

The Immanuel Informer

March 2024

Immanuel Lutheran Church's Monthly Newsletter

Reverend Eric Swyres, Pastor

801 West 11th Street Rolla MO. 65401

Email: ilc@rolla.org (573) 364-4525

[WWW.Facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranRolla](https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranRolla)

On the web: www.ilcrolla.org



Pastor's Monthly Minute...

Moses lifts up a serpent in the wilderness so that Israel might live. Christ is lifted up on a cross so that all who believe in Him may live. Despite God's unrelenting faithfulness, we may, at times, still loathe His blessings, yearning for something different. But in mercy, God turns toward us in kindness, forgives sin, and grants new life. Finally, in Christ, He gives us absolute grace, saving us from rebellion and preparing us for good works in Him.

Sursum Corda,

Pastor Swyres



Immanuel Lutheran Church is the sole supporter of The Lutheran Hour on KTTR every Sunday morning 9:30 am to 10:00 am. You can also listen on many streaming services. The sermon topics for this month are:

March 3

"Included in Such Company"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

The more you listen to the life of Jesus, the more you admire Him and the more grateful you are to be included in His company.

(Mark 10:43-45)

March 10

"All Bets Are Off"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

Jesus engages his opponents in a battle of wits and wins—for us.

(Mark 11)

March 17

"The Strangest Request"

Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe](#)

God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations through the gift of a son named Isaac. But then God asked Abraham to return that gift in a most shocking way. (Genesis 22:1-14)

March 24

"Repurposed Joy and Junk"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

There are artists who can take old junk and turn it into something new and beautiful. Dr. Michael Zeigler tells how Jesus repurposes both the junk and the joy in our lives.

(Mark 14:6)

March 31

"Eucatastrophe"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

(Mark 16:6-7)

Easter Breakfast

Easter Breakfast will take place following Easter Service. March 31 Ham, cheesy potatoes, egg casserole will be provided. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the secretary's office if you would like to donate deviled eggs, muffins, coffee cakes, Cinnamon rolls, or any dessert, fruit, and salads. Come and enjoy the resurrection of our Lord and great fellowship.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter lily to decorate the chancel, please fill out this form, and either put it in the offering plate, or turn it into the church office by noon Monday March 25 Lilies are \$8.00

Donated by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Mid-Week Lent Services

March 6th 12:00 & 6:00 p.m.

March 13th 12:00 & 6:00 p.m.

March 20th 12:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Holy Week

March 25th Palm Sunday 9:00 a.m.

March 28th Maundy Thursday Service 12:00 & 6:00 p.m.

March 29th Good Friday Service 12:00 & 6:00 p.m.

March 31st Easter Service 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School...

All children ages 3 through 9th grade are invited and encouraged to join us. We meet at 10:15 in the lower level of the Lutheran Student Center.

March 3: Lesson 9 The Poolside sign-Jesus Heals at Bethesda

For thirty-eight years, a paralyzed man has lain by the pool of Bethesda, hoping to enter it & receive healing. Jesus told him, "Get up, take your bed & walk." By the power of his words, Jesus healed the man. The Jewish leaders didn't like this & began to persecute Jesus.

March 10: Lesson 10 The Matthew Matter-Jesus calls Matthew.

Jesus sees Matthew sitting at his tax booth. He tells Matthew to follow Him & Matthew responds immediately, inviting Jesus to dine with him. The Pharisees didn't like that Jesus dines with tax collectors & other sinners.

March 17: Lesson 11 A Water Wonder-Jesus Walks on Water.

Jesus sends His disciples before him in the boat while He goes to pray. Late in the night Jesus appears to them, walking on the water. Peter asks to come to Jesus on the water. Despite initial success, Peter allows fear to enter his heart & Begins to sink. Jesus takes his hand & rescues Peter.

March 24.: Lesson 12 A Conflict Confession-Peter Confesses Christ

Jesus asks his disciples, who do people say I am? "Who do you say I am"? Peter confessed, "You are the Christ the Son of living God." When Jesus foretells His death & resurrection, Peter objects & Jesus rebukes Peter. Jesus keeps His focus on the cross.

Congratulations

Rodrick Perry was the winner of the Attendance Prize for February

LWML

LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Women in Mission) mite collection will take place Sunday, March 3. The collection box will be located in the narthex. Everyone is welcomed to contribute to the LWML national and district mission projects funded by mite offerings. For a complete list of mission projects funded by the national LWML log on to www.lwml.org/mission-grants. For a complete list of mission projects funded by Missouri District LWML for 2022-2024, log on to www.missourilwml.org.

Immanuel LWML continues to work on local mission projects once again. The goal is to contribute 100 quilts to Lutheran World Relief and/or Orphan Grain Train. Please consider joining in the project of tying quilts and/or making pillowcase dresses for distribution to those affected by disaster. Activity date is Tuesday, March 19, 1-3 p.m. in the church basement. All supplies are furnished and prior experience is not required. The group will also recognize National Quilting Day by conducting a quilt tying afternoon on Saturday, March 16, 1-3 p.m. in the church basement.

Thrivent members are invited to request Action Team Grants to fund supplies for the Backpack Program; diapers, wipes and formula for Pregnancy Resource Center; pillow case dresses for

Orphan Grain Train; and bedding linens for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Please contact Sue Kamprath for information on the Backpack Program; Carla Roedemeier or Mary Wittmaier for Pregnancy Resource Center, Orphan Grain Train, Lutheran World Relief or Sleep In Heavenly Peace. To God be the glory.

LEISURE LUTHERANS

Brunch is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 11:00 a.m., in the church fellowship hall. Pancakes, butter and syrup will be furnished. Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the narthex to indicate your attendance and contribution to the potluck. Join us for a warm meal and warm friendship.

THRIVENT

Some Thrivent members are awarded Choice Dollars as earnings from one or more Thrivent products that can be designated to benefit a non-profit organization. Please take

the time to access your Thrivent account on-line to direct available Choice Dollars to your favorite non-profit organization by March 31, 2024.

GOOD DADS

What role did having a loving, engaged father play in your childhood development? On the other hand, have you noticed how, when reading a news account of a person charged with crime, that person often comes from a broken home, and has a father who is incarcerated, misuses alcohol or drugs, or is otherwise disengaged? Good Dads is a non-profit which has shown remarkable success in training fathers to be more supportive of, and engaged with, their growing children. And Good Dads are coming to Rolla! Good Dads began in Springfield, MO, in 2015, and was active in twelve communities throughout the state in 2023. This year, plans are to initiate programs in eight more communities, including Rolla. The founder and Executive Director of Good Dads is Dr. Jennifer Baker. Dr. Baker grew up in Rolla and was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church until she left to attend Concordia University Nebraska. Her parents, Jack and Lois Haas, were among the founding members of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Good Dads has several different programs to train and support fathers. The first to be offered in Rolla is “New Pathways for Good Dads.” This is intended for at-risk fathers, many with issues regarding child support, and many also with a history of incarceration or addiction. The sixteen weekly classes will begin in March at the Rolla Dream Center, and be led by Pastor Amy Cornelius of First United Methodist Church. Don Langhoff of Immanuel will offer support. Other Good Dads programs include “Good Dads Strong Schools,” “Fundamentals of Fatherhood,” “Good Dads 2.0,” and “Helping Fathers in the Heartland.” There is much information about each of these programs on the Good Dads website, gooddads.com. There is also information about the next opportunity to be trained as a Good Dads facilitator from May 20-24. Perhaps you would be interested in being trained, and in helping the organization achieve their motto of “Helping kids and communities one dad at a time.”

Ushers

Ushers are needed for Sunday morning Please prayerfully consider helping out in this ministry.

Flower Chart

The 2024 flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board and several spots are open. Please consider helping in this ministry.

Immanuel Book Club

March 18 The Day the World Came to Town (NF) by Jim DeFede

April 15 Thursday Murder club (F) by Richard Osman

May 20 America's First Daughter (NF) by Stephanie Dray, Laura Kamoie

June 17 The River We Remember (F) by William Kent Krueger

July 15 The Light We Carry (NF) by Michelle Obama

August 19 Hang the Moon (F) by Jeannette Walls

September 16 Unwise Passion (NF) by Alan Crawford

October 21 The Ladies Midnight Swimming Club (F) by Faith Hagan

November 18 The Greatest Beer Run Ever (NF) by John "Chick" Donohue

There is no meeting in December.

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

On Sundays, everyone is welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:15am for Bible study. We are currently studying the book of Genesis.

A weekly Bible study is held every Thursday in the Fellowship Hall at noon. We are currently studying the book of Ephesians

Those Who Serve in March...

Elders

March . 3rd: Jim Perry Communion Attendant: J.D. Cox

March 10th: Matt Banholzer

March 17th Bob Gorrell Communion Attendant: Tim Rush

March 24th: Ethan Swyres Communion Attendant: David Roedemeier

March 28th Matt Banholzer 12:00 Maundy Thursday & Jim Perry 6:00 p.m.

March. 31st: Jim Perry

Ushers

March 3rd : Team 2: Ben McWilliams, Aaron Wassilak, Dan Wassilak, Jim Wassilak, and John Wassilak

March 10th : Team 3: Tom Evers, Charlie Johnson, Tracy Krauss, Tim Rush and Bill Wuenscher.

March 17th : Team 4: J.D. Cox, Bob Gorrell, Jim Perry and David Roedemeier.

March 24th: Team 1: Andy Anderson, Matt Banholzer, Alan Elsing, Bob Iemen and Ethan Swyres.

March 31st: Team 2: Ben McWilliams, Aaron Wassilak, Dan Wassilak, Jim Wassilak, and John Wassilak

Organists

March 3rd: Berniece Standberg
March 6th: Berniece Strandberg (Lent Service)
March 10th: Phil Thiem
March 13th: Phil Thiem (Lent Service)
March 17th: Berniece Strandberg
March 20th: Berniece Strandberg (Lent Service)
March 24th: Phil Thiem
March 28th: Phil Thiem (Maundy Thursday Service)
March 29th: Berniece Standberg (Good Friday)
March 31st: Berniece Standberg

Greeters

March 3rd: Erma Jean Haas and Bill Wuenscher
March 10th: Sue Perry and Jim Perry
March 17th: Carla Roedemeier and Jana Wassilak
March 24th: Nancy Anderson and Andy Anderson
March 31st: Bill Wuenscher

Money Counters

March 3rd: Jean Kramme & Sue Perry
March 10th: Don Langhoff & Terry Theiss
March 17th: David Roedemeier & Aaron Wassilak
March 24th: Malissa Bisson & John Wassilak
March 31st: Jean Kramme & Sue Perry

Altar Guild Jana Wassilak

Sunday Bible Class Snacks

March 3rd: Jean McWilliams
March 10th: Carla Roedemeier & Sara McClelland
March 17th: Sue Langhoff & Erma Jean Haas
March 24th: Sue Perry

March 31st NO BIBLE CLASS EASTER

College Refreshments

March 5th Karen Clancy
March 12th Eileen Theiss
March 19th Arlene Marr
March 26th NO BIBLE CLASS (Spring Break)

Altar Flowers

March 3rd
March 10th Jim Mesko
March 17th Pastor & Kelle Swyres
March 24th
March 31st

Council Action Items for February

LWML

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March Birthdays

- Mar 7** **Kim Matthews, David Roedemeier, Kory Debold**
- Mar 9** **Mason Nickason**
- Mar 10** **David Holzerland**
- Mar 11** **John Hoffmeister, Russell Luke Perry**
- Mar 16** **Emma Wassilak**
- Mar 17** **Kendrick Payne**
- Mar 19** **Kayley Swyres**
- Mar 20** **Davis Haas, Caleb McClelland, Mia Grace Swyres**
- Mar 22** **Ann Crosbie**
- Mar 23** **Betty Dean**
- Mar 24** **Randy Stoll,**
- Mar 28** **Christopher Kamprath, Dominico Defusco**
- Mar 29** **Debbie Hollman, Rodrick Perry**
- Mar 30** **Kacie Wassilak**
- Mar 31** **Logan Gorrell, Shirley Bundschuh**

March Anniversary

Mar. 30 Duke & Marie Dow

	SUN 25	MON 26	TUE 27	WED 28	THU 29	FRI Mar 1	SAT 2
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Church Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Bible Class 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Leisure Lutherans Fellowship 5:30pm Confirmation Classes 6pm God & Grapes 7pm LSC Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Mid Week Lent Service 5:30pm Soccer Training 8th Grade 6pm Mid Week Lent Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Adult Bible Class 1pm Leisure Lutheran Cards and Gar 		
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beta Sig Sunday 9am Church Service 9am Mile Collection Sunday <p>2 more</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Church Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Confirmation Classes 7pm LSC Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Mid Week Lent Service 5:30pm Soccer Training 8th Grade 6pm Mid Week Lent Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Adult Bible Class 1pm Leisure Lutheran Cards and Gar 		
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Church Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Bible Class 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Leisure Lutherans (Brunch) Fellowship 5:30pm Confirmation Classes 7pm LSC Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Mid Week Lent Service 5:30pm Soccer Training 8th Grade 6pm Mid Week Lent Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Adult Bible Class 1pm Leisure Lutheran Cards and Gar 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Servant Workshop
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Church Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Bible Class 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm LWML Servant Workshop 5:30pm Confirmation Classes 7pm LSC Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Leisure Lutherans Meeting 12pm Mid Week Lent Service 5:30pm Soccer Training 8th Grade 6pm Mid Week Lent Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Adult Bible Class 1pm Leisure Lutheran Cards and Gar 		
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Church Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Bible Class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2pm Book Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Confirmation Classes 6pm God & Grapes 7pm LSC Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Soccer Training 8th Grade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Maundy Thursday Service with 12pm Adult Bible Class 1pm Leisure Lutheran Cards and Gar 6pm Maundy Thursday Service with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Good Friday Service 6pm Good Friday Service 	
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Church Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Bible Class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Church Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm LSC Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Soccer Training 8th Grade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Adult Bible Class 1pm Leisure Lutheran Cards and Gar 		