



Immanuel News

The newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greeley, Colorado

March 2024

Beloved of God,

March finds us deep into the Lenten season, culminating the solemnities and celebrations of Holy Week. As we gather in worship and prayer, learning and service this month, I invite you to continue to listen for the ways God's promises are at work in your life.

I am going to take the opportunity of this month's newsletter to invite you especially this year to enter fully into Holy Week. Our liturgies this year emphasize participation by the whole community in remembering and living into the great mystery of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. The origin of the word 'liturgy' means 'the work of the people,' which reminds us that worship and liturgy are not spectator activities, but something we all *do* and *create* together.

On Palm Sunday, we'll use the liturgy of *Cry of the Whole Congregation* to as a whole gathered community tell the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and his final days, culminating with his death and burial. The whole gathered community will be part of telling this holy story in word and song.

Traditionally, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter are called the *Triduum*, a single liturgy of God's gift of new life in the passion, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. This year, we will hold Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services at Immanuel at 6pm on March 28 and 29.

On March 30, you are all invited to a joint Vigil of Easter in Windsor. Campus Ministry is joining with Bethel Lutheran, St. Aidan's Episcopal, and First United Methodist in Windsor for a vigil 'on the move.' We'll begin at Bethel at 7:30pm and then process to each of the churches for different portions of the service. Especially if you have never experienced an Easter Vigil before, plan to join us! It is one of my favorite liturgies of the church year, full of music and story, fire and water, memory and celebration. You won't want to miss it!

Finally, we'll gather in our familiar rhythm for Easter Sunday, with the youth hosting the annual Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt before worship at 10:30. More details about these events and how you can help make them happen are included in this month's newsletter.

In closing, as we move through this month, this Lenten season, and the first signs of spring, I pray you experience the hope and life of God's steadfast promises to renew all of creation, and that you find in our life together the care and love of Jesus.

In Christ,

Pr. Monica

WORSHIP



Sundays in March

March 3 - Third Sunday in Lent *Promise Us: The ten best ways*
With Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Judson from LuMin in Fort Collins
March 10 - Fourth Sunday in Lent *Promise Us: Fiery serpents*
March 17 - Fifth Sunday in Lent *Promise Us: Written on our hearts*
March 24 - Palm Sunday: *Cry of the Whole Congregation*
March 31 - The Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday

Lent 2024 at Immanuel: *Promise Us*

Our Lenten theme this year is *Promise Us*, turning our focus to the first readings each week, and to the promises we hear God makes to God's people in each story. The creators of our theme put it this way:

God forms God's people through promises—the fancy church word for this being “covenant.” And while technically covenants are supposed to be a two-way street, with both God and us promising something, the truth that we learn over and over again through scripture and through our own experience is that God is by far the more faithful party in these arrangements. While humanity breaks its word again and again, God's promises never fail. And that unbending divine faithfulness? That changes us. Throughout these forty days, “Promise Us” traces the promises God makes in the Hebrew Bible to folks like Noah, Abram and Sarai, the promises God makes to us, and how those promises shape who we are, and who God is. (From “Promise Us” by Barn Geese Worship)

Join us as we immerse ourselves in the grace of God's promises for us, and the invitations we encounter there to live as God's beloved people in the world.

Lenten Midweek Worship: *Continuing in the Covenant of Baptism*

Our Lenten midweek worship this year will be a service of Word and Prayer called *Continuing in the Covenant of Baptism*. Alongside our exploration of the promises we hear from God in the first readings on Sunday, our weekday gatherings will ground us in the promise made at our baptisms, promises that continue to shape our lives as people of faith. Join us in the music room each Wednesday for song, scripture, reflection, and prayer. **Wednesdays through March 20, 6pm**

Holy Week at Immanuel

Maundy Thursday: March 28, 6pm

Good Friday: March 29, 6pm

Easter Vigil with Campus Ministry: March 30, 7:30pm

(starting at Bethel Lutheran, Windsor)

Join the students of LECM and our ecumenical partners in Windsor for a celebration of the great Vigil of Easter! We'll gather to light the new fire, tell stories of God's faithfulness throughout the ages, give thanks for the waters of baptism, and celebrate Christ's resurrection! This will be a liturgy 'on the move,' as we travel to various churches in downtown Windsor. If you've never been to an Easter Vigil before, you won't want to miss it!

Easter Sunday: March 31, Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am

FAITH FORMATION

Lenten Sunday Bible Study: *Promise Us*

Sunday Faith Formation will be guided by our Lenten theme *Promise Us*. Each week we'll read the first reading for the following Sunday, exploring God's promises in scripture and reflect on how we hear those ancient promises at work and alive in our world today.

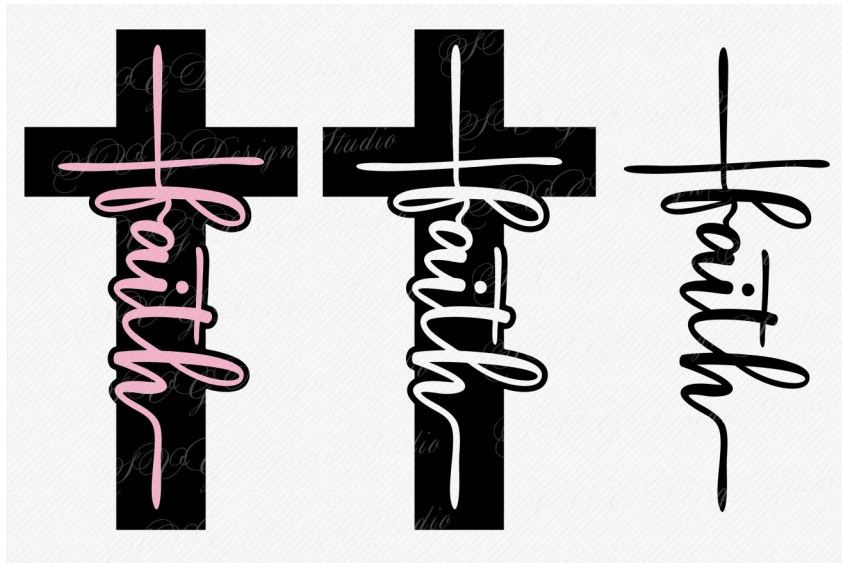
Sundays through March 17, 9:15 am

Confirmation Class Winter Schedule

March 20, 4:30 pm, followed by Lenten Midweek Worship

April 17, 4:30pm

Sunday, May 19: Celebration of Affirmation of Baptism



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



Soup Suppers after Lenten Midweek Worship

Last year we brought back soup suppers after our midweek worship service, and we'd like to make this happen again this year! We need your help to host and bring soup for these gatherings. Sign up to make a pot of soup at the back table in the sanctuary, and find a friend to help! Ideally we'll have two people to cook and host each week.

Wednesdays, Feb 21-March 20.



Immanuel's Youth are needing wrapped candy & small toys to fill **TONS** of colorful plastic eggs for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Please place your donations in the designated container located in the back of the sanctuary before **Sunday, March 17.**

Thank you!



Easter Sunday Activities

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Easter Breakfast: 8:30-10:00am in the Fellowship Hall

This is a fundraising event for Immanuel's Youth!
A free-will offering will be collected. Your support is appreciated!

Egg Hunt: 9:30am on the Annex Lawn (Rain, Snow or Shine)

New Member Welcome: Sunday, April 21

Whether you are new to Immanuel or have been attending for a long time, we invite you to consider becoming a member of our congregation! Members make a commitment to their lives of faith within this community, sharing in word and sacrament, service and community among the people of Immanuel. We will welcome and celebrate new members in worship and a special coffee reception hosted by the Council. Interested in membership? Contact the church office or talk with Pr. Monica or a member of the church council.

LUTHERAN EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRY

From Kaia, LECM Congregational Outreach Minister:

Greetings! LECM visited local congregations this month and welcomed visiting clergy and meal donors at Dinner Church. Five student preachers joined local congregations on Transformation Sunday. Many thanks for welcoming us! LECM also joined LuMin CSU, Methodist Campus Ministry at CSU, and CU Boulder on our Spring Retreat. This year, Urban Servant Corps hosted us at their Denver base. We learned how they support the unhoused community through partnership with local nonprofits, spoke with a Young Adults in Global Mission alum about her time in the West Bank, and enjoyed *sobremesa*, or post-meal conversation and fellowship.

Support our students with a Sunday meal!

Sunday Dinner Church is an anchor in the week for our student community. We eat, we connect, we share what's going on in our lives, and from that connection, join in worship together. Bringing a meal on a Sunday is a great way to support our ministry and get to know the student community! **Sign up to bring dinner for 10-12 people on a Sunday evening**, and plan to stay and eat with us, we'd love to have you! Sign up online at <https://mealtrain.com/ynk9ey> or talk to Pr. Monica!

FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SYNOD

Prepare your Church: Disaster Preparedness Workshop Thursday, April 25, 10:00am-12:00pm, Zion Lutheran Church, Loveland

The Rocky Mountain Synod has been afflicted by several major natural disasters in the last several years. These include the Marshall Fire in Boulder County, Colorado, and the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon fires in northern New Mexico.

Join leaders of RMS congregations near these disaster areas for a morning workshop of learning, conversation, and preparation. You'll gain valuable insights from the experiences of those who have walked through these disasters. You'll also be equipped to be better-prepared when disaster affects you, your congregation, or your community, including where to find resources and support throughout our whole church.

This event is FREE. Register at www.rmselca.org/disaster2024.

Lutheran Day at the Capitol Monday, March 18, St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, Denver

More information: www.rmselca.org/co-lutheran-day-at-the-capitol

CHURCH COUNCIL

Name	Phone	E-mail	Committee
Adams, Tim	970-381-6032	shirleymarine093@gmail.com	Property
Budde, Cindy	C: 970-371-6588	peteandcindyb@gmail.com	Secretary – Communications & Social Media
Elmquist, Julie	H: 970-330-6679 C: 970-371-2734	sjelmquist@msn.com	Vice President -Youth Team, Property
Herold, Amy	970-978-0870	herold_amy@hotmail.com	Youth Team
Larson, Lelyn	970-371-0307	larsonoff@gmail.com	President -Finance, Property

Pastor Monica's Schedule: Pastor Monica works from both the Immanuel Annex and the Campus Ministry office. In general, she is based at Campus Ministry Mondays and Thursdays and Immanuel Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

You can always reach Pastor Monica by email: pastor@immanuelgreeley.org
or phone/text at (970) 573-6020.



SERVICE & COMMUNITY

Thrivent Choice Dollars Available

Congregational groups and individuals may apply for the remaining Thrivent Choice Dollars that were directed to our congregation in 2023 and thus far during 2024. The amount as of January 30 is approximately \$900.00. The Council will be accepting applications starting now through **Sunday, March 3rd**. Requests can include, but are not limited to: education, youth/student activities, mission activities, religious worship, cash assistance, disaster assistance, repairs/maintenance, supplies, and equipment.

Applications may be picked up at the church office and in the narthex. Please mail or drop off completed applications to the church office by no later than March 3rd. For questions, please contact Julie Elmquist at 970.371.2734 .

King Soopers Community Rewards

Do you shop at King Soopers? If you do, then you can help Immanuel earn money simply by shopping!

Sign up now and select Immanuel Lutheran Church of Greeley to receive the community rewards. Then all you have to do is shop! It's easy!

Each time you make a purchase at any King Soopers or Kroger store, just enter your alternate I.D. number OR swipe or scan your King Soopers card and voila you have earned money for Immanuel.

Community reward money will be added to Thrivent Choice Dollars, which are used to support projects at Immanuel.

GIA Clothing Bank

Several Greeley-area churches are sponsors for and help operate the Greeley Interfaith Assn. Clothing Bank, located at 228 N. 9th Avenue in Greeley.

The hours open are 10:00 am—2:00 pm-Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.

The Clothing Bank accepts gently used items of clothing and then sells them to the public at a reasonable cost. Proceeds of the sales cover operating expenses and then go toward community scholarships and grants.

Some Immanuel members have committed to being on duty on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month. Donations can be dropped off at the Clothing Bank during the hours of operation.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact: Julie Elmquist, Katy Sickles or Cindy Thompson.

Clothing Bank





Gifts From the Heart

On Sunday February 18th we celebrated “Gifts from the Heart” a project sponsored by Immanuel’s youth. This wonderful intergenerational event was well-attended by our pastor and youth, the sewing group, congregation members, and a student from campus ministry. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch together, tied 18 fleece blankets, and painted a “Little Free Pantry.”

The blankets were donated to Children’s Hospital in Aurora on Monday, February 19th and will go to children that have been in the hospital for months and need some extra comfort and cheer.

The pantry is a youth project that was purchased by the Jerry Karst memorial fund. The red and white paint was barn-inspired, and the pantry will soon be placed outside the church to help those in our community that are struggling with food insecurities. More information will be coming soon about how we can work together to stock this pantry.

Thank you to everyone that was a part of this wonderful event! Together we made a difference to many children and to our community. Be sure to check out our Facebook page (Immanuel Lutheran Church), our website (immanuelgreeley.org), and the bulletin board by the church’s back door to see some great pictures that truly captured this special and memorable day!

2024 Lenten Offering

Our 2024 Lenten offering will go to the Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado. IRNoCO provides English as a Second Language (ESL), Adult Basic Education (ABE), High School Equivalency (HSE), and Citizenship classes, as well as community navigation resources to newcomers in our community. Their mission is: *Empowering refugees and immigrants, connecting communities, and advocating for successful integration.* Learn more about their programs at <https://www.ircnoco.org/>.



CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Council Highlights

- Property Committee reports that work has started on the Youth Room Improvements
- The Worship and Music Committee is planning a mixed voice/music telling of the Palm Sunday Story this year
- Council will host a coffee hour reception for New Member Sunday on 4/21/24

**Join us for our next meeting
on Tuesday, March 5th
at 6:30 pm .**

Tied in Faith...
**will meet on Tuesday, March 5th and
Thursday, March 21st at 9:00 am.**



WELCA

Love and Priscilla/Ruth Circle
will not be meeting this month.

*Please call the church office, 352-3003, for additional
information*

March Birthdays

1	Jerry Turnwall
3	Austin Hawkins
9	Linda Sample
13	Melissa Hawkins
18	Mike Crespin Max Ulrich
21	Buster Iverson
23	Taran Hawkins
24	Sally Stewart



March Anniversaries

16	Max & Mary Ulrich
22	Mike & Janet Willis

If we have missed your
birthday or anniversary, please call the church office so that we
can update the records

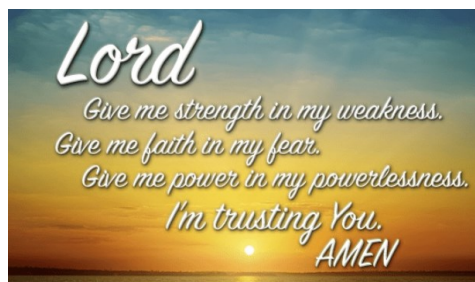
EFTF –Endowment Foundation Trust Fund

The Endowment Foundation Trust Fund (EFTF) uses interest earned on the donations in the trust fund to support special needs and work of the church that is not covered by the church budget. If you have a special need in mind, please submit a request for fund disbursement. The EFTF Committee considers requests quarterly. Please see an EFTF Committee member if you have questions or pick up a request form from the EFTF mailbox in the church office.

Committee members: Cindy Thompson, Jacqui Larson,
Janet Crespin, Janet Johnson

PRAYER & CARE

Always Say A Prayer Team



If you have prayer concerns, please contact Pastor Monica
pastor@immanuelgreeley.org
Call/Text 970.573.6020

Prayer request cards can be found at the back of the nave
along with a box to place your requests.

**All concerns will be kept confidential unless you choose to
add your name to the prayer list in the bulletin.**

Members of the Prayer Team

Roma Arithson Shirley Marine
Connie Deines Sharrol Bernahl
Janet Willis Diane Filipe

Pastoral Visits

Pr. Monica is available for pastoral visits;
especially in times of special concern, illness, or celebration.
If you would like to request a pastoral visit, please contact the church office.

Our Immanuel Family

Shirley Uhrich died in Christ on Saturday, March 17, 2024.
Service arrangements are pending & will be announced when they are received.

Please notify the church office of births, deaths, marriages, address changes or other news and events.



Amy Herold, Youth Director
Cell Phone: 970.978.0870
Email: herold_amy@hotmail.com

Sunday Youth Group

DATE: Sunday, March 3, 2024

TIME: 9:00 am

PLACE: Youth Room (Church Annex)

All ages are welcome! Snacks will be served!

Next Sunday Youth Group: Sunday, April 7, 2024



Are you graduating from high school or college in 2024?
If so, we want to celebrate this important milestone!
Contact Amy Herold to share this exciting news!

THANKS...

for your support during our Souper Bowl of Caring food drive! You really helped Immanuel's Youth "Tackle Hunger!"

The Weld Food Bank truly appreciated our donations!

THANK YOU!

Immanuel Lutheran Church Youth Group's 2024 Collection
raised:
\$170 and 173 food items

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 11, 2024

Alison Reese
Alison Reese
Executive Director
Tackle Hunger; Home of the
Souper Bowl of Caring



Immanuel Youth, Parents & Grandparents:

Mark your calendars and plan to attend....
an Easter Breakfast planning meeting
& our annual egg stuffing "egg"stravaganza!

Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024

Time: 9:00am

Place: Youth Room in the Church Annex

Immanuel Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School - 2024



Monday, June 24 – Friday, June 28
Dinner: 5:30pm & VBS: 6-8pm
Plan to Attend & Invite a Friend!



**To register, volunteer, or inquire about VBS,
please contact Amy Herold.**

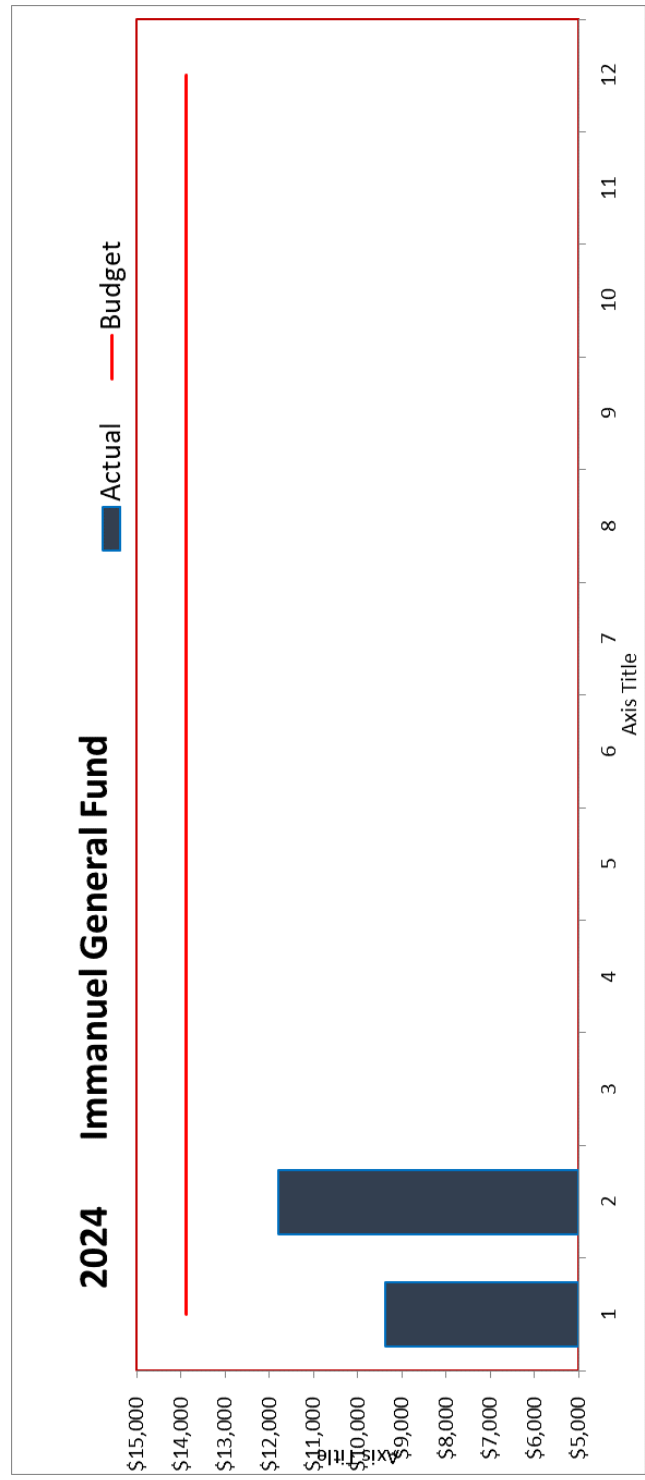
**Mark your calendar & save the date,
VBS is going to be great!**



Receipts thru FEB 2024

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS 2023 MONTHLY AVERAGE GIVING \$14,286

Year to Date	DESCRIPTION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
13,878	Budget	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878
9,373	Actual	\$9,373	\$11,803										
4,505	Under (Over)	4,505	2,075	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878



Thanks to our Volunteers!

March 2024







March 3:	
Greeter:	Vera Sylvester
Ushers In:	Juan Cruz, Katy Sickles
Assisting Minister:	Julie Elmquist
Lector:	Molly Ward
Communion Setup:	Molly Ward
Tellers:	Marvin & Connie Deines
March 10:	
Greeter:	Julie Elmquist
Ushers In:	Tim Adams & Shirley Marine
Assisting Minister:	Cindy Budde
Lector:	Luke Larson, Jack Larson
Communion Setup:	Cindy Thompson
Tellers:	Vera Sylvester, Brenda Turnwall
March 17:	
Greeter:	Vera Sylvester
Ushers In:	John Johnson & Sally Stewart
Assisting Minister:	Roy Woldum
Lector:	Janet Willis
Communion Setup:	Cindy Thompson
Tellers:	Linda Sample, Janet Johnson
March 24:	
Greeter:	Julie Elmquist
Ushers In:	Juan Cruz, Katy Sickles
Assisting Minister:	Janet Willis
Lector:	Various Readers
Communion Setup:	Cindy Thompson
Tellers:	Janet Crespin
March 31:	EASTER
Greeter:	Julie Elmquist
Ushers In:	Katy Sickles, Vera Sylvester
Assisting Minister:	Cindy Budde
Lector:	Luke Larson, Jack Larson
Communion Setup:	Cindy Thompson
Tellers:	Bob & Sue Morse

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor:	Monica Butler	970-573-6020 or 970-352-3003
Secretary:	Denise Pollard Stricker	970-352-3003
Office Hours:	M -- Th 9:00 am to 1:00 pm	
	Offices closed on Fridays	

Executive Council:	
President: Lelyn Larson	970-371-0307
Vice President: Julie Elmquist	(h)970-330-6679 or (c)970-371-2734
Secretary: Cindy Budde	(c)970-371-6588
Treasurer: Connie Deines	970-378-1475
Financial Secretary: Bob Morse	303-359-5919

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 am- Youth Group 9:15 am-Bible Study 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion</p>	<p>4 Common Sense Kleaining—Annex</p>	<p>5 9:00 am-Tied in Faith 6:30 pm-Council Meeting</p>	<p>6 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>7 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>8 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>9 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>
<p>10 4th Sunday in Lent 9:15 am-Bible Study 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion 11:30 am-Prayer Team</p>	<p>11 Common Sense Kleaining—Church 9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC at GIA Clothing Bank</p>	<p>12 Common Sense Kleaining—Church 9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC at GIA Clothing Bank</p>	<p>13 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>14 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>15 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>16 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>
<p>17 5th Sunday in Lent 9:15 am-Bible Study 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion</p>	<p>18 Common Sense Kleaining—Annex</p>	<p>19 Common Sense Kleaining—Annex</p>	<p>20 4:30 pm-Confirmation Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>21 9:00 am-Tied in Faith Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>22 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>23 Midweek Lenten Service — 6:00 pm</p>
<p>24  9:00 am—Egg Stuffing 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion ***** 31  8:30-10 am-Easter Breakfast 9:30 am—Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 am-Holy Communion</p>	<p>25 Common Sense Kleaining—Church 9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC at GIA Clothing Bank</p>	<p>26 Common Sense Kleaining—Church 9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC at GIA Clothing Bank</p>	<p>27 </p>	<p>28  Maundy Thursday Service 6:00 pm</p>	<p>29  Good Friday Service 6:00 pm</p>	<p>30 7:30 pm—Easter Vigil at Bethel in Windsor with Campus Ministry </p>

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

PURPOSE STATEMENT

*IMMANUEL IS CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE
LIFE, DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF
CHRIST; TO PROVIDE PLACES AND
OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP AND
FELLOWSHIP; AND TO BE THE SPIRIT OF
CHRIST IN THE WORLD.*

We welcome and encourage submissions for our newsletter. Please make all submissions in writing. We prefer that the material be submitted in electronic form, if possible. All material is subject to editing for content, clarity and style, as needed. The deadline for the newsletter is the **15th** of every month.

Please forward your submission by mail to 1865 14th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631, by fax to 970-352-7096, or by email to office@immanuelgreeley.org

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1865 14th Avenue
Greeley, Colorado 80631

Return Service Requested

March 2024