



Immanuel Lutheran Church, School  
and Child Care Center  
604 S Chestnut Ave., Marshfield, WI  
Website: [immanuelmarshfield.org](http://immanuelmarshfield.org)



March 2024

To pick up from my last Rejoice! newsletter article, we're hoping to begin at some point in March the SAM sessions. SAM stands for Specialist in Aging Ministry. SAM is focused on helping adults to live fully as we grow older. It is designed to address some of the complex factors affecting aging and how a variety of Christian practices can enrich the faith of and foster the well-being and emotional resilience among older persons. Topics include loneliness and isolation, caregiving, mental health, and end-of-life planning.

Our participation in SAM is not so much about raising up "specialists." Those who will take advantage of the six sessions will not be recruited to an office or a position. SAM is about equipping anyone who knows how great the need is to prep and deal for their own "aging" and to be a "little Christ" to someone who they know is "aging."

## EXODUS

On to Lent and Holy Week! Make sure you check the Rejoice! calendar for the opportunities you have to journey with me throughout Lent to Good Friday and Easter by way of the Book of Exodus. It is astounding to me how relevant and encouraging to life today with all its challenges is the journey Moses and the Israelites experienced as told in Exodus. It's a journey which, if you are really listening, has Jesus present every step of the way.

Beginning with Ash Wednesday and up to Easter Sunday, Exodus will be taking us through the seven times Moses asks Pharaoh to let God's people go, and Pharaoh finally does it! When he does, God's salvation is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. Turns out that Israel's Scriptures mention the exodus 125 times!

It's all meant by God to reveal who He is through His absence and His presence, through His silence and His speech, through His wrath and His mercy, and through His judgment and His amazing grace. In doing so, the Book of Exodus paints for us a beautiful portrait of the crucified and risen Christ.

The Exodus theme will prevail through all our scheduled weekend and midweek services throughout Lent and Holy Week, as well as the Bible Study held on Mondays and Wednesdays. The overall theme will be the same while different messages will be offered each week. As we often sing together on Sundays, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!"

Pastor Chris Schwanz

## **SCHOOL NEWS**

At the time of this printing we will be taking part in our celebration of Immanuel Lutheran School. The theme for Immanuel Lutheran School Week this year is Connected. Many of the activities planned for this special week involve students (and their families) working together and connecting. Teachers will be working together to lead Chapel on Monday morning, students will be working in their Chapel families to complete a puzzle, each class will be working together to play Gaga ball, and parents/grandparents/congregation members will be working together to see that our carnival goes off without a hitch.

God intended us to do life together. This includes providing encouragement and support to each other and helping to pick each other up when things get hard. Life is a journey filled with both good times and bad times. We might win sometimes, but we might also lose sometimes. Either way these experiences are meant to form us to be more like Jesus. We must never forget that as children of God, we were not only made to be connected with each other but that we must actively seek to stay connected to the one who created us all.

*Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the beautiful connections you have made in my life with my brothers and sisters of faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

### **Enrollment**

We are currently enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year. If you (or someone you know) are looking for a quality Christian education, please stop in during office hours or call us at 715-384-5121. We are more than willing to give a tour or answer any questions you may have. Enrollment forms are available in the office.

### **Envelopes of Hope**

During the month of March you will notice a display in the Narthex. The display is filled with envelopes ranging from \$1 all the way up to \$100. Take an envelope of your choosing (or several if you would like). Put the money amount listed on the envelope inside and drop the filled envelope in the box provided. The money raised will be going to help those families in our school that could use some tuition assistance. Thank you in advance for helping more children learn about Jesus.

### **Immanuel Lutheran School Week**

Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> the teachers will be leading Chapel at 8:00. You are more than welcome to join us for worship. Also, on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> the teachers and staff will be serving the Lenten meal starting at 5:45. We would love to give you the night off from cooking and serve you your supper following the 5:00 worship service.

## Advance Carnival Ticket Order

*(Bring payment and order to the office.)*

*Ticket Pick Up at the Gym Door the Day of Carnival.)*

**Tickets are used for games & concessions.**

Quantity	Price
5 tickets	\$1.00
25 tickets	\$5.00
50 tickets	\$10.00
100 tickets	\$20.00
150 tickets	\$30.00

Name	Quantity	\$

Concessions:

Individual Pizza	25 tickets	Pop/Water	5 tickets
Hotdog	10 tickets	Cheese Curds	5 tickets
Hotdog, curds, chips	20 tickets	Cookie/Bar	5 tickets

**Advance tickets: 5 ) \$1.00    At the door: 4)\$1.00**



**Deaths**

Jacob Paul Gnan, 24, passed away on January 17, 2024 in Plano, Texas. Jacob's funeral was held at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward, Nebraska. A memorial service was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Marshfield, Wisconsin on Saturday, February 17, 2024 for his family members in our area. Jacob's sister and brother in law are Katherine and Tim Priefer, members of Immanuel, Marshfield.

**Joining by Affirmation of Faith**

Bob and Rita Beam  
Mary Zahn

**Quilting for Missions**

Quilting meets on Wednesday mornings from 8-noon. We break for coffee and conversation at 10am. If you would like to help tie or stitch quilts for missions, please join us!

**Adult Bible Study will be Mondays and Wednesdays at 1pm**

The topic will be the same each week on both days. The two opportunities are to make room for our growing group! Come and learn with us!

**Youth Ministry at Immanuel**

Sunday School K - 6th grade - 10am  
Catechism Wednesday - 6:30pm.  
High School Youth Wednesday - 7:30pm.  
Simple Truth Youth Praiseband,  
5th Grade and up, Sunday - 10:15am.

**Altar Circle**

The next Altar Circle meeting will be March 4th at 6:30pm. Please join with us if you would like to learn about preparing the altar and sanctuary for worship and communion.

**Lenten Meals at 5:45pm on Wednesdays**

following 5pm Worship.

**March 6—Teachers/Staff will serve a meal**

**March 13—"Camping Friends" will serve a meal**

**March 20—POTLUCK Meal**

**Lutheran Women in Mission**

Our next meeting will be held March 12th, at 6:30pm. Remember that guests, friends, and visitors are always welcome. Please come!

**Chapel Communion**

March 21 at 1:30pm will be our next Chapel Communion service. This service is open to anyone! It is especially convenient for those not able to join us for weekend worship or who desire a small group setting for worship.

**Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive**

Help ease financial strain on 5 local homeless and crisis programs and those they serve! Most needed items: Bathroom Tissue, Cleaning Supplies, Dental Care, Deodorant, Diapers/Baby Care, Face/Bath Soap, Feminine Care, Hair Care, Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Razors, Trash Bags. Collection in the Immanuel narthex.

**The piano in the sanctuary has been well loved over the years**

so has difficulty 'holding it's tune.' John and Jan Simonson found a barely used/basically new Yamaha console piano locally. The cost of a new console piano is between \$4000 and \$5000. We can get the above piano for a third of that cost. If anyone would like to contribute toward the purchase of the piano or cost of moving it to Immanuel, please mark your offering envelope "piano." If you have questions, reach out to John or Jan.

**THRIVENT**

**Directing Choice Dollars Online:** 1. Log in to [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) with your username and password. (If you haven't yet registered on [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com), click Register now. 2. Select Direct Choice Dollars from the left side or at the bottom of your Account Overview screen.. 3. Choose the organization to which you want to direct Choice Dollars: a. To direct to a previous organization, simply locate the organization listed under Previous organizations you've chosen. b. To direct to a new organization, enter keyword(s) like organization name, ZIP code, cause, etc. Click the magnifying glass icon to search. 4. Enter the specific number of Choice Dollars you wish to direct and click Review. If you are satisfied with your choices, click Confirm and direct to direct your Choice Dollars.

**Directing Choice Dollars by Phone:** . Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." 2. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice Dollars program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.) 3. A client service professional will work with you to direct Choice Dollars

## **Lent, Holy Week, & Easter Worship Service Schedule**

Midweek Lent services March 6 through March 20: 5:00pm

5:45pm Lenten Meals served by various groups

**Please note: March 20 will be POTLUCK! Bring a dish to pass!**

March 28 Maundy Thursday 4:00pm & 6:30pm

March 29 Good Friday 1:00pm & 6:30pm

March 31 Resurrection Day: 6:30am Contemporary Worship & 9:00am Traditional Worship

Dear Members of Immanuel,

Thank you for your support!

In 2023, we and our teachers at Living Word shared a Christian witness with Dungan people 1462 times. Our house church grew from ten to fifteen regular worshippers and multiplied from one group to two. I started a new group to disciple young Christian husbands, first generation believers who grew up in Muslim families. Our Social Media outreach posts are seen by over 25,000 people each week, leading to several new discipling relationships. Over 80 young men and women now study at Living Word, up 30% over 2022. Ivy continues bringing the Gospel to dozens of students in her university classes and scores of acupuncture patients at home. Each of these numbers represent people, the lives, names, faces, and hearts for whom Jesus died. Serving Him with you,  
Rev. Kip and Ivy Hoech, Tian Shan Mission Society (See the bulletin board for more missionary news.)

### **IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL & CHILD CARE CENTER**

604 South Chestnut Avenue, Marshfield, WI Phone  
(715) 384-5121

Website: [Immanuelmarshfield.org](http://Immanuelmarshfield.org)

Email: [info@immanuelmarshfield.org](mailto:info@immanuelmarshfield.org)

**Office Hours:** 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Rejoice** is published by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Marshfield, WI to inform the congregation of upcoming events as well as to promote Christian love, fellowship and understanding.

#### **PASTORAL STAFF:**

Rev. Chris A. Schwanz—Pastor

Rev. Donn Radde—Visitation Pastor

#### **SCHOOL FACULTY:**

Jill Helgerson, Principal

Stephanie Wolf—7/8 Homeroom,

English & Literature, 5/6 Social Studies

Jen Schifelbine—7/8 Social Studies & Science,  
5/6 Science

Rev. Chris Schwanz—7/8 Catechism

Renee Hammond—Grades 5—6, 7/8 Math

Brenda Kuhnau—Grade 4

Heidi Foemmel—Grade 3

Jill Helgerson—Grade 2 Morning

Sara Vechinski—Grade 2 afternoon

Beth Hollatz—Grade 1

Emily Marino—Kindergarten

Christina Berger—Elementary Aide

Renee Griepentrog—4K

Jan Simonson—School Music

Nicholas Olsen—Physical Education

Erica Borgo—Art

Jordyn Helgerson—Computer, Elementary Aide

Thomas Rose—Athletic Director

Dennis Wibben—Director, Nutrition Services

#### **CHILD CARE STAFF:**

Brooke Draves, Child Care Supervisor

Sheena Brunzo

Jenny Flugel

Jordyn Helgerson

Jeanine Kaszuba

Caitlyn Muraski

Miranda Ruiz

#### **CUSTODIAL STAFF:**

Terry Fischer

Dan Langteau

#### **OFFICE STAFF:**

Cathy Muraski—Business Manager

Heidi Schwanz—Administrative Assistant

### **Mission Statement**

**"Immanuel Lutheran Church, School and Child Care Center:**

Reaching out to all people, teaching and sharing God's gift of Jesus Christ, with the values of empowering, equipping and encouraging all the saints."



## SPECIAL OFFERINGS RECEIVED

### January 27, 2024—February 11, 2024:

*(Please note on offering envelope which project you choose to sponsor)*

#### **PORTALS OF PRAYER**

Ursula Rhodes  
Doreen Fuller

#### **HEATING & BUILDING UPDATES**

Doug & Joy Wirtz  
Vickie Dux

#### **IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

In memory of Darcie Brandl Stauber:  
Guy & Janice Brandl  
In memory of David "Pete" Markworth  
Diane Markworth

#### **4K CLASSROOM**

In memory of Floyd Hamus:  
Earl & Darleene Giese

#### **SCHOOL PLAYGROUND**

In memory of Floyd Hamus:  
Dean & Renee Griepentrog

#### **CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP MINISTRY**

Harriet Brandt

#### **BAPTISM FAITH CHESTS**

#### **HELP US GROW THROUGH E-GIVING**

Giving online is fast, easy and secure. You can set up recurring payments.

Visit our website at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YQQW>

1. Or scan QR code with your smart phone
2. Locate the Give Online button.
3. Donate!



#### **Pure Germany! 2024**

**Pomerania, Lutherland & Northern Bavaria**

**Sept. 11-23, 2024**

This trip is open to all, but if your ancestors emigrated from northeast Germany (Pomerania), you will want to consider signing-up for Pure Germany! 2024. This is a special-customized 12-day tour of northeast Germany, Luther Heritage sites, and northern Bavaria.

Described as an "amazing trip" by a former traveler-participant, this tour is a one-of-a-kind journey toward discovering your roots. "Thanks so much for making the Germany tour the trip of my life! I don't know what else I could have asked for," shared John Schultz (2022 tour participant).

If you or someone you know would like to learn more, contact Jim Yagow at [jimyagow@aol.com](mailto:jimyagow@aol.com) or call (920) 809-4445.

**To check for cancellation of worship Services during bad weather, view Wausau TV Channels 7 or 9 or the Immanuel Lutheran Website: [immanuelmarshfield.org](http://immanuelmarshfield.org)**

#### **Immanuel Worship Broadcast**

**YouTube during Worship Service times. Connect via the Immanuel Website.**

View Sunday worship services on Charter/Spectrum Cable Digital 989:  
Thursday 2pm Sunday 4pm

#### **Elected Board Members**

JJ Jensen—President,  
Steve Koran—Vice President  
Becca Ayer—Secretary

Board of Education:

Jolene Albert, Hannah Barth, Kim Bernarde,  
Daniel Craft, Amanda Sessions

Board of Elders:

Glen Buth, Corey Kuhnau, Brian Mortvedt,  
Dave Rogers, Doug Wirtz

Board of Administration:

Laura Abel, Jake Bernarde, Al Merkel, Tom Schafer,  
Joe Vechinski