

# THE CONTACT

The official publication of Incarnation Lutheran Church

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Aldi's run for the Little Free Pantry!





South Carolina Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands. Go to page 8 to see how you can help.

## JULY PRAYER RESOURCES

For What Shall We Pray?

"For What Shall We Pray?" is a weekly post inviting individuals, groups, and congregations to lift up our world in prayer. This resource is prepared by a variety of leaders in the ELCA and includes prayer prompts, upcoming events and observances.

#### Prayer prompts:

- For all experiencing the effects of smoke, air pollution, and poor air quality...
- For cleanup and recovery following tornadoes in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Indiana...
- For areas facing extreme heat and other extreme weather conditions...
- For fire fighters and all in the paths of brush fires in California and Arizona...
- For all victims and wounded in shooting events, especially in Kansas City, MO; Willowbrook, IL; Saginaw, MI...
- For police protests in Paris...
- For peace in the world, especially in Ukraine, Palestine, and Syria...

#### Prayers from ELCA resources:

A prayer for the nation (ELW pg. 77)

Holy Trinity, one God, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. Make us, who came from many nations with many languages, a united people that delights in our many different gifts. Defend our liberties, and give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our sovereign and our Savior. Amen.

A prayer for those affected by natural disasters (ACS pg. 50)

Holy God, in you alone we find safety and shelter. Be a sure refuge to all suffering from wildfires. Grant courage, protection, and favorable weather to firefighters and emergency responders; embrace with supportive communities all who are newly displaced or homeless; comfort those grieving all that has been destroyed and give patience to those who are anxious, not knowing when relief will come. Heal your whole creation, that out of flame and ashes new growth will spring forth. We pray through Jesus Christ, our life and our strength. Amen.

# CDC

### Summer Fun!



We are having a summer of fun filled with crafts, field trips and games!





# FAITH FORMATION CORNER

Vacation Bible School Month is here! We are looking for volunteers during the week, especially on Thursday and Friday. To get ready for VBS we need help with transforming the reception hall. On Sunday, July 2nd, 9th, and 16th, we will be decorating! Please stay and help during these times if you are able. If you have any questions about VBS please contact Kimi (youth@incarnationlutheran.com).

Thank you all for the donations! Please check out our Amazon Wish List for the things we still need to for a successful VBS.

We will have a "Playdate at the Park" at Owens Field on Saturday, July 8th from 9:00 am - 11:00 am, and Holy Guacamole on Thursday, July 27th. July is a busy month with many opportunities to volunteer and gather for fellowship with one another.



## MUSIC

#### Calling all singers!

Dear ILC friends,

Summertime, as you know, is now here. During the next few months we will have a voluntary "pick up" group of singers who meet each Sunday at 9:15AM in order to rehearse a relatively easy unison or two-part anthem. If you love to sing but have had difficulties meeting on Wednesday evenings, this might be a great way to share your musical gifts. Feel free to contact me at 803-404-3805 (cell) should you have any questions or if you think you would be interested in singing this Summer season.

Dr. Hawkins



#### STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship of our civic freedoms



As Americans celebrate the birthday of our nation, we give thanks for our civic freedoms of speech, religion, assembly, due process, a speedy trial, voting and many more. Our freedom has made us the envy of much of the world. But as with any valuable gift, our civic freedoms can be abused, neglected or underappreciated to the point where, if we aren't careful, they hardly matter anymore. Lutherans are guided by Martin Luther's insight that we are simultaneously called to be responsible citizens of "two kingdoms" – first, of God's spiritual realm, and second, of earthly governments of people and laws. The synergy of our "dual citizenship" directs us to be good stewards of our civic freedoms.

**Freedom of speech:** Yes, even hateful speech and lies are protected under our Constitution, but Christians avoid them in obedience to Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves and by the Eighth Commandment, which Luther explained as: "We should fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations." We steward this freedom by speaking honestly and insisting others do, too.

**Freedom of religion:** Millions of people across the globe, including Christians, face persecution and discrimination because of their faith. We dare not take our freedom for granted but exercise it with joy and defend the rights of others to follow their own consciences.

**Freedom from illegal prosecution:** Our guarantees of due process in legal, criminal and civil proceedings uphold justice and guard against government misconduct. It works imperfectly, as do all human systems, but as good stewards we fight for justice and the rights for all.

**Freedom of self-governance:** With its interconnected checks and balances, our three-branch system of government provides stability, accountability and flexibility for change. It's a great system, but it requires us to be informed and involved. We steward this freedom by participating in political processes, voting and insisting on honest government that works for our interests.

This month, as citizens of both God's spiritual realm and the United States of America, we renew our commitment to be good stewards of the freedoms we are privileged to have.

JULY	
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INCARNATION	
LUTHERAN	
CHURCH	

Summer 2023: Quilting Group - Not Meeting July Mary Martha - Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm Holy Guacamole - Every Fourth Thursday at 6:00 pm

# LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Incarnation Lutheran's Little Free Pantry is being well used by those in need. The pantry is restocked about 2-3 times per week. You can donate with non-perishable food items or toiletries such as: peanut butter, tuna fish, soup, mac & cheese, cereal, granola bars, canned meals, water, pasta, pasta sauce, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, hand sanitizer, and feminine products. You can place these items in the gray bin in the hallway near the office. If you would rather donate money to purchase food, you can do that on line when you tithe to the church. Recently The Little Free Pantry was given cash by a reunion of members from Resurrection Lutheran Church and another church member from Incarnation Lutheran Church. A trip to Aldi's produced multiple food items to be shared with those in need of food. Thank you!

Marcy Coster-Schulz

# **GET IN TOUCH**

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

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