

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Website: [www.luther95.net/ILC-WIA/](http://www.luther95.net/ILC-WIA/)

1226 East Washington Washington, IA 319-653-3950

**March, 2009**

**Sunday Worship  
9:00 AM**

**Our mission:  
Gather All Generations  
Around the Word of Christ**

**World Day of  
Prayer Mar 6, 2009**

**Immanuel Lutheran**

**Weekly Lenten  
Services Wed at  
6:15 p.m.  
Soup at 5:30 p.m.**

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## **Sin, God's Mercy, Forgiveness, and Salvation** by Peter Weller

In the Biblical passages for this year's season of Lent we find many well known and favorite verses: John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8, Psalm 51:10-12, 15-17. The Ten Commandments are here, as are God's many promises to renew and refocus and restore his relationship with his people Israel.

These passages remind us again and again of our sinful nature and our disobedience to God. But, they also remind us of God's enormous love for us and his great willingness to forgive our sins and to make new covenants with us that heal and restore us to him. After the great flood that destroyed the evil and wickedness of Noah's day, God established his covenant with Noah and his descendants that he would never again destroy the earth in a flood. (Genesis 9:8-17)

After the Babylonian captivity, God promised to bring the Israelites home, restore their fortunes, and make a new covenant with them. God said, "I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each man teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they will all know me; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

The 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm acknowledges the realities of sin that lie within each of us. The Psalmist admits to his sins and pleads to God for mercy and forgiveness. He writes, "For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you only have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment. Hide your face from my sins. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy Spirit from me. For you have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

When besieged by scorpions in the Wilderness, Moses' followers acknowledged that they had sinned against God, and they pleaded with Moses to ask God to take the scorpions away. God directed Moses to make a bronze serpent, place it on a pole, and lift it up so that everyone who was bitten could look at the bronze serpent and live. (Numbers 21:4-9) This event is referred to in John 3:14-15, that just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the Wilderness, so must also the Son of Man be lifted up on the cross.

Just as Moses' followers believed that by looking at the bronze serpent they would live, those who believe Jesus to be God's Son shall have eternal life. "For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:17) This, then, is God's promise that sins are forgiven and are remembered no more, that a broken and contrite heart is not despised, and that a belief in Jesus leads not to condemnation but to eternal life.

## Monthly Updates

### February Attendance

|        |                |            |
|--------|----------------|------------|
| Feb 1  | <u>9:00 am</u> | <u>155</u> |
| Feb 8  | <u>9:00 am</u> | <u>152</u> |
| Feb 15 | <u>9:00 am</u> | <u>131</u> |
| Feb 22 | <u>9:00 am</u> | <u>110</u> |

### **General Fund Gifts - January**

1/12<sup>th</sup> of annual budget = \$ 13,814.75

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Jan 4                | 1,309.25        |
| Jan 11               | 1,409.80        |
| Jan 18               | 4,374.62        |
| Jan 25               | 1,691.05        |
| <i>Simply Giving</i> | <u>2,298.00</u> |

Jan \$ 11,082.72

Dec \$ 10,990.71

**\$1,000.00 has been paid to the Synod for Mission Support in 2009** beyond the congregation for synodical and church wide ministries of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

### **“Building Fund Gifts ” - January**

Monthly mortgage payment - \$3,422.55

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Jan 4                | \$ 365.00     |
| Jan 11               | 610.00        |
| Jan 18               | 335.00        |
| Jan 25               | 290.00        |
| <i>Simply Giving</i> | <u>835.00</u> |

Jan \$2,435.00

Dec \$ 2,970.00

At this time we have payments made through March. Next payment due 04/23/09.

With the memorial money from Les Grim we have been able to purchase 20 more ELW's for use during worship. We have also received a new set of Communion Cloths to use also from the this memorial.

#### **Thrivent Leaders 2009**

Chapter - Yvonne Buster, Mark Kendall, Ray Poe  
Judy Venzke

Care in Congregations—Dale Venzke, Mike Jewell

#### **Continuing Funds that can be contributed to:**

Luther League

Parking Lot Fund

Endowment Fund

Membership Assistance

New Carpet Fund

Piano Fund

Bobbie Schmidt Fund

[Make notation on check]

### **Fortnightly Meal Held 2-10-09**

We didn't have any expenses for this project thanks to those who bought groceries in our church store and to those who donated money. As usual, there were wonderful workers who prepared the meal, served and cleaned. We received many compliments from the Fortnightly ladies. We now have \$426 (from reservations and Thrivent) to add to our HOPE (sew day ladies) group to buy items for relief projects such as quilts, layettes, school and health kits.

### **School Kits**

The sewing machines have been clicking, and there are 115 empty school bags ready to be filled for the April 16 delivery of school supplies to Lutheran World Relief. You can help by filling one or more of these bags during the month of March. The bags will be in a basket in the narthex of the church.

Please pick up and fill them with the items you will find listed in each of these bags. If you can bring them back to the church by April 1, we can have them processed to send off on this spring's truck. (If you miss the deadline, we will take them at any time. This is an ongoing project and we will send it in the fall.)

#### **SPECIAL PRAYERS**

Please keep in you prayers 20 month old Emma Levetzow and 4 year old Jenna Waters who have both recently been diagnosed with cancer. The girls are doing ok but they still are in need of our prayers.

### **World Day of Prayer**

Immanuel is the host church for the World Day of Prayer this year. The date is Friday, March 6, from 2-3 p.m. in our sanctuary. The program which was written by Christian women in Papua New Guinea will be presented by women from several churches in Washington. Pastor Koch will be the speaker. Ted Stewart who served as a volunteer missionary in PNG has allowed us to display the many souvenirs he has. With people all over the world praying at their local time of 2:00 p.m., there will be continual prayers for 24 hours.

Council Members for 2008: Sarah Hernandez (Ed/Youth) 653-3038 - Kathy Dea [Sec.] (Ed/Youth) 653-6097 Kate Glinsmann (Ed/Youth) 653-7314 - Marty Westen [V.P.] (W/E)653-6021 - Ed Burdock (W/E) 653-2495 - Mary Chmelar (W/E) 653-2043- Tom Lyons (B/G/F) 653-6721 - David Sells (B/G/F) 461-5873 Nancy Baker (B/G/F) 653-7309 - Ken Erickson (Stew/Fin) 653-5258 - Ruth Jones [Pres.] (Stew/Fin) 461-4010 -Mark Kendall( (Stew/Fin) -653-6561



## Worship Leaders

| <b>March 2009</b>     | <b>Greeters</b>           | <b>Ushers</b>                             | <b>Reader</b>     | <b>Communion Assistant</b> | <b>Communion Setup/ Cleanup</b> | <b>Acolyte</b>  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sun 9:00 am<br>Mar 1  | Rausch Family             | Ted Kruse<br>Phyllis & Duane<br>Hagensick | Monique<br>Rausch | Yaro Chmelar               |                                 | Marty Baker     |
| Wed. Mar 4            |                           | Rich Baker Fam.                           |                   |                            |                                 |                 |
| Sun 9:00 am<br>Mar 8  | Tom Charlane<br>Tanner    | Dave Steele<br>Ken Erickson               | James Bennett     |                            |                                 | Kyle Fischer    |
| Wed. 6:15<br>Mar 11   |                           | Gary Fischer<br>Dale Venzke               |                   |                            |                                 |                 |
| Sun 9:00 am<br>Mar 15 | Dave Steele<br>Family     | Jim Gallagher<br>Tom Tanner               | Ashley Rausch     | James<br>Bennett           |                                 | Megan Hill      |
| Wed Mar 18            |                           | Bill Ebert<br>Deb Shepherd                |                   |                            |                                 |                 |
| Sun 9:00 am<br>Mar 22 | Alan & Vicki<br>Rebling   | Mark Kendall<br>Larry Bartlett            | Sherry Ives       |                            |                                 | Grant Hill      |
| Wed. 6:15<br>Mar 25   |                           | Yaro & Mary<br>Chmelar                    |                   |                            |                                 |                 |
| Sun 9:00 am<br>Mar 29 | Pastor Al &<br>Jane Kruse | Kristin, Cody &<br>Ryan Jones             | T J Rausch        |                            |                                 | Maggie<br>Baker |

If you cannot serve the time you are assigned, please find someone to trade with or call Kathy Vetter 653-5515 before noon on Friday.

### Women's Spring Cluster Gathering

April 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, is the date of the Cluster 7 Women's Spring Gathering. It is in Muscatine this spring and at Tipton in the fall. All women are invited. More information will be in the April newsletter.

**Ladies Out of Supplies**  
The HOPE group needs all kinds of supplies for their kits. One piece sleepers, cloth diapers, nail clippers, baby sweater, new soap(4-5oz.) receiving blankets, etc. Check LWR pamphlet for more details. Drop off items by

**Washington Area Habitat for Humanity (WAHFH)** will be holding its 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DINNER, Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Washington United Methodist Church. The pork loin meal beginning at 6:00 pm will be followed by a fund-raising auction of unique items. Anyone wishing to donate items for the auction is asked to deliver them to the WUMC Fellowship Hall on the 26<sup>th</sup>, or contact Rodney Stogdill at 653-5808 to make arrangements for a prior drop off. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at Federation Bank or from any of the following Habitat board members: Lee Buchholz, Derrick Cranston, Tom Davey, Wayne Fryenberger, Rhonda Henry, Terry Miller, Tammy Negrete, Sandy Schieb, Lynette Sievers, Rod Stogdill, Gary and Phyllis Scheeler. Thank you for your continued support of WAHFH by making your night out count!

## March Sunday School News

A big thank you to Angi Ellis for the yummy valentine's cookies for "Jesus Loves Me" Sunday on February 15<sup>th</sup>. They were a big hit!

Our Pajama, Pancake, Praise and Puppet breakfast for Sunday School students will be on March 8<sup>th</sup>. That is Daylight Savings Time Sunday so don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour and come to church and Sunday School in your pajamas. Students will rotate with their class between three stations; Pancake breakfast served by Lynette Sievers, Praise music organized by Julie Hill, and Puppet lesson presented by Rich Baker and his troupe of volunteers (I am sure you would be welcome if you are interested in working with the puppets).

Palm Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> older Sunday School students will hide Easter eggs for the younger students and we'll have a special lesson. Confirmation students will be confirmed on that day and students will lead the palm walk during church time. There will be NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Please enjoy the Luther League breakfast.

The Sunday School classes for this year will end on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> with a "Route 66 Diner" breakfast and special presentations during church time. There will be no official lesson on that Sunday.

The money students have been placing in the tube at the front of the sanctuary will be used to purchase a cow as part of the Heifer International Project. So far, students have raised \$78.06. We will be discussing the project more with students in April.

Remember Sunday School classes run from 10:15 to 11:15. We hope you will join us for spring fun and learning.

## LWR Coffee Project

Sip a brew of coffee and tea, too. Fresh, hot, and helpful. With the slight increase per unit the co-op for Equal Exchange coffee producers remains strong in tenuous financial times. You may have noticed the location of the table for the coffee has moved. We wish to feature the new blends we have to offer for your purchase. Stop and pick up a brochure and find out why our church supports the Lutheran World Relief Coffee Cooperative with Equal Exchange. We want the farmers to get a fair wage



for their products that are of the finest anywhere. Organic Sisters' Blend is our new featured flavor. You'll see it in the dramatic black package of one pound each. We've priced it the same as the 12oz. packs to encourage you to see if it meets your taste preferences. The beans blended for this flavor are grown in Peru and Nicaragua with cooperatives paying particular attention to the integral role women play in a cooperative's success. Another change is that Al Olson after MANY years of skillfully managing this account has passed the role to Laurie Wittmayer-O'Neill (Jerry Brown started this project before Al). Please leave the envelopes with payments in her name or to the Immanuel Coffee Fund in the office. Leave a note or phone message for any special brews you may wish to have ordered. For special orders, contact Laurie 319-653-4329.

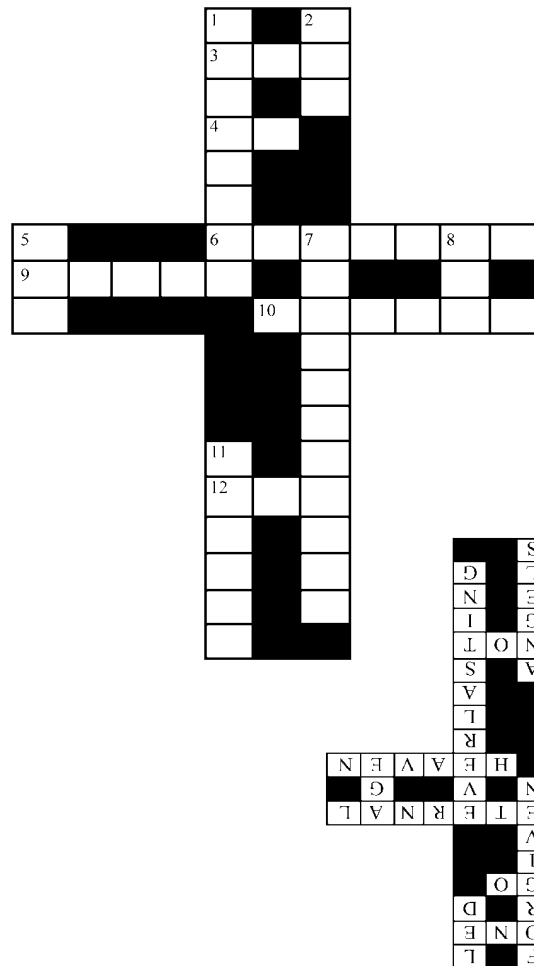
# CROSS-word Puzzle

## Across

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ who believes and is baptized will be saved. Mark 16:16
4. \_\_\_\_\_ into all the world and proclaim the good news. Mark 16:15
6. . . . whoever believes in him shall have \_\_\_\_\_ life. John 3:15
9. . . . wrapped the body of Jesus in a \_\_\_\_\_ cloth. Luke 23:53
10. . . . he withdrew from them and was carried up into \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 24:51
12. Do \_\_\_\_\_ be afraid. Matthew 28:5

## Down

1. Forgive and you will be \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 6:37
2. Then he \_\_\_\_\_ them out . . . and he blessed them. Luke 24:50
5. . . . repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to \_\_\_\_\_ nations. Luke 24:47
7. . . . and lead me in the way \_\_\_\_\_. Psalm 139:24
8. I am with you always, to the end of the \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 28:20
11. . . . vision of \_\_\_\_\_ who said that he was alive. Luke 24:23



## Kid's Corner

Congratulations to the kids for raising another \$73.86 in the tube on the altar, for a total of \$151.92. Everyone enjoys watching the kids take their change up to the front. The goal is to buy a cow for a family in need so they can improve their life style by providing for their family.

### Book of Timothy



## Tentative Holy Week Schedule

- Palm Sunday, April 5 – 9:00AM Worship
- Maundy Thursday, April 9 – To Be Determined
- Good Friday, April 10 – To Be Determined
- Easter Sunday April 12
- Possible 6:30 AM Sunrise Service
- Breakfast by Luther League
- Another service possible 9:00AM
- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- On Easter Sunday**

Please check next month's newsletter for all of the times for services.