

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

Joy in Ashes

The world outside my window is gray today.
It can be hard to find joy on days like these,
When the cold seeps into your very bones
And the air feels heavy with sorrow.

Yet still I have joy,
For joy is not happiness.
It doesn't come with material things,
Or the actions of any person.

Joy comes instead with the presence of God,
With the Holy Spirit dwelling inside,
And the Son's deep love,
Symbolized by the ashes on my forehead.

-Elizabeth Crouch-

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 2025**

RECEIPTS:

General Fund:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Offerings | \$11,760.00 |
| Budgeted Items | 29.00 |
| Non-Budgeted Items | 172.60 |
| TOTAL FOR MONTH | \$11,961.60 |

EXPENDITURES:

General Fund:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Non-Budget Items & Special Designated | \$8,071.35 |
| Capital Fund | 700.00 |
| TOTAL FOR MONTH | \$11,637.08 |

This report shows exactly where Immanuel stands regarding budget expenses funded by weekly offerings.
Our General Fund balance through January 2025 is \$11,760.00 compared to expenditures of \$8,071.35 leaving a surplus of \$3,688.65 for the year.

SERMON TITLES AND TEXTS FOR LENT 2025

Ash Wednesday: “A Place at the Table for You” (Luke 22:1–13)
 Midweek of Lent 2: “The Upper Room: A Place of Service” (Luke 22:14–38)
 Midweek of Lent 3: “Gethsemane: A Place of Strength” (Luke 22:39–46)
 Midweek of Lent 4: “The Betrayal: A Place of Eternal Love” (Luke 22:47–53)
 Midweek of Lent 5: “The Courtyard: A Place of Renewal” (Luke 22:54–62)
 Midweek of Lent 6: “The Trial: A Place of God’s Will” (Luke 22:63–23:25)



Thoughts from Pastor Emeritus for March

Lent

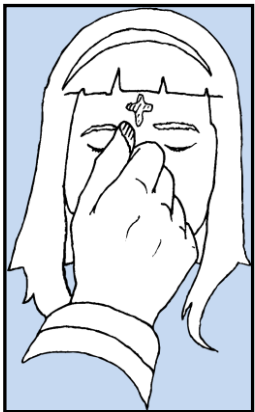
Dear Friends in Christ,

It is my hope to write you a newsletter at least every quarter. I haven't wrote to you this year, but last October (2024), I agreed to stay on as Immanuel's Vacancy Pastor, the Visitation Pastor, and the Worship Planner, in that for now, I chose the hymns and the order of service for most worship events.

March is upon us and with the coming of March we usually get warmer temperatures (we hope!), more wind, and longer days. To that end, we start **Daylight Savings Time Sunday March 9**. This year we begin our Lenten journey on **Ash Wednesday, March 5**. During the Wednesdays of the month we will continue our Lenten Services at 7:00 pm, with our other Wednesday events with dinner at 5:30; Bible Study and Bells beginning at 6. 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.

This year's Lenten Theme is **"Places of the Passion."** These scenes of Lent are familiar, The Upper Room, the Garden of Gethsemane, the halls of Pontius Pilate, and the hill of Golgotha—these are the places we remember when we meditate on our Lord's Passion. Yet when Jesus enters a place, He never leaves it as He found it. The most troubling places in our lives become the most amazing places of God's grace when Jesus visits them.

For this reason, in our midweek Lenten series, we will read and contemplate Luke's account of our Lord's Passion. Each week, we will read a different section of the story; and each week, Luke will take us to a different place, the places of the Passion.



Our focus, however, will not be on these physical places. Instead, we will gaze in wonder on the spiritual work that our Lord does there. Jesus will share His strength in our times of weakness. He will fill us with His praise in the midst of our sorrow. Week after week, we will enter the places of the Passion only to discover our Lord . . . waiting for us . . . willing to share with us a love that was set in place before the foundations of the world. Plan to come to our Lenten services this year. Prepare to enter into these places of devotion, for there, your Lord will meet you, sharing with you His wondrous love that saves a fallen world.

We live in a world filled with sin and evil. Satan and the forces of evil are alive and well within our world. Christians are being killed for their faith throughout the world. Historic Christianity is still being attacked daily on Social Media and with many in our national media. Saint Paul reminds us that this battle is not with the powers of this world, but with Satan and his army. We fight this battle with the Armor of God—by studying His Word, by strengthening our faith in worship and by our fellowship with one another. Come this Lenten time. Come to the Lord and be refreshed, renewed, and forgiven. May God bless you all this month!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor McMullin



I wanted to write to give everyone an update on how our Call process is going. Just a reminder that our Call Committee consists of myself, Deborah Allen, Michael Hogan, Scott Kastner, Ron Lee, Scott McCay, and Laura Schaulat.

We have met numerous times the past few months. We finished the Congregational Self Study, Lay Leaders Questionnaire, and Congregational Checklist documents required by synod for a Call. In December, we met with our Circuit Visitor Rev. Ron Simpson to make sure we were on the right track and discuss our next steps.

Rev. Simpson facilitated a meeting between our committee and Oklahoma District President Rev. David Nehrenz. We presented him with our documents, other requested information, and our current vacancy plans. The committee had a very good discussion with President Nehrenz about our options and answered our questions. He informed us that we could explore three options for filling our pastoral vacancy:

1. We could Call a pastor from another congregation.
2. We could request a graduating candidate from seminary.
3. We could request a convertible vicar who would perform their vicarage year at Immanuel and then Call them at the end of their vicarage with Immanuel.

The Call Committee is still exploring all options right now. We did ask President Nehrenz to inform the Synod at the Council of Presidents' meeting earlier this month that Immanuel may be considering a graduate or vicar. We will meet the last week of February to make our final determination if we will pursue this route for certain or move forward with making a Call from the field.

CHILI COOKOFF ANNUAL CHALLENGE ---- come sample and vote your preferred chili dinner. And don't forget to donate to our Youth for activities including this year's National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Who will be awarded the Crystal Chili Crown this year????

On March 16 at 7:00, Christ Lutheran in Mustang will be hosting the CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY-- NEBRASKA wind symphony for a special performance. You are invited to attend and enjoy the blessed music.

Scheduled preachers for this month:

March 2 --- Parish assisting minister Ron Schaulat

March 9 --- TBA

March 16 ---- Pastor Clint McMullin, Vacancy Pastor

March 23 --- Parish assisting minister Ron Schaulat

March 30 --- Pastor Myon Harms, Messiah Lutheran, OKC

This month we enter the Season of Lent as we ready ourselves for that Holy Week, the Passion and then the Resurrection (all in April). The four Lenten services this month will be led by various leaders of the congregation. And note, the **worship is at 7:00 p.m.** while the other regular Wednesday times remain the same. If you haven't been to Wednesday dinners, please feel free to come but please let Ron Schaulat or Scott McCay know so that we can prepare enough food for everyone.



LWML March

Bi-zone Spring Fling:

Date: 3-29-2025

A half day session 08:30-11:30. Breakfast and lunch provided

Cost: \$10.00

Location: Our Savior Bethany, OK

Hosts: the OKC and Lawton zones

Theme: Be Strong and Courageous and Full of Hope. JOSHUA 1:9

Application forms will be posted on the LWML board

Also, enrollment for the LWML National Convention in Omaha, NE opens on March 1. All enrollment is digital. Information on LWML board.

Shoe collection ended with 200 bags (25 pairs each) were donated!!

SPRING

Fling





Praying
For
You



Those in Need of Prayer



For Illness or Health Matters

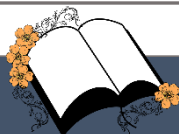
Jolene Keister
Lon Keister
Betty Mahan
Bill Mahan
Cathy Adams
Hannah Cage
JoAnn Klassen

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)
Amy Moeller (wife of Rev. Dwight Moeller)
Elizabeth Frye – (teen daughter of Hogans' friend)

Other prayers

Pastor Blair Clark
Our Call Committee

*“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 2 | Deuteronomy 34:1-12 | Hebrews 3:1-6 | Luke 9:28-36 |
| March 9 | Deuteronomy 26:1-11 | Romans 10:8b-13 | Luke 4:1-13 |
| March 16 | Jeremiah 26:8-15 | Philippians 3:17-4:1 | Luke 13:31-35 |
| March 23 | Ezekiel 33:7-20 | 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 | Luke 13:1-9 |
| March 30 | Isaiah 12:1-6 | 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 | Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 |

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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1. Mrs. Beverly Henry
2. Brad Cage
3. Mrs. Penny Brown
6. Mrs. Mary McMullin
Marcus Hulings
7. Bill Mahan
10. Rev. Blair Clark
15. JoAnn Klassen
16. Clinton McCright
19. Alfred Ellington
21. Nicholas Burks
28. Mrs. Kimberley Clark
29. Brenda Davidson

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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



CELEBRATE!

MARCH

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---------|--|----------|--------|----------|
| 2 CHILI COOK OFF FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM | 3 | 4 | 5 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> 5:30-7:00 – Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Daylight Savings Begins FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM | 10 | 11 | 12 5:30-7:00 – Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP (W/COMM) 10:30AM | 17 Saint Patrick's Day  | 18 | 19 5:30-7:00 – Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM | 24 | 25 | 26 5:30-7:00 – Church Family Night/ Supper 7:00 - Lenten Service | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM | 31 | | | | | |



Daylight Saving Time Starts: Sunday, March 09, 2025 Clocks are turned forward one hour from 2 am to 3 am. Clocks are changed forward one hour from local standard time to local daylight time.