

NOVEMBER 2021



THE CONTACT

The official publication of Incarnation Lutheran Church

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UPDATED COMMUNION PROTOCOL

Starting Sunday, November 28th, we will now offer both communion in the pew as well as the opportunity to come down front to take communion.



More information on page 10.



South Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR EMILY:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

This is one of my favorite verses. I find it impossible to live up to of course, which is, perhaps, why it is one of my favorites. It's a reminder to me that our intentions do not always coincide with our actions, and that somehow God continues to love us anyway.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances. It is a tall order. Especially in light of all that the past couple of years have held.

But even when we can't live up to this scriptural command, we are expected to live into it. That means that we look for ways to rejoice even in the face of grief and trials. It means remembering to lift up every bit of our lives to God in prayer: our joys, our concerns, ourselves, our neighbors, and yes, even those who hate us. Living into this vision for God's people means being thankful for the abundant blessings that God has poured out upon us, and then treating those blessings as precious, valuable aspects of our lives together, and working to protect them.

These verses, I think, are less about being the perfect community and more about how we participate in the imperfect communities of which we are actually a part. Change and renewal starts with one person at a time, after all. These words call us to do better by one another, to evaluate our lives together and our responsibilities to one another in light of God's great love for us, and then to live accordingly, even if imperfectly. That effort begins and is shaped by this call from God to rejoice, pray, and give thanks.

Later this month, our nation will gather around tables and break bread together. We will say prayers of thanksgiving for family, friends, and for God's provision. We will rejoice over being with one another, perhaps after a long time apart. And because we are only human, we will probably have an argument or two with someone we truly care about. What a blessing to know that God understands that, too.

May God bless our time together, and may we continue to live into the kind of community where we rejoice with one another, give thanks for one another, and lift all things to God in prayer.

Pastor Emily

MUSIC



Advent Organ Recital

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

Incarnation Lutheran Church is hosting an Advent Evensong and Organ Recital on Wednesday, December 15th. The service starts at 5:45pm, and is followed by a recital of German Renaissance and Baroque music for Advent and Christmas. We hope to see you there!

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Patrick Hawkins, Music Director and Organist

CDC



Many thanks to the congregation for donating books to our Child Care Centers in honor of the 100th Anniversary of Incarnation Lutheran Church. We love books and are excited to explore all we have received.



Another exciting anniversary is this year as well. Did you know our Child Care Ministry is celebrating its 40th year? Indeed! The ministry started in 1981 as a part time mothers morning out program. It was designed as a deliberate outreach on the part of the church and was spearheaded by then Pastor David Donges. The ministry's statement of mission and purpose continues to guide us:

It shall be the mission of the Child Care Ministry to provide programs that are deemed to be of the greatest need in the community within the facilities and resources of the church. The purpose of our Centers is to provide a Christian atmosphere for children to develop their fullest potential in a positive environment. The staff shall encourage the children to be independent, to assume responsibility, to learn to cooperate with others, and to express his/her own ideas.

The congregation stepped out in faith and conviction to open an additional Child Care Ministry location in September 2007. This satellite location is at 400 Byron Road and near the Veteran's Hospital. This location serves children, infants through 3 years old.

We are blessed and thankful to celebrate this milestone in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the congregation! We are looking forward to the future with hope and promise. Thanks be to God!

CDC THROUGHOUT THE YEARS



STEWARDSHIP

In October and November the Stewardship Committee continues planning for this season's pledge drive communications.

Similar to last year, pledging packets will be assembled & distributed.

The communication includes our 2022 Narrative Budget, pledge cards, and instructions about how to complete and return your planned giving information to the church.

Returning this information promptly to the church is so important for our annual church planning! Please look for this and respond quickly, when it arrives.

A few days ago Linda Blazek found and shared with me a very appropriate quote for these times inspired by Psalm 98:

Staying together through the delights and struggles of life - being "together for joy" - has never been more important. And while change brings financial challenges in its wake, it also brings fresh opportunities to sing to God a new song, for God has done - and will do - marvelous things.

As always, we appreciate all you give every day on behalf of the church through worship, fellowship, services, and prayers.

Thank You for All You Do! We Are Grateful!

From your Stewardship Committee:

Debbie Shurr, Mary Karl Boepple, Teresa Boykin, Linda Blazak, Randy Yausey and Cal Johnson

COUNCIL COVID UPDATES:

At our last council meeting, Council voted to approve changes to our worship with regards to our Covid protocols. Starting Sunday, November 28th, we will now offer both in your seat communion (like we've been doing it) as well as the opportunity to come down front to take communion by station, using a pouring chalice and individual cups. Gloves, masks, spacing will be used. We will also once again begin passing the offering plate.

FAITH FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

We will be welcoming new members on Sunday, November 21st.

TRUNK OR TREAT



National Youth Gathering:

Bible Study:

Sunday Shorts:

National Youth Gathering registration is drawing to a close. **Please register by November 15th.** Pick up forms from the office, or check your email. Contact Pastor Emily if you have any questions about this event.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study is weekly in the Fellowship Hall.



Every Sunday, join us on Facebook for some faith fun. The Incarnation Facebook page will post a short video featuring a story from scripture and a craft or activity to go with it. Watch the video, make the craft, and post a picture of your creation in the comments!

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 28th

8:30 am Worship
10:00 am Worship



Wednesday, December 1st

5:45 pm Advent Evening Worship

Sunday, December 5th

8:30 am Worship
10:00 am Worship



Wednesday, December 8th

5:45 pm Advent Evening Worship

Sunday, December 12th

8:30 am Worship
10:00 am Worship

Wednesday, December 15th

5:45 pm Advent Evening Worship
Advent Evensong and Organ Recital after Worship

Sunday, December 19th

8:30 am Worship
10:00 am Worship

Wednesday, December 22nd

5:45 pm Advent Evening Worship

Christmas Eve - December 24th

5:00 pm Festival Worship



100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Hanging of the Greens (and more!) for Advent and Christmas!

Sunday, November 21, 2021

The Great Pandemic of 2020 did not allow for us to all gather together personally last year in the sanctuary, and we could only enjoy our beautiful sanctuary through livestreamed worship. But this year, we look forward to celebrating the Advent and Christmas season in person!

Come join in **putting up the Chrismon trees and Advent decorations on Sunday, November 21st, following the worship service and Annual Meeting.** This will make our sanctuary ready for the First Sunday in Advent, November 28th.



Here is the schedule:

10:00	Worship
11:00	Annual Meeting
11:30-ish	Chili lunch for all, while Property Committee puts up Chrismon trees
12:00-ish	Decorating of Chrismon trees, Property Committee gets to eat chili!

Decorating the sanctuary is a long-standing tradition for individuals and families, and we are so happy to return to it this year. If you plan to help decorate, please contact Susan McArver at swmcarver@mac.com or (803) 546-6121.

Did you know . . . ?

The Chrismon tradition at Incarnation began exactly 60 years ago . . . ? Incarnation wrote to Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, in December 1961 to inquire about obtaining Chrismons for Incarnation. Ascension Lutheran Church was the originator of Chrismons in 1957, just four years before, so Incarnation was one of the “early adopters” of this ministry!

100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

November is the season to give thanks!

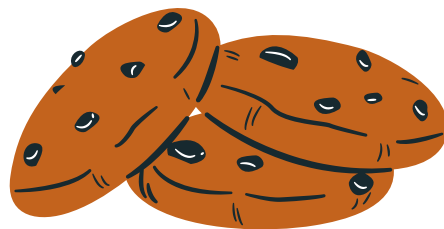
For our November anniversary challenge, we are collecting 100 pairs of socks for the homeless at Transitions. Please bring socks in men's and women's sizes, and leave them at the church office.

And find other ways to express your thanks during this season of giving!



OKTOBERFEST

Even though Oktoberfest was cancelled this year, we were still able to bring some of the festival to Columbia. The Oktoberfest Cookie Ladies assembled and sold \$800 worth of cookies the weekend of October 16. If possible, we'll continue to have these pop-up cookie sales. Be on the lookout and share with friends when you can!



LECTOR AND CRUCIFER SCHEDULE

Lectors and Crucifers

September 2021 – January 2022

Date	Lectors	Crucifers
November 7	Janet Hoffmann	Teresa Boykin
November 14	Mimi Fisher	Janet Hoffman
November 21	Leslie Skinner	Jeff Shealy
November 28	Cheryl Carroll	Teresa Boykin
December 5	Mary Kehl	Bill Williamson
December 12	Janet Hoffmann	John Sawicki
December 19	Leslie Skinner	John Sawicki
December 24 (Christmas Eve)	Mimi Fisher	Jeff Shealy
December 26	Susan McArver	Amy Kehl
January 2	Mary Kehl	Janet Hoffman
January 9	Janet Hoffmann	Teresa Boykin
January 16	Leslie Skinner	Bill Williamson

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER AT INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 6:00 pm - Troop 8	2 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm - Pack 8	3 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 12:00 Bible Study: Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm: Choir Practice	4	5	6	7 Executive Council Time Change 8:30 am - Outdoor Worship 10:00 am - Sunday Worship 11:15 am - 12:00 pm: Handbell Practice Worship & Music - 12:00 pm National Youth Gathering
8 6:00 pm - Troop 8	9 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall Parlor Reserved at 6 pm for Ken Gehlen) 6:00 pm - Pack 8	10 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 12:00 Bible Study: Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm: Choir Practice	11 Veterans Day 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Devine Night Out	12	13	14 8:30 am - Outdoor Worship 10:00 am - Sunday Worship 11:15 am - 12:00 pm: Handbell Practice
15 6:00 - Council Meeting 6:00 pm - Troop 8	16 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm - Pack 8	17 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 12:00 pm - Bible Study: Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm: Choir Practice	18	19	20	21 8:30 am - Outdoor Worship 10:00 am - Sunday Worship Hanging of the Greens Congregational Meeting
22 6:00 pm - Troop 8	23 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm - Pack 8	24 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 12:00 pm - Bible Study: Fellowship Hall	25 Thanksgiving - Office Closed	26 Thanksgiving - Office Closed	27	28 8:30 am - Outdoor Worship 10:00 am - Sunday Worship 11:15 am - 12:00 pm: Handbell Practice
29 6:00 pm - Troop 8	30 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm - Pack 8					

GET IN TOUCH

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

Rev. Emily Willhide.....pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com

Dr. Patrick Hawkins; Dir. of Music & Organist.....music@incarnationlutheran.com

Amy Kehl; Bookkeeper.....amy.kehl@incarnationlutheran.com

Teresa Boykin, CDC Director.....cdc@incarnationlutheran.com

Cherry Samuel, CDC-Byron Rd.....cdcbyron@incarnationlutheran.com

Charlotte Dover, Parish Administrator.....office@incarnationlutheran.com

Worship: Sundays at 8:30 am and 10 a.m.

(10 a.m. Worship is also live streamed on Facebook.)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office: 803-256-2381

CDC: 803-256-7456

www.incarnationlutheran.com

www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch