



THE CONTACT

The official publication of Incarnation Lutheran Church

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Calling ALL Oktoberfest Volunteers! Please Mark Your Calendars and consider volunteering! We need all hands to make our event successful!

PASTOR EMILY

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. - Philippians 4:8

Why do we do what we do?

It's a question that I ask myself anytime my calendar starts to look absolutely overloaded with events, visits, meetings, and commitments. Why do we do what we do? Why are we willing to stretch ourselves into the places and spaces that make us uncomfortable, or eat into our free time?

There's a term out there in the world that was used in our household quite often when Michael was still serving in the Air Force: Mandatory Fun. We all occasionally get roped into these non-optional events. Whether it is for work or some group that we are a part of, these events often have an ulterior goal. Sometimes it's about team building or accomplishing a project, but sometimes it seems like that goal is just reminding us that we need to be there.

While I am sure they serve a purpose, mandatory fun is not a great motivator for me, nor for you, I'd bet. Instead, I am motivated by by the above quote from Philippians.

Why do we do what we do? I hope it's because we are moved by the Spirit of God to seek out those activities and commitments that are just, commendable, and that help us live into God's kingdom where all are welcomed to the table. That, I believe, is our motivation to engage with our neighbors and invite them into worship, even when that strains our comfort level. It is what propels us to put on a three-day festival to invite our community into a different kind of fellowship that is uniquely Lutheran. It is what inspires us to volunteer as a Sunday School teacher, or to sing in the choir, or to assist in worship, even when our calendars are full, because we know that our faith is meant to be grown in community and that takes time and commitment.

Octoberfest is a busy month, no matter who you are. And if you're part of our Incarnation Lutheran family, it is especially busy. So let me take a moment to THANK YOU for the many ways in which you make time and space to be part of this fellowship. May God continue to bless you as you seek the good, right, and praiseworthy.

Pastor (mily

CDC

After school pics!



When the school work is done, we break out the puzzles and games!





FAITH FORMATION CORNER

We will have our October playdate on Saturday, October 14th from 9 am to 11 am at Owen's Field playground. As always popsicles and water will be provided.

This month we will have our last Holy Guacamole until January. If you have not attended a Holy Guacamole event, come and join us at Casa Linda starting at 6 pm on Thursday, October 26th. This is a wonderful fellowship event to get to know each other. An email is sent out each month to RSVP, if you are not receiving these emails and would like to attend let Kimi know.

On Sunday, October 29th we will host our Trunk-or-Treat in the backyard. If you would like to decorate a trunk and pass out treats, please e-mail Kimi (youth@incarnationlutheran.com) or sign up in the reception hall. Set-up will start at 9 am, you will drive into the backyard via the driveway between the garage and the office building.





FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



The Chancel Choir at Incarnation Lutheran Church welcomes Sabra Custer as the newest volunteer soprano. We are so thankful for your talent and for your support of our music ministry! Join us in October for concerts hosted by the Palmetto Chamber Orchestra and yours truly. Details are below!



STEWARDSHIP

Wants, needs, and the path to contentment



There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. –1 Timothy 6:6-9

When Apple released a new iPhone some years ago, our teenager grew unhappy with the one that had been a treasured birthday present only a few months earlier. "I really need a new iPhone," we were told with urgency and expectation. Sensible parents, we said no, pointing out that a new iPhone was definitely a want, not a need. Our teen stormed off, outraged by the injustice and deprivation.

Children and youth are forgiven for confusing wants and needs, but many of us reach adulthood without the knowledge. The distinction is especially hard to learn in our consumer culture, where every advertisement tells us that true happiness is forever just one more purchase away. When we believe this lie, we suffer lives of insatiable desire, ever grasping for the newer, the better, the larger, the more.

Mature faith and biblical stewardship challenge us to distinguish our wants from our needs, so that we may find contentment with "enough" — decent housing, healthy food, clean clothing and reliable transportation. No longer slaves to a desire for more, we are free to enjoy the abundant life that comes from loving relationships with God and family and neighbor.

Getting free may take discipline, but with God's help we can grow. Faced with desire, we pray: "Is this a need or a want? If it's a want, why do I sense it's a need? Can I be content without it?" Finding contentment, we open ourselves to the life God intends for us, rich and abundant in love, joy and grace.

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OKTOBERFEST!

Less than a months away!

Volunteer:

Please see the link or scan the QR code below to volunteer for Oktoberfest as you are able. We appreciate your help! If you are on Facebook or Instagram, we have posted this if you are willing to share with others who may be interested. Thank you!

https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/213077078096/false#/invitation



Baking:

Hooray! The baking is done and waiting in the freezer for us to bag and box for O'Fest! Tuesday through Thursday before O'Fest is the special time when we gather in the downstairs Conference Room to accomplish this project. I will be there each day 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm and ask that you join me whenever you can. Some tasks require standing but all bagging can be accomplished sitting. Please reply as soon as possible with the day(s) and time you can join me. You can email sdemichael6137@gmail.com or text 803-391-8299. Your early response enables me to organize each day's schedule.

Sunday, October 15th: Wear your work clothes to worship and help us unload the truck after worship!

Tuesday, October 17th: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm Wednesday, October 18th: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Thursday, October 19th: 12:00 pm - M/M Circle can arrive any time. We will start boxing whenever everything is prepped. We'll break for eating at some point!

Thank you to everyone for all your help this year!

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28	. 27	6pm - Holy Guacamole at	11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8	23	Oktoberfest! 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation
	Oktoberfest!	12pm - Oktoberfest	11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 12pm - Oktoberfest 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 12pm - Oktoberfest 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8		9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation 6pm - Patrick Hawkins
9am - Oktoberfest Baking 9am - Playdate at Owens	20	6pm - Mary Martha	11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8 6:30pm - Council Meeting	16	9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation
7	o	6pm - Music: Patrick 6pm - Oktoberfest	11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Blessing of the 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8	2	9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11am - Executive Council 11am - Worship and 11:30am - Confirmation
Oct 2023 (Eastern Time - New York Sat 7	Oct 20 Fri 6			$\overline{}$	2	Mon

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

As colder weather approaches, please remember the Little Free Pantry. We refill the pantry twice a week. Our community seems to depend on our help to feed them. Please remember to bring some of the items listed below or donate specifically to the Little Free Pantry online or in your usual donation.

Items needed: Tuna Fish, Canned Meals like Chili, Beef Stew, Mac and Cheese, and Ravioli, Cereal - hot and cold, Fruit cups, Soup, Granola Bars, Fruit bars Crackers - plain and filled, Pasta, Spaghetti sauce, Water, Toiletry items - toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo (NO mouthwash,) Hand Wipes, Hand Sanitizers - small size.

GET IN TOUCH

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:	
Rev. Emily Willhide	pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com
Dr. Patrick Hawkins; Dir. of Music & Organist	music@incarnationlutheran.com
Kimi Dail; Faith Formation Coordinator	youth@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 10 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages at 9 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

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www.incarnationlutheran.com

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