

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Messenger

Strum, Wisconsin

Livestream available at immanuelstrum.org



Immanuel's Women of the ELCA



Happy Mother's Day. The days are getting longer; the grass is turning green; and, spring is in the air. Our WELCA will meet on Wednesday, May 6th at 1:30 pm for a short business meeting and Bible Study. We are on lesson 5.

*****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.**

Update: Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls Salad Luncheon is Wednesday, June 10th. Will provide more information as I receive it.

The Pleasantville Women's Club is going on a Mystery Trip on Thursday, August 13th, 2026 and we would like to invite the Strum ladies to go along again this year. More information to follow. Call Karen Franson at 715-695-3553 or Jean Herman at 715-695-3347 if interested.

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.

(Continued on page 2)

In this newsletter
you can expect:

WELCA News

Message from
Pastor Terry Lorenz

Council Minutes &
Financials

Food Pantry &
ADRC Senior Meals

Calendar of Events

Memorials

Chancel Committee

Confirmation Sunday
Sunday, May 3, 8:30 AM

Senior Sunday
Sunday, May 17, 8:30 AM

Baccalaureate
Wednesday, May 20, 7 PM

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!

*****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.**

STRUM AREA FOOD PANTRY



Saturday, May 3: 9 AM - 11 AM
Wednesday, May 20: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

MEMORIALS

CRAIG CARLSON

General Fund

Tom & Debbie Peterson

Youth Fund (Mission Trips)

Tom & Gloria Wagener

ELAINE LIRES (Marlys' sister)

Organ Fund

Marlys Bjorklund

JUDY HAUKENESS

General Fund

John & Mary Stendahl

Tom & Debbie Peterson

Jane Enos

Lois Hulberg

Carol Keegan

Strum Area Food Pantry

Jim & Judy Foss



THANK YOU FOR THE FLOWERS!

We would like to thank Jane Vesta of Vesta Family Farms for donating the beautiful flowers in our planter boxes by the Sunday School entrance.

We appreciate the generous gift!

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

Available opportunities to serve in May: Sunday, May 10, 17, 24 and 31. 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.





CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY

Confirmands to Affirm Their Baptism at Immanuel Lutheran Church

On Sunday, May 3, 2026 young members of our congregation will come forward to kneel at the chancel steps for the purpose of publicly declaring their intention to remain in a covenant.

At this age, early on in their teen years, they already have a general understanding of what is at the heart of a covenant. If they bought their own cell phone and data plan they know what a contract is, if they have been involved with scouting or 4-H they understand the obligations of an oath taken, and certainly students know all about codes that must be adhered to in order to remain in good standing at home or school.

In many ways we begin preparing our children to live in a world of contracts, obligations, and codes from a young age. But the covenant that we are asking them to speak to on Confirmation Sunday is different, for its origin is of God and its success is dependent upon faith in God.

"Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism?" we ask of our confirmands. *"I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."* is the response the community waits to hear.

This covenant, God's covenant, is lopsided compared to the covenants the world offers for our well-being. In the covenants of this world the work of the document is clearly defined and most often evenly divided; the covenant states what we can or cannot do and we respond accordingly. In the mysterious covenant of Holy Baptism we rely on God for all things.

It is God who first gives us life, then sustains life, and finally gives us everlasting life in holy baptism. It is Jesus Christ who shows us love unto death and then victory over death, and the Holy Spirit who shows us the power of God and then empowers us in faith.

The Affirmation of Baptism of our young people is a wonderful opportunity for all of us, young and old, to bear witness to and to consider our own responses to the invitation put before all of God's people.

God's peace and joy to all,
Pastor Terry

**Immanuel Lutheran Council Meeting
March 12th, 2026**

Present: Kris Husby, Bob Schlink, Gloria Wagener, John Eide, Dean Anderson, Pastor Terry Lorenz

Absent: Tyler Back

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Reflection and Prayer by Paster Terry.

February minutes approved via email.

Treasurer's Report

Gloria read the report. Approval of both January and February Report and Joint Parrish Financials were motioned by Bob Schlink and seconded by John Eide, motion passed.

Pastor's Report

Confirmation update: Faith statements and interviews are being taken care of on Wednesdays during Lent. 3 of the 5 students have been in to see me to discuss their Faith Statement and desire to affirm their faith.

Mission Trip, summer of 2026 - June 21–26 in Duluth, MN

Sophia Larson-Yopez, Quinn Kensmoe, Aubree Rustad, and Myla Segerstrom are signed up and have paid their \$100 deposit. I asked them to come and help with coffee hour, Lenten suppers, etc.

Canoe Trip June 7-10 to Sylvania Wilderness Area, UP of Michigan.

2 adults (Laura Schaal and myself)

4 kids (Kayden Schaal, Evelyn Schaal, Rowan Koxlien and Bernice Logterman.

We will be borrowing canoes and a trailer from the Osseo Boy Scouts which means expenses for this outing will be around \$500 for the whole group.

Ramona Hanson has expressed a desire to return to doing home visits to bring communion to homebound members. We ordered a new communion kit for her as the ones we have are getting pretty beat up. We will have her communion kit on the altar once a month to consecrate the elements along with what we use in worship.

Chancel Committee Update

We have now met twice, have heard several suggestions for rearranging things based on current usage, have worked with a 1/12 scale model to better visualize, and will move some things around in the chancel area for the March 22nd worship service.

Our

next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17th at 4:30. After that I would hope the committee has a recommendation to bring to the council meeting and then presented to the congregation. We agreed to have the scale model on display in the narthex

Old Business

Building Maintenance

- Sanctuary - Looking for drywaller to help with this project
- General Maintenance – There may be some projects, updates or small remodeling that needs to be done once the organ is removed for upgrade.
- Re-wiring outlets in the chapel should be completed soon.
- Company is being perused to pressure wash limestone on exterior of building

Organ Console Refurbishment

- We are down to a little under \$1000 left to finance the main part of this project, however, we may need a bit more for new/more wiring for the console. We will talk to company when they take the console about wiring and other things in the basement.

Palm Sunday - March 29th

- Sunday school children singing, precession with palms and pancake breakfast following service.

Easter Sunday - April 5th

Maundy Thursday / Good Friday - April 2nd & April 3rd

- Services @ 5:30 in Strum - 7:00 @ Elk Creek

Joint Parish Meeting

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

Immanuel's next meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 9th, 2026.

Other Business

Membership for Strum Business Association was discussed. Bob Schlink made a motion to continue membership at the same level. Second by Gloria Wagener. Motion carried.

Motion was made to adjourn after the Lord's Prayer.

Adjourn at 6:40

Respectfully Submitted

John Eide



Please join us on **Sunday, May 17th at 8:30 AM** for Senior Sunday. Immanuel's Women of the ELCA have a special gift for our graduating seniors in honor of your accomplishment.

This year's Baccalaureate service will be hosted by Immanuel on **Wednesday, May 20th at 7 PM**. Immanuel's Women of the ELCA will be providing refreshments after the service.

In early February the Chancel Consideration Committee was formed and started bringing ideas forward on ways to update and improve our worship experience in the Sanctuary. A part of improving the worship experience is also for those that are a part of the music for the services. It is very difficult for these groups to participate in the service, it is difficult to hear in the current choir loft and it can be very difficult to engage in the services. This is not a new concern; this has been something that has been discussed for years. While the organ is out being refurbished and updated, we felt it would be the perfect time to look at possibly making changes to our sanctuary.

After developing a model of the sanctuary and getting ideas from many members of Immanuel, we have recommended to make the following changes;

1. We will remove the theatre seats from the balcony and move the three pews on the north wall up to the balcony, as the pews need to be relocated to make room for the new choir area.
2. The north wall paneling will be removed, as it is starting to pull away from the wall, to determine the amount of damage behind the panels. We will make the necessary repairs, insulate and install drywall and paint to match the rest of the church interior.
3. We are also planning to paint the paneling on the west and south walls of the sanctuary; by covering the dark paneling we will add a lot of reflective light to the entire sanctuary.
4. Upon completion of the north wall repair we will move the choir and grand piano into the area on the north side of the Sanctuary. When this move is complete, we will be able to move the altar back towards the east and make room to place the baptismal font on the elevated platform and give much needed additional room behind the altar.

We realize that many of you are concerned about the aforementioned and the cost involved, as well as the impact it will have on the overall church experience. We have had members come forward and a Sanctuary Improvement Fund has been started to pay for improvements. We will continue to be open to all ideas that will help guide us as we move forward.

The organ is scheduled to be removed for upgrade at the end of May, so while we may begin removing the paneling prior to the organ being removed, the rest of the project may not begin right away. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to a member of the Chancel Consideration Committee.

Bob Schlink, Tom Wagener, Colleen Berge, Dan Kantos, Valerie Lorenz, Pastor Terry Lorenz,
and Jeanette Tobiason

Chancel Consideration Committee

	Total	Annual Budget Avg/Mo	Over/(Under) Monthly Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining Avg/Mo
Contributions	10,434.00	10,416.67	17.33	125,000.00	99,268.92	11,029.88
Electronic Contributions	2,504.25	2,516.67	(12.42)	30,200.00	24,097.34	2,677.48
Miscellaneous General*	2,304.81	1,133.33	1,171.48	13,600.00	10,000.80	1,111.20
Total Contributions	15,243.06	14,066.67	1,176.39	168,800.00	133,367.06	14,818.56

* Includes Miscellaneous contributions plus interest income of \$458.16 and expense reimbursements of \$147.65

	Total	Annual Budget Avg/Mo	Over/(Under) Monthly Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining Avg/Mo
Building & Property¹	3,108.20	1,208.33	1,899.87	14,500.00	11,245.55	1,249.51
General	63.00	75.00	(12.00)	900.00	713.40	79.27
Ministry	245.29	500.00	(254.71)	6,000.00	3,628.77	403.20
Office	-	141.67	(141.67)	1,700.00	1,408.89	156.54
Pastor	6,579.67	6,717.17	(137.50)	80,606.06	53,956.39	5,995.15
Payroll	4,525.46	4,812.94	(287.48)	57,755.29	44,369.75	4,929.97
Utilities²	1,123.15	1,075.00	48.15	12,900.00	9,684.37	1,076.04
Other Expenses³	371.98					
Total Expenses	16,016.75	14,530.11	1,486.64	174,361.35	125,007.12	13,889.68

Net Contributions (773.69)

EXPLANATION OF EXPENSES OVER BUDGET

Building & Property - Quarterly property insurance payment of \$3,049.20 (\$338.80 paid from Parsonage-total \$3,388).

Utilities - Budget pay adjustment for Midwest Gas.

Other Expenses - Ricoh Finance Agreement payment of \$250.00 and reimbursable expenses of \$121.98.



GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WHO GAVE ALL

We remember, O Lord, the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Help us never to breathe the air of freedom, claim the right to justice, or enjoy the privilege of worship without deep gratitude for those who gave "the last full measure of devotion" for our sake.

May they now know the peace of eternity and the joy of your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Are you ready? It's *almost* time for our annual worship service time change! Beginning **June 7, 2026**, our Worship service will begin at 10:30 AM with coffee hour before Worship at 9:30 AM for the next year.

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS MARCH 31, 2026

Account	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance	
CD-Roof	86,561.20	-	-	86,561.20	
Checking Account	26,228.42	22,449.61	17,997.13	30,680.90	
Money Market Accounts	Building	4,170.60	-	5.49	4,165.11
	General	36,509.33	2,385.32	7,546.00	31,348.65
	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	-	115.49	287.86
	Immanuel's Seniors	618.20	-	172.66	445.54
	Library	251.60	-	-	251.60
	Local Missions	209.79	-	-	209.79
	Music	1,853.22	-	4.50	1,848.72
	Organ Fund - Refurbishment	31,976.00	3,127.00	-	35,103.00
	Parsonage - General	30,064.08	550.00	388.80	30,225.28
	Parsonage - Property Tax	4,275.69	250.00	-	4,525.69
	Social Concerns	1,167.07	-	-	1,167.07
	Strum Area Food Pantry	17,429.18	2,155.00	949.93	18,634.25
	Sunday School	2,741.29	-	-	2,741.29
	Thanksgiving Dinner	2,500.00	-	-	2,500.00
	Youth - General	5,918.50	1,464.00	299.00	7,083.50
	Youth - Luther Park	3,190.00	-	-	3,190.00
Joint Parish Account	4,760.89	6,580.42	6,306.41	5,034.90	
Total Assets	290,924.99	38,961.35	33,785.41	296,100.93	

ADRC SENIOR DINING



May 2026

Salad Option: Chickens Are Out Salad

(Roasted Chickpeas, Quinoa, Kale, Peas, Shredded Carrots, Red Beets, Avocado, Chicken, Ginger Dressing)

- Tuesday, May 5:** Baked Chicken, Veggies, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Dessert
- Thursday, May 7:** Chicken Cordon Bleu Sandwich, Side Salad, Dessert
- Tuesday, May 12:** Boiled Dinner: Kielbasa Sausage, Onion, Sauerkraut, Carrots, Red Potatoes, Dessert
- Thursday, May 14:** Pulled Pork Sandwich, Beans, American Fries, Dessert
- Tuesday, May 19:** Goulash, Canned Fruit, Corn Bread, Dessert
- Thursday, May 21:** Lasagna, Green Beans, Peaches, Dessert
- Tuesday, May 26:** Pulled Pork, Hawaiian Macaroni Salad, Roasted Sweet Potatoes, Fruit Kabobs, Dessert
- Thursday, May 28:** Sweet & Sour Chicken, Veggies, Fruit, Dessert

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					1	2
						9 AM - 11 AM 
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30 AM Confirmation Sunday 9:30 AM Coffee Hour: Val Lorenz	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off	11:30 AM Senior Meals	1:30 PM WELCA	11:30 AM Senior Meals 1 - 4 PM Quilting 6 PM Council		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30 AM Worship / Communion 9:30 AM Coffee Hour MOTHER'S DAY	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off	11:30 AM Senior Meals	4:30-6:30 PM Food Pantry 	11:30 AM Senior Meals 1 - 4 PM Quilting 6 PM Council		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Hour	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	11:30 AM Senior Meals	7:00 PM Baccalaureate	11:30 AM Senior Meals		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Hour	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Office Closed Memorial Day	11:30 AM Senior Meals		11:30 AM Senior Meals		



**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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