



NOVEMBER

THE CONTACT

The official publication of Incarnation Lutheran Church

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In honor of Veterans Day, thank you to all who have served.



Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.
John 15:13



A NOTE FROM PASTOR EMILY:

Every year at the end of October the synod gathers for Convocation, a three day retreat for rostered ministers here in the South Carolina Synod. We meet at Lutheridge for a time of learning, revitalization, and fellowship. There's also quite a lot of beer. But the best part about this time away is that we nearly always have an interesting speaker who presents a series of lectures that help us think about God, the church, and ministry in a new way. This year's speaker was Dr. Diana Butler Bass, a prolific author and theologian. She is a favorite author of mine as she always has such an interesting and thought-provoking approach to whatever topic is under discussion. She also has an easy way with language, making her writings both engaging and understandable.

Her lectures were based on her new book, "Freeing Jesus", and we spent a delightful three days unpacking what that terminology means for us, both in our personal and community faith lives. Part of our conversation explored the classic Pauline question, "Who are you, Lord", that Paul bleats out on the road to Damascus. It's a more complicated question than it might seem at first glance. Jesus is given many names and job titles in scripture, and we could probably add to the tally.

Dr. Bass encouraged us to answer that question for ourselves and to explore how that answer might change over a life of faith. Jesus as teacher has something different to show us than Jesus as shepherd, and we have a different relationship to Jesus our friend than we do to Jesus our savior. All of this is to say that relationships are complicated. We are not static beings, and neither is God, so it makes sense that our relationships both with each other and with our faith grow and change as we grow and change.

As a worshipping body of faithful disciples of Jesus, this of course makes me wonder who Jesus is to us as a group, and how that understanding of Jesus informs our ministry here in Columbia. The very name of our church suggests that we value the identity of Jesus as the one who chooses to walk among us, present in the challenges and joys of every life. It also captures our commitment to being the hands, feet, heart, and voice of Christ in the world, both serving our neighbors and inviting them to join us around the table of God's grace, mercy, and abundance.

Whatever our understanding of Jesus in our lives and in the life of the church, may we continue to tell the story of the one who loves us, welcomes us, redeems us, and sends us out bearing Good News for the world

Pastor Emily

CDC

We are thankful!



We are so very thankful to resume our Spooky Walk tradition. Many thanks to the children, parents, staff, and neighborhood partners!

MUSIC

We have three exciting concerts at ILC that we would love for you to attend!

Columbia Choral Society
Friday, November 4th at 7:00 pm - Ticketed Event
Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the door.

USC Men's & Women's Choirs (Garnet Chorale and the Gamecock Chorale)
Monday, November 7th at 7:30 pm - Free Event

Palmetto Chamber Orchestra
Sunday, December 18th at 6:00 pm - Ticketed Event
Tickets are \$15, VIP \$25 (two for \$45) and will be available at the door.

Yours,
Dr. Patrick Hawkins, Director of Music and Organist

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



In a few short weeks the season of Advent will begin, which brings a season of rest, growth, and preparation for a new beginning. During Advent, Faith Formation has planned a Wednesday evening gathering. We will gather at 5 pm then transition into the sanctuary for Holden Evening Prayer. During our time together we will be working on an Advent craft. The first week will be an Advent wreath for you to take home. We will also the start the craft that we will be using and building on for the next four weeks. All are encouraged to attend, especially those with children. This time together will be a time to meet and to get to know each other as well as learn about the season of Advent.

Children's Sunday School is in the works to start up very soon, but not without the help of volunteers. This is what it means to be a Sunday School Volunteer:

- You will be a part of a rotation, so that means you and another volunteer will be co-teaching.
- Teaching once a month.
- Teaching a lesson that is structured so all you will have to do is teach for a well written guide.

If this is something you are interested in doing, please contact Kimi (youth@incarnationlutheran.com).

STEWARDSHIP

Thanksgiving is the Path to Contentment



Hebrews 13:5 says: “Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.”

What would it take to make you happy? Really. In our culture, advertisements sell us on the idea that true happiness is always just one more purchase away. When we believe this, we put ourselves on the hamster wheel of want. No matter how hard we run, we will never get to happiness.

More often than happiness, the Bible speaks of contentment. The two concepts are often confused, but the distinction is important. Whereas happiness is a pleasurable sensation that rises and falls like the tide, contentment is a state of satisfaction that remains calm, like the surface of a pond.

God calls us to live contentedly, finding sufficiency in our lives, our relationships, and all we possess. We are enough. We have enough. When our essential needs are met, incessant wants do not infest our soul like itchy fleas.

How do we find contentment? Thankfulness provides a way. We give thanks for all we are and all we have, appreciating every blessing. Since this is the month of Thanksgiving, make a pledge to yourself this November to find contentment through giving thanks. Make a “Gratitude List” of everything for which you are thankful. Review it daily, praying over each blessing, “I thank God for” Add to it as you think of new things.

May you finish November as someone who is not only thankful, but also content with all you are and all you have.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER AT INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 USC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 - 8:30 Ken Gehler Parlor 5:30	2	3	4 7:00 pm Columbia Choral Concert	5
6 9:00 am - Pastor's Forum 9:15 am - Choir Practice 10:00 am- Sunday Worship Worship & Music	7 9:30 am - Tiny Dancers 6:00 pm - Troop 8 7:30 pm USC Chorus Concert	8 9:00 am - Staff Meeting Sanctuary: Chapel 3:45 6:00 pm - Pack 8 6:30 Council	9 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 - 7:30	10 Mary Martha	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12
13 10:00 am- Sunday Worship	14 9:30 am - Tiny Dancers 6:00 pm - Troop 8	15 9:00 am - Staff Meeting Sanctuary: Chapel 3:45 6:00 pm - Pack 8	16 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 - 7:30	17	18	19
20 9:00 am - Pastor's Forum 9:15 am - Choir Practice 10:00 am- Sunday Worship Hanging of the Greens 6:00 pm PCO Concert	21 9:30 am - Tiny Dancers 6:00 pm - Troop 8	22 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall Sanctuary: Chapel 3:45 6:00 pm - Pack 8	23 Bible Study - 11:00 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 Handbells: 5:15- 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 - 7:30	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 9:00 am - Pastor's Forum 9:15 am - Choir Practice 10:00 am- Sunday Worship	28 9:30 am - Tiny Dancers 6:00 pm - Troop 8	29 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 10:00 am - Quilting Group: Fellowship Hall Sanctuary: Chapel 3:45	30 Bible Study - 11:00 Sanctuary: Chapel 11-12 Advent Craft and Learn 5:00 Advent Evening Service 5:45			

November Happenings

November 4th: Columbia Choral Society Concert @ 7 pm (Ticketed)

November 6: All Saints Sunday, Worship & Music, and Oktoberfest Hotwash
- Bring photos of loved ones who have passed away.

November 7th: USC Choir Concert at ILC from 7:30 - 8:30 (Free)

November 8th: 6:30 Council Meeting

November 10th: Mary Martha meeting at 6:30 pm

November 11th: Office Closed - Veterans Day

November 20th: Hanging of the Greens and lunch after Worship

November 24th & 25th: Office Closed - Thanksgiving

November 27th: First Sunday in Advent

November 30th: 5:00 Craft and Learn and 5:45 Advent Evening Worship

Little Free Pantry

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to The Free Food Pantry. Through our donations, many persons have been able receive the gift of food. If you would like to make a monetary donation to The Free Food Pantry, you can do so through your online giving. Foods needed include:

1. Pop Top single entrée servings
(Ravioli, Mac and Cheese, etc.)
2. Canned Protein/Meats
3. Canned fruit
4. Carbohydrates such as Cereal (small servings are best,) Granola Bars, Pasta, Rice, Oatmeal, Grits, Crackers
5. Peanut Butter
6. Feminine Paper Products
7. Toiletries

GET IN TOUCH

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

Rev. Emily Willhide.....pastoremy@incarnationlutheran.com
Dr. Patrick Hawkins; Dir. of Music & Organist.....music@incarnationlutheran.com
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Charlotte Dover; Parish Administrator.....office@incarnationlutheran.com
Gina Schaefer; Seminarian.....office@incarnationlutheran.com

Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.

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

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

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