

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

April 2017

Alleluia!

Holy Week

Holy Week is the last week of the 40 day season of Lent and the week preceding Easter. In Holy Week we focus on the last week of Christ's life, remembering especially His Passion and resurrection.

Palm Sunday - Jesus apparently spent His nights during the early part of Holy Week in Bethany, probably at the home of His good friends Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. On the Sunday before His crucifixion, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey and was greeted by a large, cheering crowd as He approached the city.

Maundy Thursday - On Thursday, the "first day of Unleavened Bread", Jesus sent two disciples to locate a room and prepare for the Passover, the Last Supper. During this meal, which would have begun at sundown, Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Altar, giving His disciples His body and blood under the bread and wine of the meal. He also washed the disciples' feet. Judas left during this meal to complete his act of betraying Jesus. Jesus then led the remaining eleven apostles to the Mount of Olives, to Gethsemane, where He secluded Himself and His inner circle—Peter, James, and John—for prayer, asking the Father to spare Him the crucifixion if it were possible, but accepting His Father's will that He die for us and our sins. Sometime during the evening, perhaps while Jesus prayed, the day passed into Friday.

Good Friday - Friday was a busy and sorrowful day. Judas brought soldiers of the chief priests to arrest Jesus, identifying Him with a kiss. Jesus was taken to Annas and then to the high priest, Caiaphas. There the soldiers mocked and beat Jesus while Peter denied Him in the courtyard. At daylight, the Sanhedrin, the

Jewish council, condemned Jesus for blasphemy and took Him for sentencing. Pilate first sent Jesus to King Herod, the king of Galilee who was in Jerusalem at the time, because Jesus was a Galilean. Herod, however, sent Jesus back to Pilate in a royal robe. Pilate initially refused the Jewish leaders' request for a death sentence. He had Jesus flogged and mocked Him further with a crown of thorns and a reed scepter. The crowds called for Jesus to be crucified and, in the end, Pilate relented. Pilate washed his hands of the matter, released the prisoner Barabbas, and sentenced Jesus to be crucified. Jesus carried His own cross through the streets of Jerusalem to Golgotha, assisted by Simon of Cyrene. Jesus was nailed to the cross at the "third Hour" (about 9am) and died at about the "ninth hour" (3pm) His body was removed from the cross and rushed to burial in a nearby tomb before sundown and the beginning of the Passover Sabbath.

Easter Sunday - A new day and a new week dawned with an earthquake, as an angel rolled back the stone sealing Jesus' tomb. Several women among the disciples, coming with spices to complete the burial preparations, found the tomb empty, and angels announced Jesus' resurrection. The women hurried back to report to the apostles, and Peter and John raced to the tomb, where they confirmed that Jesus was not there. Jesus appeared that day to Mary Magdalene, the women, Simon, Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus, and ten of the apostles in the Upper Room. **Jesus had risen just as He said, winning forgiveness, life, and salvation for us all. Alleluia!**

Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid met on March 1st in the Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall. Devotion was read and refreshments were served by Wilma Grussing. Brenda Hendricks had the topic on "The Beginning of Lent – Ash Wednesday". Minutes and roll call were given by Wilma Grussing. Connie Warsaw gave the treasurers' report with a balance of \$1198.56. Brenda Hendricks reported for Deb Lammle that there was \$243.03 in the flower fund treasury. Thank you notes from Concordia Seminary Food Pantry, Concordia Seminary, Lutheran Child and Family Services, Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Connie Warsaw, and the Bloch family were read. A motion was made and seconded to provide two fleece blankets and a raffle basket for the Rick Hardesty Benefit in April. Clarifications were made on dues payment, flower fund donations, and LCFS donations. The next meeting will be April 5 with Connie Warsaw giving the devotion and serving as hostess. Annette Warsaw will be giving the topic. The roll call will be answered with a verse on eternal life. All ladies of the church are always invited to attend the Ladies Aid meetings on the first Wednesday of each month from March through December. **For the April meeting, the ladies will meet at 1:00PM, INSTEAD OF THE USUAL 1:30PM to tie fleece blankets for the Rick Hardesty benefit.**

New Baby

Congratulations to Eric and Joy Zimmerman on the birth of their daughter, Luella Johanna on March 13th. She was born early and has spent her beginning days at the hospital, but she is progressing well. She is the granddaughter of Myron and Janet Zimmerman and the great-granddaughter of Arnita Zimmerman. May God continue to watch over Luella and her new family.

Easter Lilies

Anyone wanting to donate a lily for Easter Sunday service, please sign up on the bulletin board by April 9th. The cost of the lily with a bow is \$10. Please pay Bob Zimmerman, and make checks to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman. You may take your flowers home after the Easter service. Thanks to all who help adorn the altar for this special service.

Thank You

Thank you to all who volunteered their time on Saturday, March 11, to make the benefit soup supper for Cindy Masko a success. The benefit was held to help pay expenses for treatment and care during Cindy's battle with breast cancer. The free will offering collected at the event totaled \$8656, but there are still donations being collected. Approximately 265 people were served with delicious soups, sandwiches, pies, and other desserts. It indeed was a group effort from our members who cooked, baked, served, and organized this well-attended event. A special thanks to Roy and Annette Whitehouse and Dwight and Terri Hooker for planning this benefit. John 15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you".

Thank You

Thanks to Sue VanWakeman and Debbie Lammle for visiting the shut-ins in March.

Thank you to all the committees who provided refreshments at the Lenten Social Hours.

"Rick Hardesty Pump Fund Benefit"

The Rick Hardesty Benefit will be held on April 15th at the Farmer City American Legion, 755 Stensel Drive, beginning at 4pm. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, with age 12 and under eat free. A paid ticket includes a pulled pork meal and one chance to win a 50" TV. You may buy tickets from Bob Zimmerman, Butch Sprau, or at the benefit. A sign-up sheet has now been posted on the bulletin board for those willing to donate desserts (pies, bar cookies, etc.) You may bring these items to the hall and they will be taken to Farmer City on the day of the benefit. In addition, a table has been placed under the balcony for items you would like to donate for the live or silent auctions. Auction items will be taken to Farmer City on April 6th. Items brought after that date will be taken to Farmer City the day of the benefit. Contact John Lammle, Bob Zimmerman, or Butch Sprau for any questions.

LWML Zone President's Meeting

Debbie Lammle, President of the LWML Danville Zone, held the Zone President's meeting on Saturday, March 18th at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Milford, beginning at 1:30pm. Representatives from eight different societies were present.

Topics discussed included:

- CID LWML convention at Altamont Lutheran Church, and servant events on Friday at St. Paul Blue Point Church, northeast of Altamont.
- Spring Gathering at Cissna Park Lutheran Church on April 1st beginning at 8:30am. The Comfort dog, Mahlah, and her main handlers, Dean and Jayne Henrichs, will be present at the event. A monetary in-gathering will be collected for our Zone Treasury and for the Comfort Dog needs.
- Historical facts, Clarion deadlines, pictures for our webpage, and a new location to take used Portals of Prayer, bibles, Christian materials, old quarterlies, and empty pill bottles. **All these previous items, along with ink jet cartridges, trimmed stamps, and used cell phones, are being collected at the back of our church in the purple LWML box.**
- A special free will offering at the CID Convention in honor of the LWML 75th anniversary
- Jill Hardesty's mom, Lois Wood, as our Danville Zone Delegate for the National LWML Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico on June 22-25, 2017.
- May 4th - the National Day of Prayer.
- The Fall Rally at Calvary Watseka in September.

It was voted to have our financial contribution for Parochial Schools, which is our 2017 Zone Project, turned into our new Secretary/Treasurer at the Fall Rally. (A new President and Secretary/Treasurer will be elected at this zone event.) President Lammle continues to visit all the societies in the zone. The meeting continued with the Zone President and society Presidents sharing their reports. In the absence of Pastor Gibbs, President Lammle ended with a Lenten Devotion. Anyone interested in District offices for next year or VBS in Poland this summer please see Debbie Lammle.

LWML News

LWML met on March 9, 2017 and opened the meeting with the LWML song and pledge. Devotion was given by Agnes Martinie on Proverbs 9 entitled a "Special invitation from God". Wilma Grussing had the topic about views from the cross which made us all think about where we would have been if we had been alive during the crucifixion. 11 members were present. Minutes were read by Secretary Marsha Warsaw. The treasurer's report was given by Deb Martin with a balance of \$693.78. Both reports were approved. When we collected our mites Brenda Hendricks reported that we are down \$12,000 from our district goal and explained that if this goal is not met by March 31, the next year starts at a deficit of that amount. Our mite goal for 2017-18 is \$90,000.

Deb Lammle read recent correspondence from Vicar Brian Johnston.

President Gaines read a thank you letter from the Military Biblestick program and special thanks were offered to all members who have donated food to our congregation who have been in need. Thanks were also offered to those who donated food for the Ash Wednesday service.

We have completed 40 quilt tops so far and just sent out 52 pillowcase dresses. Thank you to Terri and Diana for packing up the dresses and sending them out. In addition to the two quilts we've chosen, another quilt has been donated to be placed in the auction for Rick Hardesty. Upcoming quilt dates are: April 6, May 4 and June 1.

A discussion was held regarding a fundraiser for the zone project for 2017 for scholarships for Lutheran schools in our zone. Deb Martin and Deb Lammle volunteered to look into options for this fundraiser.

After discussion, the group decided to adopt an area needy family for a year. A family has been identified that we will remember on birthdays and holidays as well as other times throughout the year.

Under new business, it was decided to sponsor the baby bottle project again this year from May thru June. Deb Martin volunteered to coordinate this project.

Upcoming events: Spring Gathering is scheduled for April 1, 2017 in Cissna Park with the topic "Beautiful Feet". RSVP by March 25. There will be a monetary in-gathering. Several members are planning to attend.

The CID convention is scheduled for April 28 and April 29 in Altamont. Barb Gaines will be the delegate

with Brenda Hendricks the alternate. The group agreed to vote on the requested grants and the delegate will take that consensus to the convention.

The National Convention is set for June 22—June 25 in Albuquerque. Brenda Hendricks is planning to attend.

Brenda Hendricks and Terri Hooker provided wonderful refreshments. The next meeting will be on June 8, 2017 with Shirley Sprau having the topic and Deb Lammle and Barb Gaines serving as hostesses.

Donations for a needy family

LWML will be adopting an area needy family for a year. This family has been through a recent tragic loss and is facing some real financial challenges. In addition to remembering them on birthdays and holidays we plan to offer assistance anytime throughout the year. Anyone in the congregation is welcome to donate—money, gift cards, etc. There will be a designated box in the back of the church for all donations.

CID Convention Gifts from the Heart

At the upcoming CID convention in Altamont on April 29 there will be a “Gifts from the Heart” offering for the St. Louis Seminary Food Bank and the local pregnancy centers. There will be a list of suggested items to donate posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church. Please give your items to either Deb Lammle or Brenda Hendricks by April 23.

With Sympathy

Our sympathies are extended to the family and friends of Cindy Masko who died Sunday, March 12. “Blessed are those who die in the Lord, from hence forth; blessed, indeed, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.”

Rev. 14:13

Our sympathies are extended to Jim and Jane Poppe at the passing of Jane’s mother, Rowena Koshinski on Tuesday, March 21. “Even though I walk through the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” Psalm 23:4

Upcoming Services and Events

LWML Spring Gathering: April 1st, 8:30am at Cissna Park

Lenten Service: April 5th, 7pm with Social Hour afterwards

Folding Palms: April 8th, 9am in the Church Annex

Choir singing to the shut-ins: April 9th after church

Maundy Thursday: April 13th, Social Hour, 6pm; Service, 7pm with Holy Communion (including homemade bread and wine) and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday Service: April 14th, 7pm

Rick Hardesty Benefit: April 15th, beginning at 4pm at the Farmer City American Legion

Easter Morning Service: April 16th, 7am with Holy Communion including homemade bread and wine; Easter Breakfast following

Voter’s Meeting: April 23rd after church

LWML CID Convention at Immanuel Lutheran, Altamont: April 28th-29th

Statistics

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Adult Class
2/19	71	2	15
2/26	61	6	12
3/1	26	-	-
3/5	72	6	18
3/08	31	-	-
3/12	55	1	12
3/15	27	-	-
3/19	74	n/a	n/a
3/22	n/a	-	-
3/26	n/a	n/a	n/a
3/29	n/a	-	-



CONGRATULATIONS!

April Birthdays

Chase Zimmerman.....04-03
 Courtney Delaney.....04-03
 Erik Henriksen.....04-08
 Timothy Brandt.....04-10
 Dorothy Miller.....04-12
 Connie Warsaw.....04-12
 Benjamin Burgess.....04-13
 Barb Gaines.....04-16
 Kathy Brendel.....04-17
 Leonard Delaney.....04-17
 Steven Sprau.....04-18
 Gina Masko.....04-19
 Hallie Payne.....04-23
 Bob Zimmerman.....04-23
 Linda Warsaw.....04-25
 Kristan Hansen.....04-25
 Deb Lammle.....04-26
 Marvin Nelson.....04-28

April Anniversaries

Alicia and Nicholas Haggin.....04-28-2007

APRIL

2017 Elder Schedule

Jan Marvin	Feb Don	Mar Butch
Apr Roy	May Roy	Jun Butch
Jul Don	Aug Butch	Sept Marvin
Oct Marvin	Nov Roy	Dec Don