

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Messenger

Strum, Wisconsin

Livestream available at immanuelstrum.org



Immanuel's Women of the ELCA



The WELCA will meet on Wednesday, April 1st at 1:30 pm. We will have a short business meeting and continue our Bible Study. We are on chapter four "Stressed Out!"

Our annual Prayer Breakfast has been moved to Wednesday, April 22nd at 9:30 am to accommodate our speaker. This year Jamie Halverson will be joining us as our speaker. He will be back in Wisconsin for a couple of weeks. Jamie comes to us from Papua New Guinea. He joined the Wycliff Bible Translators in 2004. In 2006 Jamie arrived in PNG as a pilot/mechanic. He flies a Cessna 206. The Cessna 206 is a versatile, six seat, high wing utility aircraft known as the SUV of the air. It's excellent for families, cargo, and bush flying due to its robust build, large cargo doors, and ability to operate from short, unimproved strips. Serving groups: 1, 2, 3 and 4 and Chairpersons: Betty Vold, Diane Thronson, Helen Beebe, and Emily Knudtson are serving. Sign-up sheets are located at both entrances of the sanctuary on the tables.

NOTE: Our Ladies Day Out has been changed to Thursday, April 30th due to a conflict with the Confirmation Banquet. We will meet at the church at 10:30 am and carpool to Chippewa Falls to see "The Ultimate Potluck: A Celebration of Favorites." 2026 marks a major milestone for **The Looney Lutherans**; it's their 20th Anniversary! After two decades of touring and six previous appearances at the Heyde Center, the Loonies are back with a special "Anniversary Show: created just for this occasion."
(Continued on page 2)

In this newsletter you can expect:

WELCA News

Message from Rev Yehiel Curry

Council Minutes & Financials

Food Pantry & ADRC Senior Meals

Calendar of Events

Easter Memorials

**Organ Fund Update
EASTER 2026
GOAL ACHIEVED!**

Thank you all for your dedication to the Organ Refurbishment Project!

This performance brings together some of their most beloved moments and fan favorites from over the years. Whether you've enjoyed all six shows or are experiencing the Looney Lutherans for the first time, this is your chance to celebrate their unique humor, music, and fun in a one-of-a-kind event. 5-Star Catering is providing a theme appropriate meal featuring a savory chicken pot pie, Waldorf salad, dinner and a dessert. I have booked 2 tables (16 seats); the cost is \$39. **Call Karen Franson to reserve your spot at 715-695-3553 if interested. There are 5 seats remaining.**

*****DATE CHANGE: Save the New Date! WELCA Summer Retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp is Monday and Tuesday, June 29-30, 2026. Pati Kachel is the speaker this year.**

The next Triennial Gathering is in Des Moines, IA, July 16-19th, 2026. The theme for the 2026 Triennial Gathering is "I am Worthy" based on Psalm 139:14: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." This statement serves as a reminder of God's promise to be with us, even in times of devastation and division. By repeating the phrase "I am Worthy" we can recognize the Holy Spirit's ongoing work in our lives. Learn more about the 2026 WELCA Triennial Gathering at the website: <https://welcatg.org>. This website is updated regularly with information about speakers, workshops, hotels, and more! Plus, they are looking for sponsors, vendors and exhibitors.

Chanhassen update: Our date is Wednesday, September 16th, we will be seeing The Musical Fable of Broadway: Guys and Dolls. A charming but broke gambler, Nathan Detroit is short on cash for the biggest craps game in town and the authorities are breathing down his neck. Meanwhile, longtime girlfriend and club performer, Miss Adelaide is tiring of their 14-year engagement with no wedding in sight. Nathan looks to fellow high-roller Sky Masterson for cash, and the two concoct a bet for Sky to whisk the strait-laced missionary Sarah Brown off to Havana. Sarah is determined to save the souls of the gamblers, setting in motion a series of events where love and redemption intersect.

Frank Loesser's vibrant musical score makes Guys and Dolls a true crowd-pleaser featuring songs like "Luck Be a Lady", "A Bushel and a Peck", and "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat". Chanhassen Dinner Theatres brings you all the thrills, laughs, and song when you come and experience Guys and Dolls!

Update: Osseo Evangelical Salad Luncheon is Wednesday, May 6th, from 12-2 pm. Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls Salad Luncheon is Wednesday, June 10th. Will provide more information as I receive it.

*****The WELCA has their own storage room now. If you can't find your cake pan or bowl it could be there. Our room is located downstairs in the basement. Go all the way through the hall and go through the double doors; last room on the right.**

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

Available opportunities to serve in April: Sunday, April 12, 19, and 26. There is no coffee hour on Easter Sunday. If you would like to host a coffee hour, but are unsure of what to do, guidelines and suggestions are available in the office. Signup sheets are located on the table in the main entrance by the bulletin board.



We remember the whispers of Advent as we anticipated the birth of Jesus. Now, as we journey through Holy Week, we anticipate the joyful noise of alleluias on Easter Sunday. But before we reach the Easter celebration, we make our way through Lent, through an in-between time where we don't know what tomorrow will bring. We often describe ourselves as an Easter church, but in this holy, solemn time that begins with Ash Wednesday and moves on to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, we are also a Lenten church. Living in uncertainty, waiting and hoping for renewal. Longing for the moments when God's presence feels closer and more sure.

During Lent, we learn what it means to live on unsettled ground.

In Matthew's retelling of the resurrection, he describes a "violent earthquake" as the angel came down from heaven and rolled the stone away from the entrance to the tomb where Jesus lay.

I imagine the earthquake, the rumble deep below the earth, as the ground shifted far under the surface. Perhaps those who were nearby felt the tremble. Maybe the women who were on their way to the tomb with prepared spices felt the earth shift. They were unsettled, but they knew something powerful was happening.

We can understand that human experience of feeling out of control, of not being able to make sense of what's happening around us. Many of us can relate to this as we witness the current unrest in our world and in our communities. Like the women at the tomb, we feel isolated, disconnected. We're unsettled, unsure, living the Lenten reality of waiting and hoping.

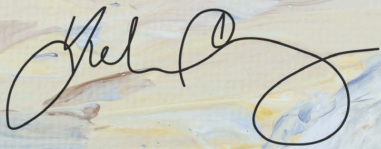
And then, in the midst of that shaking, comes the promise.

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; he has risen."

God's promise offers reassurance and hope. The resurrection does not deny disruption — it meets us within disorder and disturbance. The stone is rolled away. Death does not have the final word.

Yes, we are Easter people. Even when the ground below us is shaking, we will not grow weary. We know that Jesus is our foundation. Christ is risen, and that truth strengthens us. It gives us courage to live, to hope and to proclaim joy.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!



The Rev. Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Immanuel Lutheran Council Meeting February 12th, 2026

Present: Kris Husby, Bob Schlink, Gloria Wagener, John Eide, Dean Anderson, Tyler Back

Absent: Pastor Terry Lorenz

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Election of Officers

President - Bob nominates Kris, Dean seconds, motion passes

Vice President - John nominates Bob, Dean seconds, motion passes

Treasurer - Dean nominates Gloria, Tyler seconds, motion passes

Secretary - Bob nominates John, Gloria seconds, motion passes

January minutes were not available and will be sent out electronically following the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Due to a question regarding the January Treasurer's Report, it was not approved. Kris will talk to Michelle and January's Treasurer's Report will be presented at the March Council meeting.

Pastor's Report

No report as Pastor was on vacation.

Old Business

Building Maintenance

- Sanctuary
 - Discussion continues on whether to move the organ.
 - Bob made a scale model of the Sanctuary with movable parts, built to scale, to provide a visual of changes may look like
 - Tuesday Feb 17th is the next committee meeting
- General Maintenance
 - Installing an outlet group in chapel for Thanksgiving
 - Discussion continues of possible installation of dishwasher in the kitchen
 - Installing a power bar at serving area in kitchen. Bob to look at power requirements.

Organ Console Refurbishment

- Balance due down to a little over \$2000

2026 Annual Meeting

- Election results
 - Results are listed above
- Nominating committee
 - Martha Solfest is looking into people to be on the committee

Lent

- Ash Wednesday - February 18th,
 - 5:30 service, 6:30 meal
 - Council to provide for first meal
 - All other Lent services, meal and service will be flipped
 - Other groups will provide the meals
- 40 Day Giving Challenge
 - Has not gone over well past few years

- Proposed that Coffee Hour donations go to youth trips, with assistance of the group going on the trip helping with Coffee Hour

Joint Parish Meeting

- Scheduled Sunday February 15 @ 11:30 am at Elk Creek Church

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 12th, 2026

Other Business

- Dean was invited to the last confirmation class
- They watched Passion of the Christ
- Asked questions after
- Very responsive class

Motion was made to adjourn after the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted
John Eide

STRUM AREA FOOD PANTRY



Saturday, April 4: 9 AM - 11 AM
Wednesday, April 15: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

MEMORIALS

RICK PEASLEE

Organ Fund

Tom & Gloria Wagener

General Fund

David & Colleen Berge

HOWARD HANSON

General Fund

Dale & Mary Pederson



THE JOY OF THE RESURRECTION

We are filled with awe and wonder at the miracle of the Resurrection. The raising of Christ from the dead is God's ultimate declaration: Christ's path is the divine solution to the darkness of sin and suffering in our world. The teachings of Christ, spoken during his time on Earth, are unwavering and absolute.

The light that Christ brought into the world is eternal, an unquenchable flame of God's radiant glory. Christ's life exemplifies God's vision for humanity, offering us a roadmap for a fulfilling earthly existence. Throughout history, countless saints have demonstrated the profound wisdom and transformative power of following in His footsteps.

Christ offers us a hope that is genuine, enduring, and unwavering. It is the assurance that life can be filled with goodness and joy for all. Let us reflect on the powerful words of St. Paul in his letter to the Romans, applying them to our own lives: "Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5, NRSV).

This profound promise, this glorious reality, is indeed a cause for boundless and enduring joy! May this celebration of the Resurrection inspire and uplift you, filling your heart with the light and love of Christ.

JANUARY GENERAL FUND REPORT

	Total	Annual Budget Avg/Mo	Over/(Under) Monthly Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining Avg/Mo
Contributions	4,484.08	10,416.67	(5,932.59)	125,000.00	120,515.92	10,955.99
Electronic Contributions	1,746.78	2,516.67	(769.89)	30,200.00	28,453.22	2,586.66
Memorials & Other	430.45	1,133.33	(702.88)	13,600.00	13,169.55	1,197.23
Total Income	6,661.31	14,066.67	(7,405.36)	168,800.00	162,138.69	14,739.88

	Total	Annual Budget Avg/Mo	Over/(Under) Monthly Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining Avg/Mo
Building & Property	87.25	1,208.33	(1,121.08)	14,500.00	14,412.75	1,310.25
General	60.60	75.00	(14.40)	900.00	839.40	76.31
Ministry¹	438.34	500.00	(61.66)	6,000.00	5,561.66	505.61
Office	95.12	141.67	(46.55)	1,700.00	1,604.88	145.90
Pastoral²	13,159.34	6,717.17	6,442.17	80,606.06	67,446.72	6,131.52
Support Personnel	4,150.66	4,812.94	(662.28)	57,755.29	53,604.63	4,873.15
Utilities³	1,226.88	1,075.00	151.88	12,900.00	11,673.12	1,061.19
Total Expenses	19,218.19	14,530.11	4,688.08	174,361.35	155,143.16	14,103.92
Net Income (Loss)	(12,556.88)					

FEBRUARY GENERAL FUND REPORT

	Total	Annual Budget Avg/Mo	Over/(Under) Monthly Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining Avg/Mo
Contributions	10,813.00	10,416.67	396.33	125,000.00	109,702.92	10,970.29
Electronic Contributions	1,851.63	2,516.67	(665.04)	30,200.00	26,601.59	2,660.16
Memorials & Other	863.94	1,133.33	(269.39)	13,600.00	12,305.61	1,230.56
Total Contributions	13,528.57	14,066.67	(538.10)	168,800.00	148,610.12	14,861.01

	Total	Annual Budget Avg/Mo	Over/(Under) Monthly Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining Avg/Mo
Building & Property	59.00	1,208.33	(1,149.33)	14,500.00	14,353.75	1,435.38
General	63.00	75.00	(12.00)	900.00	776.40	77.64
Ministry¹	1,687.60	500.00	1,187.60	6,000.00	3,874.06	387.41
Office²	195.99	141.67	54.32	1,700.00	1,408.89	140.89
Pastor³	6,910.66	6,717.17	193.49	80,606.06	60,536.06	6,053.61
Payroll⁴	4,709.42	4,812.94	(103.52)	57,755.29	48,895.21	4,889.52
Utilities	865.60	1,075.00	(209.40)	12,900.00	10,807.52	1,080.75
Other expenses⁵	662.90					
Total Expenses	15,154.17	14,530.11	624.06	174,361.35	140,651.89	14,065.19
Net Contributions	(1,625.60)					

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS FEBRUARY 2026

	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance	
CD-Roof	86,561.20	-	-	86,561.20	
Checking Account	19,946.86	21,993.41	15,711.85	26,228.42	
Money Market Accounts	Building	4,405.24	-	234.64	4,170.60
	General	44,482.73	888.60	8,862.00	36,509.33
	General - Housing Allowance	55.19	-	-	55.19
	Benevolences	2,863.45	-	-	2,863.45
	CBELC	22,786.84	-	-	22,786.84
	Daughters of the King	4,391.10	-	-	4,391.10
	Fellowship	403.35	-	-	403.35
	Immanuel's Seniors	-	800.00	181.80	618.20
	Library	251.60	-	-	251.60
	Local Missions	209.79	-	-	209.79
	Music	1,853.22	-	-	1,853.22
	Organ Fund - Refurbishment	30,528.00	1,448.00	-	31,976.00
	Parsonage - General	29,589.08	550.00	75.00	30,064.08
	Parsonage - Property Tax	4,025.69	250.00	-	4,275.69
	Social Concerns	167.07	1,000.00	-	1,167.07
	Strum Area Food Pantry	15,829.18	1,600.00	-	17,429.18
	Sunday School	2,239.29	502.00	-	2,741.29
	Thanksgiving Dinner	2,500.00	-	-	2,500.00
	Youth - General	5,206.50	712.00	-	5,918.50
	Youth - Luther Park	1,190.00	2,000.00	-	3,190.00
Joint Parish Account	4,470.32	6,580.21	6,289.64	4,760.89	
Total Assets	283,955.70	38,324.22	31,354.93	290,924.99	

EXPLANATION OF EXPENSES OVER BUDGET

January

Pastoral - includes double payment to Joint Parish Account (occurs only in January of each year)

Utilities - Billing error by Xcel in December; automatic payment deducted January 2 for \$233.84 rather than December 15.

February

Ministry - Livestream annual fee of \$1,308

Office - Quarterly copy expense of \$195.99

Pastoral - Parish accounting fee of \$200


Payroll - 4th quarter State Income Tax Withholding payment of \$637.86

Other - Ricoh Finance Agreement payment of \$250 and reimbursable expenses of \$412.90

CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING BASIS

The accounting basis for Immanuel has been changed from accrual to cash basis per council decision so that the Statement of Activity (Profit & Loss) reflects when expenses are paid rather than incurred. Prepaid Pastoral Expense and Prepaid Postage have been removed from the Account Balances Report and Immanuel's portion of the Joint Parish Account has been added.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			1:30 PM WELCA Bible Study	11:30 AM Senior Meals 5:30PM Maundy Thursday Service	5:30PM Good Friday Service	9 AM - 11 AM  Strum Food Pantry
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30 AM Easter Sunday Worship No Coffee Hour No Sunday School	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off	11:30 AM Senior Meals	3:45 PM Confirmation	11:30 AM Senior Meals 1 - 4 PM Quilting 6 PM Council		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30 AM Worship / Communion 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Sunday School	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off	11:30 AM Senior Meals	3:45 PM Confirmation 4:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry	11:30 AM Senior Meals		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Sunday School	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	11:30 AM Senior Meals	9:30 AM Prayer Breakfast 3:45 PM Confirmation	11:30 AM Senior Meals 1 - 4 PM Quilting		
26	27	28	29	30		
8:30 AM Worship Kids Sing 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Last Day of Sunday School	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off	11:30 AM Senior Meals	Confirmation Banquet	10:30 AM Ladies Day Out		



Organ Fund Memorials

Ronnie & Tonya Bjorgo
Elmer & Delores Bjorgo
Leonard & Agnes Rindahl
Julia Bjorgo

Ronnie & Tonya Bjorgo
Elmer & Delores Bjorgo
Leonard & Agnes Rindahl
Greg & Daphne Bjorgo and Family
Dave & Angie Jameson and Family

Organ Fund Honorariums

Josh, Samantha, Beau & Aksel Bjorgo
Justin & Cruz Bjorgo
Mary & Scott Bjorgo

Our children, grandchildren, Phyllis and Jerry
Butch & Debbie Olson

Our Family & Friends
Bob & Martha Sofest



**Immanuel Lutheran
Church**



**Memorials
&
Honorariums**

**Easter
2026**





Easter Lily Memorials

Jim Tooko

Kody & Carly Kantor, Milo & Margot

Marian Tooko

Kody & Carly Kantor, Milo & Margot

Gerald M Johnson

Ryan & Amanda Yule; Deanna Johnson

Our parents

David & Colleen Berge

Easter Lily Honorariums

June A Johnson

Ryan & Amanda Yule; Deanna Johnson

General Fund Memorials

Parents: Milford & Lorraine Johnson,

Clifford & Vivian Ulberg

Maxine & Dennis Ulberg

Percy & Odella Missell

Irvin & Lillian Vold

Grandparents

Harlan & Anna, Emma & Henry,

Amy Ford; Raelin & Ryan

Percy & Odella Missell

Irvin & Lillian Vold

Parents & Grandparents

Hensel & Betty Vold

Our son, parents & loved ones

Dave & Jean Herman



West Beef River Cemetery

Rachel Olson

Michael Olson

Husband, Howard Hanson

Wife, Ramona Hanson

All My Loved Ones

Joanne Brion

Terry Brion, Maven Brion,

Charles & Shirley Peterson, Walter Brion

Kari Brion

Organ Fund Memorials

Spencer Olson

Phyllis, Gloria, Robert, Susan, Wayne & Judy

Son-in-law: Brad Windjue

Parents: Orlin & Vivian Rongstad; Orv & Doris Sather

Den & Carol Sather

Parents: Rudolph & Lillian Olson, Arthur & Irene Rosenbaum

Daughter: Pamela Olson

Leonard & Betty Bolling

Elmer & Delores Bjorgo

Mary & Scott Bjorgo

Milford & Lorraine Johnson

Virginia & Norman Hanson

Vickie & Mark Hanson

Loved ones

Butch & Debbie Olson



STRUM SENIOR DINING AT IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 AM; Catered by Sweet Temptations.

Reservations are required by 9 AM the Monday prior by calling 715-695-3511. The **suggested donation is \$5.00 per meal**, which is given at the meal site. The Senior Dining program relies on contributions from our customers so that we can serve more meals. You're welcome but not obligated to contribute.

APRIL 2026

Salad Option: Jump Into Spring Salad

(Asparagus, Pea Pods, Radishes, Feta, Cucumber, Red Onions, Orzo, Spinach, Shrimp)

- Tuesday, April 7:** Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggies, Dessert
- Thursday, April 9:** Chicken Parmesan w/Spaghetti Sauce, Veggies, Dessert
- Tuesday, April 14:** Crab Cakes, Rice Pilaf, Roasted Veggies, Dessert
- Thursday, April 16:** Chicken Salad Sandwich, Veggies, Chips, Dessert
- Tuesday, April 21:** Beef Stroganoff, Noodles, Mixed Veggies, Dessert
- Thursday, April 23:** Sausage Gravy over Biscuits, American Fries, Fruit, Dessert
- Tuesday, April 28:** Ham, Sweet Potatoes, Veggies, Dessert
- Thursday, April 30:** Gyro, Greek Salad, Chips, Dessert

- Follow us on Facebook! @ADRCofTrempealeauCounty
- Senior Dining menus may be found on our website: www.co.trempealeau.wi.us/adrc

*Menu items are subject to change due to item availability and unexpected shortages or shipment delays.

CHANCEL AREA

We Are Seeking Your Input...

A 1/12 scale model of our chancel area has been placed in the Narthex for your consideration of how we might make changes to our worship space while our organ console is away being rebuilt. Feel free to move things around and experiment with different layouts. This tool is meant to help us all visualize possible changes. our thanks to Bob Schlink and Colleen Berge for their work in creating our model. Additional information regarding our project is available with the model.



Thank You ALL!

We are very grateful for all the wonderful folks who helped our church dig out after the big snow fall March 14-15. I know that Jim & Kris Husby, Keenan & Kayley Kelly, and Tom Wagener helped removed snow, but I also know that there are likely others whose name I do not know because they are sneaky.

Pastor Terry



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**This is Christ's
Church.**

There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person – questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

<http://www.elca.org/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor

Terry Lorenz

Cell: 715-533-8121

email: pastorterrylorenz@tcc.coop

Administrator

Michelle Jacobson

Office: 715-695-3511

email: office@immanuelstrum.org

Office Hours

Sunday: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Monday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Thursday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Church Council

Kris Husby, *President*

Bob Schlink, *Vice-president*

Gloria Wagener, *Treasurer*

John Eide, *Secretary*

Dean Anderson, *Member-at-large*

Tyler Back, *Member-at-large*

**Need Offering
Envelopes?**

Please contact Michelle
in the office.

715-695-3511 or

office@immanuelstrum.org



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