

ITEMS



Volume 60 No. 4 April 2018

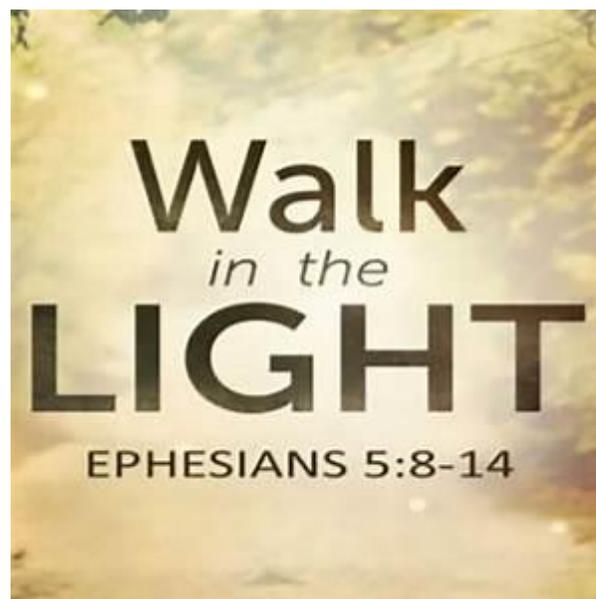
Walking The Faith

As spring buds and temperatures rise, it's fun to get outside and walk. Walking is great for both body and mind. "To solve a problem, walk around," advised St. Jerome. Naturalist Henry David Thoreau agreed, saying, "The moment my legs begin to move, my thoughts begin to flow." Indeed, walking has been linked to improved creativity and reduced anxiety.

Some Bible versions translate Ephesians 5:8 "Live as children of light," while others use "walk": "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light" (NKJV). What a great rendering! Living is something we often do passively and without much thought, while walking is an intentional, active pursuit; we must choose when, where and how we do it.

Now that we're children of light – newly alive springtime people, Easter people! – Jesus urges us to not just live the faith but to walk it. When our faith becomes active, new thoughts flow, anxiety decreases and we make strides in our relationship with Jesus.

–Heidi Mann



Serving the

Living Lord at Immanuel

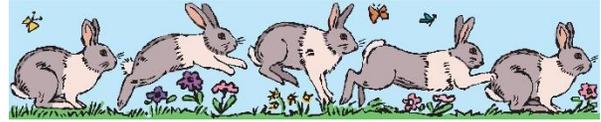
Mission Statement: "Caring and sharing since 1850, the mission of the family of God at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mokena is to effectively teach the Word of God, promote the spiritual growth of the Christian family, and continuously reach out with love and service."

Connecting people in loving relationship with God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, with each other in contagious Christian community, and with our calling of servanthood in the world.



Official Acts

Funeral: Leif Skrodal, March 16, 2018



Weekly Attendance February 24-March 25, 2018

	5:00 pm	9:00 am	7:00pm	Total
February 24-25	40	200		240
February 28			48	48
March 3-4	36	74		110
March 7			38	38
March 10-11	46	72		118
March 14			35	35
March 17-18	36	57		93
March 21			34	34
March 24-25	38	90		128



Baptized Membership 784 Confirmed Membership 711 Households 364

Immanuel has elders who assist the pastor during the worship service and outside of worship. Their job is to be of service to you in any cares/concerns you may have with the congregation and within your family. Here are your elders:

- Elder 1: Marty Olsen 815-464-4373
- Elder 2: Jim Bowlds 708-479-3757
- Elder 3: Jim Bubeck 815-469-7573
- Elder 4: Bruce Bechtel 815-485-5455
- Elder 5: Nick Whittier 815-485-9269
- Elder 6: Jerry Vrshek 815-469-5059 (Director)



Please contact these Elders should you have any needs/concerns/questions.

Bible Trivia answers from page 7

- 1 b 6 b 11 a
- 2 a 7 a 12 b
- 3 c 8 c 13 a
- 4 c 9 b 14 b
- 5 b 10 c 15 c

Management of life's resources for God's purposes

March 2018

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD: \$ 16,600.00

OUR MINISTRY AT A GLANCE:

Mortgage ~ \$817.96

Mortgage Balance ~ \$ 255,029.34

Outreach ~ \$YTD \$903

Mission ~ \$1000 YTD \$3000

Personnel ~\$9,841.00

Utilities ~ Electric \$751.92; Water \$74.99;
Gas \$1,723.30; Phone \$235.41;
Garbage \$164.99

Total Expenses: \$17,919.00

Bulletin & Items Publishing

Bulletin articles are due on Thursday by 12 p.m.

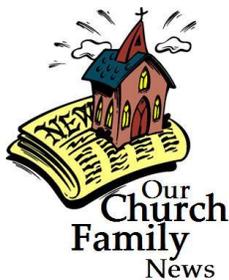
Articles for the May *Items* are due **April 20th** and will be on our website-mailed and in narthex after **April 27th**.

We post *Items* Newsletter on the Website!

www.immanuelmokena.org

If you plan to move or have already moved **PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE** with your new address!!





From the Board of Elders,

We have secured pastors to cover our church services through June, 2018.

If you need pastoral care please contact Laura Burt and tell her or leave a message of what your needs are.

She will contact the Elders to let them know your needs. You can also call any of us directly. Our phone numbers are in the bulletins and in the Items.

The Call Committee, Directors of the Boards, and the Elders will be meeting with Pastor Haney on Wednesday, April 4 from 6-8 p.m. to review the data from the Congregational Survey. At a later date, we will share this info with the entire congregation.

Thanks, Jerry W. Vrshek, Director, Board of Elders

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

“By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.” -2 Timothy 1:14

Lutheran Bible Translators

Rev. David Federwitz of LBT led us in worship the weekend of March 3rd and 4th and also spoke of his and his family’s experiences serving with LBT in West Africa. Thank you for your support of the Federwitz family – we collected \$903 for their ministry that weekend!

Rev. Federwitz recently shared in his newsletter that Charity Navigator reported LBT has received a 4-star rating, for the 6th consecutive time. They further

noted that Lutheran Bible Translators stands out from other charities by saying, "Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 12% of the charities we rate have received at least 3 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that Lutheran Bible Translators outperforms most other charities in America. This 'exceptional' designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Lutheran Bible Translators from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust."

VBS NEEDS YOU! If you have some free time to give to the Lord we can surely use you. Date June 18 to June 22. Time 9:00am until 11:30 am. People needed-----

1. A nurse to stand by if needed 9-11 Monday-Friday. If you can only give us one day we will take that also.
 2. Kitchen help and helping with the VBS picnic on Friday set up starting at 9:00 am; serving starting at 11:30 am.
 3. Needed one story teller for one day 10 minutes minimum.
 4. Helping with games.
 5. Helping with music, you don't need to play or read music, just help the children in the singing.
 6. Building the set and taking down the VBS set on Friday, and help putting the church back in order.
 7. Registration the first day 8:30 -9:00 am
 8. Handing out children's name tags to parents at the close of each day 11:15 am
- Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Please help, the children need you!!!

Lutheran Ministries Media has exciting news regarding the broadcast of Worship Anew in the Chicago market. **Starting Sunday, March 4, Worship Anew can now be found Sunday morning at 8:00 AM on Chicago’s CW station WPWR channel 50 (Comcast 184).** As a result, the ministry will wrap-up airing the program on TLN as of Sunday, February 25. This change means that anyone who has a television in the Chicago area will now be able to access the weekly program via both over the air antenna and cable/satellite.

In addition to our new slot on Chicago's CW station, viewers with DirecTV can find Worship Anew Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM on TCT (channel 377). The ministry also offers a DVD subscription which would send recipients a monthly mailing with each of the upcoming programs. And all programs can also be viewed at WorshipAnew.org.

Pray N Crochet will be meeting in April two times. We will meet on Thursday April 12 and 26. We meet from 6:30-8 pm. Please join us to work on your own project or come learn a new stitch with us. Call the office for more information at 708-479-5600.

LWML Spring Rally "Transforming Joy" is the theme. It will be held on April 21 here at Immanuel in Heritage Hall. Registration is at 8am. Jim Morrison from LCC Care 9 Dogs will be the speaker. We are collection baby care items (wipes, diapers, bibs) and distributing to 3 area churches. Please join us for a morning of fun fellowship and Bible study.

Pastor and Chris Constien have a new address: 1616 Lime Wood St, Mesquite, NV 89027

The Flower chart has many open dates available. Please take a look and see what date you can put your name down on. One bouquet is \$20 and two are \$40.

Men's Bible Study: On April 23rd we are starting Men's Bible Study again at 7pm. The study is called "I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be An Atheist" by Norman Geisler. It will be co-taught by Kyle Klode and Kevin Smith. It will continue on the 2nd and 4th Monday night in May. Please contact the church office by April 13 to sign up for the study and let me know if you want the books. The book and study guide will be provided at no cost.

Be An April Fool

English essayist and poet Charles Lamb (1775-1834) once joked, "Here cometh April again, and as far as I can see the world hath more fools than ever."



April Fools' Day is best known as a day for practical jokes, but it can be used in more beneficial ways. It can be a day of faith and fun - a day to thank God for the joyous times of life, for the days of laughter, for funny stories, for the antics of children and for other things that bring smiles to our faces.

There is opportunity for laughter every day. Laugh! Laugh heartily and often. You will find healing in mirth and levity. And remember, "He who sits in the heavens laughs ..." (Psalms 2:4, NRSV).

The Promise Of Christ

The 14th chapter of John's gospel contains this promise our Lord gave his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate (sometimes translated Comforter), to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16, NRSV).

Jesus added: "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live" (John 14:18-19).

What a wonderful promise! Jesus knew he would be dying. He knew the disciples would see his resurrected body. But even after Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples wouldn't be alone. The Holy Spirit would come to comfort and embolden them.

"[My] peace I leave with you," Jesus concluded. "Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid" (John 14:27).



- 1 Barbara LaRocco
- 2 Patrick Lydic, Jessica Malley,
- 3 James Bubeck, Amy Greenspan
- 5 Virginia Miller, Sarah Smith
- 6 Edith Albers, Bruce Bechtel
- 7 Kalie DeVivo, Lauren Smith
- 8 Peyton Hohl, Madeline Roberts
- 9 Heather Dangman
- 10 Nick Whittier Jr.
- 11 Patricia Lipscomb
- 12 Roger Schuldt
- 17 Linda Jeffrey, Jan Loven, Jessica Nykrin
- 19 Laura Fuka
- 20 William Rohder Jr.
- 21 Timothy Malm
- 28 Marsha Flesch
- 30 Jeffery Constien, Phyllis Seno

- 2 Jan and Larry Loven 41 Yrs..
- 4 James and Nancy Eble 31 Yrs.
- Marty and Susan Olsen 31 Yrs.
- 13 Richard and Barbara Belanski 11 Yrs.
- 20 Ted and Laura Fenn 27 Yrs.
- 25 Raymond and Linda Steinbrenner 32 Yrs.
- 28 Delynn and Thomas Flannery 6 Yrs.
- Janice and Craig Nass 29 Yrs.
- 30 Eleanor and Richard Golden 63 Yrs

+Christian Symbol+



Phoenix

According to ancient legend, the phoenix lived for 500 to 1,400 years (depending on the version of the myth), at which time it would set its nest ablaze and be consumed in the flames. After three days the bird would be reborn and was said to repeat this cycle, “rising from the ashes” again and again. Early Christians saw in the phoenix a symbol of Jesus’ resurrection and of eternal life.

Bible Quiz



In John 10, what metaphor does Jesus use to describe himself?

- A. “I am the gate ...”
- B. “I am the good shepherd ...”
- C. Both A and B
- D. Neither A nor B

Answer: C (See John 10:9, 11.)

Our True Power Source

The story is told of someone who plugged a power strip into itself and then couldn't understand why the system wouldn't turn on! We get a kick out of such tales, yet how often do we try to "power" our own lives? We frequently think we need to be the source of our own strength, joy, peace, energy and wisdom.

Jesus doesn't teach us to find life within ourselves – or in any human being or earthly circumstance, object or philosophy. Rather, calling himself the good shepherd, Jesus says, "I have come that [my sheep] may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

We don't access that abundant life by "plugging into" ourselves. Instead, Jesus invites us to plug into his power – and joy, peace, hope, truth – through prayer and Scripture, worship and service, fellowship with other Christians and the beauty of God's world.

Why We Need Easter

No one is exempt from tragedy or disappointment – even God was not exempt. Jesus offered no immunity, no way *out* of the unfairness, but rather a way *through* it to the other side. Just as Good Friday demolished the instinctive belief that this life is supposed to be fair, Easter Sunday followed with its startling clue to the riddle of the universe. Out of the darkness, a bright light shone. ...

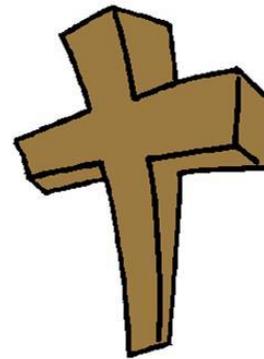
The cross of Christ may have overcome evil, but it did not overcome unfairness. For that, Easter is required, a bright clue that someday God will restore all physical reality to its proper place.

—Philip Yancey, *Disappointment With God*

Easter Word Search

B M A L M H B B K I N G R N R
 N O I T C E R R U S E R E O O
 A P O S T L E S E Y S C D I O
 S E C I F I R C A S H J E T S
 N S N A M O R O O R R E M A T
 R C D S G T T R I I K S P V E
 O Y R A M B C S S V Z U T L R
 H L O V E L T E M M A S I A Y
 T C R O W N N Y L O H S O S Z
 X C R U C I F I X I O N N K Q

APOSTLES
 CHRIST
 CROSS
 CROWN
 CRUCIFIXION
 HOLY
 JESUS
 KING
 LAMB
 LOVE



MARY
 REDEMPTION
 RESURRECTION
 RISEN
 ROMANS
 ROOSTER
 SACRIFICE
 SALVATION
 SAVIOR
 THORNS



Bible Easter Trivia I

Put an "x" beside the answer you think is right!

1. Jesus said that before the rooster crowed twice Peter would do what?

- a. Leave the city
- b. Deny Christ three times
- c. Accept a bribe
- d. Kill a centurion

2. Where was Jesus arrested?

- a. A garden
- b. A temple
- c. His home
- d. The Upper Room

3. When Jesus was arrested, who cut off the ear of the high priest's servant?

- a. James
- b. John
- c. Peter
- d. Andrew

4. Judas betrayed Jesus for how many pieces of silver?

- a. 10
- b. 20
- c. 30
- d. 40

5. What sign did Judas use to betray Christ?

- a. A hug
- b. A kiss
- c. A handshake
- d. A salute

6. Which prisoner was released instead of Jesus?

- a. Philip
- b. Barabbas
- c. Barnabas
- d. John the Baptist

7. Where was Jesus crucified?

- a. Golgotha
- b. Dolorosa
- c. Gethsemane
- d. Domine Ivimus

8. In whose tomb was Jesus buried?

- a. Mary Magdalene's
- b. Lazarus'
- c. Joseph of Arimathea's
- d. John the disciple's

9. Who ordered Jesus to be arrested?

- a. Pilate
- b. Caiaphas
- c. Caesar
- d. Herod

10. Before His crucifixion, what was placed on Jesus' head?

- a. A golden crown
- b. Purple cloth
- c. Crown of thorns
- d. Crown of thistles

11. On what charge was Jesus sentenced to death?

- a. Blasphemy
- b. Lying
- c. Treason
- d. Tyranny

12. For what did the soldiers cast lots?

- a. The Cross
- b. Jesus' clothes
- c. Money
- d. Jesus' hair

13. Who wanted to see the nail marks in Jesus hands before they believed he was alive?

- a. Thomas
- b. Peter
- c. Nicodemus
- d. Judas

14. Three disciples were with Jesus at the time of his arrest. Who were they?

- a. Matthew, Mark, Luke
- b. Peter, James, John
- c. Thomas, James, Bartholomew
- d. Peter, Mark, John

15. What was written on the sign above Jesus' cross?

- a. Friend of Sinners
- b. Prophet of the Jews
- c. King of the Jews
- d. King of the World



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Answers on Page 2



Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.

5 Martin Luther Drive,

Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996

Chicago and Northwest Indiana

Sunday morning at 8:00 AM on

Chicago's CW station WPWR channel 50

(Comcast 184)

April 1, 2018 – The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day

Psalm: 16; Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;

Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

“The Climactic Event” - Sermon Text: Mark 16:1-8 - *Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege*

Every human being is under the curse of death. To overcome this curse, God's prophets predicted the Savior would come and die for sin and rise from the dead. His resurrection is a (if not THE) climactic event in mankind's history. Through this climactic event God's people are given resurrection and eternal life. Consistent with His ways, God conveys this wondrous victory through His Word and Sacraments.

April 8, 2018 – Second Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 148; Epistle: 1 John 1:1-9; Gospel: John 20:19-31

“Complete Easter Joy?” - Sermon Text: 1 John 1:4 - *Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer*

Need a little more joy in your life? Jesus' resurrection shows us Truth and connects us with others. That's **Complete Easter Joy!**

April 15, 2018 – Third Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 30:1-5; Epistle: 1 John 3:1-7; Gospel: Luke 24:36-49

“Easter's Good News” - Sermon Text: Luke 24:36-49 - *Rev. James Elsner*

We now live in an age of information. News of events locally, nationally, and from around the world are brought to us as they happen. But, is there any “good” news? The resurrection of Jesus is GOOD News – and more!

April 22, 2018 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 23; Epistle: 1 John 3:16-24; Gospel: John 10:11-18

“Jesus, the Good Shepherd” - Sermon Text: John 10:11-18 - *Rev. William Mueller*

We treasure the picture of Jesus the Good Shepherd. He's holding little lambs in His arms protecting and caring for them. We are those lambs. In John 10 Jesus gives us the reasons why we can be so sure and certain about His “Good Shepherd” status. He has authority to do what He does and He cares for us – even to give His life for us.

April 29, 2018 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 150; Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21; Gospel: John 15:1-8

“Love by God” - Sermon Text: John 4:15-19 - *Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III*

God loves us! It is amazing that He does, since we are sinful human beings, and were by nature His enemies. More than that, God's love for us has a wonderful multi-faceted goal.

Tel: (260) 471-LOVE (5683) †

Toll-Free: (888) 286-8002

www.worshipanew.org/sermon-summaries †

Email: info@LMMinc.org