

Immanuelite

Parish Newsletter of
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Mediapolis, IA

“Praising God and Serving People”

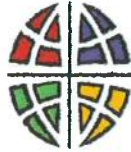
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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

January Happenings

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The ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship program supports students of tremendous promise attending ELCA seminaries. By making seminary more affordable, the ELCA Fund for Leaders enables more future ministers to go to seminary and helps them graduate with less debt, empowering those whom God calls into ministry to go and serve as the church needs and the Holy Spirit leads.

We are church, and each of us has a unique role to play in furthering the mission and ministry of the church. Your gift to the ELCA Fund for Leaders ensures that highly talented individuals will be able to answer the call to leadership for this church and for our future.

Bishop Eaton's Leadership Initiative

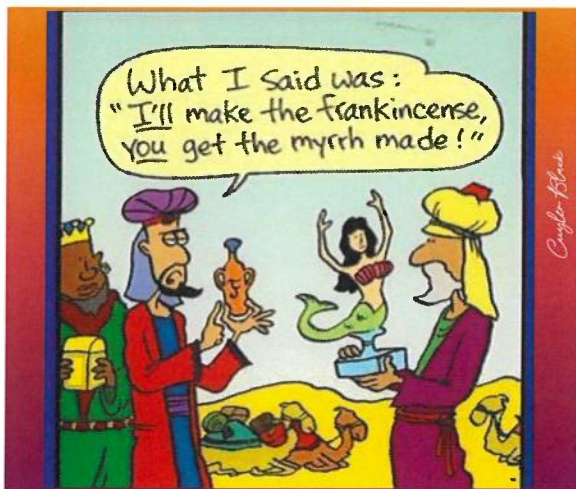
In November 2016, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton announced the Leadership Initiative to inspire ELCA leaders to seek out and encourage gifted people in their congregations, communities and networks to consider a call to the ministry of the gospel, supported by growing levels of scholarships for seminary tuition.

In conjunction with the Leadership Initiative, Bishop Eaton announced a \$3 million gift to the ELCA Fund for Leaders, which provided full-tuition seminary scholarships for 60 additional students over three years. The Fund for Leaders has awarded these 60 additional scholarships in 2017, 2018 and 2019, alongside the scholarships funded by the general endowment of the Fund for Leaders.

The next opportunity to apply for Fund for Leaders full-tuition scholarships will be through an online process from Nov. 15, 2022, to Feb. 25, 2023. To be eligible, applicants must be planning to enroll at an ELCA seminary as first-year students (juniors) in the fall semester of the 2022-2023 academic year, with no more than one semester's worth of coursework already completed. Applicants must also have begun the ELCA candidacy process with the intent of becoming a rostered minister of either word and sacrament or word and service.

Visit the Our Scholarships page for more information about these and other Fund for Leaders scholarships.

For more information, please send us an email or call 800-638-3522.



2024 New Orleans
ELCA YOUTH
GATHERING
JULY 16 - 20, 2024

Hello
JANUARY
2023!

Play It Again, Sam! We had 3 out of 4 Advent Wednesday services with 11 in attendance celebrating and studying our 5 Love Languages and how God speaks them fluently and invites us to speak them to each other and to God "So they'll know we are Christians by our LOVE—In Word and Deed!

Swedish Stars! 20 strips of card stock weave together in beautiful ways, like we do, sharing and showing God's gifts in our lives and relationships—be it camo or the Hawkeyes! We at Immanuel are interlaced by God in many wonderful ways!



Two Old Favorites! The Children's Christmas program and the Cookie Sale almost didn't happen this year—we're too old, too small, too tired was our first thought...and then we adapted: the scripts had names of "kids" who'd done it before and we got them, now grown up, to do it again with our present kids! We made a \$1,000 with our Thrivent Cookie sale for Youth and Food Bank!



In the Sundays since Thanksgiving the kids have collected \$615 from **Noisy Offerings** that have purchased and sent part of a cow, 2 piglets, three goats, 40 chicks, a rooster, 2 fruit tree seedlings, part of a fish farm, honey bees, a week's supplies for a health clinic, 2 porcelain community sized water filters, mosquito nets for a family, and the start up materials for a Sunday school! Praise God!

Silos have become our mountains on the horizon and corn fields our ocean and YOU—our friends and family! We thank God for you!!

Psalm 96 1-2 Sing God a brand-new song! Earth and everyone in it, sing! Sing to God—worship God! 2-3 Shout the news of his victory from sea to sea, Take the news of his glory to the lost, News of his wonders to one and all! 4-5 For God is great, and worth a thousand Hallelujahs. MSG. We give thanks for the old ways! And look for New Ways to praise God in 2023! May your HOPE and JOY be strengthened and deepened! God Bless you!! PJC

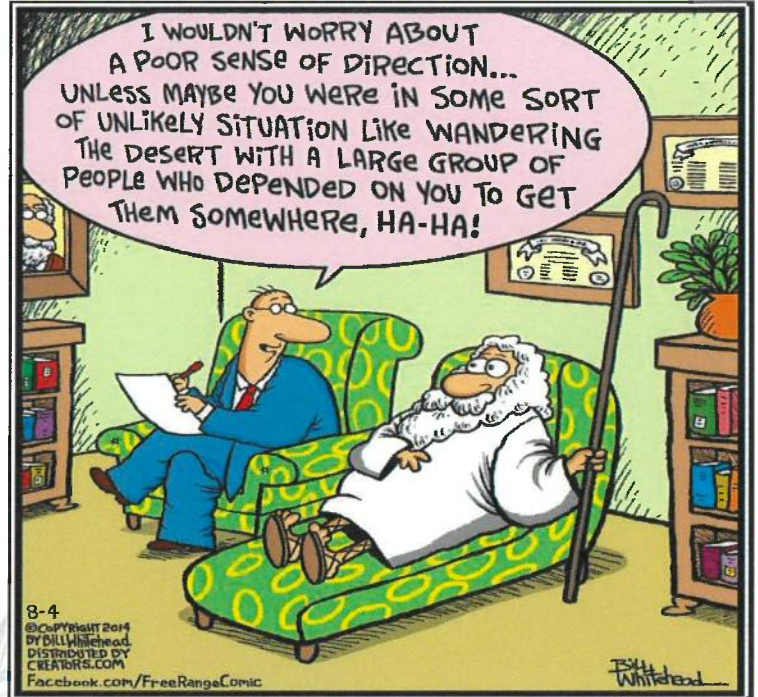
January Happenings



NO WELCA in January



Thank you to everyone who shared their Christmas Poinsettias with us this Christmas Season. They were beautiful!



Given in Memory of:

Norman Roelfs and Diane Roelfs Govea
Lois Roelfs and David Roelfs

Grandma Mary
Dad

The Kline Family

Martin Lehmann
Gary Niehaus and Other Loved Ones
Gloria Lehmann

Charles and Alice DeFosse
Jim DeFosse, Don DeFosse,
Marlena Fleming, Rich Enfield
Elaine Enfield

Dale Esty, Joyce Esty
Margaret Bruhl
Kathi Waterhouse

Leon & Thelma Hillyard
Bob & Helen Gerling
All Our Loved Ones
Bob & Carolyn Gerling & Family

Loved Ones
Jack & Lori LaFayette Family

Julaine & Ryan Oetken
Lillian & Elmer Schwerin
Rob & Janet Oetken & Lauren

Book Corner

Unshakable Hope: Building Our Lives on the Promises of God by Max Lucado. Are you feeling overwhelmed? Disappointed? Worried? In a world full of instability, we don't need opinions or hunches for help; we require the definitive declarations of our mighty and loving God! Join Lucado as he unpacks 12 of the Bible's most significant promises that will equip you to overcome difficult circumstances and stay focused on hope.

Laugh Your Way to Grace: Reclaiming the Spiritual Power of Humor by Susan Sparks Laughter--the GPS

System for the Soul Laughter was honored by the ancients as a spiritual healing tool and celebrated by the world's great religions. So why aren't we laughing along the spiritual path today? What would happen if we did? In this personal and funny look at humor as a spiritual practice, Rev. Susan Sparks--an ex-lawyer turned comedian and Baptist minister--presents a convincing case that the power of humor radiates far beyond punch lines. Laughter can help you: Remove the fearful mask of a God who doesn't laugh. Debunk the myths that you don't deserve joy. Find perspective when faced with adversity. Exercise forgiveness for yourself and others. Reclaim play as a spiritual practice. Heal--emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Keep your faith when God is silent. Live with elegance, beauty, and generosity of spirit. Whatever your faith tradition--or if you have none at all--join this veteran of the punch line and the pulpit in reclaiming the forgotten humor legacy found in thousands of years of human spiritual history.



Dear Sunday School Students,
I am so proud of your Noisy Offerings (or Clanging Cans as I think of them!) And I want to contribute. Maybe somebody can cash this check and get you quarters or nickels or pennies! Good luck with you Good Gifts project. I miss you and think of you often!
Your friend, Marilyn Perry

Worship/Stewardship

Hymns for January

1/1 — First Sunday of Christmas

Gathering – What Child is This? ELW #296
 Sermon – It Came Upon a Midnight Clear ELW #282
 Sending – Go Tell It On the Mountain ELW #290

1/8—Baptism of Our Lord

Gathering – When Jesus Came to Jordan ELW #305
 Sermon – Spirit of Gentleness ELW #396
 Sending – This Little Light of Mine ELW #677

1/15– Second Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering - What Wondrous Love Is This ELW #666
 Sermon –O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright ELW #308
 Sending - Arise Your Light has Come ELW #314

1/22 — Third Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering - Shine, Jesus, Shine ELW #671
 Sermon– I Love to Tell the Story ELW #661
 Sending - Here I Am, Lord ELW #574

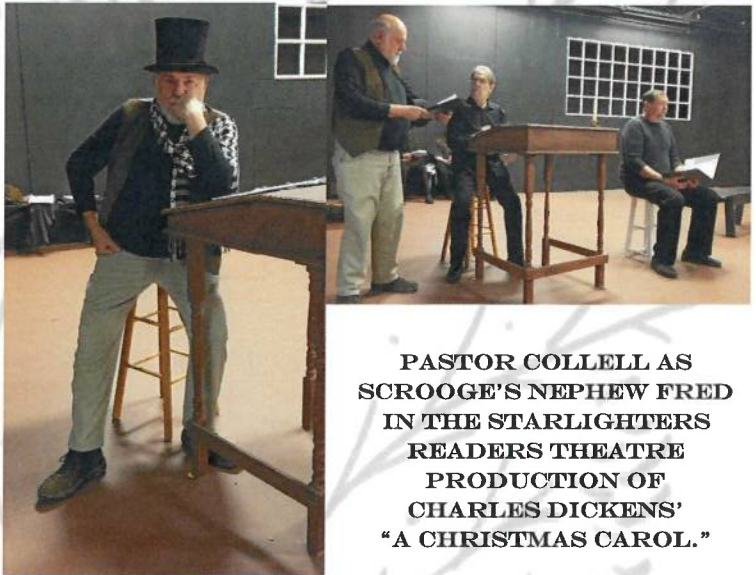
1/29– Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering - Dearest Jesus, At your Word ELW #520
 Sermon– Rise Up, O Saints of God ELW #669
 Sending - O Master, Let Me Walk With You ELW #818

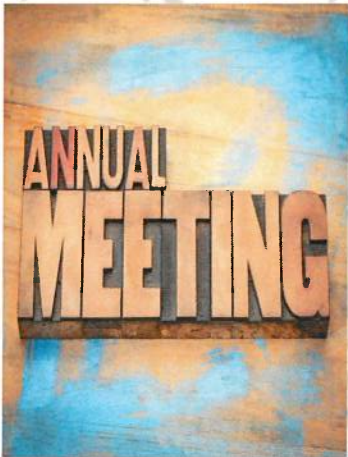
January Collection Immanuel Lutheran

The Collection for January and February will be for Immanuel. Some of the items needed are:

- 9 volt batteries**
- Stamps**
- Kleenex**
- Paper Towels**
- Toilet Tissue**
- Air Freshener (bathroom)**
- White Envelopes #10 (Peel and Stick)**
- Paper for Copier**
- Trash bags (Drawstring 30 or 33 gallons)**
- Large Kitchen Trash Bags (Drawstring)**
- Ice-Melt**
- Large Paper Clips**



PASTOR COLLELL AS SCROOGE'S NEPHEW FRED IN THE STARLIGHTERS READERS THEATRE PRODUCTION OF CHARLES DICKENS' "A CHRISTMAS CAROL."



Our Annual Meeting is set for January 22nd, 2023 following the Worship Service.

A Snow date is set for January 29th. All committees should start preparing reports for the annual meeting.

2023 Pledge Commitment



Immanuel Lutheran Church

GOD'S WORK
OUR HANDS

Name: _____

	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly
Envelope Offering:	\$ _____	_____	_____
Capitol Improvement:	\$ _____	_____	_____

Youth Activities

January M CYG schedule:

1/4/2023	6:15pm-7:45pm 8pm-9:15pm	Wednesday	JH M CYG @ Presbyterian Church /9 Square Bring a Friend Night HS MYCG @ Presbyterian Church /9 Square Bring a Friend Night
1/11/2023	6:15pm-7:45pm 8pm-9:30pm	Wednesday	JH M CYG @ Presbyterian Church HS MYCG @ Presbyterian Church
1/18/2023	6:15pm-7:45pm 8pm-9:30pm	Wednesday	JH M CYG @ Presbyterian Church HS MYCG @ Presbyterian Church
1/25/2023	6:15pm-7:45pm 8pm-9:30pm	Wednesday	JH M CYG @ Presbyterian Church HS MYCG @ Presbyterian Church
1/27/2023	7pm-9pm	Friday	Movie Night @ the Lounge—all 6th—12th graders are invited to join us in the lounge for a movie night. Popcorn provided. Concessions available if desired.

Scenes from our Christmas Program



