# IMMANUEL'S

### MESSENGER

# WHAT IS HAPPENING THIS MONTH AT IMMANUEL



Celebrating Confirmation Day here at Immanuel on May 19th at the 10:30 service. Addison Marie Strobel, daughter of Tim & Jana Strobel Aubrey Marie Altreuter, daughter of Ryan & Gina Altreuter Cameron James Jordan-Hrobsky, son of Chad Hrobsky & Shay Jordan Greenlee Ruth Jordan-Hrobsky, daughter of Chad Hrobsky & Shay Jordan Molly Layne Lessner, daughter of Ryan & Emily Lessner Nolan Timothy Sommers, son of Tim & Jenni Sommers Zachary Owen Grosenick, son of Brian & Carrie Grosenick



#### Saturday, May 11, 2024

## Rachel's Day - May 12, 2024 Women boldly standing for children

We will be commemorating Rachel's Day on Mother's Day.

In Jeremiah 31:15-17, Rachel grieved for her children. "Rachel's Day" is a time to mourn the loss of our children to gun violence and to renounce forces of violence and fear. The original focus of Rachel's Day was and still is to shine a light on gun violence and gun deaths, especially among children and youth. Rachel's lamentation can become the resolve to say "Enough is Enough." Rachel refused to be comforted, and scripture implies her weeping went on for a long time. Many may believe that gun violence is part of our culture, and we can do nothing about it. But Rachel was not deterred. Her actions bore witness to the urgency and gravity of the situation and the need to take action.

This year our **Rachel's Day offering** will be collected for *Cornerstone of Grace* here in Watertown. They provide a safe haven for women with or without children facing difficult challenges in life. Our program equips them with the tools they need to build a strong foundation for the future.

#### Membership Report - March 2024

#### Worship Attendance:

	8:00 am	10:30 am	6:30 pm	9 am / Special	Total	Average	Info/Service
2024				opeerai		<b>y</b> =	
Mar. 3/4	80	75	17		172	57	
Mar. 6		10	40		50	25	4th wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 10/11	72	48	23		143	48	
Mar. 13		9	48		57	29	5th wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 17/18	74	62	21		157	52	
Mar. 20		12	39		51	26	6th wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 24/25	104	50	14		168	56	Palm Sunday
Mar. 28		28	85		113	57	Maundy Thursday 11 am, 6:30 pm
Mar. 29			59	78	137	69	Good Friday 1:00pm & 6:30pm
Mar. 30			40		40	40	Easter Vigil 6:30 pm
Mar. 31/1	152	159			311	156	Easter Sunday 8, 10:30
Totals	482	453	386	78	1399		
2023							
Mar. 1			58		58	58	2nd wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 5/6	67	54	20		141	47	
Mar. 8			35		35	35	3rd wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 12/13	51	54	20		125	42	
Mar. 15			39		39	39	4th wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 19/20	78	74	18		170	57	
Mar. 22			29		29	29	5th wk of Lent 6:30
Mar. 26/27	97	104	20		221	74	(baptism at 10:30)
Mar. 29			29		29	29	6th wk of Lent 6:30
Totals	293	286	268		847		

#### Baptism:

There were no baptisms in March.

#### Deceased:

There were no funerals in March.

#### Baptized: 838\* Confirmed: 709\*

\*These are the numbers that are available through our current membership software.

## Immanuel's 150th Anniversary

Mark your calendars NOW for **January 2025** when we will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our congregation.

Did you know . . . In 1911 it was decided that Immanuel's church school would sing at funerals. (Immanuel had a Christian Day school until 1942.)

Watch for more fun facts in the coming months!

		1		's Report - ual Weekly I		024		
	General	Debt Retirement	Building Offering	Mission Support	Other Budgetary Designated	Mortgage	Other Designated	Total
3-3-24	10,915.50		105.00	90.00	495.00	1,412.00	4,330.00	17,347.50
3-10-24	9,259.00		35.00	10.00	365.00	11,105.55	32,549.91	53,324.46
3-17-24	6,044.00		35.00	110.00	75.00	880.00	2,360.31	9,504.31
3-24-24	4,273.00		120.00	10.00	5.00	810.00	663.16	5,881.16
3-31-24	Posted in /	April			I		II	
TOTALS:	30,491.50	—-	295.00	220.00	940.00	14,207.55	39,903.38	86,057.43
Year-to-Date GENERAL Budget Needs (Week #12)		\$89,	220.00	Actual	\$108,	510.51		
Year-to-Date CAPITAL CAM- PAIGN Budget Needs (Month #3)			\$49,995.00		Actual	Actual \$103,595.58		
Year-to-D	Date OTHER I Income	Designated				\$45,5	36.19	

#### Loan Expenses: Line of Credit: \$ 0.00

Immanuel's Promise: Loan Balance: \$967,014.51 (Interest paid in March \$5,987.07; Principle paid in March \$1,985.49)

#### Memorials:

Judy Hoffstetter: Mortgage-\$50.00; Endowment-\$20.00

#### Honorarium:

Cindy & Fred Gremmels birthdays: Mortgage-\$200.00



#### IMMANUEL'S BOOK CLUB Wednesday, May 15 - 1:00pm

The true story of an amazing man and a herd of rogue elephants: that's what Immanuel's book club will be discussing on May 15 at 1 pm in the Youth Room at church. The title of the book is *The Elephant Whisperer* by Lawrence Anthony. It's available at the public library. Join us!

## W-ELCA & IMMANUEL'S CIRCLES

W-ELCA Board will meet on Tuesday, May 7th @ 10:00am

Quilter's are meeting in the Multi Purpose Room at 9am on: Tuesday, May 7 - Wednesday, May 15 - Thursday, May 23

## **Bible Circles**

Our Bible Circles continue to meet; you are welcome to visit either group.

Mary Circle will meet Tuesday, May 21st at 4:00pm upstairs in the Youth Room. Sarah Circle will meet Thursday, May 16th at 10:00am in the Conference Room.



Quilter's 04/25/2024 Back: Mary Schmidt, Val Engelbrecht, Char Andracek, Kris Stocklin, Gloria Duehring, Erline Adler Front: Linda Maas, Phyllis Turke, Jean Chapman, Cindy Gruenwald. - The sewing machine behind them was donated by Lorraine Baneck, a former quilter. She purchased this machine with her first paycheck in 1948.



Esther Gibbs, one of our quilters, delivered a quilt to Helen Johansen who used to join in on quilting days. Helen was happy for the quilt AND the visit.

#### Our Immanuel Quilter's want to share some very important information with you:

- If you can tie a knot, you are a Quilter!
- If you are a new or an existing member of our congregation you could be a Quilter!
- If you like to meet people and get involved, you can be a Quilter!
- If you like visiting with other ladies for a morning of fun and a coffee hour that often ends up being a brunch, you could be a Quilter.
- If you can cut up fabric squares, you definitely can be a Quilter.
- If you can sew fabric squares together to make a quilt top, you definitely are a Quilter.
- If you are interested in the Quilters and want to find out more about this very important organization, don't hesitate to call a quilter, or stop in the multi-purpose room the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, or 4<sup>th</sup>Thursday of any month between 9:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. and you definitely could become a Quilter.
- Even if you are unable to come to the church to quilt, we can provide fabric to you!
- AND gentlemen, you are always welcome to help tie knots!
- The Quilters make many quilts (hundreds) a year and send them to Third World Countries, local charities, –wherever they are needed.
- We can use your help and you're always welcome for our coffee hour at 10:00 the mornings of our quilting days.

Thank you and we definitely hope to see you at quilting.

MAY 2024 MESSENGER

# **MISSION WORK**

#### MONTHLY REPORTS March 2023

#### Hometown Mission Fund

Beginning balance: 03/01/2024	\$ 3,111.81
Deposits	\$ 2,083.00
8 check(s) written	-\$ 1,190.00
Void Checks	\$ 0.00
Service fees (simply giving)	-\$ 2.36
Ending balance 03/31/2024	\$ 4,002.45

18 contacts made in March 14 families received assistance

#### **Community Laundry**

Beginning balance: 03/01/2024 PLUS: Deposits	\$ 1,107.31 \$ 100.00
PLUS: Interest	\$ 0.00
MINUS: Service Fee (Simply Giving)	- \$ 0.00
MINUS: Withdrawals	- <u>\$ 410.00</u>
Ending balance 03/31/2024	<u>\$ 697.31</u>
Loose Coin on Hand 03/01/2024	\$ 472.50
Withdrawals	\$ 410.00
MINUS: Operating Cost	- \$ 533.75
MINUS: Coin Shortage	- \$ 0.50
PLUS: Cash thrown in at laundry	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Loose Coin on Hand 03/31/2024	<u>\$ 348.25</u>
68 families served in March	
98 washer loads - 146 dryer loads	
Personal Eccentials Dentry	

#### Personal Essentials Pantry

Beginning balance: 03/01/2024	\$ 5,399.18
March Deposits	\$ 576.00
March Purchases	\$ 674.60
Ending balance 03/31/2024	\$ 5,300.58



#### SCHEDULE FOR MAY . . .

- 2 St. Michael's Lutheran Hustisford
- 9 St. Paul's Episcopal
- 16 St. Jude High School
- 23 St. Bernard's Catholic Church
- 30 Christ United Methodist Church

#### **Bread & Roses - March Report**

Beginning Balance 02/01/2024	\$ 6,036.32
March Deposit	\$ 435.00
March Expenses	\$ 335.88
Ending Balance 03/31/2024	\$ 6,135.44
Savings Balance: 03/31/2024	\$ 2,544.39
Guests Served: 03/01 - 03/31/2024	946

**Bread & Roses** has found a new location! Their first meal at St. Bernard's Catholic Church will be on **Thursday**, **May 30th**. They will continue to serve here until that week. The board of directors has thanked Immanuel for the past 25 years of service. And, we wish them all the best going forward.

# Noisy Offering

Mission & Outreach will coordinate the Noisy Offering schedule. We will <u>always</u> (most usually) have the Noisy Offering on the 3rd weekend of each month. If your



group is interested in having a weekend set aside please contact a member of the Mission & Outreach Committee.

May 12-13, our *Noisy Offering* will go to the **Cornerstone** of Grace, a newer faith-based nonprofit in Watertown. This is a home for women and their children - requiring counseling, goal-setting, parenting classes, church attendance --- at least a 3 month commitment.

Start saving your change for this worthy project!

## FAITH FORMATION by Ruth Mack



#### **GRADUATION RECOGNITION**

Immanuel will honor their College and High School Graduates at the June 2nd, 9am service (summer schedule; only 1 service Sunday).

We would appreciate a photo - graduation or childhood - of your graduating student. Please send photo(s) to jshackley.immanuel@gmail.com.

Call/text Ruth Mack with questions at 920-988-4002.

And, please reply to this question:

IS YOUR CHILD (name) GRADUATING IN 2024?



A BIG THANK YOU to the invisible snow removal volunteers from this past Thank winter. These guys, I know, don't look for attention. If you know or see these invisible volunteers, please show your appreciation with a THANK YOU:

Ed Wegner Mark Putra Tom Pugh **Bob Westenberg** Randy Braunschweig Elden Engelbrecht Ryan Lessner

Thanks for your time and effort!

There is still time to send your picture in for the new church directory.

**Submit Your** Photo for our **NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!** 



- No Need to be Formal There is no need for a formal photo shoot. If you have a favorite photo from a recent vacation or holiday party, use it! Have a beloved pet? Include them in your family photo! We want our directory to reflect our Immanuel family, and we want to see the real you!
- Keep it Current You may have had your best hair 25 years ago, but we want everyone to recognize you.
- How to Take Your Photo Most smartphones today take photos that are just as good as professional cameras, so feel free to use yours for your photo. Each photo will be a square shape, so keep that in mind as you're capturing yours.
- How to Submit Digital submissions are highly preferred. Please send your photo to <u>directory.immanuel@gmail.com</u>. If you only have a printed copy, please bring it to the church office. If you would like the photo returned, it must be labeled.
  - We're Here to Help If you'd prefer that someone help you take your photo or you have any questions, please reach out to the church office or Trevor Thom, our Director of Congregational Life, at thomt.immanuel@gmail.com.

## PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

## Looking for Volunteers!

Immanuel has been blessed to have Tom Pugh take the lead with our lawn maintenance for many years. Tom has now decided to take a step back and turn over the keys to the lawn kingdom. We would like thank Tom for all of his hard work and dedication.

We are looking for volunteers that would be willing to commit to mowing the lawn for two weeks or a month during the upcoming lawn season. This can be done weekends or evenings or whenever it fits into your schedule. We have all the equipment that you will need in the garage located in the Immanuel parking lot: riding and push mowers, weed eater, leaf blower, etc. Tom will still be available for questions or supervision. Depending on the number of volunteers, we will set up a monthly schedule and have a pool of volunteers to contact for help if needed.

If we can't find anyone to volunteer for this we will have to hire someone. Please contact Randy Braunschweig 920-545-9695 or Tom Pugh if you would be willing to help out or if you have questions.

#### Immanuel Ladies Lunch Bunch

I.L.L.B. will meet again this month on Tuesday, May 28th at Schwefel's in Oconomowoc. Please call the church office by Friday, May 25th, so we know how many reservations to make. Meet in the church parking lot at 11:00am on Tuesday to carpool.



Immanuel Ladies Lunch Bunch at Connections Café in Watertown in April.

Seated around the table starting on the left: Kris Stocklin Jean Chapman Wieda Christian Carol Lenius Lyn Hertel Dianne Kennedy Erline Adler

# **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN MAY**

- 1 Leah Klotz
- 3 Patricia Benzel
- 3 Heidi Graf
- 4 Joyce Daevel
- 4 Harriet Daley
- 5 Rita Argus
- 5 Joanna Bredlau
- 5 Bristol Kumbier
- 6 Mark Peterson
- 7 Wayne Gerber
- 7 Hayden Schmidt
- 7 Zackery Umland
- Jodi Dabrowski 8
- 8 Mark Vette
- 8 Connie Wolff
- 8 Samantha Zubke
- 9 Sarah Stocks
- 10 Pamela Neis
- 10 Zachary Schmidt
- 13 Nickolas Weihert
- 13 Julie Zwieg
- 14 Neil Ebert
- 14 Dana Grosenick
- 16 John Himrich
- 16 Roland Jaeckel
- 16 Xay Yang
- 17 Ella Foltz
- 18 Matthew Berndt
- 18 Jan Schmidt
- 19 Bronson Grinwald
- 19 Dean Prestegaard
- 19 Wanda Udovich

- 20 John Polenski
- 20 Mason Triana
- 20 Clarence Zabel
- 21 Hannah Grochowske
- 21 Karen Gustafson
- 21 Hannah Jensen
- 21 David Morstad
- 21 Linnea Nagel
- 23 Isaac Jaeckel
- 23 John S. Jagler
- 23 Sue Schramm
- 23 Alex Schuett
- 23 Eliana Schuett
- 24 Roger Bergmann
- 25 Erline Adler
- 25 Ryan Olszewski
- 26 Bob Boxell
- 26 Randy Douglas
- 26 Karen Herritz
- 26 Jim Martin
- 27 Darcilla Moyer
- 28 Dillon Jacobson
- 28 Nora Sukow
- 29 Mike Prochaska
- 29 Lori Sjoberg
- 30 Dennis Justman
- 30 Benjamin Petersen
- 30 Julienn Riedl
- 30 Lauren Scholze
- Aiden Floyd



# Wedding Anniversaries!

- 10 Jason & Kristen Korth
- 10 Vic & Dianne Nass-Krueger
- 12 Samantha & Cameron Field
- 13 Randy & Heidi Zechzer
- 16 Steve & Karey Lueck
- 17 Mike & Melissa Prochaska
- 18 Heather & Michael Young
- 19 Kristina & Austin Donaubauer
- 19 Jason & Michelle Jaeckel
- 20 Curt & Jan Buss
- 21 Michael & Julie Gaugert
- 22 Jeff & Kris Travis
- 24 Jim & Susan Daniels
- 25 Eric & Linnea Nagel
- 27 Matt & Jodie Wolff
- 28 Charlene & Keith Berg
- 28 Keith & Rita Lueck
- 30 Andy & Lauren Wheeler

If your date is missing, please call the office.

Ministers: All the people of Immanuel Rev. Carina Schiltz, Pastor Matt Stein, Director of Music Ministries Janis Shackley, Office Manager Dawn Westenberg, Financial Secretary Trevor Thom, Director of Congregational Life

carinas.immanuel@gmail.com mstein.immanuel@gmail.com jshackley.immanuel@gmail.com dwestenberg.immanuel@gmail.com thomt.immanuel@gmail.com

Notify Janis @ jshackley.immanuel@gmail.com if you would like to receive the Messenger online INSTEAD of U.S. Mail.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 3:30p Confirmation 5:00p Mission & Outreach 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	2	3	4
5 8:00a Morning Worship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a Coffee Fellowship by W-ELCA 10:30a Worship w/ Baptism Noon-4p Family rental Youth Room	6 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30P Evening Worship	<b>7</b> 9:00a Quilter's 10:00a W-ELCA Board 5:30p Family Rental Youth Room	8 3:30p Confirmation 5:30p Finance 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	9	10	<b>11</b> U.S. Postal Food Drive
<b>12</b> 8:00a Morning Worship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a Coffee Fellowship by Mission & Outreach 10:30a Worship	<b>13</b> 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 5:00p Endowment Bd 5:15p W&M 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30p Evening Worship	<b>14</b> 6:00p Food Pantry Spring Fling @ Watertown Moravian Church	15 9:00a Quilter's 1:00p Book Club	16 9:30a Sarah Circle Conference Room 10:30a Food to Go & Grow Packing at Methodist Church 6:00p Congregational Council - Conf. Room	17	18 8:30a Undecorate Sanctuary Synod Assembly @ First Lutheran Janesville, WI
Noisy Offering for	r Rachel's Day					
<b>19</b> 8:00a Morning Worship 9:15a Education Hour LAST DAY OF CLASSES 9:15a Coffee Fellowship by Worship & Music 10:30a Worship led by Confirmation Students & CONFIRMATION	20 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 5:00p Faith Formation 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30p Evening Worship	21 4:00p Mary Circle Youth Room	22	23 9:00a Quilter's	24	25
26 9:00a Morning Worship	27 MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY Office Closed No Food Pantry 6:30p Evening Worship	28 11:30a I.L.L.B. @ Schwefel's in Oconomowoc	29	30	31	

# **CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

#### **Congregation Council Meeting**

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 6:00pm Location: Conference Room

PRESENT: Bob Boxell, Emily Lessner, Rev. Carina Schiltz, Katie Bartelt, DeWayne Roberson, Sue Weihert, Sue Putra, Ruth Mack, Andy Woodard, Brad Klotz

#### **Call to Order**

President DeWayne Roberson called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. A quorum was present.

**Opening Devotion** - One sentence story of a connection experience you have had with another human being this week.

#### **Agenda Approval**

MOTION: To approve the agenda. By - Andy Woodard, Second - Sue Putra - *Motion carried by voice vote.* 

#### **Vision Victories**

Thank you card from the South Central Synod - for Mission Support Small Group - Nice to build friendships and learn together Holy Week and Easter services; Palm Sunday events Penny Competition - Trophy stayed with the kids! Breakfast - Tremendous!

#### **Acceptance of March Financial Reports**

MOTION: To accept the March 2024 Financial Reports as presented. By - Ruth Mack, Second - Sue Weihert - *Motion carried by voice vote.* 

*Discussion*: Non-budgeted expenses - alarm training (5 trained, laminated instructions), Pay at least \$9000 toward the mortgage every month (as long we have it)

#### **Approval of March minutes**

MOTION: To approve the March 2024 Minutes as presented. By - Sue Putra, Second -Sue Weihert - *Motion carried by voice vote*.

#### Acceptance of March Membership report

MOTION: To accept the March Membership Report. By - Katie Bartelt, Second -Brad Klotz - *Motion carried by voice vote*.

#### **Pastor's Report**

Pastor shared her report with the Council prior to the meeting. Additional Information - Pastor also shared about long term health and vitality of congregations stewardship. We have a member (retired pastor) who would like to help us make a long-term plan. Initial meeting coming soon. Shared mindset of operating out of a sense of opportunity, not anxiety. MAY 2024 MESSENGER

#### Acceptance of Council/Committee Reports

Faith Formation - Substitute teachers are a need.

Interfaith/Welcoming Watertown Committee - Several members attended. The group has been meeting monthly since September. Group decided they would like to work on building a permanent shelter for the homeless community in Watertown.

MOTION: To accept the council and committee reports received.

By - Sue Weihert, Second - Andy Woodard - Motion carried by voice vote.

#### **Old Business**

#### **Security Project**

Terrorism Focus (suggested through Mark's research while working on grant application) Mark Putra continues to work on this project

#### **Church Library**

#### **Parish Protection Plan - Pastor**

#### 150th Anniversary

Banner is up, continued planning

RIC

Bible study led by Beth Boxell, well-attended

#### **Heating Committee**

Meeting May 2 for possible decision

#### Solar Committee

Meeting May 7 to discuss additional proposal

#### **New Business**

#### Info Item: Person in Need

Gentleman taking up residence on the front steps of our church Emergency call was made - report from neighbors to police Followed up with Police - communicated with neighbors - Council and staff are aware

#### Info Item: Synod Assembly Rep Change

David Morstad can no longer attend, Laura Ferree will take his place

#### Sanctuary Flooring

Heating system (option) would mean replacing current sanctuary flooring. Potential for short-term flooring committee

#### Bread & Roses Update/Request

Letter from Jenifer Hedrick - Request Update on new home for Bread & Roses; Discussion about community needs Request to keep freezers/refrigerators here for an additional length of time. Discussion

Building access only during office hours Key would be turned in.

# MOTION: To allow Bread & Roses to keep freezers and refrigerators stored at Immanuel until August 31, 2024.

By - Sue Putra, Second - Sue Weihert - Discussion Amendment: To allow Bread & Roses to keep freezers and refrigerators stored at Immanuel until August 31, 2024 with the following contingencies in place: Building access only during office hours Key currently held by Bread & Roses would be turned in Request that appointment is made with office staff for building access

MOTION: To accept amendment to motion. By Sue Putra, Second - Sue Weihert - *Motion carried by voice vote*.

MOTION: To approve amended motion - *Motion carried by voice vote*.

#### **Upcoming Calendar Events**

4/25 - Stewardship Meeting - 5:30-7 4/27 - WELCA Spring Gathering 5/12 - Rachel's Day 5/16 - Food to Go & Grow Packing 5/18 - Synod Assembly in Janesville 5/19 - Confirmation - Lead 10:30 Service

Closing Prayer Lord's Prayer

#### Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. By: Katie Bartelt, Second: Brad Klotz — *Motion carried by voice vote* 

Respectfully submitted, Emily Lessner Secretary

#### KEEP UP WITH IMMANUEL SERVICES IN ANY OF THE WAYS LISTED BELOW

**Cable Broadcast** *Channel 985 & <u>WatertownTV.com</u>* Tuesdays at 12:00p & 7:00p Sundays at 4:00p

Web Site & YouTube: watertownimmanuel.org/online worship

FaceBook: facebook.com/watertownimmanuel

# PASTOR HAS THE LAST WORD!

May 2024

Hello, dear church!

As we look toward the season of Pentecost, we are reminded of the church's mission: bearing witness to God's liberating work in the world through Jesus Christ.

On May 19, the day of Pentecost, we celebrate another year of Sunday school, giving thanks for teachers, helpers, parents and kids who participated in another year of learning Bible stories, growing in faith, and growing in relationships with God and church friends! We give thanks to God for those who journey alongside young people in their faith. We give thanks for children who learn and grow among us and are the church now!

On May 19 we also celebrate the affirmation of baptism of confirmands. We revel in the "yes!" to baptism, support these young people in their faith, and are reminded of our beloved identity as baptized children of God. Hope to see you at a joyful Pentecost worship service!

This month is synod assembly for South Central synod of Wisconsin. We are reminded that we are not the church alone: we are in ministry with 133 congregations across 13 counties. Thank you for your prayers for synod leadership, for our fellow ELCA congregations across the synod, and for the ministry that we do together.

This month in worship we will also see videos from the Reconciling in Christ team who asked people to reflect on themes of welcome and inclusion, especially regarding LGBTQ+ people.

Do you see a theme here? I sure do! Relationship: with God, with neighbor, with self. From Sunday school to synod assembly, from Easter to Pentecost, from pew to community partnerships, God guides us to community in Christ. We celebrate the diversity of God's creation, just as the Spirit descended on the disciples in Acts 2 and gave them abilities to speak the languages of the world, we celebrate and recognize God's deeds of power among us and in God's creation.

Peace to you, dear church.

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 209 N. Ninth Street

Watertown, Wisconsin 53094-3903

#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Phone: 920.261.1663 E-mail: watertownimmanuel@gmail.com Check out our website: www.watertownimmanuel.org



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## IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Mission Statement

Celebrating God's grace in Jesus Christ. Accepting all unconditionally. Growing in God's call to serve the world



Rev. Carina Schiltz, Pastor Matt Stein, Director of Music Ministries Janis Shackley, Office Manager Dawn Westenberg, Financial Secretary & Volunteer Coordinator Trevor Thom, Director of Congregational Life

Phone	920.261.1663
Website	watertownimmanuel.org
Email	watertownimmanuel@gmail.com

Worship Services -

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Monday 6:30 p.m. Holy Communion at Every Service *All are Welcome!* 

# **MAY 2024 MESSENGER**