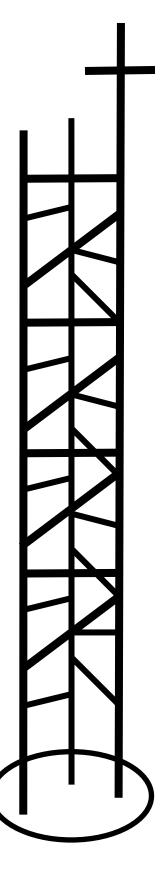
# The EXPRESSION-MARCH 2023

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL



# In View of God's Mercy

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. Romans 12:1

Lent is a season when we take a look at our lives in view of God's mercy toward us in the sacrifice of his Son for us on the cross. We, in turn, are called by God, especially during this time of repentance and reflection, to be living sacrifices for him, displaying our devotion to him in word and deed.

#### WEEK ONE

**Mercy in Temptation** • Corinthians • In the midst of temptation, our merciful God provides us with a way out through his Son, who was tempted just as we are, yet without sin.

#### WEEK TWO

Mercy in Suffering • Peter • No life is without suffering, but our sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory to be revealed to us in Jesus by God's great mercy.

#### WEEK THREE

Mercy in Betrayal • Peter • Though we may turn away from our God again and again, our Lord continues to call us back into his merciful arms for Jesus' sake.

### WEEK FOUR

Mercy in Relationships • Ephesians :• Within the communities God has placed us, we are given the grace to treat one another as Christ has cared for us in his love and mercy.

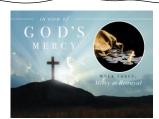
#### WEEK FIVE

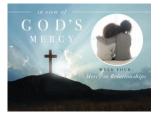
Mercy in Service • Hebrews • In response to God's kindness to us in Jesus, we serve in mercy the needs of those around us by Christ's example.

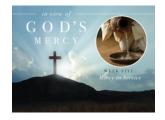
Join us on Wednesdays at 4:00 pm or 6:30 pm and learn more about God's Mercy.













March tends to be a busy month around Immanuel Lutheran School and this year is no different. We may look at is as March Madness, but I have a hard time looking at it as madness when so many great things are happening. As we host an author visit, start the season of Lent, gear up for the school auction, and prepare ourselves for the Gospel

Drama. School is a busy place, but it is good.



We are hosting MN author Kevin Lovegreen on March 8th at 10:45 in the school commons. Kevin has written some devotional books and many books for children in his Lucky Luke series. He is an outdoor enthusiast and our students really enjoy his writing. If you are interested in coming to watch or would like to preorder an autographed book of his, please let the school office know and we will help you with that.

We hope that you can join us for our Lenten meals on March 8th (Hamballs and Pie) and 29th (Pulled Pork and Crepes). We are so thankful that Miss Eunie is able to add these meals into her busy schedule, with the help of parent donations and time to serve the congregation.





The school auction is taking place on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th. The theme is "Blessed to be Making Disciples for Life for 140 years". I wonder if the founders of our school in 1882 could have envisioned where the school would be today. What a blessing it is to us that God led them to do what they did. He knew what a blessing this school would be to our church and community for all of these years.

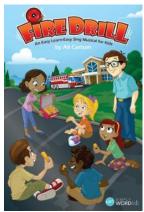
PLEASE join us for the auction on March 17th to support the Mortgage Fund and the Tuition Assistance Program of the school.

## Auction Schedule for the evening:

- 5:00 Doors open and Silent auction bidding begins
- 6:00 7:00 Dinner Free-will donation (Shredded beef roast with mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, fluff salad, bread, and gourmet cupcakes)
- 7:00 Silent Auction ends and Live Auction begins!

Reservations - Please call the school office 237-2804 to let us know you are coming and we will be able to seat you at a reserved table when you arrive. Bring a friend along for a fun evening. Tables seat 8.

Gospel Drama - we look forward to sharing the Gospel drama "Fire Drill" with you on March 26th during the 9:30 worship service. Who knew there would be so many connections between students in a fire drill and the Bible. We hope that you will be there to support all of our K-8 students as they share God's Word with you.



# Immanuel Lutheran Youth Group

During the month of February, we had a fun afternoon of gym time and pizza. It has been enjoyable for us to see the interactions between the younger and older members of our youth group, both during these activities and during our weekly bible study times. As we move into the Lenten season, we will be serving one Lenten meal. We hope you can join us between services on Wednesday, March 22 for a cheesy chicken sandwich meal. Looking ahead to Easter... we are planning our 3rd annual "Egg Your Yard" event as well as our Easter breakfast.

Do you have ideas for our youth group? We are always looking for ways to keep the youth involved and engaged. We are fortunate at Immanuel to have an active youth group.... the encouragement from our congregation is very meaningful to them as they continue to grow in their faith...thank you!

In Christ,
Michelle and Jeana

# The Lutheran Hour March 2023

### March 5

## "An Arresting Encounter"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler A devoutly religious person has an arresting encounter with Jesus and learns what it means to be "born again." (John 3:16)

#### March 12

# "Thirsting for Life"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes Jesus gives living water to those who are spiritually dehydrated. (John 4)

#### March 19

## "Bad Karma vs. Good Creator"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler When bad things happen, is it "bad karma" or an opportunity for our Good Creator to be doing a greater work? (John 9:3)

### March 26

## "Is God Missing in Action?"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes Is God "missing in action?" Not if we see things from God's eternal perspective. (John 11)



# **CHURCH WEBSITE**

immanuelgaylord.org

# CHURCH EMAIL

Immluth55334@aol.com

# **CHURCH PHONE #**

507-237-2380

# Immanuel Lutheran Sunday School

Hello All,

In the devotion this month, one of our topics was doubting God & God's plan...he is there? When we fill with doubt we sink...Just like Peter when he walked on water during the storm. He was afraid & doubt came into his mind, was God going to save him? Just like Peter when we doubt we sink...into sadness, bad habits, & then fear takes over. We need to always remember that even though we cannot see God, he is still there, still acting...still protecting us. The best way to combat fear & doubt is to pray and trust in God, he will never leave you, even in the darkest moments!

And, of course, with Valentine's Day what better topic than LOVE!

- God's love for us is ever present and never ending!
- ► Love unifies us with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Love is necessary in all aspects of our lives, love is even for our enemies.
- **♥** Love is full of Mercy!

The Sunday School will be serving the Lenten meal on March 1. We are serving:

Pork Chops, Cheesy Potatoes, Baked Beans, and a Brownie Sundae for dessert.

We hope to see you all!