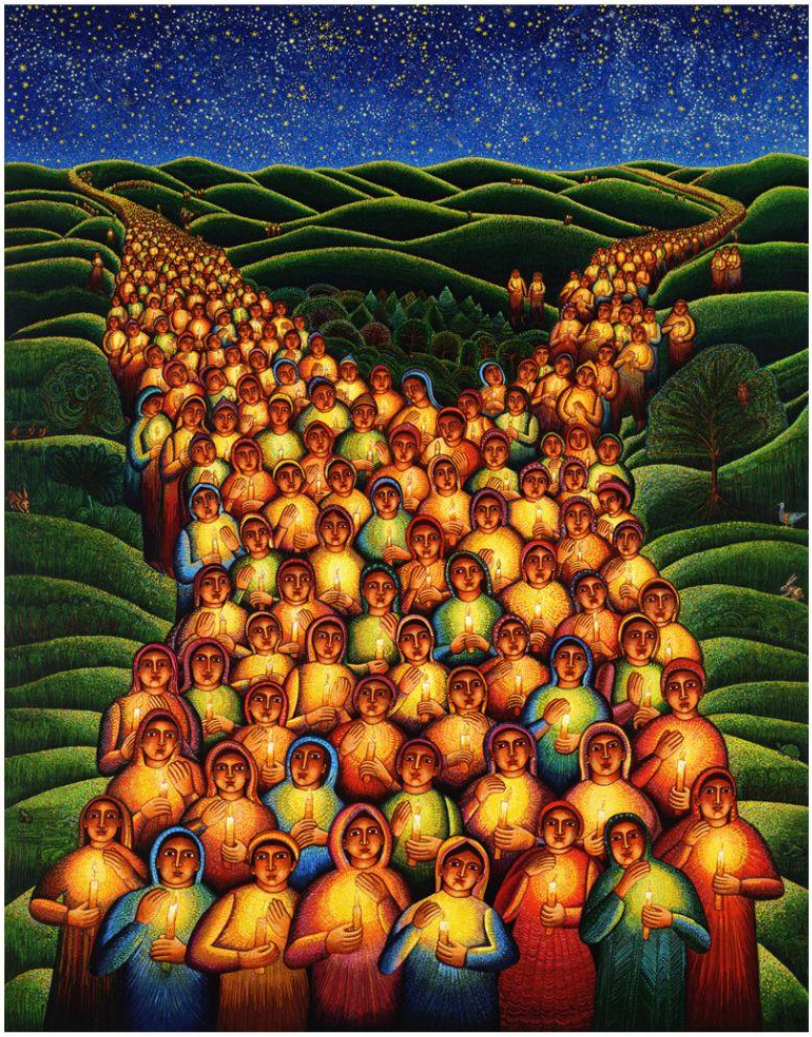


Festival of Lights
ca. 2000 by John August Swanson

Sunday, July 27th
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

Rev. Emily Willhide: pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com
Kimi Dail; Faith Formation Coordinator: faith@incarnationlutheran.com
Teresa Boykin; CDC Director: cdc@incarnationlutheran.com
Bonnie McDaniel; Parish Administrator: office@incarnationlutheran.com
Amy Kehl; Bookkeeper: bookkeeper@incarnationlutheran.com
Matthew Whitehouse; Organist
Elliott Stewart; Handbell and Choir Director

Sunday School (all ages): On summer break
Nursery (ages 3 and under): 9:45 am- 11:15 am
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.
3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205
Office: 803-256-2381
CDC: 803-661-6378
www.incarnationlutheran.com
www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Incarnation Lutheran Church
inspire renew empower

WELCOME TO INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH! We are a congregation of the South Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

This is Christ's church.
There is a place for you here.

We are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, regardless of race, gender, orientation, ability or disability, socioeconomic status, or citizenship. We affirm that all people are beloved children of God and created in the image of God. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

WORSHIP

- We gather to worship God in community because we believe that in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ all things are made new, including us, and that God has brought us together for a purpose.
- Our worship language is drawn from scripture, and you may recognize many parts of it from your Bible.
- The worship bulletin includes our order of worship and will direct you to hymns/songs (located in our red hymnal), or to different parts of the liturgy (in the front half of the ELW). If you're not sure what something means, please ask a neighbor or an usher.
- During worship, there are directions to be seated or to stand as able. Please do what you are able and what makes you comfortable.

HOLY COMMUNION

We invite you to join with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion, as Jesus invites us all to the table. The Ushers will direct you to the front of the church to receive communion. Please take an empty communion glass from the trays at the front of the church. The innermost ring of glasses are pre-filled with grape juice for those who prefer juice to wine. There are discard trays by the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are also available. Children are welcome to participate when they and their families think they are ready, and after a conversation with the pastor. If you are unable to come forward, please indicate that to the Ushers, and the Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.

CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN WORSHIP!

The whole church is blessed by the presence of children in worship, wiggle and all. They will learn to participate in church by watching you and the congregation as we stand, sit, pray, and sing together. Coloring pages, crayons, Quiet Mazes, and activity bags are available in the narthex to help them if they get a little restless. There is also a nursery located in our educational building next door, staffed with two qualified caregivers.

RESTROOMS

As you face the altar, the men's restrooms are through the door on the right side and down the hall. The women's restroom and an accessible family restroom are through the door on the left side. A diaper changing station is available in the family restroom.

LIVESTREAM

Worship is live-streamed on Facebook and can be found on Incarnation's Facebook page. A link is also available on our website: incarnationlutheran.com

ASSISTIVE LISTENING IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Please ask the Ushers for help if you have difficulty either in locating the devices or using them.

Welcome to Worship

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✢ HymnFest • July 27th, 2025 ✢

Worship Notes: *• Our Lector for today is Sabra Custer • Our Crucifer for today is Jimmy McFarland • Our Worship Assistant is Janet Hoffman •*

PRELUDE Improvisation Matthew Whitehouse

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please stand as able and face the back of the church.*
In the name of the Father, and of the ✢ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, **you call us to love, but too often we turn toward hate and violence. You free us for compassion, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✢ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

GATHERING: ELW 556 Morning Has Broken
BUNESSAN

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Almighty and ever-living God, **you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.** *Please be seated.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE CALL
There are many call stories in the Bible, where God both claims us as children and invites us to join our paths to God's. Over and over again, scripture reiterates this simple fact: God created us and loves us.

READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

1 But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.
2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
3 For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
4 Because you are precious in my sight
and honored and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
5 Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
6 I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

HYMN: ELW 581 (Verses 1 and 4) You Are Mine
YOU ARE MINE

HYMN: ELW 817 (Verses 1 and 4) You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore
PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

GOD'S PROMISES

God's promises described in scripture give us some of the most beautiful imagery in the Bible. We read there that God promises to love us and protect us, acting as a refuge and defense. The fullest expression of this promise is found in the cross of Christ, as God enters into death with us and robs the grave of its power over us.

READING: Psalm 91:1-12 *Read responsively*

1 You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
2 will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."
3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly pestilence;
4 he will cover you with his pinions,

and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and defense.
5 You will not fear the terror of the night
or the arrow that flies by day
6 or the pestilence that stalks in darkness
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
8 You will only look with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.

9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
10 no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

11 For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
12 On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

HYMN: ELW 787 — On Eagles Wings
ON EAGLE'S WINGS

HYMN: ELW 732 — Borning Cry
WATERLIFE, BORNING CRY

HYMN: ELW 666 (Verses 1 and 4) — What Wonderous Love is This
WONDROUS LOVE

GOD'S WORK AND OUR RESPONSE

God has a deep desire for justice and peace for all of creation. Mary's song in Luke points to this divine work both in her own life and in the life of the world. Our response to this Good News is to offer our lives as a testimony of God's love in action and to join our hands to God's in serving and caring for our neighbor.

READING: Luke 1:46-55
46 And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
48 for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
51 He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
53 he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
54 He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

HYMN: ELW 723 (Verses 1 and 2) Canticle of the Turning
STAR OF COUNTY DOWN

HYMN: ELW 574 (Verses 1 and 2) Here I Am Lord
HERE I AM, LORD

HYMN: ELW 660 (Verses 1 and 4) Lift High the Cross
CRUCIFER

THE APOSTLES' CREED *Please stand as able.*
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
Each petition concludes *"God of grace."* We respond: "**Hear our prayer."**

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** *Please be seated.*

WINE AND BREAD

In the simple elements of a meal, Christ promises to be present among us. We offer our thanks, our prayers, and our hearts at the table of Christ where all are welcomed and celebrated as God's beloved children.

The offering plate will be passed throughout the Congregation for those not using online giving.

ANTHEM: ELW 838 Beautiful Savior *Choir*

1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,

3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

OFFERING: ELW 583 (Verses 1 and 2) Take My Life That I May Be
TOMA MI VOLUNTAD

OFFERING PRAYER *Please stand as able.*
Let us pray.
Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS:
ELW 785 When Peace Like a River
VILLE DU HAVRE

ELW 733 Great is Thy Faithfulness
FAITHFULNESS

THE CELEBRATION

There is a thread of gardens in scripture that are used to imagine what God's kingdom looks like. The garden of Eden is life-giving and verdant. The garden of Jesus' tomb erupts into resurrection and new life, as Jesus entrusts the good news to first Mary and then us. In Revelation, the river of the water of life, while not a garden, flows from God's kingdom and nourishes the tree of life, which first feeds and then heals the nations, as God's vision for the world is fully realized. Our worship ends with these three readings and a hymn that draws on all of these images, giving us a glimpse into the celebration of all creation when we are gathered around God's throne.

READING: Genesis 2:8-10

8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had
formed. 9 Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good
for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
10 A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches.

READING: John 20:11-18

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, 12 and
she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other
at the feet. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away
my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14 When she had said this, she turned around and
saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you
weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you
have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16 Jesus said to her,
"Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her,
"Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them,
'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " 18 Mary Magdalene went and
announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to
her.

READING: Revelation 22:1-2

1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of
God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree
of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the
healing of the nations.

Please stand as able.

HYMN: ELW 342 There in God's Garden
SHADES MOUNTAIN

BLESSING:

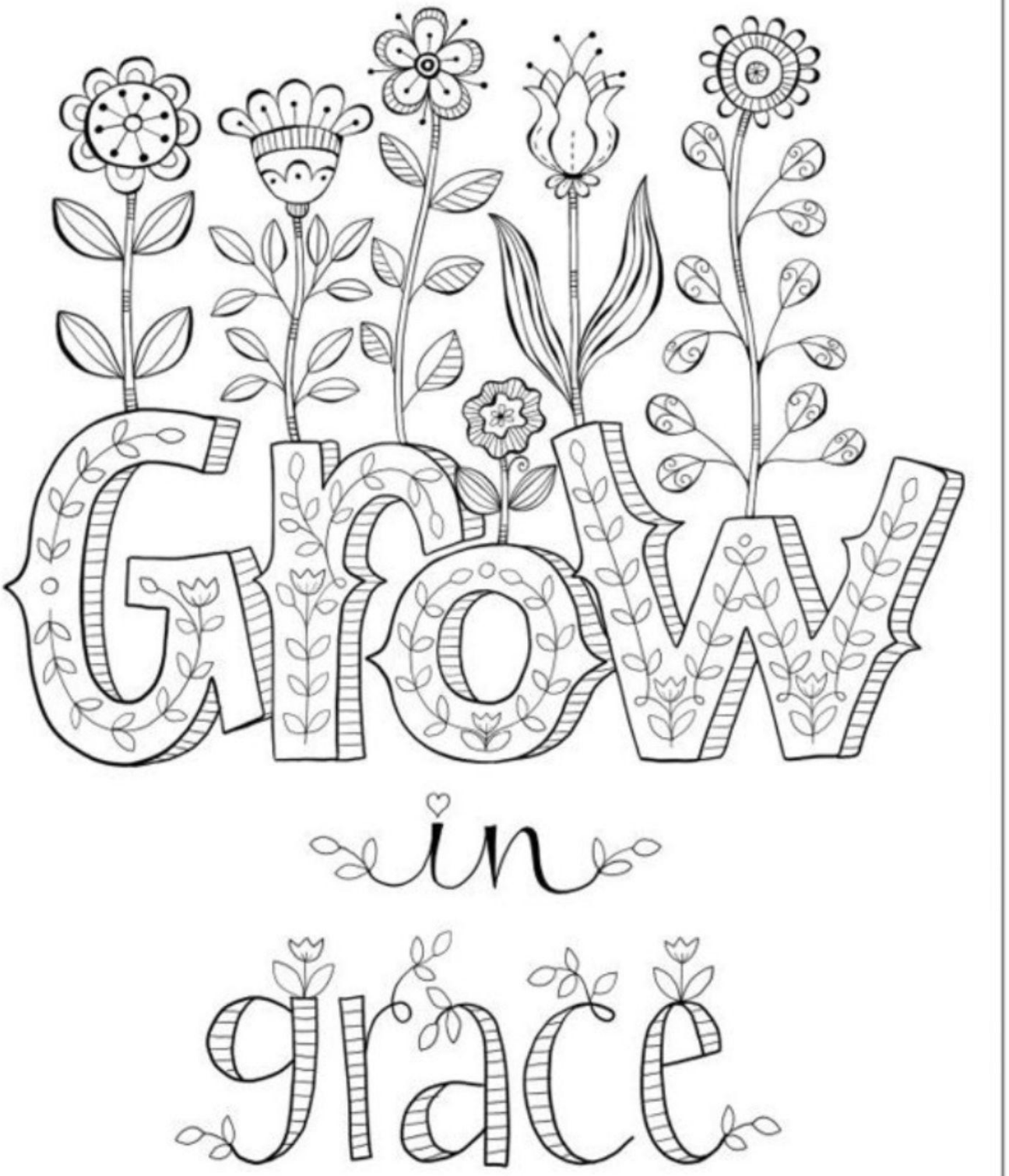
The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Improvisation Matthew Whitehouse

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for coffee time.


Grow
in
grace

Incarnation Lutheran Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am
Nursery (Ages 3 and under): 9:45-11:15
Worship: 10:00 am
Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm M-F
3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205 • (803) 256-2381

Prayer List

Current Concerns: The Medlins family, The Poteau Family, Wells Engle, Carson McCoy, Jasmine Drake, Janet Marks, Cheryl Wooten, , Peter Lovaas, Welda McCullough, Theresa Yaussy, Ken Gehler, Bill Lamb, all homebound and caregivers.

Continuing Concerns: George Mills, Walter Lindler, Elliott Milliken, Joe DeMichael, Mary Rivers, Chip Schuster, Grady Lindler

Military: Cory Gleason, Daniel Scruggs, Hilary Compton (Kim Yerrick's niece), Tyler Owens (Kim Yerrick's nephew), Christopher McFarland (Jimmy and Kathy McFarland's Son), James McFarland (Jimmy and Kathy McFarland's Grandson).

Financial Update

General Fund Contributions

	Actual	Plan	Difference
Last week	$5,286	$5,888	($602)
Month-to-Date	$15,206	$17,664	($2,458)
Year-to-Date	$173,002	$170,752	$2,250

Attendance on 7/20/25: 97

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, July 29th:
10:00 am Quilting Group
Sunday, August 3rd:
10:00 am Worship
Tuesday, August 5th:
10:00 am Quilting Group
Thursday, August 7th:
6:00 pm Oktoberfest meeting
Sunday, August 10th:
10:00 am Worship - Blessing of the Backpacks
11:30 am Executive Council Meeting after Worship
11:30 Worship and Music Meeting after Worship

Giving to ILC:

Please consider giving to Incarnation Lutheran Church's ministries and projects.

SCAN ME

Do you want to join Incarnation? If so, please contact the office at office@incarnationlutheran.com so that we can gather your contact information and reach out to you.

Announcements:

- ILC Family, we are in need of donations to our nursery fund as we are running low!
- Pastor Emily will be out of the office Monday, July 28th through Tuesday, August 5th.