COME LEARN HOW TO MAKE A PALM CROSS!

Sun. April 2 @ 9:00 (Joint Sunday School time)





THE CONTACT

The official publication of Incarnation Lutheran Church

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR EMILY:

Columbia is in bloom, we're in the final weeks of Lent, and Easter is right around the corner. With the beauty of flowering trees and gardens surrounding us, it's tempting to move from Palm Sunday on April 2nd straight to our Easter celebration on the 9th. The days in between are filled with ugliness and betrayal and sometimes it seems easier just to skip right past them. But we also know that the solemnity of Holy Week is an essential part of our journey. It is a time in the church that reminds us that God works through all things, even pain, suffering, and death. It cements in our hearts the knowledge of the incredible sacrifice that God makes to restore us back to life and relationship with God. It is what makes Easter morning such a joyous gathering.

This Lent, during our Wednesday evening worship services, we have been exploring Lenten disciplines as a means of helping us prepare ourselves for Holy Week and the cross. We have looked at prayer, service, fasting, sacrificial giving, study, and worship as means of focusing our attention on Christ and the cross. I hope that you have engaged in one or more of these disciplines as an aid to your journey through Lent, and I hope that you have found value in these practices.

It could be said that Holy Week is the last discipline of Lent. Coming to worship on Thursday and Friday night, finding time on Holy Saturday to meditate on the tomb where Jesus lies, these take time and effort on our part, but pay tremendous dividends when we arrive at church on Easter morning. I encourage you to attend these gatherings if at all possible.

Throughout Holy Week, we will also be posting readings from the Passion account of John as daily devotionals on Facebook. There will be a reflection question at the end of each reading and you are invited to respond and share your thoughts with our community.

Our Holy Week schedule is below, and I invite you to come be a part of this most holy of times in the church's life.

April 2nd Palm Sunday – Adults and children are invited to make Palm crosses during Sunday School.

April 6th at 5:45 pm Maundy Thursday - Worship with Communion and the Stripping of the Altar

April 7th at 5:45 pm Good Friday - Worship continues with candle lighting and prayer **April 8th from 10am-12pm Holy Saturday** - The children of the church gather for crafts and learning and to make communion bread for Easter morning.

April 9th - Easter!

8:30 am - Easter Breakfast10 am - Festival Worship11:30 am - Egg Hunt for Children and Adults

Pastor (mily

CDC

Spring is in the air at the CDC!







FAITH FORMATION CORNER

April's Calendar is packed full of wonderful opportunities for us to gather. On Sunday, April 2nd we will have a joint Sunday School time where we will gather in the reception hall to learn about Palm Sunday and make Palm Crosses to wear. Making a Palm Cross is simple and fun to do.

We are looking forward to Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday, too! On Holy Saturday, we will gather from 10 am to noon in the Fellowship Hall, where we will be telling the story of Easter, baking Communion Bread, and doing a fun Easter craft.

On Easter Sunday we will hold the annual Egg Hunt in the backyard. This is for children and adults!

Children's Sunday School has been going very well. If you have not been able to attend, we would love to have you on a Sunday morning from 9:15 am-9:45 am. Children's Sunday School will meet on Sunday, April 2nd in the Fellowship Hall to help make Palm Crosses. On Sunday, April 9th we will not have Sunday School. Instead, join us for breakfast before Easter service. If you are interested in or would like more information about teaching, please let Kimi know.



FUN AT ILC

ILC's beloved Oyster Roast 2023





St. Patrick's Day Festival

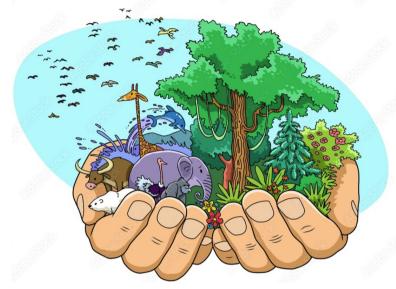


Quilting Sunday



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship of God's 'very good' creation



"God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good."-Genesis 1:31

Six times while creating the heavens and the earth God pauses and sees that it is "good" (Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 26). But when all is completed, God marvels and calls it "very good."

Today that "very good" creation is under extreme strain from climate change, plastic waste, toxins in our air and water, species extinction and countless other factors.

As God-appointed stewards of creation (Genesis 1:28), we have to admit we're failing!

April 22 is Earth Day, this month presents the perfect opportunity to stress "Stewardship of Creation." Here are some ideas:

- Pray. Ask God to show us, lead us and guide us to care for the earth.
- Institute an "Earth Sunday" or "Creation Sunday" near April 22nd to recognize our role as stewards in God's good creation through our hymns, prayers, and scriptures.
- Is it possible for a congregational "Green Team" be created to educate, introduce new practices and advocate for better public policies.
- At church and home, establish or step up efforts to recycle all you can and reduce waste.
- Note the plastic in your church and home recycling and waste stream. Figure out how this can be made smaller or taken care of the right way.
- Compost your family's food waste. It has been shown that composting and recycling can reduce your trash stream.
- Cut down on driving. Walk, bicycle, or use public transportation. Install a bike rack at church.

APRIL AT INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

### WED THU FRI ### WAS Service Good Friday 5:45 Service ### WAS Service ### WAS SERVICE ### WAS	30 CDC Sunday 9:00 am - Sun. School Choir: 9:15-9:45 am Children's Sunday School: 9:15-9:45 10:00 am - Sunday Worship	23 9:00 am - Sun. School Choir: 9:15-9:45 am Children's Sunday School: 9:15-9:45 10:00 am- Sunday Worship Confirmation Class 11:30 am	16 9:00 am - Sun. School Choir: 9:15-9:45 am Children's Sunday School: 9:15-9:45 10:00 am- Sunday Worship Confirmation Class 11:30 am	9 8:30 am - Easter Breakfast 10 am - Festival Worship 11:30 am - Egg Hunt for Children and Adults	2 9:00 am - Sun. School Choir: 9:15-9:45 am 10:00 am- Sunday Worship Confirmation Class 11:30 am	SUN
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7 Good Friday 5:45 9 14 21 28		27 6:00 pm Holy Guacamole	20 OFest Meeting 6:00 pm	13 Mary Martha 6 p m	6 Maundy Thursday 5:45 Service	THE
Service e		28	21	14	7 a Good Friday 5:45 Service	FRI
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Quilting Group - Every Tuesday at 10:00 am Handbell Choir: Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm Choir: Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm Mary Martha - Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm Holy Guacamole - Every Fourth Thursday at 6:00 pm

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Thank you to all who have been contributing food and donating money to purchase food for the Little Free Pantry. We are currently well stocked. The pantry is being well used by people in the community who are in need of food. I generally check it twice per week and each time it needs restocking. The need is great in our community.

We currently need the following items: Soup, Canned fish and meat, Juice, Fruit (cans or individual sized containers,) Crackers, Tooth Brushes, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Soap, Hand Sanitizers.

Place any donated items in the gray container in the hallway, near the church office. If the office is closed feel free to place items directly in the Little Free Pantry.

Thank you, Marcy Coster-Schulz

GET IN TOUCH

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:	
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(10 a.m. Worship is also live streamed on Facebook.)

Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.

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

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