

Parish Newsletter of  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Mediapolis, IA

“Praising God and Serving People”

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Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

# April Happenings

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<p>Palm Sunday April 14, 2019 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>SUFFERING</p>	<p>Maundy (Holy) Thursday April 18, 2019 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>FORGIVENESS</p>
<p>Good Friday April 19, 2019 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>DEATH</p>	<p>Easter Sunday April 21, 2019 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>LIFE</p>



Through various program areas, Women of the ELCA's community of women provide services in their churches, communities, and even the world.

**We engage in ministry; we take action through advocacy; we promote healing and wholeness, and we support one another in our callings.**

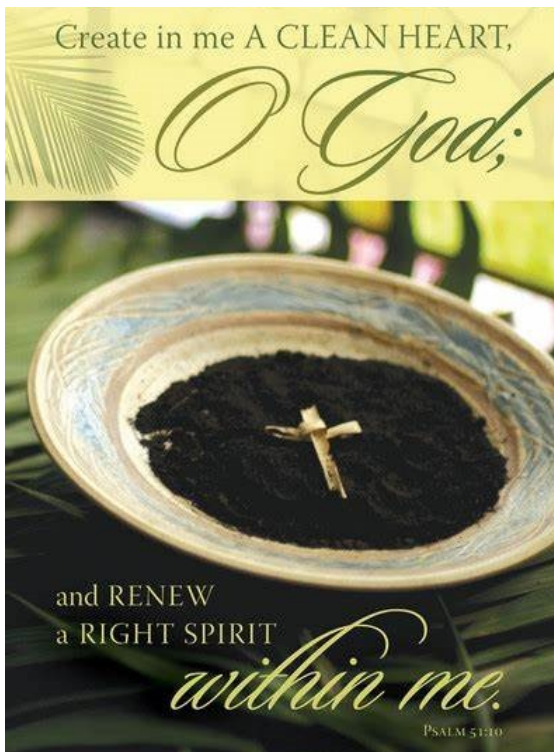
**We offer anti-racism training; address domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking; and support families with special needs.**

**We assist participants in their desire to discern God's call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education.**

**We offer grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women's emotional, physical, and spiritual health.**

Join us as we make a difference in the world.

Holy Week  
**Palm Sunday** — April 2 10:30am  
 Immanuel Lutheran Church  
**Maundy Thursday** — April 6 7:00pm  
 Methodist Church  
**Good Friday** — April 7 7:00pm  
 Presbyterian Church  
 801 Middle Street, Mediapolis  
**Easter Sunday** — April 9 10:30am  
 Immanuel Lutheran Church



Thank you

to all those who provided delicious soup suppers  
during Lent

Carolyn Gerling

Lois Roelfs

Deb Walker

Janet Oetken

Kathy Erickson

**Clear as a Bell: “LOVE WINS!”** Rob Bell wrote a beautiful book of Grace in action that turned a segment of the church including his own large congregation against him. As we studied God’s Love Languages for Advent, I suggest we see how great God’s grace and love is for us and ponder why it’s so hard to accept it—even as Christians... this Lent. Besides the book there are 24 powerful 15 minute stand-alone videos called “Nooma” that are available on-line and can be viewed at home as well as together at church.

You’ve probably heard me mention the “CHOSEN...” enthusiastically. But it’s as if I was saying “eat your healthy vegetables--” they’re good and they’re good for you.” I avoided the series myself until I was flat on my back, sick. I’ve been that way twice this last year and watched CHOSEN all the way through twice and am even more excited about the Third season. Please try it!





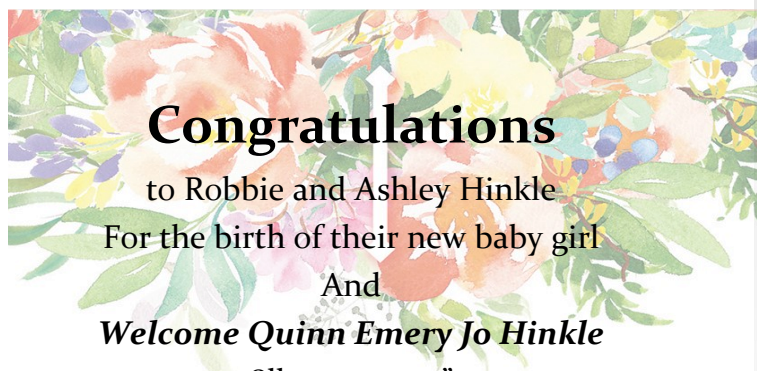
## NO WELCA in April



Friends of the Library hosted Library Trivia  
Night on March 2nd.

Congratulations to Kathy Gerling, Dennis  
and Deb Walker, Stacy Waterhouse, Darek  
Machholz, Alexia Cox and friends, John and  
Tammy

As they came in 3rd Place



## Congratulations

to Robbie and Ashley Hinkle

For the birth of their new baby girl

And

Welcome *Quinn Emery Jo Hinkle*

8lbs, 20z—20”

Born March 25, 2023



Thank you to Immanuel  
Lutheran Congregation  
for the Puzzles. The  
“Puzzle Club” likes them  
and would love to receive  
more. If you have new or  
gently used games we  
would love them too!

Ruth Gerling and The  
Puzzle Club, Azria / Prai-  
rie Ridge Care Facility

### Birthdays

4/1 Virginia Robu	4/13 Vivian Cling
4/3 Jack LaFayette	4/18 Sean Kelley
4/6 Jerleen Schlessler	4/18 Chasse Klenk
4/7 Quinn Janssen	4/19 Mike Belknap
4/8 Anthony Isley	4/21 Angel Mullin
4/10 Janelle McCrabb	4/24 Jamison Stump
4/10 Duane Mullin	4/25 Lincoln Stump
4/11 Katie Springsteen	

### Anniversaries

4/21 Jeff & Kathy Erickson
4/25 Bob & Carolyn Gerling

### Book Corner

Drops Like Stars by Rob Bell We plot. We plan. We assume things are going to go a certain way. And when they don't, we find ourselves in a new place---a place we haven't been before, a place we never would have imagined on our own. It is the difficult and the unexpected, and maybe even the tragic, that opens us up and frees us to see things in new ways. Many of the most significant moments in our lives come not because it all went right but because it all fell apart. Suffering does that. It hurts, but it also creates. This book is an exploration of the complex relationship between suffering and creativity, driven by the belief that there is art in the agony.

In Good Time: 8 Habits for Reimagining Productivity, Resisting Hurry, and Practicing Peace by Jen Pollock Michel Whether we're trying to find time, save it, manage it, or make the most of it, one word defines our relationship with the clock: *anxiety*. Yet is productivity really the only grid for the good life? Have you ever imagined a life without hurry, relentless work, multitasking, or scarcity? A life that is characterized instead by presence, attention, rest, rootedness, fruitfulness, and generosity? This is the kind of life we are meant for, says Jen Pollock Michel. But if we want to experience freedom from time anxiety, we have to reimagine our relationship with time itself. In the pages of *In Good Time*, she invites you to disentangle your priorities from our modern assumptions and instead ground them in God's time. Then she shows you how to establish 8 life-giving habits that will release you from the false religion of productivity so you can develop a grounded, healthy, life-giving relationship with the clock.

## Hymns for April

### 4/2 — Palm Sunday

Gathering – All Glory, Laud and Honor ELW #344

Sermon – Were You There ELW #353

Sending – Beneath the Cross of Jesus ELW #338

### 4/9 — Easter Sunday

Gathering – Jesus Christ Is Risen Today ELW #365

Sermon – The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done ELW #366

Sending – Good Christian Friends, Rejoice/Sing ELW #385

### 4/16 — First Sunday After Easter \_\_\_\_\_ Gath-

ering-Christ the Lord Is Risen Today ELW #369

Sermon – Thine Is the Glory ELW #375

Sending - Now the Green Blade Rises ELW #379

### 4/23 — Second Sunday After Easter

Gathering - Abide, O Dearest Jesus ELW #539

Sermon– As We Gather at Your Table ELW #522

Sending– You Satisfy the Hungry Heart ELW #484

### 4/30 — Third Sunday After Easter

Gathering— I Know That My Redeemer Lives! ELW #619

Sermon — Have No Fear, Little Flock ELW #764

Sending— You Satisfy the Hungry Heart ELW #484

## Attendance

February 26 - 22

March 5 - 25

March 12 - 20

March 19 - 17

March 26 - 23



Praying for Konnor, Alexia, Brynn, Emma, Jaxon, Charlie and Konnor Jr. as the family continues to support Konnor as he continues treatments for his cancer.

## April Collection Mediapolis Food Pantry

**We will continue collecting needed items for the Food Pantry during April. Some of the items needed are:**

### FOOD

**Peanut Butter**

**Jelly**

**Boxed meals**

**Canned meats**

**Tuna fish**

**Soups**

**Canned fruit**

**Canned Vegetables**

**Macaroni & Cheese**

**Baked beans**

**Cereal Pancake mixes**

**Pancake Syrup**

**Most kinds of food**

### Non FOOD

**Paper towels**

**Toilet paper**

**Facial tissue**

**Dish soap (Dawn)**

**Laundry Detergent**

### **Surprising Facts About Lent:**

Lent is often known as an event that lasts 40 days and 40 nights, it's technically 46 days in total. Why? Because Sundays aren't considered fasting days, but rather regarded as "mini-Easters."

The word "Lent" derives from the Old English word "lenten," which simply means "spring season." It also might derive from the same root as "long," a reference to the lengthening days of the season. Furthermore, it wasn't until the 11th century that the word was embraced by the Church.

During some Ash Wednesday services, the minister will use ashes from palms that were blessed on the previous year's Palm Sunday to draw a cross on worshippers' heads. Although historically in Jewish-Christian scripture, ashes symbolize mortality and repentance, here their meaning has evolved somewhat to include the idea of purification.

Abstaining from meat during on Ash Wednesday and Lenten Fridays is a penitential practice, although it has evolved over time from not eating meat from any warm-blooded animal to simply not eating meat. The interpretation of cold-blooded animals has led to some interesting exceptions to the definition of "meat" including puffin, alligator, and beaver.

# April 2023

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

						1
	<b>Holy Week</b>					
<b>2</b> Palm Sunday 9am Sunday School 10:30 Service w/ Bishop Amy	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Food Pantry Presbyterian Church 1:00pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Maundy Thursday Methodist Church 7:00pm	<b>7</b> Good Friday Presbyterian Church 7:00pm	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Easter 10:30 Service Immanuel Lutheran	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Food Pantry Presbyterian Church 1:00pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> First Sunday After Easter 9am Sunday School 10:30 Service	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Food Pantry Presbyterian Church 1:00pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Second Sunday After Easter 9am Sunday School 10:30 Service	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Food Pantry Presbyterian Church 1:00pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Third Sunday After Easter 9am Sunday School 10:30 Service						

## Helpers for April

Assistant Minister-Jeff Erickson      Lector-Lori Lafayette  
 Communion Prep-Traci Gerling      Altar Guild-Carolyn Gerling & Kathy Gerling  
 Usher- Kathy Gerling      Greeter- Traci Gerling