

**February
2024**

Lent

All Scripture is inspired by God, and good for teaching and reproof (2 Tim 3:16). Yet, the Pentateuch, the Gospels, the words of Jesus, some Scripture, seems to be given a special place. We stand for the Gospel reading and, in most seasons of the church year, sing for its reading as well. We print the words of Jesus in red letters in many of our Bibles. We separate the Word of God, not because one part is more or less inspired by God, but because as God's people we more easily hear, understand, and/or treasure certain parts. This Lenten season we will take a look at a very special set of these treasured passages. From the cross Jesus spoke seven words, seven sayings that express His mind and what He was going through during His crucifixion. Seven words as Christ suffered and died on the cross. These are not listed together in one Gospel. They are scattered throughout the four Gospel accounts and were gathered together long ago by Biblical Scholars.

Jesus cried out for mercy on our behalf, plead for our forgiveness, and submitted Himself to the will of the Father with His dying breath. We invite you to join us, beginning on Feb. 14, Ash Wednesday and every following Wednesday in Lent as we examine and learn from the words of Christ from the Cross. Services are at 6:30 pm. We encourage you to come for a light Lenten supper beforehand as well. We will learn and grow this Lenten season hearing the word of Christ from the Cross, gathered together from all four Gospels.

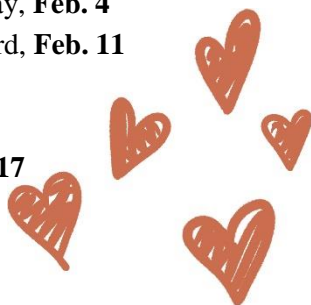
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|-------------|--|
| February 14 | <i>"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."</i> |
| February 21 | <i>"Today, you will be with Me in paradise."</i> |
| February 28 | <i>"Woman, behold your son."</i> |
| March 6 | <i>"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"</i> |
| March 13 | <i>"I thirst."</i> |
| March 20 | <i>"It is finished."</i> |
| March 29 | <i>"Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit."</i> |

Pastor Yonkers



SPECIAL DATES IN FEBRUARY:

- LWML Mite Collection Sunday, **Feb. 4**
- The Transfiguration of our Lord, **Feb. 11**
- Ash Wednesday, **Feb. 14**
- Valentine's Day, **Feb. 14**
- A Taste of Deutschland, **Feb. 17**
- President's Day, **Feb. 17**
- Voter's Meeting, **Feb. 25**
- Leap Day, **Feb. 29**



HELP US CARE FOR YOU: *Your well-being is important to us and we want to pray for you!* Unfortunately, we are no longer notified by the hospital; please call the church office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 7 am - 3:30 pm) when you have any medical procedure or in any time of spiritual need at 217-442-5675. In case of emergencies after hours, please feel free to contact Pastor Yonkers on his cell at 260-413-8375. **Prayer requests:** we are certainly pleased to pray for your (non-member) family and friends alongside our Immanuel members. Please keep us informed of their needs.

LUTHERAN LEGACY: Immanuel has two endowment funds (one for general fund and one for building and grounds). To donate directly to Lutheran Legacy, go online to lutheranlegacyfoundation.org and click on the "funds" link on the top of the page, then on "churches" for Immanuel or "parochial schools" for ILS. The funds are listed in alphabetical order, scroll down until you find Immanuel in Danville and click on the "donate" button to the right. You can choose to donate by credit card or check. Thank you!

SPRING TRAINING FOR CHRISTIANS: The word Lent comes from Middle English and German words for springtime. In light of the start of baseball season, some people call the pre-Easter season "spring training for Christians." This fresh perspective moves away from the flawed understanding that Lent must be somber, or that giving something up for Lent is punishment for sin or a way to earn God's favor. As people of faith, we should never take a season off. But every so often — at least once a year! — we do well to examine where we need to get back in shape spiritually. Perhaps we will indeed opt to give something up: that swearing habit, sleeping in on Sundays, or the cost of a weekly treat so we can donate the money instead. Or maybe we'll take on something new for Lent: A Bible study, prayer routine or service project. Hebrews describes spiritual discipline as challenging in the moment but yielding righteousness later. The writer urges us, "Lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees ... so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed" (12:11-13, ESV). May the spring training of Lent strengthen and heal us all.

DEACONESS INTERN PLANNING: Since June, we have been blessed to have our Deaconess Intern Rachel McCloskey with us here at Immanuel. In her brief time with us, she has done great work, some of it in the spotlight, but much of it in the background and unseen, unknown by those not in the church, the school, and the office on a daily basis. Rachel is here with us for only a year, and her time with us is, sadly, already half over. We love her, and we will miss her when her time here is complete.

Already we have had conversations about next year. Words have been spoken, thoughts expressed. They have been heard. Action has been taken in response to them. Concordia University Chicago offers our synod's oldest deaconess training program. The program is led by some wonderful people who have a wealth of experience in placing intern candidates in internships where their skills can serve and where the Deaconess intern can grow in her depth of knowledge and experience. Concordia University Chicago has a strong and vibrant program, and so Immanuel has submitted an application request for a deaconess intern from them next year.

This was done to address the need we have here at Immanuel for continued ministry within our school, to our youth, to our community, and to our growing list of members unable to join us for regular worship and the many among us in need of individual attention.

Yet, as our stewardship article (see page 6) in this issue speaks of, we must use God's gifts wisely and for the benefit of His kingdom. Having Rachel here has been wonderful, but as we host her for the year we not only receive the fruits of her labor, but also participate in the education and formation of new church workers. We serve the church and others as we grow the ranks of those trained to serve God's people. In this sense it is a way to use Immanuel's time, talent, and treasure to serve both God and our fellow Christians as we shape and form the next generation of church workers, something we have a history and a reputation of doing. The needs of the congregation have been examined, and your voices have been heard.

As stated earlier, CUC has the oldest Deaconess training program in synod. I have known several CUC trained Deaconesses, and they are skilled, talented, and know their theology. Little, if anything, will change as we switch to this internship program. Positive changes include the cost. Being an undergraduate program, CUC is also much less expensive than the seminary. Salary is half, insurance cost is eliminated and other fees are also lower. The financial concerns expressed are addressed in this. The need for workers in the vineyard is great, and the question of continuing our great ministry next year is answered.

Continued on the next page...

I also know that this year we have an amazing Deacons intern. We love Rachel, and she loves us. She has taught us that “You belong here”. She has nurtured our relationships with our school families and many members of our faculty too. She came to us with a wealth of expertise and knowledge of what it means to live a life of service to the Lord. We look forward to the remainder of our time with Rachel, our current intern, and hope for next year and an assignment of a new intern from Concordia University Chicago.

The process of receiving an intern for next year includes a site visit from CUC. I have spoken with them, and they are very excited about what we have our intern do, how we offer a broad array of experiences from which she will learn and grow. Once the visit is complete CUC’s work will begin in finding us a candidate from their pool of deaconess students who will be able to continue on the wonderful work that Rachel has done for us this year.

- Pastor Yonkers

ILS SUNDAY was great! The children celebrated National Lutheran Schools Week all week long from Jan. 21 – 28. They had a fun dress up theme each day of the week (hat day, sport day, and pajama day), and even went on a fun bowling trip to Lincoln Lanes! We are so grateful that many of our ILS families were able to join us to sing and share the excitement of National Lutheran Schools Week with us! We also held a door offering for the Zora Drews Scholarship Fund which collected \$349! We thank you all for your generosity!



SUPERBOWL SUB orders are due **Feb. 7**. For just \$6.00, pick up a delicious sandwich to enjoy while you watch the big game. Use the order form available of the small table in the hall to specialize what you would like on your sandwich. Place your order forms with payment in the basket on the table in the hallway. You can also call Sue at 217-516-0706 to place your order. Proceeds will benefit the Capital Fund. Pick-up your sandwich after the service on **Feb. 12 – Superbowl Sunday!**

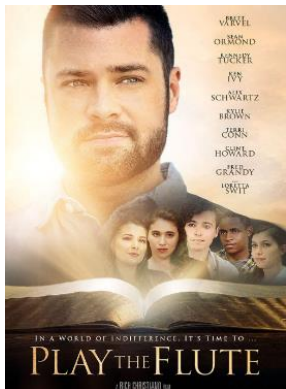


Stewardship SPOT

Caring for My Neighbor: If any of the Ten Commandments might tempt us to think that keeping the Law is easy, it would be the Fifth Commandment. After all, how hard is it to get through life without murdering somebody? The vast majority of people can handle that! But Jesus famously blows up this notion by pointing out that the command, “you shall not murder,” goes much deeper — down to the heart. “You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matt. 5:21–22) Hatred and disdain come from the same sort of crookedness of heart as murder. With both murder and hatred, you look down on another person and think them of little worth. In the Small Catechism, Luther also points out that every “do not” in the commandments also includes a “do this:” “We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but *help and support him in every physical need.*” We are not called merely to avoid evil; we must also do positive good. So when Jesus drew near to us and became our neighbor by taking up our humanity, He came not only to avoid harming us, but He came to positively help us, bless us and serve us. We are now called to show the love to our neighbors that Christ showed to us. Your neighbor is yet another gift that God has given you that requires your stewardship. We are called to show mercy, to be kind, to love and serve our neighbor. One aspect of this stewardship is financial: our neighbors need us to support the church’s work so that they can hear the Gospel and come to faith. Our neighbors need the church’s alms and mercy work. Our neighbors need our faithful service in all we do in the name of Christ.

EXCITING NEWS! We are so excited to announce that Immanuel Lutheran School is making way for a sensory room for our growing preschool! Sensory rooms utilize stimulating objects, decor, and activities that can encourage young children to focus on engaging their senses. We need your help on **Mar. 9** at 9 am to clean out our library and bring unwanted items to our rummage sale in March. Please contact either the church office or Mrs. S. at ils.schooldirector@gmail.com if you are available to be a part of this exciting event! Thank you and blessings!

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT: Our Immanuel Youth have requested a second youth night each month! They're having a great time, so if you haven't joined us for a youth event just yet, we encourage you to do so! All *(and I mean all... you do not have to be a youth member to come!)* are invited to join us on **Feb. 15** for a movie night. We're showing the 2019 film "Play the Flute" in the youth room. Faced with an indifferent youth group, a new youth Pastor (Brett Varvel) tries to motivate his students to read God's Word and get serious about their faith.



Reviews: "Fantastic! Incredible message! Wonderful story!" "WOW!! POWERFUL!!..." "It really touched my heart..." "LOVED this movie. Inspirational!"

GIFT (SCRIP) CARDS ORDERS: The next scrip order is due to the church office by 9 am, **Feb. 12**. **Please note: there will not be a Scrip order in March.** Updated order blanks are on the table in the chapel hallway; please use these for your orders and throw away old order blanks. Orders are not limited to those on the order blank; there is a complete list at raiseright.com/resources/organization or see the list posted in the hallway bulletin board. If your vendor is available write the name of the vendor, denomination of the gift card, number of cards wanted, and total amount on a blank line of the order form. *The following have been added to the vendor list: McDonald's with a 2% profit to the church, Casey's Gas with a 3% profit to the church, Saltgrass Steakhouse with a 9% profit to the church, Jimmie John's Subs with an 8% profit to the church, and Sonic (when it opens) with an 8% profit to the church.* Orders will be available for pickup on **Feb. 18** and in the church office after that, or make special arrangements with Jo Van Hoveln.

SCRIP CARD EXPLANATION: The cards come in various amounts and can be used just like a credit/debit card at the designated vendor. For example, you order and get a \$100 Meijer card. The church gets \$3 (3%) of income from this card, and you buy \$100 worth of groceries, prescriptions, gas, etc. with it. There are varying rates on these cards from 1.5% to 13% so the amount the church receives depends on the rate on the individual vendor card. There is a printed list of the vendors and the percentages they give on the bulletin board and on their website at www.raiseright.com/resources/organization. These cards are good anywhere in the USA and make great birthday, Christmas, new baby, or wedding gifts.

"Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I feel my sins. They bite, chase and frighten me. Where shall I go? I look to You, Lord Jesus Christ, and despite my weakness, I believe in You. I hold fast to You, and I am certain that You said. 'Whoever believes in Me will have eternal life.'" – Martin Luther

A Taste of Deutschland German Dinner and Dancing



The Men's Club and Capital Fund are teaming up once again to bring the Taste of Deutschland German dinner to you on Saturday, **Feb. 17**. We'll enjoy a delicious meal, dancing, and live German music by Keith Stras and the Polka Confetti Band!

Menu: grilled brats, red potatoes, green beans, sauerkraut, pumpernickel bread, dessert, and a drink. Carry-outs are available.



Tickets: Adult tickets are \$20 and a child's ticket with a hotdog meal are \$5. Tickets are on sale in the chapel hallway on Sundays and in the church office during the week.

Volunteers: Many volunteers will be needed to help make this a successful event. Consider signing up to bake a dessert, sell tickets to your family and friends, setup on the Friday before, at the event, and with the cleanup and tear down of the tables and chairs.



CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: The current bank balance is \$42,068. Our current projects are the resealing of the north part of the parking lot and a couple of other areas for \$17,435, and new gutters and downspouts on the sanctuary for \$4,900. This leaves us with a little over \$16,000 for other projects. The congregation established the Capital Fund Drive in 2012, and thanks to our generous congregation, we have accomplished many needed renovations. Prior generations worked hard and sacrificed to build the school/church building, and it is up to us to preserve and improve our church home just as we would our own household's. There is a Capital Fund Drive bulletin board in the hallway between the coat room and the parish mailboxes. There are special envelopes for ongoing donations throughout the year. *"...because of my devotion to the house of my God I give my treasure for the house of my God. 1 Chronicles 29:3b.* All donations from large to small are equally appreciated. Questions? Contact Jo Van Hoveln.

THANK YOU! The Capital Fund Christmas Tree fundraiser made \$3,440; thank you to all who gave so generously to help improve/upgrade our church and school facilities!

thrivent[®]

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS! The Thrivent Choice Dollars Deadline **March 31st**! Each year Thrivent members have the opportunity to designate where your Thrivent Choice Dollars go. Choice Dollars are a free benefit of being a Thrivent member, and they can be used to make great donations to Immanuel Lutheran Church, or any of its special missions or funds. It is all, as the name implies, YOUR choice. Thrivent Choice Dollars can be designated to many other organizations or charities, but we ask that you would consider designating Immanuel Lutheran Church. Choice Dollar designees are listed by Thrivent. If you wish to designate to a specific mission or ministry here (including Immanuel Lutheran School) here at Immanuel Lutheran Church we can make that happen, just speak to your Thrivent agent and the church office regarding your Choice Dollars and we will make them work for you, the congregation, and any special ministry you choose to support.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS make it easy to live generously. There are many events and activities right here in our church and school that could benefit from an Action Team. Thrivent will donate \$250 to jumpstart a fundraiser, service project, or event of your choice. You get two per year – don't let them go to waste! Again, just reach out to your Thrivent agent or the church office for help getting started today!

An easy way to help support what matters to you!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS[®]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMARY:

- **New Business:** The Board reviewed the Paid Leave for All notice and discussed whether or not this will affect our staff. The date was set for the next Voter's Meeting. It will take place on Feb. 25 immediately following the church service. We need to form the 2024 nominating committee which consists of 2 members of the board and three members at large. The board decided to host the Ash Wednesday Lenten supper.
- **Old Business:** Working to get property insurance quotes.
- **Christian Education:** Enrollment is currently at 98 with 7 additional students for aftercare only. The school purchased 3 new risers. Kids will sing during the 1/28/24 service for National Lutheran Schools Week.
- **Finance:** Financial reports were reviewed. Four CD's matured at the end of December.
- **Properties:** A new LTE communicator for the fire alarm was installed. The fee was \$1400. There is a \$50

monthly fee as well. The boiler was working overtime with the cold weather but ran smoothly. One classroom had a frozen pipe. A heater was added to that room and let the water run. The old school desks will be donated to St. Paul's in Mattoon. We received 2 bids to paint the gym at \$13k and \$15k.

- **Evangelism:** no report.
- **Worship:** Tom thanked everyone for their efforts during Advent and Christmas.
- **Parish Education:** no report.
- **Stewardship:** Super Bowl subs are Feb. 11 and proceeds will benefit Capital Fund. The Rummage and Bake Sale is March 15 & 16. This will also benefit Capital Fund.
- **Youth:** Sue DeMoss gave a recap of the youth activities for the past six months and the expenditures for them. A check was written to the church from the youth to reimburse the cost. The youth would like to add a second night each month. We are looking for a lock-in to attend or may host our own. Youth will once again sponsor Easter breakfast.
- **Missions:** Reviewed reports for Immanuel Cares and food pantry. 35 food baskets were distributed in November and Immanuel Cares made 142 contacts with members in November and December.
- **Elders:** Reviewed minutes from last elders meeting. Topics of discussion included the school and giving. Paperwork was completed for the new deaconess intern.
- **Deaconess Intern:** 7 parents expressed interest in getting their children baptized. Please pray that God would work in their hearts to bring their children to the font.
- **Vice President:** Butch is waiting on an Ameren program to open so we can look into possible grants for the lighting and school boiler.
- **President:** Josh and Scott met with Mike Wright from Trinity regarding the cemetery. It was approved to continue with JBH for mowing and trimming. We will continue the cleanup days 2 weekends prior to Memorial Day and Veterans Day. We will begin Cemetery door offerings on those same two weekends. The cemetery board is looking into quotes for adding rock to the drives, taking out the chain link fence and replace it with a wrought iron look, repairs to the garage, signage, and tree work in the old section.
- **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 6:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE! The Spring Rummage Sale is **March 15 & 16**. It's time for you to clean out your closets, declutter your home, and help Immanuel! We are asking that you wait until **Mar. 1** to bring your donations. After that date, you may place your donations



on the stage behind the curtain. We are no longer using the boys' locker room to store rummage sale items. Also, please do not bring large TVs, computers, or Christmas trees. All proceeds will benefit the Capital Fund. *Thanks!*

Threefold Stewardship by Pastor Yonkers...

Stewardship is always a difficult subject. Our old Adam, though drowned in our Baptism, always rears his ugly head telling us that we are doing enough, making us feel as if it is someone else who is to give time, talent, or treasure. If that ploy doesn't work Satan has other techniques up his sleeve to ensure the work of the church is not done. This can be accomplished by either falsely making stewardship seem all about money, or even simpler, with the question "what can I do?" in order to paralyze us into inaction. Stewardship is about three things. Stewardship is about time, talents, and treasure.

Giving of our TIME mean to be active in the life of the church. Simply coming to church and attending events, and being active in church groups is a way be a good steward with what God has given you. There are 168 hours in a week. How many of those do you spend with God in devotion, in prayer, or in His house? How many of those 168 hours do you spend serving His Kingdom, His Church? Immanuel is a part of God's Kingdom. Immanuel is part of God's church. You belong here. Come be with us.

Giving of our TALENTS means to use the gifts from our maker to benefit both His Kingdom and our neighbor. We hear this in the post communion collect as we ask God to, through the reception of Christ's very body and blood, enable us to live in Faith in God our Heavenly Father, and in fervent, strong and vibrant, love towards one another, to our neighbor and all those whom God has made in His image—and that's everyone. In Lutheranism we call this the doctrine of Vocation. The Bible teaches us that all vocations may glorify God, if we use them to the best of the ability given unto to us and, again, to benefit our neighbor and His kingdom. From the lowliest job to the most glamorous. This is true for both worlds we live in, both in the left and right hand kingdoms, for those serving in the church or in a more secular vocation.

Vocation, when we hear the word we think of our occupation, our work, our job. A better way to understand the term is to think about our various roles in life. I am your pastor, this is also my title, but it is not all I am. I am also a husband, a father, a brother, a friend, a chaplain... All these, and probably more, are roles I have in my life. What vocations do you have in yours? In what ways can you serve God in your personalist of vocations?

Then there is TREASURE. What part of your earthly treasure do you return back to God? Back to the one from whom it all comes from? 5%? 10%? More? Less? Even Jesus had to deal with treasure when He walked throughout Israel preaching and teaching. He paid the temple tax with coins he found in a fish he caught (Matthew 17:24-27). He told us to pay our taxes (Mark 12:17), He even called a tax collector to be His disciple (Mark 2:13-17). Yet all our sinful Adam reminds us is that money is the root of all evil (1 Tim 6:10) - Did you notice I left a part out? Look it up! Or that Jesus overturned the tables of the one changers IN THE TEMPLE COURTS (Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-18). When we receive gifts of treasure from God we should ask how we can use that treasure like before to benefit the Kingdom of God and/or

the good of our neighbor. Lights, water, repairs of God's house are all good things and part of His mission, and they all take treasure. So does feeding the hungry and education our students.

How can you use the talents and skills you have been given by God to serve Him? Here at Immanuel we have a great need for people willing and able to share their talents in the church, and we need all sorts. So bring your time talents, and treasure and find ways to use them here at Immanuel. Come and serve learning new skills, develop new skills as you serve God, develop relationships, and make memories with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Together we can grow our congregation. Together we can serve our neighbor. You belong here. Be here! Serve here!



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DISTRICT**

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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CAMP CILCA

The **Act Like Men Woodcutters Retreat** is back at Camp CILCA on Friday & Saturday, **February 23 & 24**. Bring an axe, chainsaw, log splitter, or willing hands for a weekend of hard work, strong fellowship, and masculine encouragement. Suggested donation is \$25 for cover lodging and meals. Visit cilca.org for more information and email director@cilca.org or call 217-487-7497 to register.

Camp CILCA is saying "thank you" with its annual **Pancake Dinner** on Saturday, **March 2** from 10am-1pm. **Everyone** is invited to enjoy free pancakes and sausage as a way to say thank you to the community for their constant support to the Lord's work at Camp CILCA.

CONGREGATIONAL VOTER'S MEETING



Join us after our church service on **Feb. 25** for our next congregational Voters' Assembly. We'll hear an updates from the Capital Fund Committee and ILS, and hold an open forum to address any congregational questions or concerns. **Please come - your participation is important!!**



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Tune in anytime online: www.worshipforshutins.org

February 2024

February 4 (Mark 1:31)

“Jesus Lift You Up”

Rev. Shayne Jonker

Think of every healing you experience, whether it be getting over a cold or the flu, or something even greater, as more than dodging the bullet or getting a little favor from God. Think of it as a little resurrection. A little instance of being lifted up by the hand of God. Think of it, not as an end, but as a little sneak preview of a greater coming attraction, the day that Jesus comes to you and extends His hand to you and lifts you up from death to eternal life.

February 11 (Mark 9:2-9)

“Significant Days Ahead”

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Jesus transfigured Himself, revealing His glory to Peter, James, and John. He knew there would be significant days ahead, especially during Holy Week. By revealing His glory Jesus was sharing with His disciples what was in store for them in the glory of heaven. As we have significant days in our lives, we remember the transfiguration of Jesus to encourage us in our life's journey.

February 18 (Genesis 22:1-18)

“What Good is This?”

Rev. William Mueller

Genesis 22 takes us to one of the more challenging sections of God's Word. Does God condone sacrificing your children? Of course not! But what is God up to in this incident where He tells Abraham to sacrifice Isaac? What good is God up to in our lives when He allows all sorts of pain and problems?

February 25 (Mark 8:29-31)

“Life's Greatest Question”

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Can you answer Life's Greatest Question? Your eternal destiny, as well as your approach to everyday life, rests upon your answer. What's the question? How will you answer?

March 2024

March 3 (John 2:13-16)

“Christ Cleanses the Temple”

Rev. Dr. William Mueller III

Christ's cleansing of the temple was one incident in his fight against evil. His carrying on that fight is good news for us, and guides us as to how we believers are to live in today's world.

March 10 (John 3:14-15)

“Lifted Up”

Rev. Thomas Eggold

There is not a story or sign in the entire Old Testament that points more directly to the Cross than the serpent on the stake. Here a bronze serpent hangs from a cross, and it was put there by God precisely because of sin. The sign of our sin and the image of the death we deserve is suspended between heaven and earth and between God and man. And there, on the wooden pole, God saved His people.

March 17 (Mark 10:45)

“Greatness in His Glory”

Rev. Shayne Jonker

Jesus alone was qualified, there is no one on earth who can lift this miserable cup of death to his lips and drink it to the bottom. There is no one on earth who can be baptized into our death and rise up out of it to life. Only Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh can stand in our place and do for all what we can't do for ourselves.

March 24 (Mark 15:1-47)

“The Suffering Savior”

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Jesus took upon Himself the sins of all people for all time. On Calvary's cross He paid for those sins in full. His resurrection on Easter was God the Father's “Well done.” He accomplished His task. His victory is complete.

March 31 (Isaiah 25:6-9)

“Boy! Do I Love Him!”

Rev. William Mueller

Easter Sunday is so filled with joy! The sudden turn of events in the life of Jesus and His disciples. Even though He had told the disciples about it ahead of time, no one remembered this would be. Death is swallowed up in victory. In the resurrection of Jesus death is undone. The plug is pulled on death. And this brings us great joy!

FEBRUARY

Elders

Feb. Don DeMoss, Dean Hull, Kurt Thornsborough

Communion Assistants

Feb. 4 Dean Hull, Allen Julian
18 Don DeMoss, Kurt Thornsborough

Lenten Service (6:30 pm):

Ash Wednesday Feb. 14 Dwain D., Josh C.

Ushers

Feb. **Team "B"**
Capt. Josh Christensen, Jamie Yonkers,
Hannah Christensen, Kendall Wright,
Carley Wright, and Eli Mann

Lenten Services (6:30 pm):

Feb. 14 Team "C" Capt. Kurt Thornsborough
21 Team "D" Capt. Jerry Kennett
28 Team "E" Capt. Denny Hilton

Lay Readers

Feb. 4 Allen Julian
11 Jan Mann
18 Diana Pratt
25 Nancy Purviance

Gospel Reader

Allen Julian
Gail Garner
Butch Buesing
Josh Christensen

Lenten Services (6:30 pm):

Feb. 14 Janet Terry
21 Kurt & Debbie T.
28 David & Tina A.

Butch Buesing
Kurt Thornsborough
David Ammermann

Acolytes

Feb. 4 Kendall Wright
11 Jamie Yonkers
18 Eli Mann
25 Carley Wright

Lenten Services (6:30 pm):

Feb. 14 Jamie Yonkers
21 Kinley Pratt
28 Eli Mann

Videographer

Feb. 4 Don DeMoss
11 RJ Davis
18 Zach Davis
25 Eli Mann

Sound/Screens

RJ Davis
Kim Davis
Chris Davis
Jamie Yonkers

Altar Guild

Feb. Sue DeMoss, Kim Davis

Money Counters

Feb. Team "B" Nancy Purviance, Martha Elliott

Check Signers

Feb. Sue Heidle, Butch and Julie Buesing

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?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ??

Use one word (perhaps in different forms) for all the blanks to complete this Scripture passage:

"Dear friends, let us ____ one another, for ____ comes from God. Everyone who ____ has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not ____ does not know God, because God is ____."

A. believe
B. help
C. love
D. forgive



Answer: C (See 1 John 4:7-8, NIV)



Thanks to Dad Hengeveld

02-22-2010

**I DON'T THINK THAT YOU QUITE GRASP
THE CONCEPT THAT YOU ARE GOING TO BE
WITH ME FOREVER**

BEYOND CANDY HEARTS AND ROSES...

The first half of February seems dominated by pink and red, cards and candy. But people not in a loving romantic relationship can sometimes feel left out of the festivities. Of course, all people need love — and certainly love is not limited to the romantic kind. Author Leo Buscaglia, who became known as "Dr. Love" for writing about the topic, said, "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." Jesus taught that loving one another is second only in importance to loving God (Matthew 22:37-40), and that when we love one another, God lives in us (1 John 4:12). There are so many ways to do that — beyond candy hearts and roses! But Valentine's Day is as good a reminder as any.

HEART strings

Make this heartfelt craft as a decoration or gift.

What you need:

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheet
- Heart-shaped cookie cutters
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Cut yarn into 12-inch pieces.
2. Place cookie cutters atop a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Combine cornstarch and water in a saucepan. Heat mixture over medium heat, stirring until thick and smooth. Remove from heat and cool to form a "glue."
4. Dip each piece of yarn into the mixture to coat completely. Squeeze off any excess.
5. Place yarn in the cookie cutters, allowing pieces to cross and loop within the heart. Add more until the cookie cutter is filled and the yarn looks like a heart.
6. Remove cookie cutters and bake the sheet for two hours at 150°F, or until hearts are dry and hard.

Puzzle!

After solving the equations, write the words on the correct numbered lines below. Complete Ephesians 1:3 (NIV) to discover how God shows his great love for us.

$14 - 7 =$ ____ Father
 $10 + 9 =$ ____ heavenly
 $9 + 9 =$ ____ the
 $12 + 12 =$ ____ blessing
 $2 - 1 =$ ____ Praise
 $7 + 7 =$ ____ has
 $11 + 11 =$ ____ every
 $13 + 13 =$ ____ Christ
 $8 + 8 =$ ____ us
 $10 + 10 =$ ____ realms
 $8 + 9 =$ ____ in
 $5 + 5 =$ ____ Lord
 $10 + 11 =$ ____ with

$10 + 15 =$ ____ in
 $10 - 5 =$ ____ God
 $6 - 3 =$ ____ to
 $12 - 6 =$ ____ and
 $6 + 6 =$ ____ Christ
 $18 - 9 =$ ____ our
 $22 - 11 =$ ____ Jesus
 $1 + 1 =$ ____ be
 $7 + 6 =$ ____ who
 $2 + 2 =$ ____ the
 $10 + 5 =$ ____ blessed
 $4 + 4 =$ ____ of
 $10 + 13 =$ ____ spiritual

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26		

Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Answer: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3, NIV



MESSENGER

February 2024

GOD WITH US

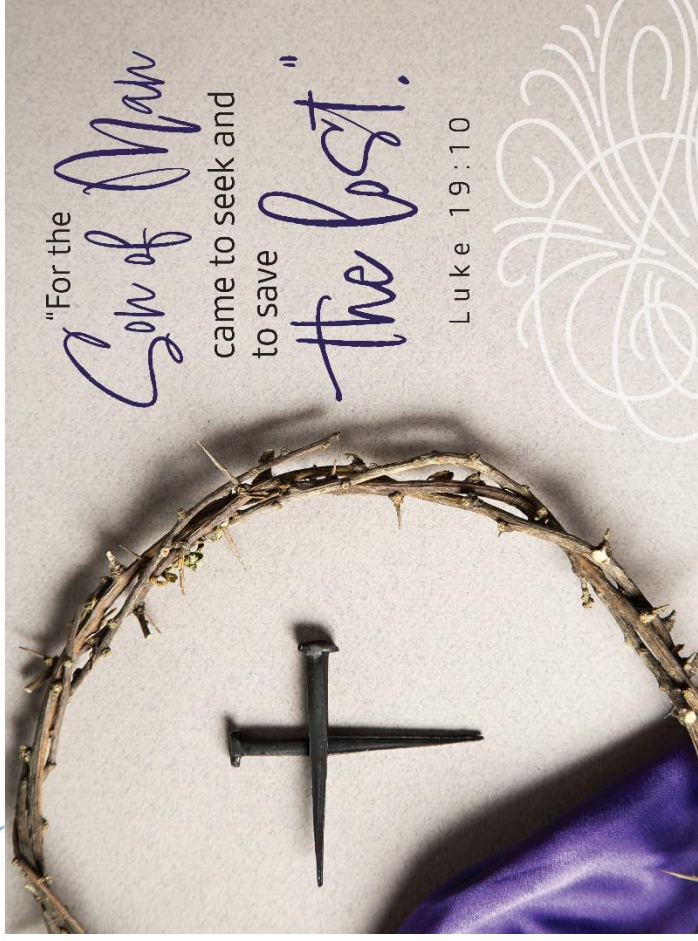
This newsletter also available on our website:
www.ilcdanville.com

Our February 2024 newsletter
prepared prayerfully for:

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1930 N. Bowman Avenue
Danville, IL 61832



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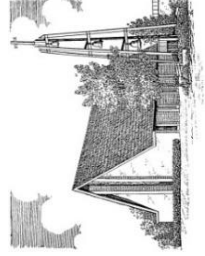


"For the
Son of Man
came to seek and
to save
the lost."

Luke 19:10

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Worship Schedule

Sundays

Feb. 4, 11, 18 & 25
at 9:30 am

Wednesdays

Feb. 7 at 5:00 pm
Feb. 14, 21 & 28
at 6:30 pm

WORSHIP
with us

Communion Schedule

Sundays

Feb. 4 & 18
at 9:30 am

Wednesday

Feb. 14 at 6:30 pm

