

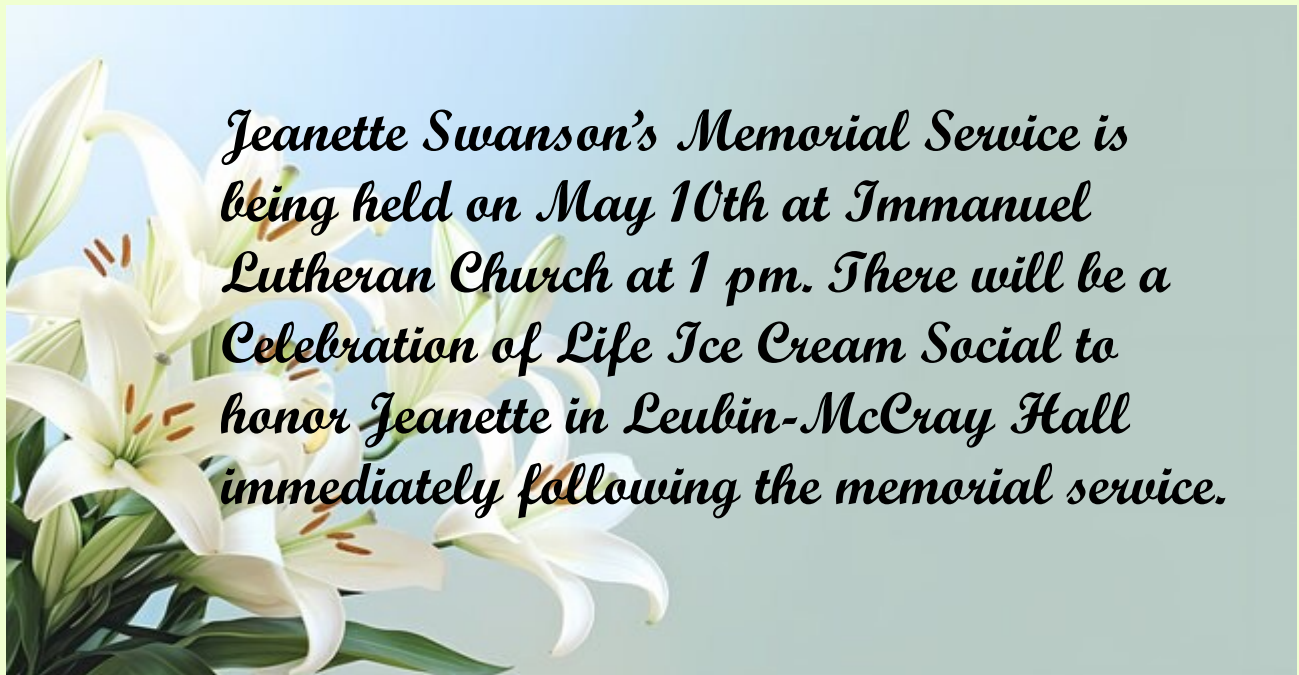
# Immanuel Lutheran Church



1002 Powell Avenue  
Erie PA 16505

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*Jeanette Swanson's Memorial Service is being held on May 10th at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 1 pm. There will be a Celebration of Life Ice Cream Social to honor Jeanette in Leubin-McCray Hall immediately following the memorial service.*



## Grace & Peace : From the Pastor's Desk

Boundaries, not the kind you put a fence around, or measure the distance from to build on property, but boundaries that are personal rules you set in place to make sure that no one takes advantage of you, hurts or harms you, or treats you with disrespect. An example of setting a boundary includes saying no to someone, cutting someone off in your life and just loving them from a distance, and walking away from a situation that may require you to abandon your faith or change the beliefs that you have. It can be difficult for a Christian to keep boundaries because we think we are being, well, unchristian when we do. However, there are Christian

boundaries that are meant to be kept. God set boundaries with Adam and Eve, who did not keep them and lost more than they ever imagined they could lose. Jesus set boundaries with his disciples. When he sent them into the world to preach the gospel and heal Jesus told his disciples. "If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town."

As God set up a boundary for Adam and Eve for a reason, God sets up boundaries in our lives for a reason, too, and if we break them, then there will be consequences. God knows what is best for us, and what could hurt us. When God sets up boundaries in your life, OBEY them. Trust in God. Believe that God is doing good in your life and is protecting you.

As you probably already know, we are in a constant state of spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6). The devil is doing all he can to distract us, tempt us, and drag us away from our faith and our purpose in life. We need to make sure that we are solely focusing on God alone, and God's will for our lives.

Self-control is essential to protect yourself from yourself. We are constantly at war with the desires of the flesh. Setting up boundaries for yourself will help to win spiritual battles. First, don't allow negative thoughts about yourself take over, you are precious and valuable to God. When your focus is on God those negative thoughts will disappear. To do this, pray daily, if not several times a day. Keeping in contact with God will help you to give God all your negativity, fears, and anxiety. Another part of self-control is saying "No", and not allowing others to pressure you into making bad choices or not allow your opinion to be heard.

When a person is disrespecting you, you can ask them "What exactly were you hoping to gain by saying that?" Or, "Sorry, what was that? I want to make sure I understand you completely." Or you can smile, say, "Thank you" and just walk away. Sometimes grace wins the day.

There will be moments in your life where you may need to correct others, especially Christians. There will also be times where you will need to speak the truth to others, regardless of their beliefs.

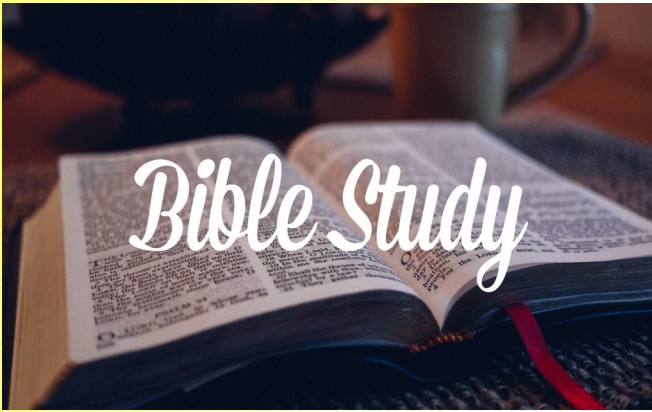
God tells us to speak the truth in love. We shouldn't lie to others, especially if it puts them in some sort of danger. Let the Holy Spirit guide you on what to say and how to say it. "but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ," (Eph. 4:15). It is okay for us, as Christians, to be friends with non-believers – I have many friends who are not Christian. However, we cannot let the friendship change our faith.

Setting up Biblical boundaries are important for many different areas of your life. They help you stay close to God, protect yourself from bad people entering your life, teach you self-control and self-respect, and to speak open and honestly with others in love.

Know that I am available to speak with you or to visit with you. I am usually in the office from 1 to 3p.m. on Tuesdays and 10:00 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursdays. The phone number there is 814-833-4062. You can call me on my cell phone at any time 724-557-2386, please leave a message if I do not answer.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Karen





Join us Thursday mornings at 11 am as we finish up our study of Genesis. After the completion of this study, Bible Study will take a break through the summer months.

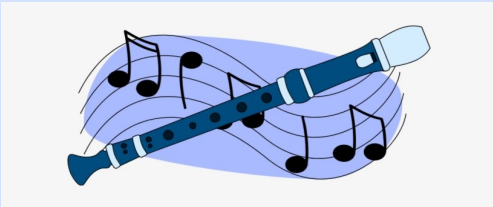
When Bible Study resumes after summer, we will be studying Revelation. Make sure to plan to

A decorative banner with a light blue and white background. It features two wooden crosses on either side, each draped with a white cloth and adorned with yellow and blue flowers. In the center, a Bible is shown with a white cross on its cover. The text "MEMBERSHIP Class" is written in a mix of bold, sans-serif and cursive fonts. Below this, the following text is displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font:

**For anyone who is interested in becoming a member of Immanuel Lutheran, classes will be held beginning May 12th at 11 am. This is a 4 week class. Please reach out to Pastor Karen if you are interested.**

A decorative box with a white background and a thin purple border. The box is adorned with purple and pink flowers and green leaves. The text inside the box is in a bold, black, sans-serif font:

**Submissions for the June News Letter will need to be given to Brenda by June 23rd. Thank you so much!**



Sunday, May 18th the Flute Choir will be performing during worship.

**THURSDAYS AT NOON**  
**Choir Practice**

Do you have a voice of an angel? Can you sing like a bird? Do you enjoy singing? If so, we invite you to join the Immanuel Lutheran Choir.

What's  
happening  
in Worship  
& Music

A graphic featuring several colorful butterflies (blue, green, and brown) flying over an open book with white pages. The text is written in a black, cursive font.

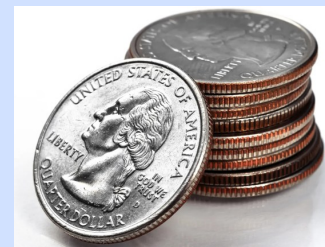
Sunday Worship  
9:30 am  
EVERYONE Welcome! Come  
join the Immanuel Family!

A background image showing a person's hands raised in a gesture of worship or praise, set against a soft, colorful light.

## Coffee Hour



Stop in the lounge after worship the first Sunday of the month for some great conversation, fellowship and a piping hot cup of coffee. What a great time to share some memories with your Immanuel Family.



Grab your spare quarters and bring them with you the first Sunday of the month for "Quarter

On May 4th during Coffee Hour/ Fellowship, we will be celebrating Lorraine Hornaman's birthday. Please join us as we celebrate Lorraine's special day with her.

A photograph of a chocolate birthday cake with white frosting and candles, surrounded by colorful balloons (yellow, blue, red, orange) and confetti.



## **Primary Election Day May 20th Book & Bake Sale**

**With Primary Election Day happening on May 20th, you all know what that means!**

**YEP!!!! It's time for our Bake and Book Sale!!!**

**Can we count on your smiling face to sign up to man the sale? It is only a two hour block out of the day! Come on and be part of the fun!!**

**Do you have extra books laying around that you weren't sure what to do with? You no longer need to wonder!! Bring those books in and drop them off for the sale! Book donations are greatly appreciated!**

**Last but not least! BAKERS, BAKERS, BAKERS!!!! We are requesting our amazing bakers to donate some of their FANTASTIC baked goods! Share your baking talent and drop off some baked goods for the sale!**

**Hey, bring a smile to someone's day with a good book and your baked goodies!!!!**



*Thank you to those who purchased flowers for Easter Sunday Service.*

*A big thank you to those who donated to Meals-on-Wheels Erie.*



Dave & Hannah Mays  
Bill & Pastor Karen Kostur  
Rick Kuntz  
Dave & Cindy Eckman  
Dianne McGranor  
Lori Nemenz  
Rebecca & Christopher Bureau  
Patty Morrow  
Holly, Zach & Ron Middaugh  
Ron & Zach Middaugh

In honor of Our Risen Son  
In honor of Our Parents  
In memory of Carolyn Kuntz  
In honor of our grandchildren: Finn, Grace, Aidan & Dominic  
In memory of her parents: Merndeem Hughes & Myron Lindahl  
In memory of her husband, Larry & their parents  
In memory of Janet/Nana Griffin  
In memory of Larry Morrow  
In memory of Terry Middaugh  
In memory of Sarge D. Wassel



**meals on wheels erie**

Dave & Cindy Eckman  
Bill & Pastor Karen Kostur  
Cindy & Larry Geddes  
Rick & Brenda Durst  
Rick Kuntz

In memory of Dick & Pearl Young  
In honor of Jesus Christ  
In memory of Michelle Geddes, Willy & Bob & Betsy Case  
In memory of Shirley Diller  
In honor of Jason & Jennifer

Bob & Donna Dorler

In honor of Ronan, Taylor, Evelyn & Grace

In memory of Lawrence, Ruth, Pat, Chrisine & Charlotte Dorler,  
Domenic & Lucille Gambatese

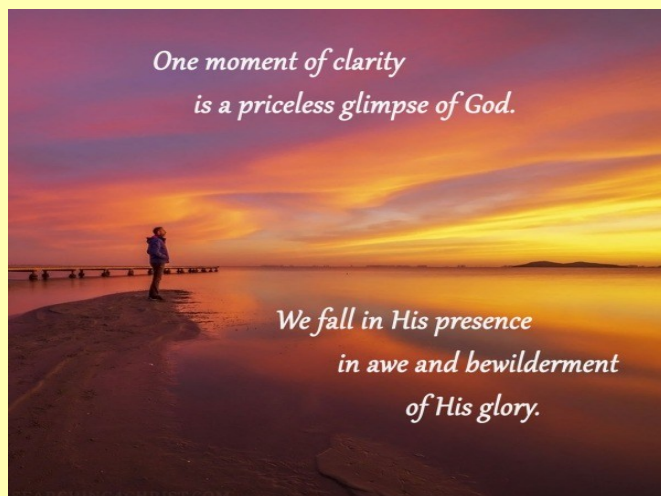
Let's share some kindness to the members of Immanuel who are shut-in or having some health issues and are unable to make it to worship. But, how about going a step further and drop them a cheery card in the mail to let them know you are thinking about them? Or bring a little sunshine to their day and drop off a bouquet of flowers. Better yet, make some time to sit and chat with someone who doesn't get much company and could use a smiling face.

The shut-in address list is on the bulletin board.



***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.***



*One moment of clarity  
is a priceless glimpse of God.*

*We fall in His presence  
in awe and bewilderment  
of His glory.*

### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Vince Belinski—Diane's Nephew  
Karen Byrd  
Rev. Bill Cox  
Chick Crosby (Sally Leubin's brother)  
Janice Kreger  
MaryAnn Long and Russ Long  
Penney Maloney  
Denise Arnold  
The Botwright family  
Connie Cooper  
Jim and Lorraine Hornaman  
Kyle Husted  
Carol Ketchel  
Bishop Michael Lozano  
Brenda Matson  
Carole Rickrode  
Bob Roemer  
Alice Tillotson—Mary Hauser's sister  
Joel Whickham—Mary Hauser's brother

All of our members & friends who are grieving;  
Who are in nursing homes;  
All who are ill at home

We pray for those in the military.





**Happy Birthday**

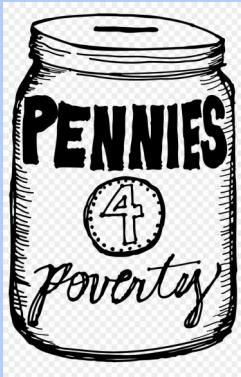
2nd Hannah Mays  
 4th Lorraine Hornaman  
 4th Ray Kreger  
 9th Diane Komisarski  
 11th Diane McGranor  
 20th Colleen Hetrick  
 Montgomery  
 20th Dennis Rohan  
 21st Karen Sturgeon  
 22nd Rick Kuntz  
 28th Carol Rickrode  
 29th Jessica Guthrie

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

4th Mike & Kim Lee  
 18th Cindy & Larry Geddes  
 19th Debbie & Ron Madurski



**Capital Campaign - Boiler:**  
 Funds for the boiler campaign  
 currently show  
 \$35,642.38  
 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.



**LITTLE FREE PANTRY AT IMMANUEL**  
**IF IN NEED – TAKE SOMETHING**  
**IF YOU CAN SHARE - LEAVE SOMETHING**

Feel free to bring items to church office &  
 we will make sure they get in the pantry for you.

## Pentecost, Sunday, June 8th.

We will be giving you the opportunity to order geraniums in memory or honor of a loved one. The cost is \$7.00 each and your order and payment are due by June 2 in the church office. We will also need help with planting. If you are able to assist, please contact the church office.



In celebration of Pentecost, June 8, 2025 you are given the opportunity to order red geraniums in memory/honor of loved ones. These will be on the altar on Pentecost Sunday and then planted outside the church. Please fill out the form below and return it, with payment to the church office by June 2, 2025.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ plants at \$7.00 each.

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of / or In memory of :

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**Help will be needed for planting - if you are willing to help with this task please contact the church office.**



# **NWPA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION 34TH ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Join us May 30-31st at Olmsted Manor in Ludlow, PA for the 34th annual Convention.

The convention is from 3 PM Friday—3 PM Sunday. There is financial assistance available for anyone attending that may need it.

They are also accepting donations to the In-Kind offering. This benefits Bethesda Lutheran Services, recreation supplies and inspiring books for Bethesda Library.

**\*\*Registration forms are on the bulletin board\*\***



## **Interim Healthcare Hospice Is seeking volunteers.**

Interim Healthcare Hospice is a local Hospice provider dedicated to offering compassionate care and support to patients and their families during the final stages of life. Interim Hospice relies on the generosity of volunteers to provide vital services to the community.

### **Volunteer opportunities:**

- Visiting patients to offer companionship
- Providing respite care for family members
- Assisting with administrative tasks
- Offering support in spiritual and emotional care; including bereavement services

Please feel free to contact Heather McLaughlin at (814) 836-0214 or email



# BBQ-Glazed Hot Dogs with Spicy Slaw

**Get out the grill and give this  
recipe a try!!!**

Brushing the dogs with barbecue sauce during grilling imparts a sweet, caramelized smokiness that pairs beautifully with a colorful tangle of jalapeño-spiked coleslaw heaped on top. A summer classic, upgraded!

## Ingredients

- 3 tbs. mayonnaise
- 3 tbs. pickled jalapenos (finely chopped)
- 2 tbsp. + 2 tsp. BBQ sauce (divided)
- 2 1/2 cups thinly sliced green cabbage
- 2 thinly slice scallion
- 2 tsp whole-grain mustard
- 1 1/2 tsp. of jalapeno juice
- 2 1/2 cups thinly sliced red cabbage
- 1 medium coarsely grated carrot
- 4 hot dogs & 4 hot dog buns

## Directions

**Step 1** Heat grill to medium.

**Step 2** In large bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, mustard, pickling liquid, and 2 teaspoons barbecue sauce. Add cabbages, carrot, scallions, and jalapeños; toss to combine.

**Step 3** Using paring knife, make 3 diagonal slits across top of each hot dog, then 3 more in opposite direction, to create diamond pattern. Grill, rotating and glazing with remaining 2 tablespoons barbecue sauce, until charred, 3 to 5 minutes.

**Step 4** Transfer to plate and glaze with any remaining barbecue sauce. Serve each in bun, topped with 1/4 cup slaw and remaining slaw on side.

**ENJOY this BBQ delight!!!**

# Why did Jesus fold the napkin?

Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection?

The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes.

The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark. Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “they have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and I don’t know where they have put him!”

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple out ran Peter and got there first. He stopped and look in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn’t go in.

Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying to the side.

Was that important? Absolutely! Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day.

The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition. When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his finger, his mouth and clean his beard, he would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table. The servant would then know to clear the table. For n those days, the wadded napkin meant, “I’m finished.”

But, if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because.....

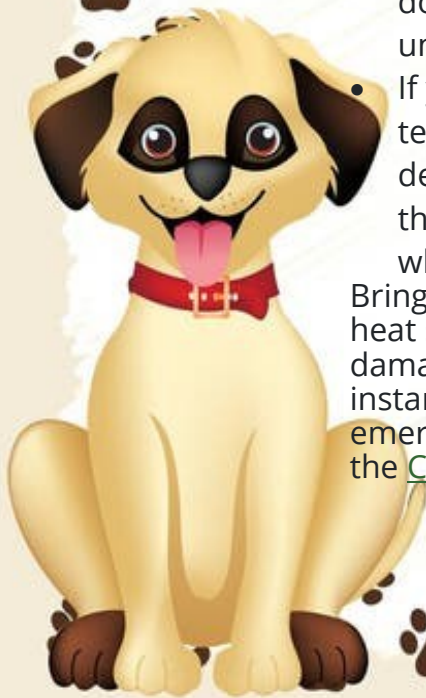
The folded napkin meant,  
“I’m coming back!”

\*\*Thank you to Miss Janice for sharing this so that it could be put in the newsletter.\*\*

## Summer and Pets

Summer's heat can be dangerous for your family pets. Follow these steps to take to help ensure your pet stays safe this summer.

- Don't leave your pet in a hot vehicle, even for a few minutes. The inside temperature of the car can quickly reach 120 degrees even with the windows cracked open.
- Animals can suffer heat stroke, a common problem for pets in the warmer weather. Dogs with short noses or snouts, like the boxer or bulldog, are especially prone to heat stroke, along with overweight pets, those with extremely thick fur coat or any pet with upper respiratory problems such as laryngeal paralysis or collapsing trachea.
- Some of the signs of heat stroke in your pet are heavy panting, being unable to calm down, even when lying down, brick red gum color, fast pulse rate and being unable to get up.
- If you suspect your pet has heat stroke, take their temperature rectally. If the temperature is above 105 degrees, cool the animal down. The easiest way to do this is by using the water hose. Stop cooling the animal when the temperature reaches 103 degrees. Bring your pet to the veterinarian as soon as possible as heat stroke can lead to severe organ dysfunction and damage. Download the Red Cross [Pet First Aid app](#) for instant access on how to treat heat stroke, other emergencies and general care for cats and dogs and take the [Cat and Dog First Aid Online Training course](#).



## Lake Erie Still Struggles

Northwestern Pennsylvania includes approximately seventy-five miles of Lake Erie shoreline and tributaries. Modern day problems now unfolding hinder Lake Erie from achieving its potential as a part of God's creation. Since God's creation of Lake Erie through glacial action, it has provided habitat for animals, plants, and humans. Excessive industrial development in the lake's watershed during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries became one of the key sparks that led to the National Environmental Protection Act of 1972. NEPA funding stimulated enforcement and research that led to tremendous improvements in Lake Erie waters in the last years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. While Lake Erie has improved in many respects, threats still exist and are increasing daily. Growth in the human population near the lake, new chemicals and plastics introduced by humans, climate changes and reductions in research and protection have created a threat in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

A November 13, 2024 PA Department of Environment Protection (DEP) press release announced grants for the improvement of Pennsylvania's Lake Erie "coastal zone." These grants to several regional organizations support Lake Erie research, protection, and restoration. The federal National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the source of funding for these grants. (<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/newsroom/2024-11-13-shapiro-administration-awards-funding-to-protect-lake-erie-coast.html>)

An April 11, 2025 report by CBS news describes vast impending budget cuts at NOAA. If these cuts continue, they could have great negative consequences for Lake Erie. (<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/noaa-budget-cut-climate-research-draft-proposal/>) Part of the NOAA budget addresses climate change matters. Reduction in attention to climate change can only create more stress on the fragile ecosystem of Lake Erie. In addition, planned cuts in the EPA budget and staff for air pollution research and enforcement of water regulation will threaten Lake Erie, among many other locations. (<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-biggest-deregulatory-action-us-history>)

Clearly the struggles of Lake Erie continue. However, we can take comfort in knowing that protection of Lake Erie is not completely reliant on governmental research and enforcement. Individuals and small groups can still take local actions to protect Lake Erie. We can reduce plastic use, waste of all sorts, pick up litter, do educational work in the community and contact government officials. That local effort, however, cannot completely replace the research and other far-reaching work that NOAA, EPA, and other agencies support. The preservation of Lake Erie requires collaborative efforts to maintain its ecological function in creation.

The Green Team's purpose is to "raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation." Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.

Like and follow us on Facebook: [Northwestern PA Synod Green Team – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.](#)

Contact us at: [nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com)

May 2025

## *What are the 3 beliefs of the Lutheran Church?*

The three core beliefs of the Lutheran Church, often summarized as “sola”, are grace alone, faith alone and Scripture alone. These principles, rooted in the teaching of Martin Luther, form the foundation of Lutheran theology.

- *Grace Alone (Sola Gratia):*

Lutherans believe that salvation is entirely a gift from God, not something earned through good works or human effort. God’s grace is freely given, and humanity cannot contribute to their own salvation.

- *Faith Alone (Sola Fide):*

Salvation is received through faith in Jesus Christ, who died to redeem humanity from sin. This faith is a confident trust in God’s promises of forgiveness and salvation.

- *Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura):*

The Bible is the ultimate authority for all matters of faith and practice. Lutherans believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God and the only source of knowledge about God’s will for humanity.



# *History for the Month of May*

**May 5, 1865** - Decoration Day was first observed in the U.S., with the tradition of decorating soldiers' graves from the Civil War with flowers. The observance date was later moved to May 30th and included American graves from World War I and World War II, and became better known as Memorial Day. In 1971, Congress moved Memorial Day to the last Monday in May, thus creating a three-day holiday weekend.

**May 6, 1937** - The German airship Hindenburg burst into flames at 7:20 p.m. as it neared the mooring mast at Lakehurst, New Jersey, following a trans-Atlantic voyage. Thirty six of the 97 passengers and crew were killed. The inferno was caught on film and also witnessed by a commentator who broke down amid the emotional impact and exclaimed, "Oh, the humanity!" The accident effectively ended commercial airship traffic.

**May 8 Birthday** - International Red Cross founder and Nobel Prize winner Henri Dunant (1828-1910) was born in Geneva, Switzerland. He was also a founder of the YMCA and organized the Geneva Conventions of 1863 and 1864.

**May 12 Birthday** - British nurse and public health activist Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) was born in Florence, Italy. She volunteered to aid British troops in Turkey where she improved hospital sanitary conditions and greatly reduced the death rate for wounded and sick soldiers. She received worldwide acclaim for her unselfish devotion to nursing, contributed to the development of modern nursing procedures, and emphasized the dignity of nursing as a profession for women.

**May 17, 1792** - Two dozen merchants and brokers established the New York Stock Exchange. In good weather they operated under a buttonwood tree on Wall Street. In bad weather they moved inside to a coffeehouse to conduct business.

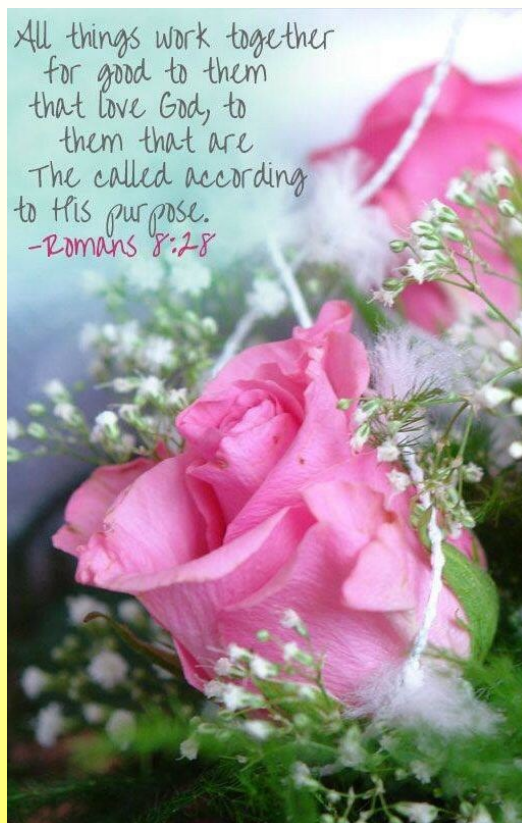
**May 20, 1862** - President [Abraham Lincoln](#) signed the Homestead Act opening millions of acres of government owned land in the West to "homesteaders" who could acquire up to 160 acres by living on the land and cultivating it for five years, paying just \$1.25 per acre.

**May 27, 1937** - In San Francisco, 200,000 people celebrated the grand opening of the Golden Gate Bridge by strolling across it.

**May 29 Birthday** - [John Fitzgerald Kennedy](#) (1917-1963) the 35th U.S. President was born in Brookline, Massachusetts. He was the youngest man ever elected to the presidency and the first Roman Catholic. He was assassinated in Dallas, November 22, 1963, the fourth President to be killed by an assassin.

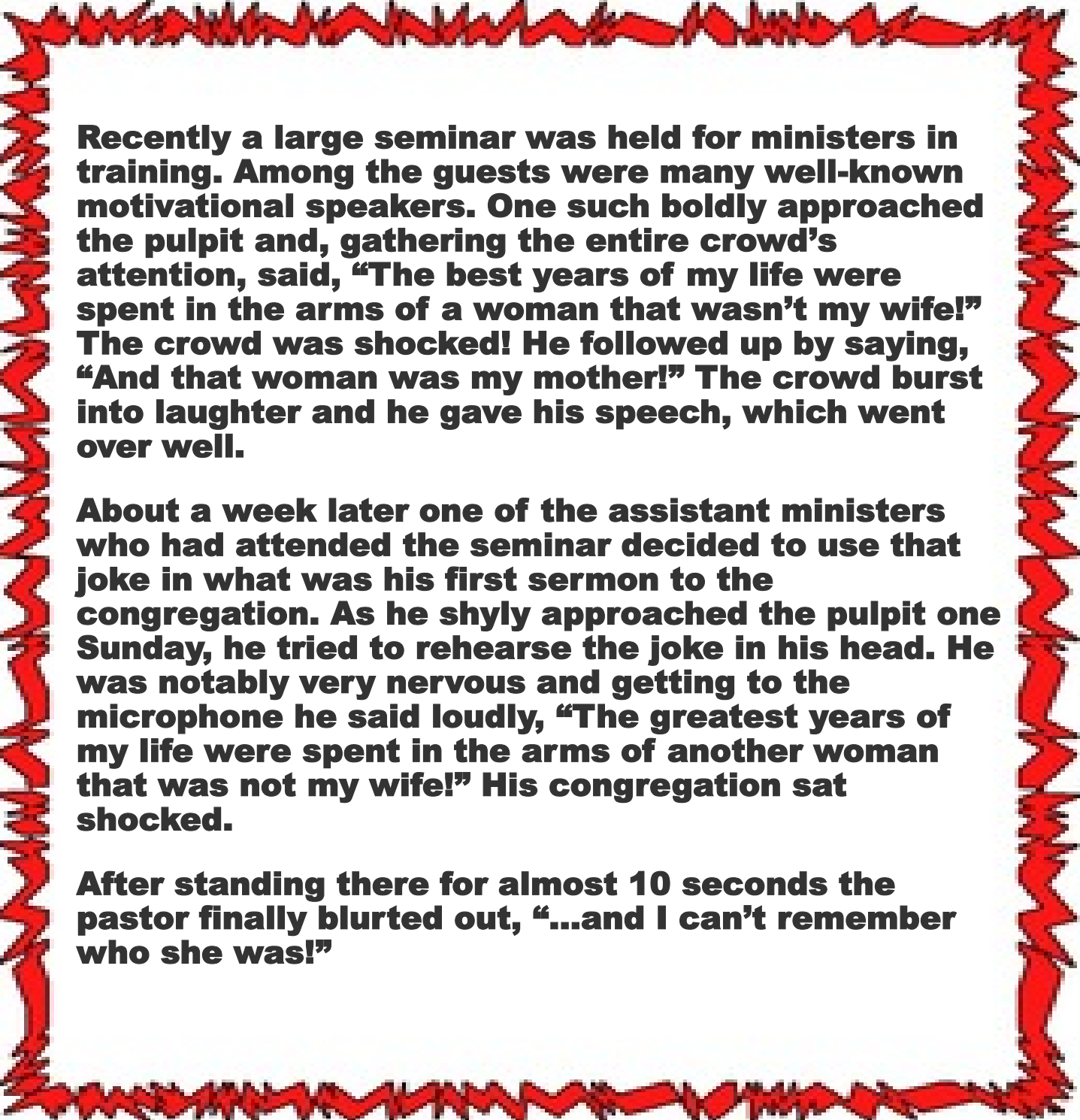
# May Worship Calendar

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector
<b>05/04/25</b> <b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Kostur</b>	<b>Bob Dorler</b>	<b>Zach Middaugh</b>
<b>05/11/25</b> <b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Kostur</b>	<b>Cindy Geddes</b>	<b>Ron Middaugh</b>
<b>05/18/25</b> <b>7 PM</b>	<b>Kostur</b>		
<b>05/25/25</b> <b>7 PM</b>	<b>Kostur</b>	<b>Stan Holsopple</b>	





# The New Minister



**Recently a large seminar was held for ministers in training. Among the guests were many well-known motivational speakers. One such boldly approached the pulpit and, gathering the entire crowd's attention, said, "The best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman that wasn't my wife!" The crowd was shocked! He followed up by saying, "And that woman was my mother!" The crowd burst into laughter and he gave his speech, which went over well.**

**About a week later one of the assistant ministers who had attended the seminar decided to use that joke in what was his first sermon to the congregation. As he shyly approached the pulpit one Sunday, he tried to rehearse the joke in his head. He was notably very nervous and getting to the microphone he said loudly, "The greatest years of my life were spent in the arms of another woman that was not my wife!" His congregation sat shocked.**

**After standing there for almost 10 seconds the pastor finally blurted out, "...and I can't remember who she was!"**

# 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm	2 AA 7:00 Game Night 7 pm	3
4 <b>Worship 9:30 am</b> Quarter Sunday Coffee Hour	5 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship Choir 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	6 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	7 Tops 9:00 am Bible Study 6 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	8 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm Membership Class 1 pm Book Club 7 pm	9 AA 7:00 pm Game Night 7 pm	10 <b>Jeanette Swanson Memorial Service</b>
11 <b>Mother's Day</b> <b>Service 9:30 am</b> Council Meeting	12 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship Choir 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	13 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	14 Tops 9 am Bible Study 6 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	15 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm Membership Class 1 pm	16 AA 7:00 pm Game Night 7 pm	17
18 <b>Service 9:30 am</b> <b>Flute Choir</b>	19 Quilters 9:30 am Flagship Choir 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	20 <b>Primary Election Day</b> AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	21 Tops 9 am Bible Study 6 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	22 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm Membership Class 1 pm	23 AA 7 pm Game Night 7 pm	24
25 <b>Worship 9:30 am</b>	26 <b>Memorial Day</b> Quilters 9:30 am Flagship Choir 7 pm Flute Choir 7 pm	27 AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	28 Tops 9 am Bible Study 6 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm	29 Bible Study 11 am Choir 12 pm Membership Class 1 pm	30 AA 7 pm Game Night 7 pm	31



You can see the Flower Moon on Monday, May 12th. The full moon will reach its peak illumination at 12:56 PM.

### **The Flower Moon:**

The name of Mays full moon should be no surprise! In May flowers spring forth across North America in full abundance!

- The name “Flower Moon” has been attributed to the Algonquin’s as confirmed by Christina Ruddy of The Algonquin Way Cultural Centre in Ontario.
- May’s Moon was also called “Month of Flowers” by Jonathan Carver in his 1798 publication, *Travels Through the Interior Parts of North America*.
- Henry David Thoreau sparked the Native American Moon names as well, referencing the Flower Moon and Carver when he wrote about Native Americans.

### **Alternative May Moon Names:**

May’s Moon names tend to speak to the arrival of spring after long winter months! It is fitting that the names focus on spring and all it entails!

The Cree names **Budding Moon** and **Leaf Budding Moon** celebrate the awakening of local flora, which really begins to leaf out now in many areas.

Similarly, **Planting Moon** (Dakota, Lakota) marks the time when seeds should be started for the farming season ahead.

The activities of animals marked spring’s arrival, too, which is highlighted by the Cree names **Egg Laying Moon** and **Frog Moon**, as well as the Oglala term **Moon of the Shedding Ponies**. All three names indicate that warmer weather is on the way!





# *Erie Events & Happenings*

## *May 2025*

- May 1st: Glow Wild Chinese Lantern Festival 6 pm—9 pm at the Erie Zoo
- May 3rd & 4th: Erie Philharmonica Presents Revolution The Music of the Beatles. (3rd) 7:30 pm; (4th) 3 pm at the Warner Theater.
- Tower Tuesday at the Land Lighthouse the 1st Tuesday of the month May through October. (2 Lighthouse Street, Erie)
- May 10th: Lake Erie Stampede 7 pm at Lake Erie Speedway. Gates open at 5 pm; show starts at 7 pm.  
Featuring: bull riding, Barrel racing, roping & muttin bustin.
- May 16th & 17th: Edinboro Art & Music Fest 12 pm at Goodell Gardens & Homestead.
- May 23rd: 15th Annual Trokia Russian Festival 4 pm—9 pm at the Church of the Nativity Community Center.  
This is also being held on May 24th & 25th Noon—6 pm.
- May 28th—May 31st: 3th Annual Wild Rib Cookoff & Music Festival 11 am—10 pm all four nights. Located at Perry Square in downtown Erie.
- May 31st: Plants of Presque Isle Bicycle Tour 10:30 am—1 pm at the Cookhouse Pavilion at 301 Peninsula Drive.



# Why It's Important to Show Mom Some Appreciation

The Bible has a lot to say about the role and traits of Godly mothers—and how we can show them our love.

God's Word constantly reminds us to honor and love our mothers. A few examples of this can be found in Leviticus 19:3, "Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father," and Exodus 20:12, "Honor your father and your mother."

Bible verses to honor you mother on Mother's Day.

## **Psalm 115:14-15**

"May the Lord richly bless both you and your children. May you be blessed by the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

## **Proverbs 31:26**

"She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."

## **Deuteronomy 6:6-7**

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

## **Proverbs 23:22-25**

"Listen to your father, who gave you life, and don't despise your mother when she is old. Get the truth and never sell it; also get wisdom, discipline, and good judgment. The father of godly children has cause for joy. What a pleasure to have children who are wise. So give your father and mother joy! May she who gave you birth be happy."

## **Proverbs 17:6**

"Grandchildren are the crowning glory of the aged; parents are the pride of their children."

## **Ezekiel 19:2-3**

"What is your mother? A lioness among lions! She lay down among the young lions and reared her cubs. She raised one of her cubs to become a strong young lion."



**Immanuel**  
Church Office  
814-833-4062

Office Hours  
8:30—12:30  
Monday—Thursday

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month*

### **Staff**

Pastor Karen Kostur 814-833-4062  
or Cell: 724-557-2386  
Pastor's Office Hours – Tuesday 1:00-  
2:00 Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm

Church Caretaker: Wally Coughlin  
Organist/Music Director:  
Allan Slovenkay  
Admin. Ofc.: Brenda Matson

### **Sunday School**

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

### **2025 Congregation & Church Council Officers**

Pres: Rick Kuntz 814-572-3719  
VP: Joe Byrne 814-397-7319  
Sec.: Brenda Durst 814-873-0451  
Fin. Sec.: Debbie Redditt 814-449-1855  
Treasurer: Bill Redditt 814-833-9756



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  
**COFFEE HOUR 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**ONGOING COLLECTION FOR LITTLE FREE PANTRY**  
**SOUP COOK BOOKLET AVAILABLE**

### Finance

Council liaison: Zack Middaugh  
ANNUAL Budget

### Property

Council liaison: Rick Kuntz  
Committee Chair: Debbie Redditt  
**FACILITY MAINTENANCE**  
**RENTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**  
**ONGOING BOILER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

### Stewardship

Council liaison: Dave Mays

### Social Ministry Committee

Committee chair: Debbie Madurski  
Council Liaison: Brenda Durst

### Worship & Music

Liaison to Worship: Joe Byrne

### Christian Education

Council liaison: Mary Hauser

