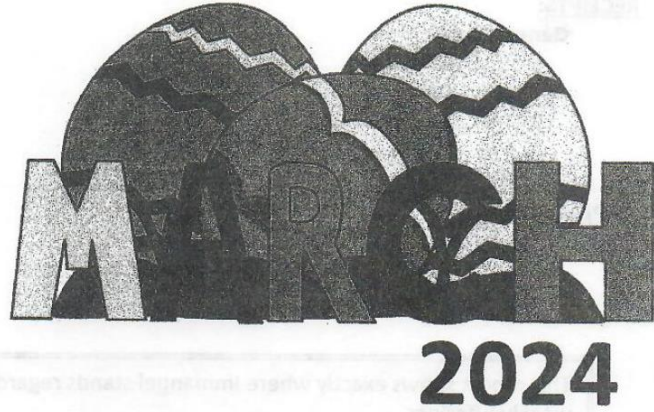


IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1800 NW 36TH STREET
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73118
Email address: immanueloffice@yahoo.com



Sunday Worship Services

9:00am Fellowship Hour
9:30am Bible Study
10:30am Worship Service

Rejoice for this day!
Emmanuel is risen from the grave!
Salvation has come at last,
Undoing the chains of sin from our souls,
Redeeming us from the crushing debt and
Returning us to righteousness with God.
Eternity's gates are open once more, and
Conquered are the gates of death and hell!
This is truly the day the Lord has made,
I will sing for joy, to praise our Savior, Jesus Christ!
O indeed, I will praise Him Who died and rose once more,
Never to die again!

-Elizabeth Crouch-

Thoughts from Pastor March 2024

PALM
SUNDAY

Dear Friends in Christ,

March is upon us. With the coming of March we have both Holy Week and Easter this year. We start **Daylight Savings Time Sunday March 10.**

We continue our Lenten journey during the first three Wednesdays of the month. During Lent we are reminded that we come with empty hands before a loving and gracious God. We bring nothing to the table except our sins and our disobedience to God's commands. All that we have, both physically and spiritually is simply a gift from God. As our Creator, He gives us all things to sustain us. As our Heavenly Father, He forgives us our sins, not based on what we have done, but for the sake and on account of our Lord Jesus Christ Who paid for our sins with His death on the Cross.

Our Lenten series is based on the Gospel of Matthew. In the beginning of the Gospel, the Magi came to Jerusalem asking, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?" They asked because it wasn't obvious. He was where human reason would never expect Him—in a humble home, in a humble town, served by His humble mother. Toward the end of the Gospel, Pilate also asks Jesus, "Are You the King of the Jews?" He asks because it wasn't obvious. But so that we don't miss Him and all His benefits, Matthew identifies our merciful King of kings and Lord of Lords, Who goes where human reason would never expect a king to go—high and lifted upon a cross, bearing away the sin of the world, so that He could triumph over it in the resurrection. He did it all so that we might be baptized and received the exalted title as "Children of God." In March, we will continue Lenten Midweek with the *King Condemned*, the *King Mocked*, and the *King on the Cross*.



On Sunday **March 24**, we will celebrate **Palm Sunday**, the day our Lord Jesus rode into Jerusalem to fulfill prophecy and claim the crown of King David. Yet, we also know that He rides to His death. **Holy Week** continues with **Maundy Thursday on March 28**, the night our Lord Jesus was betrayed and the night that He instituted His Holy Supper we will have both **12 noon and 7:00 p.m.** services with communion. On **Good Friday, March 29** we will continue our services with "**The Stations of the Cross**," at **12 noon**. That night, we will observe "**Tenebrae—Behold the Lamb**" at 7:30 p.m.

The death of God's own Son was so cataclysmic that even creation reacted. During Holy Week, our emotions run the gauntlet from the joyous celebration of Palm Sunday to the stark darkness and sorrow of Tenebrae. But, as Christians, we know there is so much more! The graphic on the right, reminds us that **Easter Sunday is March 31**. The greatest event in the history of man, the best news that mankind could or would ever hear! Jesus, God's Own Son, died on the cross for the sins of all mankind. But the grave did not hold Him. In that shattering moment in time, all was changed. The fulfillment of the Law was complete. Forgiveness of sins and salvation was secured. God's Son, Jesus, lives and He lives forever and takes all who believe with Him.



Once again, this Easter, we celebrate the victory that Jesus won for us by His Passion, death, and resurrection. First, at **Easter Sunrise at 7:30 a.m.**, then again at the **10:30 a.m. service**, we celebrate the **Resurrection of our Lord**. There is no greater celebration day for Christians, for this is the very core of our faith. "**He is risen! He is risen, indeed!**" Have a blessed month!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor McMullin

OKLAHOMA DISTRICT LCMS



CELEBRATING
100
YEARS

*The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I
am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.*

Psalm 28:7

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

OKARCHE, OKLAHOMA

MAY 19, 2024

4:00 P.M. SERVICE - 5:30 P.M. DINNER

Please RSVP by March 28 at:

www.oklahomalutherans.org/100





Immanuel Lutheran Church
1800 NW 36th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118-3229

S00669598

| Gift Date | Amount | Designation | Pledge Date | Amount | Receipt No. |
|------------|----------|---|-------------|--------|-------------|
| 02/06/2024 | \$200.00 | Harlan and Natalie Wehman Scholarship Endowment | | | |

Thank you for your gift of \$200.00.

Please accept our sincere thanks for your continued support of Concordia University, Nebraska. Your prayers and financial support under the blessings of God will accomplish much as we work with you to equip men and women for lives of learning, service and leadership in the church and world.

May the Lord bless you and the use of your gift in His kingdom work.

This gift may be tax deductible. Please keep this receipt for your records.



February 16, 2024

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1800 N.W. 36th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118-3229

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,
On behalf of Concordia Life Plan Community and Concordia Community Foundation,
thank you for your generous donation of \$200.00 on January 30, 2024 (Check 026013).

Your gift will support the Good Samaritan Fund, which provides benevolent care to Concordia life care residents who are facing the end of their finances, through no fault of their own, and need assistance to remain in their home.

Your generosity strengthens our mission of service, and sustains our commitment to excellence for those we serve. We thank you and hope to receive your continued support in the years ahead.

Blessings,

Kurt Primuth
Executive Director, Concordia Community Foundation

Concordia Community Foundation is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code. Our EIN is 84-4257175. Please retain this acknowledgement for federal income tax purposes. All contributions made to Concordia Life Plan Community and Concordia Community Foundation are tax deductible as allowed by law. No tangible benefit was received in exchange for this donation. This gift is strictly a charitable contribution.



LWML March

Lent is upon us! A time of reflection. Come join us all on Wednesdays for a meal at 5:30 p.m., followed by a Lenten Bible study, and Lenten services at 6:45 p.m.

As you begin to clean out your closets, please remember that some of the "junk" you want to get rid of could be a "treasure" for others. Old towels are really a blessing for the OKC Animal Shelter. They help to make crates more comfortable for our four-legged friends.

Old sheets and blankets are also needed by both the animal shelter and by the quilters at Messiah. Remember that both Cindy Jackson and JoAnn Klassen are members of that group. Sheets can be any size (flat or fitted). Make sure they are washed. Quilts are sent all over the world by Lutheran World Relief. Boxes for both of these "treasures" will be under the coat rack. Many of God's creatures and many people around the world will thank you. (Thank you to Cindy and JoAnn for all you do!)

"Rejoice! Pray! Serve!" is the theme for our Oklahoma District Convention, April 12-13 – Save the Date!! This year, the convention is once again at the Hilton Garden Inn, Edmond, Oklahoma. Registration forms are available at oklwml.org, in "The Voice of Service" and on the LWML bulletin board. Volunteers are needed. A sign-up sheet is posted on our bulletin board!

We continue to partner and join with Messiah at their monthly meetings, and donate our helping hands, every 2nd Saturday of the month. On February 10, we put together Spiritual Care Kits.

Our card rack has come alive and has been refreshed. If in need of a card for any occasion, please stop by and take a look.

Blessings!
Deborah Allen

Psalm 92:4:
"You make me glad by Your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the works of Your hands."

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5)

While waiting for daylight to overcome the winter darkness minute by slow minute, take time to look at the churches altar. Often a floral bouquet bordered by two lighted candles provides a welcoming table for the distribution of Holy Communion.

Symbolically, one candle represents the humanity of Jesus Christ, the other His Godhead. The light of the world is true God and true Man. Our Lord has overcome the darkness of our world and our sinful hearts by taking that sin upon Himself. Look at the altar with renewed eyes when partaking of Jesus' very body and blood through the bread and the wine in Holy Communion. "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). As winter's darkness wanes and daylight lengthen, follow Christ the Son who has overcome the darkness of sin and death.

Terri Denniston ~LWML Wyoming District President~

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1. Mrs. Beverly Henry
2. Brad Cage
3. Mrs. Penny Brown
5. Jill McAlister
6. Mrs. Mary McMullin
 Marcus Hulings
7. Bill Mahan
 Mrs. Candice Morris
10. Rev. Blair Clark
15. JoAnn Klassen
16. Clinton McCright
21. Nicholas Burks
24. Adelyn Morris
28. Mrs. Kimberley Clark
29. Brenda Davidson

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

17. Ron & Laura Schaulat (1984)
18. Ron & Debbie Lee (1978)



WORSHIP HELPERS FOR MARCH

3. Clark Gable, Captain; Hal Hofener; Jerry Geurin; Brad Cage
10. Marcus Hulings, Captain; Chris Jackson; Thomas Vance
17. Matt Dittelmier, Captain; Jim Davidson; David Dittelmier
24. Ron Lee, Captain; Scott Kastner; Randy Stewart
31. Bob Brown, Captain; Michael Hogan; Jim Allen

Trustee: Jim Allen

MARCH

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|--|--|---|----------|
| 3 FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM | 4 | 5 | 6 Noon - Lenten Service 5:30-7:00 - Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service GHS | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Daylight Savings Begins FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM | 11 | 12 | 13 Noon - Lenten Service 5:30-7:00 - Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service GHS | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Saint Patrick's Day FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM | 18 | 19 | 20 Noon - Lenten Service 5:30-7:00 - Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service GHS | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Palm Sunday FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Maundy Thursday Noon - Worship (w/comm) 5:30 - Supper 7:00 Worship (comm.) | 29 Good Friday Noon - Stations Cross 5:30 - Supper 7:30 Tenbyrne | 30 |
| 31 Easter Sunday SUNRISE SERVICE 7:30 AM BREAKFAST 8:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM | | 3 | 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Bible Study 6:45 Worship | | | |



Those in Need of Prayer



- | | |
|--|--|
| Lon Keister | Leonard Mahan (son of Betty & Bill Mahan) |
| Betty Mahan | Lyle Dieckmann (friend of David & Karen Dittelmier) |
| Bill Mahan | Luke Stockstill (father of Brad & Sara Cage's goddaughter, Katherine) |
| Connie McCright | Laura Poole (mother of Joye Dittelmier) |
| Frank Martin | Karen Rumsey (niece of Ruthie Gable and wife of Pastor John Rumsey of Our Savior Guthrie) |
| TraciLee LaTour | Brandon Strouder (26-Year-old grandson of Glenna Fuller) |
| Kristin Kaldahl | Ernesto Zambrano (friend of Pastor Trini Castaneda) |
| Sandy Osmus | Robin Crouch (infant son of Byron & Elizabeth (Schaulat) Crouch) |
| Janine Bryant | Lori Steele (former member) |
| Carol Hemphill (friend of Karen Dittelmier) | |
| Jorge Lopez (son-in-law of Scott & Kathy Kastner) | |
| Damon Smith (five-month-old son of neighbors of Connie McCright) | |
| Mya McCright (daughter-in-law of Connie McCright) | |
| Rick Hedrick (husband of former Secretary to the president of the Oklahoma District, Janice Hendrick) | |

*"God is the Father Who is full of mercy and all comfort. He comforts us whenever we have trouble..."
II Corinthians 1:3-4*



**March
Sunday Scriptures**



If you are unable to worship in person with us, please follow along with us on YouTube at Immanuel Lutheran OKC or through our Facebook site. To help, here are the Scripture lessons for the month:

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| March 3 | Exodus 20:1-17 | 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 | John 2:13-22 |
| March 10 | Numbers 21:4-9 | Ephesians 2:1-10 | John 3:14-21 |
| March 17 | Jeremiah 31:31-34 | Hebrews 5:1-10 | Mark 10:35-45 |
| March 24 | Zechariah 9:9-12 | Philippians 2:5-11 | John 12:20-43 |
| March 31 | Isaiah 25:6-9 | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 | Mark 16:1-8 |

With the icy cold weather, Immanuel held only on-line services for Ash Wednesday and Transfiguration Sunday. Thank God for providing us these gifts to allow us to still worship Him.



February 9, 2024

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1800 NW 36th St
Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$200.00 by check dated 1/30/2024 to Positive Tomorrows, Oklahoma's only school and social services agency specifically serving children and families experiencing homelessness.

During this second half of the school year, we have the privilege of seeing progress in action. Kindergarteners are starting to read for the first time, classroom behaviors are improving, and our after-school cooking club is starting soon. With the support of case managers, parents are securing stable housing as families begin to heal from the trauma experiencing homelessness often brings.

Fourth grader DJ's family moved into their own place last month. They had previously been staying at a local motel after bouncing around from place to place.

When DJ walked inside their house for the first time, he ran circles through the living room and dropped to his knees to kiss the floor. He said to his mom, "I love it! I'm just so happy to be home."

It's not just DJ's family that is thriving. Because of your support, many families at Positive Tomorrows are starting bright, new chapters in their life. Thank you for helping make these special moments a reality for our students and families.

Sincerely,

Sara Jacobson
Director of Development

Positive Tomorrows, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit school, asserts that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this generous donation. Federal Tax ID #73-1393438.

PO Box 61190 • Oklahoma City, OK 73146 • positivetomorrow.org

O: 405-556-5082 • F: 405-556-5085



PRAY FOR OUR PASTOR— he's had some health issues, and those will likely continue. Also, pray for our leadership and congregation as we start a transition into a new era. This is an exciting time, but we need your prayers and your suggestions. Again, pray for our Pastor who has served us these 26 years.



AS WE CONTINUE LENT this month, we also continue our meal and Bible Study/Bells practice, too. Church Family Night will resume after Holy Week and will also continue until we reach Advent. Meals are varied and we try to provide a nutritious dining experience. While enjoying the meal, you also enjoy visiting with other church members; sharing and even praying for one another. Lent is a great time to begin getting this onto your regular schedule. If you have any food allergies/issue, then please let Ron Schaulat know so that an alternative can be arranged. (If you'd like to prepare a meal, or feel inspired to do so, then let Ron know and he will fit into the schedule when you are available. We always favor meal suggestions, too.)

WE WILL NOT HAVE our regular Wednesday night meal or gathering on March 27, the Wednesday of Holy Week. Instead, we will meet on Maundy Thursday (March 28) and with a lighter meal. Same times as a Wednesday, just a night later.

THE ANNUAL Breakfast for Resurrection Sunday will again be provided. The recipient of our donations and funds this year is our own Lutheran Women's Missionary League (*WinGS- Women in God's Service*). The group is a wonderful opportunity for the ladies of our congregation to serve, share and learn. As Women in God's Service, they work behind the scenes at many ventures. So, give graciously to this wonderful project. And, come enjoy a hearty breakfast (even if you cannot contribute much or anything at all).



WE WELCOME the newest member of Immanuel, Robin Fletcher Crouch, son of Byron and Elizabeth Crouch, grandson of Ron and Laura Schaulat, who was baptized in the house of the Lord on Sunday, February 11, 2024.



FORGIVE US OUR WHAT???

In the Fifth Petition of the Our Father (Lord's Prayer), we ask that God "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." *Matt. 6.12*. What? Then why do we pray "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us" in our worship services?

In Matthew's version of the Our Father, the text does read to 'cancel or pardon or remit our "debts", i.e., what is owed or due. Luke's version uses cancel/pardon/remit our "sins." *Luke 11.4*. While using different terms, they relate to the same thing. Sin is a moral debt owed to God whereby we do not abide by His commands/Law and thus "sin." Because of sin, we owe a debt to God, i.e., a payment of the penalty for our violation of His Law. Check out Luther's explanation to the Fifth Petition of the Our Father in your *Small Catechism*.

In his *Large Catechism*, Luther expounds upon the concept by noting we continue to sin and sin a lot. For Luther, the point is not that God does not forgive us, but that we recognize that we are sinful and sinners and fall, thus need this petition to bring us to humbleness and then glad that we can obtain forgiveness. Yet, this forgiveness is not warranted when and where we do not forgive others who have sinned against us. Check out *Matthew 6.14-15* for a very clear explanation of this.

In the Old Testament sacrificial system, there was a sacrifice to offer, the giving up of something of value to us, to pay God for, among other things, sins. It reminded them that sin does not come without cost or consequences. To defy God results in a deserved penalty; for Adam it was being banished from the Garden of Eden, i.e. paradise.

As we learn during Lent and Holy Week, Jesus overcame this system by making the payment for us. He paid the price/value we deserve to pay, the debt owed to God for our sins, our transgressions, our disobedience. Not that we are without sin, but rather that our sin is paid for, forgiven, not counted against us when we face God on Judgment Day because we plead not our own acts, but the works of Jesus Christ (who was/is perfect). Our debt is paid by Jesus, yet we must not reject that payment; otherwise we then bet on our own lives and how we lived them as being perfect, the standard for entry into Heaven.

The word "trespass" is a way of saying that we have gone to somewhere we are not allowed. In other words, we have acted against God's Law, been disobedient, and gone into an area not permitted by God. In Old English, to commit an offense against another or a set of rules. Hence, "sin." Understood as doing something wrong, trespass makes sense.

However we pray it, we recall the promise of forgiveness and atonement by Christ Jesus, and be glad and grateful for God's infinite grace and mercy.

--- Ron Schaulat, parish assistant minister

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 2024**

RECEIPTS:

General Fund:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Offerings | \$12,890.00 |
| Other Income | 100.00 |
| Budgeted Items | 0.00 |
| Non-Budgeted Items | <u>65.80</u> |
| TOTAL FOR MONTH | \$13,055.80 |

EXPENDITURES:

General Fund:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Non-Budget Items & Special Designated | \$13,730.60 |
| Capital Fund | 680.28 |
| | <u>0.00</u> |
| TOTAL FOR MONTH | \$14,410.88 |

This report shows exactly where Immanuel stands regarding budget expenses funded by weekly offerings.
Our General Fund balance through January 2024 is \$12,890.00 compared to expenditures of \$13,730.60 leaving a deficit of \$840.60 for the year.



The theme for this Lenten series derives from one of the ideas dominants in St. Matthew's Gospel—that Jesus is *the King*. Lent is a penitential season where God's baptized people celebrate their Baptism through repentance and faith in this King. It is a season where we prepare with joy for the Paschal Feast (Easter) that celebrates this King being raised from the dead for our justification. Jesus is God's greatness in the flesh, the ultimate conqueror, who is truly God's Lion-hearted One. Yet He is willing to be a king despised and dishonored, that we might be considered great in God's Kingdom. He desired that we be eternally crowned with glory, so His head was pierced with sharp thorns. He was willing to be devoured by jaws of eternal death and rise again, so that you might joyfully eat His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation and be glorified with this King's own majestic glory.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



- Midweek 4 (Mar 6): The King Condemned**
- Midweek 5 (Mar 13): The King Mocked**
- Midweek 6 (Mar 20): The King on the Cross**
- Mauddy Thursday (Mar 28)**
- Good Friday (Mar 29)**
- Easter Sunday (Mar 31)**