website and "FRIEND" us on Facebook Did you miss church? Need to keep updated and want easy access to the church calendar, newsletter or annual report? Check out our website http://www.ilc-erie.org/

WATCH FOR US ON FACEBOOK, GOERIE.COM, ERIE NEWS NOW AND IN PRINT IN THE ERIE TIMES NEWS

Fellowship, Outreach & Growth Council liaisons: Sally Leubin & Cindy Eckman COFFEE HOUR 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH **ONGOING COLLECTION FOR LITTLE FREE PANTRY** SOUP COOK BOOKET AVAILABLE

> **Finance** Council liaison: George Pfeiffer **ANNUAL AUDIT**

Council liaison: Bob Dorler Committee Chair: vacant FACILITY MAINTENANCE -OUTSIDE OUTLETS IN-**OPERABLE, RENTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE – BATHROOM UPDATE POWELL AVE.** ONGOING BOILER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

> Stewardship Council liaison: Cindy Geddes

Social Ministry Committee Council liaison: Debbie Madurski – Committee chair: Debbie Madurski

Worship & Music Council liaison: Debbie Redditt Chair: Sue Pfeiffer

W&M COMMITTEE MTG: 3/28 6:30 PM DRIVE-IN AND INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES 9:30 A.M. MAUNDY THURS., GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES 7 P.M. LAST BOOK STUDY 6 PM & HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER 7PM 4/5/23