



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Pastor Justin Wiese

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As you take a look at Immanuel's calendar this month, you will see that there are many events going on in March and during the season of Lent. Here are some more details about these calendar items.

An Informative Cooperative Ministry Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, March 5th, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Stanton. All of the members of Immanuel in Madison, St. Luke's in Stanton, and St. Peter's in Pilger are invited to attend this gathering. We will begin with a light meal at 6 p.m., followed by a presentation on cooperative ministry to be given by Rev. Martin Russell. Here's some thoughts that Martin shared with me in regards to his presentation: "In leading this gathering, I would take the approach that cooperative ministries are clusters of congregations that have joined together to engage in common mission and to share resources, without surrendering individual congregational identity or consolidating in the usual sense of the term. Most cooperatives declare in their foundational documents that their intention is not to merge or to close individual congregations. The vision is to enhance and extend ministries of congregations within a concerted area mission for the sake of the whole church."

My thoughts on this meeting are that this will be a great time for the people of Immanuel, St. Luke's, and St. Peter's to come together in fellowship, meeting fellow brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ who are striving to walk faithfully with God and to be a part of God's mission as the ELCA. As we all listen to what cooperative ministry is and the possibilities for shared ministries that it creates, we will be able to talk together as we share our initial thoughts from our different perspectives. I'm looking forward to this beginning conversation between our three churches, and I hope everyone will make plans to attend. Wouldn't it be great to have 100+ people show up in Stanton on a Thursday night, excited by the possibility of doing God's work together with all of our hands? It would be an amazing, wonderful happening in our midst!

You'll also notice on your calendar that there are pictures of animals on the Wednesdays during March. That's because our midweek worship series this Lent is called, "Living Lent: The Animals Tell The Story." Each week, we will take a look at a different animal mentioned near or during the Passion of our Lord. These animals will serve as windows into Jesus' life, teaching, and saving work. The message each week will be a two-actor drama, featuring Professor Jungfuss and his student helper Juanico. This worship series should be fun and meaningful for children and adults of all ages as we journey to the cross. As you'll notice, after the week of Ash Wednesday, we'll be bouncing back and forth each week between Immanuel and St. Luke's in Stanton. A supper will be served at 6:30 p.m., and worship will begin at 7:15 p.m. I'm hoping we'll see plenty of "cross-pollination" between the two churches, as folks from Madison go to Stanton and vice-versa.

You'll also notice that it's Immanuel's turn to host the World Day of Prayer in Madison this year. This around-the-globe event is always held on the first Friday in March, as people gather together to pray for women, men, and children, and promote peace in our communities and in our world. We will be holding this year's prayer service at 7:00 p.m. at Immanuel in an effort to accommodate more people's schedules and have a larger turnout. Our Women of the ELCA will help in delivering the message. We hope you will be able to join us for this all-community evening prayer service.

May God bless you as you attend one, two, or all of these ministry opportunities. ~~Pastor Justin

## February 2009 Council Meeting

The February 5th Council meeting was called to order at 6:50pm by President Rod Doolittle. Pastor and 5 members were present. The meeting was called to order by prayer. The secretary and treasurers' reports were read and approved. Pastor Justin noted there are six couples who would like to get married in our church in the coming months. The pastor and council will set some guidelines as to what is required for non-members.

Continuing education funds were approved for 3 upcoming events for Pastor Justin: Rural Ministry Conference March 1-3; "Leadership During Challenging Times," April 20<sup>th</sup>; First Call Theological Education April 27-28.

"Grace Matters" will come to an end on Easter Sunday due to a lack of funds.

Discussion was held concerning a brochure on what it means to be a Lutheran – "Lutheran Basics." We will order 14 copies of these to be used as an evangelism tool. Discussion was held regarding a company, "Recycling 4 Green". They collect used electronic devices – working or not – to recycle.

Committee Reports: Stewardship – The last "Ventures" meeting was held February 10<sup>th</sup> at West Point.

We were reminded to mark our calendars for March 5<sup>th</sup>. At 6:00 pm that day there will be a meeting regarding "Cooperative Ministry." The meeting will be held at St. Lukes Lutheran church in Stanton with membership from Immanuel in Madison, St. Lukes in Stanton, and St. Peters in Pilger. The evening will begin with dinner and from there Pastor Martin Russell – assistant to the bishop – will lead the meeting.

Our next council meeting will be March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please let us know.

*Secretary – Marlin Kaser*



Please remember in your prayers, prayers of healing for: Linda Nelson (Jolene Ziebell's step-sister), Deb Cover, Marjorie Field, Sandy Junge (Jillian Wiese's aunt), Delores Hanke, Sandy Luetkenhaus, Jake Meier (Rod Meier's dad), Walt Kaser, Joe Korth, Glenn

Wedekind, and all those in need of God's healing touch.

Also we will pray for continued communication between St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Stanton, St. Peters Lutheran Church in Pilger and Immanuel here in Madison as we continue conversations regarding *Cooperative Ministry*.

Finally, we remember the family of Bill Ogan whose memorial service was held this past month here at Immanuel.

**Join the confirmation students of  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
at 403 S Main Street in Madison  
on the following Wednesday nights  
for Lenten Midweek Suppers**

***Ash Wednesday, February 25--6:30 p.m.***

Taco Salad, Sloppy Joes, & Desserts

***Wednesday, March 4--6:30 p.m.***

Pork Roast & Desserts

***Wednesday, March 18--6:30 p.m.***

Chili & Cinnamon Rolls

***Wednesday, April 1--6:30 p.m.***

Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, & Desserts

***Maundy Thursday, April 9--6:30 p.m.***

BBQ Pork, Baked Potatoes, & Desserts



A free-will offering will be gathered at each meal as Immanuel's confirmation students are working to raise money to attend summer camp at Carol Joy Holling Center near Ashland this June.

***Living Lent: The Animals Tell the Story***

Following the meal, join us for worship at 7:15 p.m. This year, we will be 'Living Lent' as animals tell the story of Jesus.

The animals mentioned near or during the Passion of our Lord serve as windows into Jesus' life, teaching, and saving work in this dramatic worship series for Lent. Professor Junglefuss, Juanico, and all of us at Immanuel welcome children and adults of all ages to join us on the journey to the cross.

**Learn more by calling 402-454-2123 or going online to  
<http://www.immanuelmadison.com>**

**This month's newsletter is donated in loving memory of  
Bill Ogan**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS  
MONTH TO:**

March 3	Betty Cross
March 7	Harriett Nahrstedt
March 9	Eric Gall
March 10	Heather Cross
March 11	Lonna Doolittle
March 13	Delores Hanke
March 14	James Heller
March 18	Verl Nahrstedt
March 22	Marlin Kaser
March 22	Patty Renner
March 24	Jolene Lapour
March 28	Kevin Wiltman
March 28	Tamie Wrick
March 30	Walter Kaser

Offerings for January 2009  
Offerings – General    Miscellaneous  
Income

1-4	\$ 640.00	\$ 3.00
1-11	\$1,100.0	0
1-18	\$ 733.40	\$870.35
1-25	\$1,253.00	\$113.00
	<u>Totals</u>	
	\$3,726.40	\$986.35

Statement of Funds  
General Fund

As of January 31, 2009

General Offering	\$3,726.40
Miscellaneous Inc.	\$ 986.35
Monthly Expenses	\$6,968.58
Balance 1-31-09	\$22,515.65

Other Accounts

Camp Fund	\$ 562.83
Building Fund	\$6451.04
Vision Fund - transferred to General	
Organ Fund	\$ 361.47
Memorials	\$3173.39
Total Cash in Bank	\$33,064.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS  
MONTH TO:**

NONE

\*\*If your birthday or wedding anniversary is not listed, please let us know so we can change our records. For accuracy in our church records, we need the full date of birth or anniversary.



# March 2009/Worship Assistants

March 1, 2009 The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

## 9:00am WOV WORSHIP W/ HOLY COMMUNION

Greeters: Duane & Denise Schwarz  
Organist: Iris Doolittle  
Usher: Judy Schroeder

Worship Assistant: Jordyn Berglund  
Altar Care Set-up: Judy Schroeder  
Fellowship treats: WELCA

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March 8, 2009 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## 9:00am LBW Worship

Greeters: Rod & Iris Doolittle  
Organist: Bonnie Gall  
Usher: Judy Schroeder

Worship Assistant: Jordyn Berglund  
Fellowship treats: Cleaning Com.

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March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## 9:00am LBW Worship w/ Holy Communion

Greeters: Glen & Darlene Nordby  
Organist: Jolene Ziebell  
Usher: Judy Schroeder

Worship Assistant: Jordyn Berglund  
Altar Care Set-up: Judy Schroeder  
Fellowship treats: Altar Care Team

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March 22, 2009 The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

## 9:00am WOV Worship

Greeters: Jed & Melody Knapp  
Organist: Iris Doolittle  
Usher: Judy Schroeder

Worship Assistant: Jordyn Berglund  
Fellowship treats: Cleaning Com.

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March 29, 2009 The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

## 9:00am LBW Worship

Greeters: Walt & Viola Kaser  
Organist: Bonnie Gall

Fellowship treats:

Worship Assistant: Jordyn Berglund  
Usher: Judy Schroeder  
Evening Welca

March Cleaning Committee: Keith Rabe

April Cleaning Committee: Elmer & Deanna Choutka & Joel Lapour

Daily Bible Readings for March 2009 [Year B]

Reprinted from Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings,  
© 2005 Consultation on Common Texts (CCT).

**Sun. 1-Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15**

**Mon. 2-Job 4:1-21; Ephesians 2:1-10; Psalm 77**

**Tue. 3-Job 5:8-27; 1 Peter 3:8-18a; Psalm 77**

**Wed. 4-Proverbs 30:1-9; Matthew 4:1-11; Psalm 77**

**Thur. 5-Genesis 15:1-6,12-18; Romans 3:21-31; Psalm 22:23-31**

**Fri. 6-Genesis 16:1-6; Romans 4:1-12; Psalm 22:23-31**

**Sat. 7-Genesis 16:7-15; Mark 8:27-30; Psalm 22:23-31**

**Sun. 8-Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38**

**Mon. 9-Genesis 21:1-7; Hebrews 1:8-12; Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45**

**Tue. 10-Genesis 22:1-19; Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19; Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45**

**Wed. 11- Jeremiah 30:12-22; John 12:36-43; Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45**

**Thur. 12-Exodus 19:1-9a; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Psalm 19**

**Fri. 13-Exodus 19:9b-15; Acts 7:30-40; Psalm 19**

**Sat. 14-Exodus 19:16-25; Mark 9:2-8; Psalm 19**

**Sun. 15-Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22**

**Mon. 16-1 Kings 6:1-4,21-22; 1 Corinthians 3:10-23; Psalm 84**

**Tue. 17-2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19; Hebrews 9:23-28; Psalm 84**

**Wed. 18-Ezra 6:1-16; Mark 11:15-19; Psalm 84**

**Thur. 19-Genesis 9:8-17; Ephesians 1:3-6; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22**

**Fri. 20-Daniel 12:5-13; Ephesians 1:7-14; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22**

**Sat. 21-Numbers 20:22-29; John 3:1-13; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22**

**Sun. 22-Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21**

**Mon. 23-Exodus 15:22-27; Hebrews 3:1-6; Psalm 107:1-16**

**Tue. 24-Numbers 20:1-13; 1 Corinthians 10:6-13; Psalm 107:1-16**

**Wed. 25-Isaiah 60:15-22; John 8:12-20; Psalm 107:1-16**

**Thurs. 26-Isaiah 30:15-18; Hebrews 4:1-13; Psalm 51:1-12**

**Fri. 27-Exodus 30:1-10; Hebrews 4:14-5:4; Psalm 51:1-12**













**Sat. 28-Habakkuk 3:2-13; John 12:1-11; Psalm 51:1-12**

**Sun. 29-Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-13; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33**

**Mon. 30- Isaiah 43:8-13; 2 Corinthians 3:4-11; Psalm 119:9-16**

**Tues. 31-Isaiah 44:1-8; Acts 2:14-24; Psalm 119:9-16**

# MARCH 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>8:00 AM Choir Practice 8:30 AM Grace Matters 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Youth Sunday School</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Pastor Justin in Dubuque for Shared Ministry Continuing Ed</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pastor Justin in Dubuque for Shared Ministry Continuing Ed 10:00 AM Cluster Text Study @ St. John's/Norfolk</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>5:00 PM Confirmation Class @ Immanuel 6:30 PM Lenten Midweek Supper @ Immanuel 7:15 PM Lenten Midweek Worship @ Immanuel</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>6:00 PM Informative Cooperative Ministry Meeting @ St. Luke's/Stanton</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>7:00 PM World Day of Prayer Service @ Immanuel</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>Daylight-Saving Time Begins 8:00 AM Choir Practice 8:30 AM Grace Matters 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Youth Sunday School 3:00 PM Pilger/Stanton Confirmation @ Pilger</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>12:30 PM Pastor leads Devotions @ Senior Center 3:30 PM Hymn Sing @ Countryside Home</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 AM Cluster Text Study @ Zion/Albion</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>6:30 PM Lenten Midweek Supper @ St. Luke's/Stanton 7:15 PM Lenten Midweek Worship @ St. Luke's/Stanton</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>6:30 PM Immanuel Council Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:00 AM Choir Practice 8:30 AM Grace Matters 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM LBW Worship w/ Communion 10:15 AM Youth Sunday School 3:00 PM Pilger/Stanton Confirmation @ Pilger</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:30 PM St. Luke's/Stanton Council Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day 10:00 AM Cluster Text Study @ Christ the Servant/Norfolk</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>2:00 PM WELCA Afternoon Circle Meeting 5:00 PM Confirmation Class @ Immanuel 6:30 PM Lenten Midweek Supper @ Immanuel 7:15 PM Lenten Midweek Worship @ Immanuel</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>9:00 AM Pastor @ Operation IDEA event in Lincoln</p>	<p>20</p> <p>First Day of Spring</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:00 AM Choir Practice 8:30 AM Grace Matters 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Youth Sunday School 3:00 PM Pilger/Stanton Confirmation @ Pilger</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 AM Cluster Text Study @ Zion/Newman Grove</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>6:30 PM Lenten Midweek Supper @ St. Luke's/Stanton 7:15 PM Lenten Midweek Worship @ St. Luke's/Stanton</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>8:00 AM Choir Practice 8:30 AM Quarterly Meeting 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Youth Sunday School 3:00 PM Pilger/Stanton Confirmation @ Pilger</p>	<p>30</p>  <p>6:00 PM Premarital Meeting with Jolene &amp; Graig</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>10:00 AM Cluster Text Study @ Immanuel-Zion/rural Albion 1:45 PM Bible Study @ Countryside Home</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>5:00 PM Confirmation Class @ Immanuel 6:30 PM Lenten Midweek Supper @ Immanuel 7:15 PM Lenten Midweek Worship @ Immanuel</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>