

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1800 NW 36<sup>TH</sup> STREET

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73118

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DATED MATERIAL PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



### *Sunday Worship Services*

*9:00am Fellowship Hour*

*9:30am Bible Study*

*10:30am Worship Service*

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### Depths of Love

I thought I knew love.  
I have after all, been a beloved, long-awaited child,  
And an equally beloved, long-awaited wife.  
Then you were conceived and born,  
And I learned what a mother's love is,  
How much stronger,  
Deeper,  
Richer,  
Love could be,  
For this is nothing you can do to make me stop loving you,  
And nothing I will not do to keep you safe, healthy, and happy.  
Yet even now, I know that the love of God  
For both of us is so much more,  
Beyond what I can ever comprehend.

~Elizabeth Crouch~

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER 2024**

**RECEIPTS:**

**General Fund:**

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Offerings              | \$18,772.00        |
| Other Income           | 235.03             |
| Budgeted Items         | 0.00               |
| Non-Budgeted Items     | <u>799.46</u>      |
| <b>TOTAL FOR MONTH</b> | <b>\$19,806.49</b> |

**EXPENDITURES:**

**General Fund:**

|                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Non-Budget Items & Special Designated | \$14,280.98        |
| Capital Fund                          | 646.40             |
|                                       | <u>0.00</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL FOR MONTH</b>                | <b>\$14,927.38</b> |

This report shows exactly where Immanuel stands regarding budget expenses funded by weekly offerings.  
Our General Fund balance through December 2024 is \$152,840.86 compared to expenditures of \$186,687.97 leaving a deficit of \$33,847.11 for the year.



Our preaching schedule with our vacancy is set through February with Ron Schaulat leading/preaching the 1st and 4th Sundays, Rev. Myron Harms (from Messiah Lutheran) on the 2nd Sunday and Vacancy Pastor McMullin on the 3rd Sunday. Future months may see adjustments or others involved. Please support each of these as they present God's Word.

Chilly? Well, Chili is coming!!!! March 2.....be ready.....the Crystal Trophy is up for grabs.

The month of February includes Valentine's Day and are Sunday of Mary and Jesus's temple presentation (2/2), Sundays of the Epiphany (2/9, 2/16, 2/23). Transfiguration Sunday is March 2 and Ash Wednesday will be March 5 (with Lenten services then and following).

We also this month recognize the dedication of our sanctuary, which was February 23, 1954.

February also begins a single adult Bible class on Sundays with President Brad Cage leading us through a study of JOY IN THE PARISH as we ready for a new pastor. The point here is to re-examine what parishioners owe the pastor and the pastor to the flock; all to aim for the joy of the Lord in our congregation. It may seem elementary, but it is wise and important to take a new look at matters. After we complete this study, our two classes will re-start.

February is the last month of our God With Us Worship Wednesdays as Lent begins at the start of March and into April. Please support this gathering as you are able. We will be back with GWU on April 23.

Usually, I am talking to you when I am addressing the congregation. In the absence of a full-time pastor, it was decided by the Council for me to submit for the newsletter as congregation president and head of the Call Committee.

As we continue to move forward with our Call for a new full-time pastor, an event happened that made me think about it in a different way. Most of you know that I am a huge baseball fan. And most of you know that Sara and I grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. So growing up, we were blessed with listening to the legendary “Mr. Baseball” Bob Uecker doing the announcing for Milwaukee Brewers games. Sadly, Bob Uecker passed away recently, and we will no longer hear his voice providing the description of what is happening during a game. It will be a different voice going forward, but still telling us what is happening during a baseball game. The game still needs to be announced.

Our current situation in the congregation feels very similar to me. We will no longer have Rev. McMullin on a regular basis announcing the saving Gospel message of Jesus Christ to our congregation. Yes, he will still lead us in worship once a month. However, most of the time it will be different voices, as we continue to see the man who God has chosen to shepherd our congregation. What is important though is that the message is still the same, regardless of who is preaching. God’s Word remains the same. The proclamation of the Gospel balanced with the Law will continue to guide our congregation.

Yes, it will be different. The voice will be different. However, the message does not Change.

Brad Cage

## **CURRENT COMMUNION PRACTICES EXPLAINED.**

With our new vacancy, we will have different Ministers presiding over the Lord's Supper. This can create some confusion since the Presiding Minister may not know congregation members, confirmed members, and the status of visitors. I write this to clarify what can be expected until our new pastor arrives.

First, there are two aspects to being admitted to the Supper --- one is being worthy and, two, is it appropriate? As to the former, which deals with one's relationship with God, a great start is *Luther's Small Catechism* Sacrament of the Altar, and then, Section 4, Christian Questions with their Answers. (See hymnal pp. 329-330) These are wonderful for everyone to utilize, even for confirmed members to remind ourselves of the worthiness.

The latter aspect, appropriateness, is a bit more problematic. If a communicant member is in good standing of this congregation, then admission is appropriate. If one is a communicant member of a sister Synod congregation, then it is also appropriate, although the Minister should be informed beforehand. Anyone else then depends upon the Presiding Minister as the officiant who has the discretion to admit or decline. Appropriateness involves the relationship with others communing as it is an act of 'union with' one another; one who holds to a different confession may not be appropriate to admit as their confession may offend.

Why this discernment? Simply because it is the Presiding Minister who is personally responsible for admission --- right or wrong. Thus, for me, it is MY responsibility to assure that a person is not, to my knowledge, taking the Sacrament to their own judgment. If I err, it is MY sin. And this is not taken lightly. Another Minister may have a differing point of view, but that is THEIR responsibility (e.g., when Pastor McMullin presides, I always follow his decision and lead as it is his to decide when he presides).

There are certain steps a Minister follows when deciding. It is not child's play --- it is a serious decision. If a non-member, non-Missouri Synod Lutheran, presents, then it would be helpful to have advance notice. Ministers are usually present at the Fellowship Hour (9 a.m.) and Bible Class time to discuss this. During the service is possible; perhaps during a hymn; but not advisable. Elders must be made aware and consult with the Minister.

If a former member presents who has aligned with another denomination or confession, it is quite likely that former member would be declined. Where one attends is that person's confession and that confession must agree with ours as to the Sacrament. Otherwise, being served is inappropriate as that person no longer believes what we teach and confess.

If there are any problems with this, then feel free to visit with the undersigned. Methods exist to challenge any decision, if one believes it unscriptural. Please be understanding.

May we make all decisions properly and to God's glory, not taking advantage of His gifts.

----- *Ron Schaulat, Assisting Parish Minister*

# YOUTH GROUP NEWS

## CHILI COOK OFF!

Please join us for the chili cook off which will be held Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> following the 10:30 am service. This will be a free will offering that will benefit the National Youth Gathering. Please let Laura Schaulat know if you will be participating. Come see who this year's reigning champion will be.



## THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER



**Leonard Mahan** (son of Betty & Bill Mahan)  
**Karen Rumsey** (niece of Ruthie Gable and wife of Pastor John Rumsey of Our Savior Guthrie)  
**Tim Reeves** (friend of Hulings)  
**Sharon Hoover** (co-worker of Laura Schaulat)  
**Ray Wayman** (friend and neighbor of Chuck Dixon)  
**Scot Steele** (former member)

**Betty Mahan**  
**Bill Mahan**  
**Jolene Keister**  
**Matt McCright**  
**Lon Keister**  
**Cathy Adams**  
**Sandy Osmus**  
**JoAnn Klassen**  
**Tim Marek**

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



## FEBRUARY 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:

|             |                  |                               |              |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| February 2  | 1 Samuel 1:21-28 | Hebrews 2:14-18               | Luke 2:22-32 |
| February 9  | Isaiah 6:1-8     | 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20       | Luke 5:1-11  |
| February 16 | Jeremiah 17:5-8  | 1 Corinthians 15:12-20        | Luke 6:17-26 |
| February 23 | Genesis 45:3-15  | 1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42 | Luke 6:27-38 |

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2. Mrs. Susan Elliott
- 5. Ron Schaulat
- 11. Mary Cessna
- 13. Byron Crouch
- 14. Mrs. Betty Mahan
- 16. Mrs. Carol Eickhoff
- 17. Chris Jackson  
Cory Morris
- 26. Mrs. Janice Cessna
- 27. Iris Valouch



## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

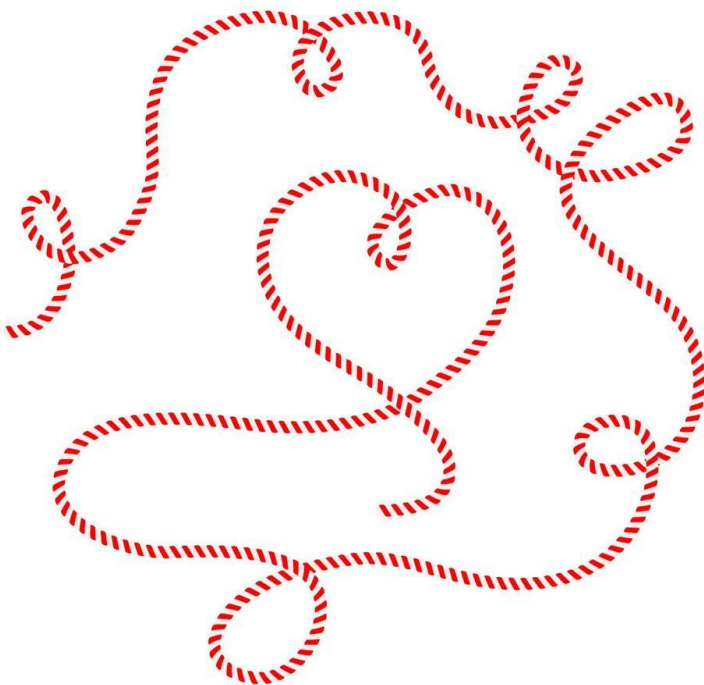
There are no Members with February Anniversaries. If you find this to be incorrect, please notify the church office we do not want to miss helping you celebrate!



With help from many, OGT hosted their first mission trip with Concordia Nebraska football players to re-roof two homes in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. It was an amazing experience with serving two families in need and being able to share about Jesus with the neighbors.

## John 3:16

for God so loved the world  
that He gave His  
only Son that  
whoever believes  
in Him  
should not  
perish but have  
eternal  
life





# February



| Sunday  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday                                       | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|---|----------|--------|----------|
|   |        |         |   |          |        | 1        |
| 2<br>FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM<br>WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM  | 3      | 4       | 5<br>5:30-7:00PM –<br>GWU/ Supper<br>Handbells  | 6        | 7      | 8        |
| 9<br>FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM<br>WORSHIP 10:30AM           | 10     | 11      | 12<br>5:30-7:00PM –<br>GWU/ Supper<br>Handbells | 13       | 14     | 15       |
| 16<br>FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM<br>WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM | 17     | 18      | 19<br>5:30-7:00PM –<br>GWU/ Supper<br>Handbells | 20       | 21     | 22       |
| 23<br>FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM<br>WORSHIP 10:30AM          | 24     | 25      | 26<br>5:30-7:00PM –<br>GWU/ Supper<br>Handbells | 27       | 28     |          |

### IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER,



call the church office at 525-5793, or Pastor McMullin at 210-3102, to find out if services and/or activities have been canceled. Immanuel's cancelations are also listed on your local TV station.