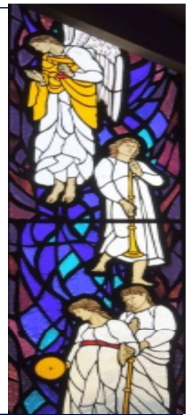


Immanuel's News

MARCH & APRIL 2024

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Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Collect of the Day, Ash Wednesday)

In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

The Psalm for Ash Wednesday, the first day beginning the season called "Lent" is Psalm 51, the "Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone into Bathsheba" (Ps. 51:1 NKJ). Psalm 51 is a Psalm of lament over one's sins and a Psalm of confidence in the Lord's gracious mercy.

King David sinned "against the Lord" (2 Samuel 12:13). When confronted by Nathan the prophet, David could not hide, make excuses, or avoid the truth of what he had done. He was before God—a sinner.

Yet, upon sinners does God have mercy. To sinners is God kind, not in the way of approving sin, nor of looking the other way. Consequences do follow. But such consequences do not mitigate God's Word of forgiveness.

According to the Word of the Lord, forgiveness is gift, not earned or merited. Life everlasting is given, not achieved. Confidence before God of His goodness is not cultivated from within. It is revealed from outside of us, from God to us, made known in the Person of Jesus Christ, God's Son, Who Himself bore "our griefs And carried our sorrows" (Isa. 53:4 NKJ).

This Lententide, we have reason to sorrow and grieve. Sins manifest themselves. Death, the consequence of sin, cannot be avoided. "Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning" (Ps. 30:5 NKJ).

The Lord Christ is our Stay, our Confidence, our Peace, our Hope, our sure Refuge, our Joy!

Yes, we do lament our sins and sorrow and grieve. Yet, we do so also in the sure hope of Christ's Word. In Christ, sin is forgiven. In Jesus, death does not have the final word. In Jesus Christ, life is come. Amen.



MARCH

Betty Wagner

Thelma Anderson

Wayne

Cook

APRIL

**Frank Bean
Ball**

Ashley

David Fackler **Gina**
Dorazio
Valeria Smith **Carl**
Melinat

"blarney" thrown in). There's a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, we look to see you there.

Adult Fellowship: April

No adult fellowship is scheduled for April. We will plan to have a May event. Please stay tuned for more information.



Don't forget to "Spring Forward" and set your clocks 1 hour ahead, Sunday, March 10, 2024



Mid-week Lenten services, March 6th, 13th, 20th, at 7:00pm



HOLY WEEK – MARCH 24-30

March 24th, "Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday"

March 28th, "Holy/Maundy Thursday"
 Divine Service begins at **7:00 p.m.**

March 29th, "Good Friday"
 "Service " begins at **7:00 p.m.**

March 31st, "Resurrection/Easter Sunday"

Women's Retreat Night



The Ladies' Retreat is such fun! Mark your calendars for Friday, March 8, 2024 and April 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. when we'll get together to enjoy a devotion, food, and R&R at Christina Bean's. A sign-up sheet is in the

Narthex. Bring a snack to share and join in an evening of fellowship and a movie.

Adult Fellowship



St. Patrick's Day Celebration - ADULT FELLOWSHIP for all Ages

Set your watches, clocks, and time tables for Saturday, March 16, 2024 for the St. Patrick's celebration at Frank and Sylvia Bean's. The fun begins at 6:30 p.m. Put on your favorite "green" or Irish outfit, bring your favorite Irish food and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship (with plenty of



This is the day that the Lord has made,, let us rejoice in it (Psalms

LWML RMD Pecos Zone Spring Workshop will be at Grace Lutheran Church, Hobbs, NM, April 13, 2024. It will be a morning of fellowship from 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. with Bible study, singing, Mite offering and lunch included. Registration

will be \$5.00. The theme is Rejoice, based on Psalm 118:24 "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Registration begins at 9 a.m., with the Opening Service at 9:30 a.m. followed by the Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. The workshop ends at noon, with lunch following. We again plan to make the workshop available virtually. We'll carpool to this event and meet in the church parking lot at 6:00 a.m.

This year Easter is March 31st. If you would like to provide Easter lilies to adorn our sanctuary, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex; there is also space to include a dedication of the lilies. You may purchase as many lilies as you'd like and from wherever you choose. Please have the lilies in the church library by Friday, March 29th.



The Easter breakfast this year, on March 31st at 8:15 am, we are planning to have an earlier Sunday School morning with

a Continental style breakfast with some egg casseroles, fruit, sweet rolls and other goodies. Please see the suggested sign-up sheet for items to bring. For more information contact Bill.

Immanuel/Faith in Christ LWML

Our monthly Immanuel – Faith in Christ LWML Society meeting of Bible study, food, fun, and fellowship will be Thursday, March 14, 2024 and April 11th at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Reeder will continue the Bible study on *Esther*. We will also collect mites and share a mite dedication together. Look for us in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us. Bring a friend. You're invited to bring a snack to share.

BOARD of EDUCATION:

The Board has set July 6, 2024 as the tentative date for a one-day VBS.

The Board is in favor of having a Trunk or Treat event.

Preschool registration packets for the 2024-2025 school term will be available by the end of March.

2024 LWML RMD Convention: June 7-9 in Greeley, CO, at the DoubleTree Hilton



IN HIS HANDS
2024 LWML RMD Convention

Based on Job 12: 7-10, the theme is "In His Hands."

But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

Preschool

PRESCHOOL: The Preschool is working to complete licensing requirement so we remain in compliance with the State. The Lord willing, this fall, we will have students for the 2024-2025 school term. We are continuing to use the grant from LCEF to help meet payroll for the Preschool for this fall.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

The congregation is invited to attend a Volunteer Appreciation dinner on Sunday April 21st, immediately following the Divine Service. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. More details to follow as the Board of Stewardship completes plans.

Bible Classes:

Bible study opportunities: Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m. Wednesday mornings from 10:00-11:30 am, and are studying Christian Denomination



EASTER LILIES:

From the Library

Pastor Blazek's booklet on "Seminex-50th Anniversary, First-Hand Reflections in 2023-2024" is in the library. It is about Pastor Blazek's personal reflections about what happen during this time as he and Margaret lived it. That's right he was a student during the turmoil in the Siant Louis Seminary of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.

"An empty stomach has no ears" is a well-known phrase in Haiti. Trinity/HOPE understands that when children are SO hungry they can't concentrate, their education suffers. Haiti's future depends on the education of the upcoming generation; 48% of Haitians over the age of 15 are illiterate. To date there are 128 schools that are being fed and FED. Since 1999 when the program began, no school once it has begun this ministry has had its feeding program discontinued.

Offerings & Attendance			
	Offerings	SS.	Service
7 JAN	\$ 5,789.42	15	36/34
14 JAN	\$ 1,438.00	13	24/23
21 JAN	\$ 1,660.00	14	36/33
28 JAN	\$ 4,238.06	14	32/32
4 FEB	\$ 4,865.00	13	31/29
11 FEB	\$ 1,036.00	9	13/12
14 FEB	\$ 1,315.00		21/21
18 FEB	\$ 2,252.00	13	30/29
21 FEB	\$ 204.00		18
TOTALS	\$ 22,797.48	90	241/213

This grant of \$5,000 from Lutheran Women's Missionary League Rocky Mountain District combined with grants from 5 other LWML districts provide a noon meal for 345 souls at First Lutheran School of Les Cayes, Haiti, for a two year period. 100% of funds from these 6 districts are used for the feeding program at this school.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Rocky Mountain District Mission Grant #4 - Trinity/HOPE - Filling Haitian Children Spiritually and Physically, \$5,000

Trinity HOPE is a ministry that feeds thousands of hungry children, teachers and cooks each day in Christian schools spread throughout Haiti. This is the only meal nearly 50% of those served will eat in a 24-hour period. Children receive a nutritious bowl of rice (or corn) and beans, with a high-protein mix of tomato paste, dried herring, oil, maggi (seasoning) and water. The special mix was developed by a Vanderbilt University nutritionist. Approximately 62% of Haitians suffer from malnutrition.



Volunteers cook the noon meals on school grounds.

Every school Trinity/HOPE feeds is a Christian school, actively teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ on a regular basis. Many schools are tied to the local Christian church. Approximately 60% of the Haitian population practices Voodoo. Statistics show about 95% of the children fed (physically) and FED (spiritually) through this program come to believe in Jesus Christ.



prayers before meal



"A class raising their hands for Jesus."