

# Immanuel Image

## March 2018



**Our Mission:** Immanuel Lutheran Church is a fellowship of believers committed to live and share God's love by serving our community and the world.

**Our Vision:** We gather as believers who seek to grow in faith through worship, education and welcoming fellowship. We seek to share God's love with the community through word and deed. We extend Christ's love in service to our community and our world.

**Lent 2018** The theme for Lent is "A Lenten Journey to the Easter Vigil". The five subtopics are: flood, creation, deliverance at the Red Sea, salvation freely offered to all and deliverance from the fiery furnace. ILC will be participating in a round robin.

Wednesday services will be at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the chapel.

March 7: Pastor Phil Bogen, Deliverance at the Red Sea

March 14: Pastor Jen Dahle, Salvation freely offered to all

March 21: Pastor Dr. Niveen Sarras, Deliverance from the fiery furnace



These services will be held in church:

March 25: 9:00 am Palm Sunday

March 29, 6:00 pm: Maundy Thursday with washing of hands or feet, Communion

March 30, 1:30 pm: Good Friday

March 31, 6:00 pm: Easter Vigil, Communion



April 1, 9:00 am: Easter, Communion

**You are invited to join us** as we continue with the study on the Book of Revelation during Lent. We will meet at 10:30 AM in Emmaus Room after worship service on Sunday, March 4 and March 18.

**We will have a blessing** for anyone over the age of 75 on March 11<sup>th</sup> during worship service. Please join us for fellowship after church to honor these wonderful people and help us celebrate birthdays.

**First Communion class** will be March 25<sup>th</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. First Communion will be April 15<sup>th</sup> during worship service.

## Pastor's Report

**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly (John 10:10).**

The shooting of 17 students at a Florida school marked the beginning of Lent. The holy day, Ash Wednesday, turned out to be a bloody day. This tragedy reminds us of our brokenness and our need for the presence of Jesus in our lives. I cannot give anybody hope but Jesus can. We live in a broken world that is filled with injustices, violence, and drugs. These problems remind us that evil is real. We might ask where to go? Where can we find peace? Why didn't Jesus stop this massacre?

The bullets that went through the victims' body remind me of the nails that went through Jesus' hands and feet on the cross. Jesus empathizes with the victims and feels their families and friends pain and sorrow. Lent is a time when we come closer to God through repentance and meditation. This massacre reminds us of our brokenness and our need to repent every day. Lent is inviting us to take action to put an end to all forms of senseless violence.

I invite you to ponder during Lent on how you can work to eliminate injustices and violence in our community. I also encourage you to pray for the families of the victims and for those who are injured because their suffering is intense and long-lasting. Instead of giving up food for Lent add a new spiritual practice such as praying for all those who are impacted by violence. May the Lord continue to inspire us to love our neighbor as he, Jesus, loved us and died for us.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras

Pastor Niveen is in her church office Monday - Thursday. She is available to see people during the following days and times at ILC. If the following times are not convenient for you, please email Pastor Niveen or call the church office to set up a time.

Mon. 10:30-11:00 am & 1:30-2:00 pm \*\*\* Tues. 10:30-11:00 am

Wed. visiting homebound parishioners

Thurs. 1:30-2:00 pm \*\*\* Fri. off



Join us on March 18th for worship service  
Brian Lenz will talk about his wonderful trip to Ghana

He was on a mission trip to Ghana, Africa in January. The goal of the trip was to provide aid for the people in Ghana and materials to help supply their country.

Brian will do a presentation during the worship service and also share pictures during fellowship time downstairs. Come and listen to Brian's wonderful experience.



Purchase your Easter flowers before **March 4th**.  
Lilies \$10 each; Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths \$7:00 each  
Contact the church office if you would like to order or sign up on the form in the Narthex. Checks payable to Altar Guild.

**The Altar Guild**

**EVERYONE  
WELCOME**

*free will  
offering*

**GOT THE  
WINTER BLAHS  
FEELING?**

*bring a can good for  
the food pantry*

**Join us for Chili  
BBQ's & Hotdogs  
Movies and Games  
Sunday, March 4th  
11:30 am- ?  
In the Fish Sandwich**

**Questions contact  
Judy Nickolai  
715-370-6050**



# CROSSWAYS

CAMPING MINISTRIES

**This Changes Everything.  
Summer Camp 2018 at Crossways**

**\*Early-Bird Discounted Rate: All registration received along with the \$100 deposit on or before March 15th automatically qualify for our Early-Bird Discount! Check out the website for more details. Tiered Pricing for our Full-Week youth & family programs only.**

“At Crossways we strive to make camp affordable for everyone. We never turn campers away because of finances. If you want to send your child or family to camp but are concerned about cost, please contact our Administrative Office!”

There are many opportunities for youth, families and grandparents.

- \* Youth Camps (grades completed as of June 2018)
- \* Leadership Camps (grade completed as of June 2018)
- \* Family & Grandparent / Kid Camps

**For dates, locations, rates & registration:**

**[www.crosswayscamps.org](http://www.crosswayscamps.org) | [info@crosswayscamps.org](mailto:info@crosswayscamps.org) | 920-882-0023**

*Look for the brochures around church*

*ILC reps are Maria Wierzba and Jane Reilly-Smith*

*If you have questions, please speak with us*

- ◆ **“Noisy Offering”** - Save all your change for the **first Sunday** of each month. Social Concerns uses the money to help feed the needy in our area. If you have questions, please contact Marge Warner
- ◆ **Holy Communion** is celebrated the **first** and **third Sunday** of each month. Please remember to sign the Friendship/Attendance pad that is in each pew when you are taking communion. This information is entered into the office computer.

**Immanuel Fellowship Opportunities**

*Fellowship not only makes the journey endurable and even enjoyable; it also helps keep us healthy.*

**You are always welcome to join the groups!**

**Men's Discussion Group - Al Solomonson**

The Men's Discussion Group meets every Thursday at 7:30 am in the Koinonia Room. They will not meet on Maundy Thursday, March 29th.

**Altar Guild - Dwala Smail**

Thursday, March 15th at 9:00 am. We will be cleaning today, meeting to follow. Bring a sandwich for your lunch. You are welcome to join us.

**Dorcas Circle - Claudette Harring**

You are always welcome to join our group. Contact Claudette for date and time.

**ILCW - Vonnie Solomonson**

**Sarah Circle - Mary McDonell & Vonnie Solomonson**

We will meet on March 22nd at 1:00.

**Quilters - Kathy Knox**

We meet every Thursday morning at 9 and continue through part of May. Quilting is done on the 2nd floor; education wing.

**Attention All Women of Immanuel... Save the date!**

The Wisconsin River Valley Conference Women's Spring Event will be held on Saturday, April 14, at First English Lutheran Church, 402 N. Third Avenue, Wausau.

**Registration & Continental Breakfast: 8 am**

**Guest Speaker:** Lt. Sarah E'acquisto    **Topic:** Human Trafficking

**In Kind Gifts:** Food for Woman's Community of Wausau

**Fee:** \$15.00 Make check payable to First English Lutheran Church. Payment may be dropped off at ILC office before April 1st and ILC will mail your registrations together.

All info on bulletin board outside our church office.

## Birthday Blessings To You!

### March

- 1 Jessica Case
- 3 Deborah Case  
LuAnn Sanders
- 4 Julie Kurth  
Kari Solomonson
- 5 Sam Reinertson
- 6 Lucy Peterson
- 8 Joan Bergeth  
Justin Nickolai
- 10 Judi McGill  
Joyce Strasser
- 11 Karen Rajek
- 12 Andrew Kallio  
Alex Krueger  
Ruth Riehle
- 15 Jeffrey Klein
- 16 Judith Beckman
- 17 Peggy Novak
- 18 Don Dern  
Marilyn Feindt
- 19 Suzanne Lewitzke
- 20 Barb Rajek
- 21 Barb West
- 22 Dale Kurth  
Beverly Meyer  
Jerry Nickolai
- 23 Barb Wipfli
- 28 Matthew Munson  
Brandon Riehle  
Lori Strodthoff
- 31 Rick Lohr

★ **HAPPY** ★  
**BIRTHDAY!**

## Anniversary Wishes To These Special Couples!

The following couples are celebrating  
their Wedding Anniversary

### March

- |                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| 6 Franklin & Connie Lewitzke | 31 years |
| Paul & Jane Reilly-Smith     | 19 years |

**Congratulations!**

*Happy Anniversary!*



### Cooking with olive oil?



You will want to know that award-winning olive oil, directly from the trees in Palestine, is now available in the church office! The olive oil comes from Canaan Fair Trade, a cooperative of over 50 farmers in the area of Jenin, Palestine. By purchasing the olive oil you are financially assisting these very challenged Palestinian farmers and their families. (Claudette Harring and Carolyn Michalski were hosted overnight by one of these wonderful families.) Each bottle sells for \$16.00, the cost at which it was purchased from Canaan Fair Trade. Sue will assist you with your purchase. Please let her know if you would like to see the olive oil available on a continuing basis, and we will maintain a ready supply.

You may still drop off your empty, clean prescription bottles and eye glasses. The box is on the table outside the church office. Thank you.



## Caring Corner . . .



*Our friends who are not able to come to church as often as they would like, but would love to hear from you or receive cards in the mail. Please call the church of-fice if you would like to be added.*

### FACILITY

#### **Bell Tower Residence**

**1500 O'Day St, Merrill WI 54452**

\* Barb Peterson (Rm 209)

#### **Colonial Manor**

**1010 E. Wausau Ave, Wausau WI 54403**

\* Norm Winterhoff

#### **The Garden Apartments**

**801 Parcher St, Wausau WI 54403**

\* Dolores Riege (Apt G105)

#### **Island Place Apartments**

**400 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403**

\* Joan Lind (Apt #123)

#### **Primrose Retirement Community**

**2100 Townline Rd., Wausau WI 54403**

\* Thelma Bursik (Apt #101)

#### **Primrose Memory Care**

**7704 Franciscan Way, Weston WI 54467**

\* Carol Hettinga (Rm. 8)

### HOME

Esther Osterby

3018 Springdale Ave., Wausau WI 54401

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

*Matthew 5:4*



**Arlene Dopkins**

6/14/28 - 2/24/18

A memorial service will be held  
at a later date at ILC.

Watch for more info

Lamb of God is a sacred work for choir, orchestra, soloists and narrators written and composed by Rob Gardner. It recounts the events of the final days of the life of Jesus Christ through the eyes of those who loved Him and knew Him best: Peter, John, Thomas, Mary and Martha of Bethany, Mary Magdalene, and His mother Mary. This oratorio combines the finest musicians from central Wisconsin, with guest performers from all over the US, from many different christian faiths. United we praise Jesus in this special Easter concert."

This multi-faith Easter celebration will be March 18th and 19th at the Wausau Grand Theater at 7:00 pm. Free Admission. Tickets are required; purchase them online or at the Grand Theater.

**You are Invited to Visit the Wausau Lay School  
March 16 and 17, 2018**

If you've been thinking about attending Lay School, come to our Friday evening and Saturday morning sessions in the month of March. Monitor the classes—for free! On Friday night, there's also a delicious dinner beforehand and on Saturday morning, a continental breakfast, followed by worship.

**Friday Eve (3/16)**

Dinner 5:15 pm                      Classes 6:00—10:00 pm

**Saturday (3/17)**

Fellowship 8:00 am              Worship 8:30 am              Classes 9:00—12:15 am

**Great Instruction! Great Fellowship!**

St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
3200 N. Mountain Road, Wausau

If you plan to attend, please let Jeanette Carlson know **by Friday, March 8**, at 715-848-2108. Food must be prepared and we need a head count. If you are unable to attend in March, join us in April (4/20 & 4/21).

**Do you know the meaning and practicing of Easter in East and West churches?**

Lent (Latin: *Quadragesima*) means *Fortieth day*, but originally meant spring season. Observing Lent was formalized at the First Council of Nicaea in 325 CE. It was a time of preparation of candidates for baptism and a time of penance for sinners. In the early centuries fasting rules were strict, as they still are in Eastern churches.

The Eastern Orthodox Church describes Lent as “Great Lent.” Great Lent officially begins on Monday (Ash Wednesday is not observed in Eastern Christianity) of the seventh week before Easter and ends on the Friday that is nine days before Easter. This 40-day includes Saturdays and Sundays as relaxed fast days.

The theme of Lenten according to the Eastern Church is joy. A difference between the Eastern and Western observances is that while in the West the chanting of Alleluia ceases during Lent, in the East its use is increased. This is because for Christians, fasting should be joyous (Matthew 6:16), and the sense of unworthiness must always be tempered with hope in God's forgiveness.

Easter is called *Pascha* in the Eastern Church. It is a transliteration of the Greek word, which is itself a transliteration of the Aramaic *pascha*, from the Hebrew *pesach* meaning Passover.

One difference between Eastern Christianity and Western Christianity is the calculation of the date of Easter. Most years, the Eastern Pascha falls after the Western Easter, and it may be as much as five weeks later; occasionally, the two dates coincide.



## SLOW DANCE

Have you ever watched kids on a merry-go-round? Or listened to the rain slapping on the ground? Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight? Or gazed at the sun into the fading night? You better slow down. Don't dance so fast. Time is short. The music won't last.

Do you run through each day on the fly? When you ask, "How are you?" do you hear the reply? When the day is done do you lie in your bed with the next hundred chores running through your head?

You better slow down. Don't dance so fast. Time is short. The music won't last.

Ever told your child, we'll do it tomorrow? And in your haste, not see his sorrow? Ever lost touch, let a good friendship die cause you never had time to call and say, "Hi".

You better slow down. Don't dance so fast. Time is short. The music won't last.

When you run so fast to get somewhere you miss half the fun of getting there. When you worry and hurry through your day, it is like an unopened gift.... Thrown away.

Life is not a race. Do take it slower. Hear the music before the song is over.

Written by a teen with cancer in a New York Hospital  
sent by a medical doctor....so the story goes.

(Whether a terminally ill girl wrote it or not, it does make you think....)

### Interfaith Dialogue Opportunity



This first Circles of Faith Interfaith Dialogue was a huge success! Members from ten different faith backgrounds gathered at NTC on February 11 and shared their faith stories. The reviews were overwhelmingly positive! The series continues March 11. Members of all religions are invited to share their personal faith experiences within a small group setting. Trained facilitators will lead the groups and introduce discussion questions to foster open dialogue across faiths. Pastor Niveen will be one of the facilitators. The events will be held in the NTC cafeteria, from 2:00 - 3:30pm.

Sunday dates and topics for the series are:

March 11 – Tell a story about a challenge you have had with faith.

April 15 – Tell a story about a positive experience with someone of a different faith or belief tradition.

Registration in advance will help us with organization, but walk-ins are welcome as well. To register and for questions, please visit the "Events" page at [www.wipps.org](http://www.wipps.org).

You may contact Julie Bunczak, Program Manager at 715-261-6234 with questions.



**FAITH  
IN ACTION**

**FAITH IN ACTION OF MARATHON COUNTY, INC.**  
recruits and trains volunteers to provide supportive services to Marathon  
County Seniors.

Serving those seniors with short-term and long-term health care  
medical and grocery transportation needs;  
in order to preserve their independent lifestyle while they continue living in  
their own home.

We are presently seeking volunteers.

Please contact: 715.848.8783 or email: [wausaufiainfo@gmail.com](mailto:wausaufiainfo@gmail.com)

### **629 Hamilton Street Parking Lot Update**

At the Annual Meeting in January, I promised an update on the pledged giving for the parking lot. The total amount pledged in March 2014 was \$63,255. To date, Immanuel has received \$50,644. This leaves \$12,611 or 20% outstanding. Upon review some of the pledges will most likely not be received due to folks moving away or leaving the congregation. This will remain an unknown until March 2019 when all pledges are due. Of course, a number of pledges will be coming in throughout the year. If you need to check on your pledge, or have questions/concerns, please call me at church or at home (715) 298-5055. To those of you who have so generously given, you have surely made a difference. Thank you. I will keep you informed as the Council decides how the remaining balance on the loan will be paid. Our current loan comes due on December 26, 2018.

Respectfully, Phyllis Hustedt

<b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b>			
<b>2018 Income vs Expenses</b>			
<b>Month</b>	<b>Income Received</b>	<b>Expenses Paid</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>January</b>	\$ 13,488.00	\$ 6,473.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 13,488.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,473.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,015.00</b>

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

[www.immanuelwausau.org](http://www.immanuelwausau.org)

## STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras  
**Email:** [pastor@immanuelwausau.org](mailto:pastor@immanuelwausau.org)  
**Emergency only:** 510-355-4352

**Admin. Assistant:** Sue Bargender  
**Email:** [info@immanuelwausau.org](mailto:info@immanuelwausau.org)

**Organists:** Judy Kort, Adele Bluhm, & Rodney Riese  
**Handbell Choir Director:** Joanne Diestelhorst  
**Custodians:** Paul Smith and Matt Munson

**Pianist:** Marino Taylor  
**Choir Director:** Kay Pope  
**Sunday School:** Judy Nickolai

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Bob Henning  
**Treasurer:** Phyllis Hustedt  
**Secretary:** Linda Hulstrom

**Vice President:** Jamie Rice-Heckendorf  
**Financial Secretary:** Patti Busche

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Executive Committee**  
**Education:** Judy Nickolai  
**Worship:** Judy Kort  
**Stewardship:** Kristin Kallio

**Property:** Jerry Nickolai  
**Evangelism:** Judi McGill,  
**Youth:** Maggie Westaby  
**Social Concerns:** Marge Warner

## Scheduled Meetings

March 20th	6:00 PM	Executive Committee
March 20th	6:35 PM	Council Meeting



## **Our Sister Church**

Lobatla Parish,  
c/o Rev. G.M. Nkale  
P.O. Box 160, Motswedi, 287  
Republic of South Africa

Pastor email: [nkalesto@gmail.com](mailto:nkalesto@gmail.com)

Sign up to receive ELCA Hunger information. <http://www.elca.org/hunger>

Sign up to receive ELCA Advocacy alerts. <http://www.elca.org/advocacy>

Sign up for LOPPW - Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Wisconsin  
<http://www.loppw.org/about-us/current-priorities/>  
Attend Synod "Following Christ in this World" 2/3  
<http://ecsw.org/event/following-christ-in-this-world/>



**Article Deadline for April Newsletter:  
Monday, March 19.**

# Immanuel Image

March 2018

Immanuel Lutheran Church

630 Adams St

Wausau, WI 54403

NON PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

WAUSAU WI

PERMIT 6235

**Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras**  
pastor@immanuelwausau.org

**Office**  
info@immanuelwausau.org  
Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 3:00 pm  
CLOSED FRIDAYS  
Phone 715-842-3644

**Website**  
www.immanuelwausau.org

**Follow us on Facebook**  
Immanuel Lutheran Church Wausau

## **Worship Services**

Sunday - 9:00 am

Wednesday during Lent 1 & 6 pm in Chapel

## **Sunday School**

Sunday - 10:15 am

## **Fellowship Hour**

Sunday - 10:15 am

## **TV Worship Services**

Charter Cable Channel 980

5:45 pm Tuesday & 9:15 am Thursday

If you are interested in watching any of the last two months of worship services, they are on the internet: **waam.viebit.com** (Wausau Area Access Media), on the left side of the screen, scroll to Immanuel Lutheran & click on the service.