

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH APRIL NEWSLETTER 2021

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April Calendar

Drive-In worship participants we are asking you to drive up to the door/overhang at the Education wing in the main (south) parking lot. The usher will hand out communion, bulletins and receive offerings. Using the overhang, the usher will be somewhat protected from the weather and will also not have to cross the street!



Immanuel Lutheran Church

1002 Powell Ave.

Erie, PA 16505

814-833-4062

LIKE US on Facebook

www.ilc-erie.org

Office: immluthch@verizon.net



Grace & Peace from the Pastor's Desk

The United Methodist Hymnal has a beautiful hymn "Hymn of Promise" (#707). It speaks of spring and all the beauty found in the promises of God that we might miss, or we don't necessarily understand. Here is the first verse:

Hymn of Promise (UMH #707)

*In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.*

I believe this hymn is especially poignant as we are (hopefully with the vaccine) emerging from this time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Much of our time during the pandemic has been spent "in hiding" as we have taken the effort not to spread the germs. However, what is good for our physical health (keeping ourselves isolated) is not what is good for our mental health. Yet, when we look at the hymn of promise we can see that some of the things in the natural world are hidden for a period of time, allowing them to mature and evolve into their full potential. If you did not know what a flower bulb is would you ever imagine that a beautiful flower could come forth? If you saw a cocoon without understanding metamorphosis would you ever expect an amazing creature to emerge? And after the cold winter we have the hope of a spring leading into the warmth of summer. These are all things that evolved through the vision, the foresight of, our Creator God.

Now, don't get me wrong, I don't believe that God caused the pandemic, but God has a way of taking bad things and using them to fulfill God's purpose. Perhaps a purpose of it is to allow us to see the importance in the everyday things we took for granted. Some of the things we took for granted have become far more meaningful. Seeing family... Going shopping... Sharing smiles... well, we're still not able to take our masks off, but there will come a day. The day has come to restore singing in our church... We had a time of rest from singing inside the church during worship. And we all missed singing! God is allowing us to see how much something we took for granted is important to our Christian identity. (We are asking that you continue to wear your mask, and that you sing softly. I am asking you to remain seated, except during the Gospel reading and to continue to take precautions such as staying six feet apart, and carrying the communion elements to the side before consuming them, during the time of Holy Communion.)

I think most of us are familiar with the first verses of Ecclesiastes 3 which basically says there is a time for everything. Reading further to Ecclesiastes 3:11 we find "He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end". This draws us closer to the idea that God is in control, and that God has a plan for creation that a pandemic will not thwart. We're not out of danger yet... there are still strains that could wreak havoc, we still need to take precautions, but just as Jesus rises from the tomb on Easter, we have the hope of a life to come.

As always, if you'd like to talk with me, I am in the office Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 am to 2 pm. You can drop in, call on the phone (814-833-4062), or call anytime on my cell and leave a message (724-557-2386). Or drop me an e-mail pastorkaren.immanuel@gmail.com

Have a blessed and meaningful Easter season.

***Grace and Peace,
Pastor Karen***



CREATION JUSTICE RESOURCES

“Living out our faith goes beyond individual actions, our own households, or our own churches. We are called to follow the example of Jesus and the prophets—to be courageous in proactively shaping our communities and our world to better align with our faith values. In the United States we have a democratic system that requires active input from people of faith and good conscience. A healthy democracy requires people to be educated, organized, and engaged at every level. Creation Justice Ministries specializes in helping Christian communities to engage at the federal level of US government.” creationjustice.org

“As Earth Day Sunday 2021 (April 18) approaches, we at Creation Justice Ministries have put together a Christian education resource centered around the nexus of health, environmental racism, and ecological justice, a pertinent intersection in our current time. I am hopeful that this resource will provide some insight into the ways in which these injustices manifest in our communities, so all who come across it feel empowered to heed the words of 2 Peter 3:12- 13, and brave enough to be the light. ...This day will bring about “...a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells,” but it will not come on its own.” Susu Lassa, 2021 Earth Day Resource Editor, Creation Justice Ministries Board Member

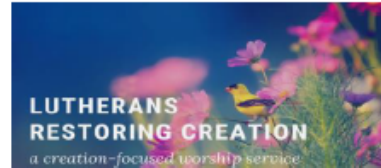
“This year’s **Earth Day Sunday theme is “A New Heaven, and a New Earth”**. This resource will be available to download on our website and in hard copy in the beginning of March. Earth Day Sunday is a wonderful way to celebrate God’s creation as a community - even from afar!” <https://www.creationjustice.org/blog/2021-earth-day-sunday-resource-a-letter-from-the-editor>

AUGSBURG FORTRESS ALL CREATION SINGS

All Creation Sings is a new, comprehensive song and prayer collection from Augsburg Fortress.

This resource contains expansive hymns and liturgies that invite us to join our voices with God’s whole creation.

LUTHERANS RESTORING CREATION RESOURCES



Lutherans Restoring Creation will have a Creation-Focused Worship Service for Earth Day to use on April 25th or any time thereafter. Go to <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/creation-focused-service-for-earth-day-2021/> to register to receive the link to download this service. There is also a link to their 2020 Season of Creation online service at <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/creation-focused-worship-service-available-for-download-9-14>.

EARTHDAY.ORG RESOURCES

“When life around the globe returns to normal, our world cannot return to business-as-usual. Our global community has been shocked by the largest global crisis in a generation. COVID-19 has shown us the necessity of thinking ahead, but the next crises are already on their way. Climate change, species loss, pandemics and massive natural disasters might define the future - unless we do something now. We have the solutions, both natural and technological...we need the will. Join EARTHDAY.ORG and over 1 billion participants around the world and take action on April 22nd. TOGETHER, WE WILL RESTORE OUR EARTH. Sign up for email updates - there’s so much more to come.” <https://www.earthday.org>

NWPA SYNOD’S GREEN TEAM

If you would like to be on the NWPA SYNOD’s Green Team’s email list or would like more information about the Green Team, contact Dennis Groce (d_groce@lab.net) with your name and email address.

Martin Luther, “God is wholly present in all creation, in every corner, behind you and before you.” (LW 51:43)
March/2021

Christian Education



~ *Sharing the Good News* ~

It's the perfect time to start a garden indoors. Consider involving your children or grandchildren and plant seeds in cups or pots. You may want to copy

1 Corinthians 3:6 *NIV*



I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. and placing it by the pots.

Consider fast growing and/or hardy plants to keep kids interested. Some good choices: radishes, pumpkins, marigolds, cherry tomatoes, snap peas, microgreens and sunflowers.



As you talk and work together, you will be growing not only food and flowers, but also a new generation that loves nature and wants to care for it—because you do!



If your young relatives or friends live far-away or still cannot safely garden by your side due to Covid or other reasons, perhaps make showing the progress of the plants a part of a weekly Zoom or FaceTime call.



APRIL 2021 Worship Calendar for Immanuel Lutheran, Erie PA

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector
4/01/21 Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
4/02/21 Good Friday 7:00 PM	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
4/4/21 Easter 9:30 AM	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
4/11/21 9:30 AM	Snider	<u>Asst.</u> Anita Byrne <u>Lay Dist.</u> Bob Dorler	Barb Coughlin
4/18/21 9:30 AM	Kostur	Stan Holsopple	Stan Holsopple
4/25/21 9:30 AM	Kostur	Debbie Redditt	Claudia Skerlong

Volunteers Welcome

Counters and Ushers needed
in 2021

We would welcome additional folks to join us in both of these church tasks. Please see the lists in this newsletter and reach out to Cindy Geddes for Counters and Bob Dorler for Ushers if you think you'd like to give this a try.

Altar Guild: Char Feiler/Debbie Madurski

Counters: Char Feiler/Debbie Madurski

Ushers: Ushers as assigned by B. Dorler Head Usher

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

Sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for May

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
APRIL 15TH

Did you know~

In our congregation we have many talents and professions and in your day-to-day life it may help to know about them...

This month we are highlighting two of them with their permission:

Debbie Reddit is a **licensed notary** and can help you with notarizing documents as needed. Give Debbie a call on her cell: 814-449-1855 or drop her an email: debbieredditt@gmail.com.

Sandy Kocur is a **realtor** with Remax, 2701 Evanston, and has been listing and selling homes for almost 30 yrs. Reach Sandy on her cell no. 814-873-8538.

*Would you like to be listed? Give me a call or drop me an email in the office.
814-833-4062 or immluthch@verizon.net~Lori*

**PROFESSIONAL
RESOURCES IN OUR FAITH
COMMUNITY**



KEEP IN PRAYER: Denise Arnold's Mom - Lucie Arndt and sister, Lana as well as brother-in-law Pastor Huhn; John & Tim Botwright and Tim's wife Karen, the Feiler & Lee families including Mike's Aunt Lana; Ruth & Ken Foos – friends of Carol McCray; Jim & Lorraine Hornaman, Kyle Husted, Jim Kuntz, Nancy Leonard – Pastor Karen's friend; Patrick Lewis – family friend of S.Kocur; Bishop Michael Lozano, Diane McGranor, Phyllis Lindahl, Carole Rickrode, Sharon Roemer, Jan Rowe – Pastor Karen's friend; Dr. Carl Seon; Pastor Roy Washill & family and all of our members who are grieving; who are in nursing homes, who are serving on the "front line" during the COVID-19 pandemic or 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).

If you are sick or in the hospital please notify the church office and if you'd like home communion or a copy of our newsletter ~ please let us know in the office.



Shut-In Ministry

***No time in your busy life for much more?
How about just an occasional phone call or card?***

***Current Shut-in list: Audree Adams, Judi Casler,
Sally Fager.***



Please remember the members of Immanuel who are "shut in," 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 or see our current directory.

FAITH

IN

ACTION

Thank you
for sharing

your

Time &

Talents

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kit Appeal



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Thank you for your support of our campaign on behalf of Lutheran World Relief and their need for personal care kits. We asked members to sponsor the cost of a

kit which is \$8 which includes shipping costs. Our goal was 50 kits by Easter and currently we have enough money to make 42.5.

Thank you for your support toward this mission of faith in action.



Thank you for your support!

Social Ministry Committee

Sharing this with you from Inter-Church Ministries:

The county is planning a mass vaccination clinic in May, for the homeless population, this is to protect the homeless and to help create greater community immunity. However, the homeless are very often reluctant to receive the vaccine. In order to encourage participation, the county will be offering gift cards as an incentive. These cards must come from Country Fair and be in the amount of \$5. They are asking ICM to reach out to as many churches as possible, hoping that we will help to purchase any number of these gifts cards. **The collection will end on April 30.** Please place the gift cards in the offering plate and we will make sure they get to ICM.



P.O. Box 407 • Erie, PA 16512
TELEPHONE: 814/452-4421 • FAX: 814/455-8825
WEBSITE: www.eriecitymission.org

"A Beacon of Hope Since 1911."

THE ERIE CITY MISSION HAS NOT PROVIDED YOU WITH ANY GOODS OR SERVICES IN EXCHANGE FOR THESE CONTRIBUTIONS.

YOUR OFFICIAL RECEIPT

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1002 Powell Ave
Erie, PA 16505-3441

GIVING INFORMATION
DONOR I.D: 77085
DATE: 03/15/2021
AMOUNT: \$400.00
REFERENCE #: 13680
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$400.00
COMMENTS: Congregation Donation
"Souper Bowl"

March 2021

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift to the Erie City Mission. Together, we are helping so many of Erie's residents find hope, and are giving them a chance to live transformed lives.

Far beyond a hot meal and safe shelter, those who enter the doors of the Erie City Mission are seeking something greater—hope.

When a man lays down his addiction and begins the road to recovery; when a woman finds refuge from a life of substance abuse; when an inner-city youth finds excitement in planning for their future, these are the kinds of life-transformative hope we see at the Mission.

Through your gift, we are offering those who are struggling and hurting the greatest gift of all, hope. Thank you!

It is a pleasure to serve alongside you,

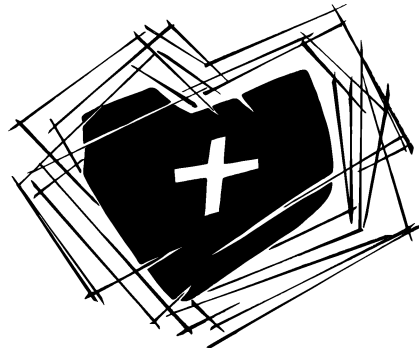
Stephen Westbrook
Chief Executive Officer

Thanks so much, Immanuel Lutheran Church, for your kind generosity to our Mission - from your "Souper Bowl" initiative!
God Bless You - Steve



A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free (within Pennsylvania): 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Worship & Music in the News....



We will have our final mid-week Lenten worship service on Wednesday, 3/31 at 7 p.m. We hope you can join us and then return for our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services also at 7 p.m.



For OneDrive login page,
click here:

<https://onedrive.live.com/about/en-us/signin/>

You can also find Pastor Karen's latest sermons on our webpage here

<http://www.ilc-erie.org/worship-.html>

Easter Resurrection Sunday service will take place indoors and via drive-in at 9:30 a.m. on April 4th. We hope you can join us on this faith journey either indoors, or in our drive-in services. Sunday School classes will take place indoors each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Celebrations

of Life and

Love



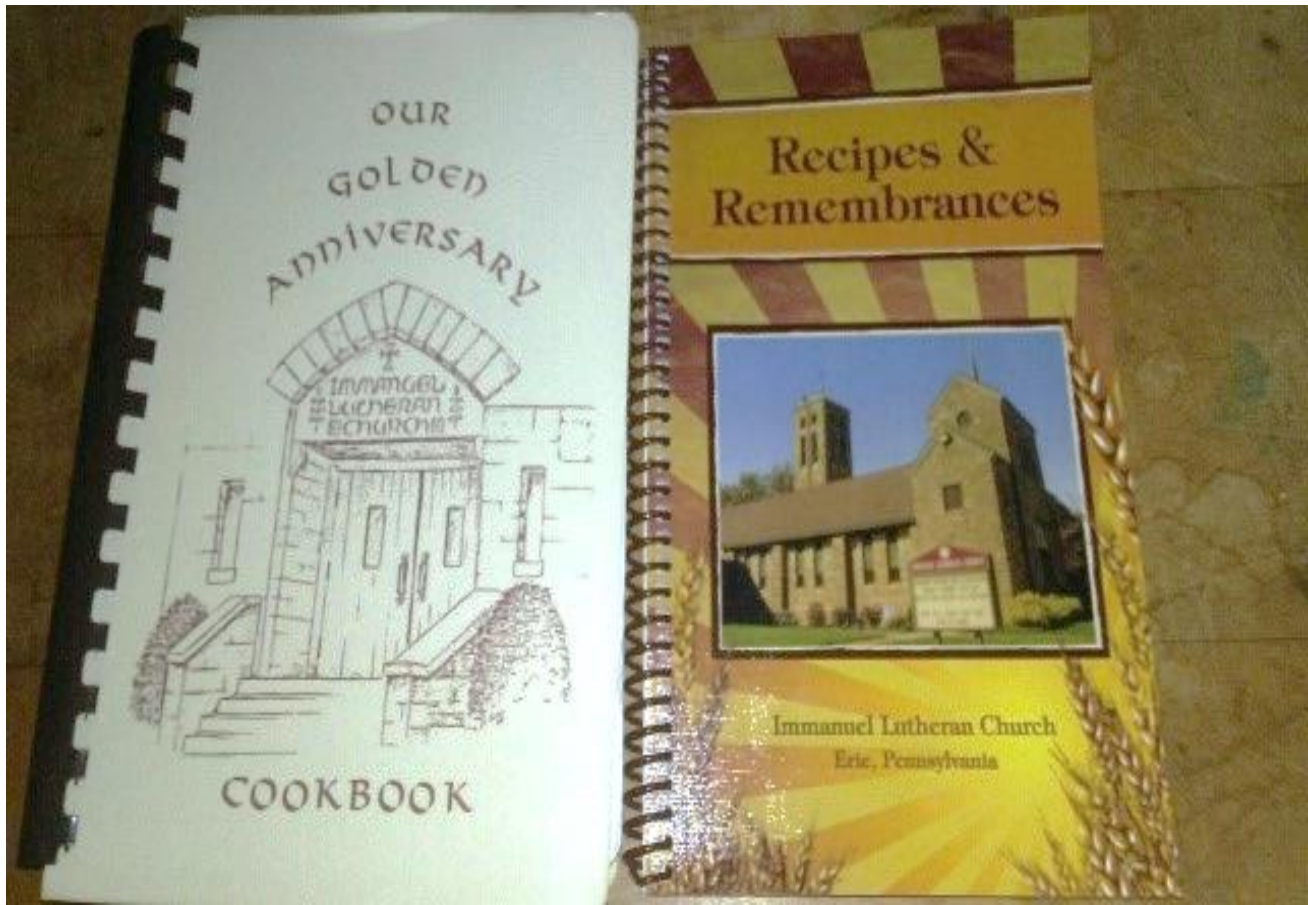
April Birthdays

April	1	Travis Feiler
	10	Carole DelPorto
	17	Kylie Husted
	18	Jason Kuntz & Bryan Timm
	19	Judi Casler
	23	Carol Ketchel
	24	Ron DelPorto/Lainey Bartlett
	25	Bob Dorler & Kylie Nelson

Everyone enjoys receiving a card!

April Anniversaries

None on file this month



We still have copies of both of our spiral bound cookbooks available if you haven't gotten your copy or would like to give these wonderful collections as a gift, please contact the church office.

We are offering them for \$5 ea. or 2 for \$9.

In addition to this fundraising idea, please also consider setting up an automatic "check payment" to be mailed to Immanuel Lutheran Church for your regular offering.

This can be done through your bank as other members have done. This will be a big help for the ministry and maintenance of the church.

April 2021



ALLELUIA!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 p.m. worship	2 GOOD FRIDAY 7 p.m. worship	3 HOLY SATURDAY
4 EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30 A.M. – YOUTH 10:30 A.M. *RESURRECTION*	5 QUILTERS 9:30 A.M. PASTOR ON VACATION	6 PASTOR ON VACATION	7 PASTOR ON VACATION TOPS 9:00 A.M. AA MTG 7:30 P.M.	8 PASTOR ON VACATION	9 PASTOR ON VACATION	10 PASTOR ON VACATION
11 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School PASTOR ON VACATION	12 QUILTERS 9:30 A.M. HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE	13	14 TOPS 9:00 A.M. AA MTG 7:30 P.M.	15 May Newsletter Deadline	16	17
18 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	19 QUILTERS 9:30 A.M.	20	21 TOPS 9:00 A.M. AA MTG 7:30 P.M.	22 EARTH DAY Let's be good stewards 	23	24
25 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	26 QUILTERS 9:30 A.M.	27	28 TOPS 9:00 A.M. AA MTG 7:30 P.M.	29	30	



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WHAT IS GOD ASKING OF YOU TODAY AND IN THE DAYS AHEAD?



**All are
Welcome**

Immanuel Hours

Church Office – 833-4062

Hours - Mon-Thurs. 8:30am-12:30pm

immluthch@verizon.net

Staff

Pastor Karen Kostur – 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.: Lori Swanson Nemenz

Sunday School

Coord: Anita Byrne & Janice Kreger

Teachers: Rick Kuntz & Jen Kuntz,

Pastor Kostur

Congregation & Church Council Officers

Pres. – Debbie Redditt – 449-1855

Vice Pres. – Bob Dorler – 833-2719

Sec. – Debbie Madurski – 774-3590

Fin. Sec.: Cindy Geddes – 734-1286

Treasurer: Bill Redditt

Additional Council Members

Cindy Eckman, Char Feiler, George

Pfeiffer, Sally Leubin, Bob Dorler,

Cindy Geddes

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: Cindy Eckman

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.

Communications

Council liaison: vacant 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
IT equipment updates in the building enabling broader access,
outreach and efficiency.
PPP GRANT FUNDING**

Fellowship, Outreach & Growth

Council liaisons: Sally Leubin & Char Feiler

Finance

Council liaison: George Pfeiffer

2020 AUDIT

Property

Council liaison: Bob Dorler Committee Chair: Stan Holsopple

FACILITY MAINTENANCE, RENTAL PROPERTY OVERSIGHT

Stewardship

Council liaison: Cindy Geddes

MEMBERSHIP RECORD UPDATE

Social Ministry Committee

Council liaison: Debbie Madurski – Committee chair: Debbie Madurski

LWR PERSONAL CARE KITS

Worship & Music

Council liaison: Debbie Redditt Chair: vacant

****Looking For New Committee Co-Chairs**
DRIVE-IN AND INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES**

OneDrive audio files of recorded services

<https://onedrive.live.com/about/en-us/signin/>



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