



ImmanuelNews

The newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greeley, Colorado

MAY 2021

Pastor Daren: An Ascending God, Email, and Some Tips

This May 13th marks “Ascension Day,” the day just a few weeks after Easter Sunday when an embodied Jesus ascended to heaven. It was an exciting and difficult day for those early disciples who would have to go on without a Jesus who walked, talked, and ate with them every day. A Jesus who reprimanded them, taught them, and loved them with just a glance. And a Messiah who seemingly promised them the world, but now had asked them to wait as he ascended to heaven. How they must have longed to connect with their beloved Lord as they had before!

Now, over two thousand years later, we have our own challenges and opportunities as people who want to connect with God. With increasing technology, we have developed all sorts of ways to communicate and even worship through resources like email devotions, online streaming, Zoom conference calls, and even virtual communion. Some of these things will go by the wayside as people vaccinate and we move to more “normal” worship. Yet, at the same time, many of these ways of sharing God’s love will continue to be used to reach people that never could have been reached before. Our members and visitors can now worship when they are sick at home, or traveling, or have even moved out of state.

Yet with technological advances, there are also cautions, and I wanted to share a few tips regarding the most common form of communication: email.

If you don’t recognize the sender of an email, or the email seems strangely written, please don’t click on any links (usually highlighted in blue and often underlined), or give any requested information. It’s actually best not to click on any link if you can help it. Just this past Easter, someone mentioned that they had received a strange email from me asking if they would do me a favor. It was strange because I hadn’t sent them an email. The sender’s address was similar to my “reverisman” email address except with two “l”s so that it was “reveriiisman.” Other emails were sent to council members who must have been on the same list, each requesting a favor—and if they replied, they were sent a second email with a more specific request such as buying a gift card. Then, the council member knew something was up.

If you have an email account, you have likely received unwanted emails we call SPAM or Junk Mail. Usually, they are solicitations asking us to click on a link or share personal information, and even bank records. They use our own fear about making a mistake in a transaction or closing an account. They try to be personal and appeal to our goodwill requesting help. And, they offer too good to be true gifts or prizes if we just give them information about ourselves or click on a prize-winning link. A most common technique is to try and get you to buy a gift card for them in the guise of helping them out of some made-up emergency, and then give them the gift card number so that the transaction is untraceable. A credit card payment can be stopped as fraudulent, but a gift card charge cannot be reversed.

One way of preventing people from getting your email “hacked” is to not send out email as a large group where everyone can see each other’s email addresses. It only takes one person on that list whose email is compromised to enable a hacker to access everyone’s email address and send them unsolicited junk. This is fairly common and can be remedied by doing two things: First, when you send out an email to a large group, put those email addresses in the “Bcc” part at the top of the email and put your own address into the “To” part. “Bcc” stands for “Blind Carbon Copy” and you might have to click around the “Cc” part in order to reveal the Bcc option. When you send an email out to a group of people using the Bcc method, each person only sees their own email and your address.

After two thousand years, we still long for Jesus as those first disciples—and still need mutual consolation and encouragement. I pray that messages from loved ones fill your inbox and that the rest go somewhere else!

Take care and God bless!
Pastor Daren

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Spring Benevolence Campaign



Members of Immanuel Lutheran Church— we will be working with two local organizations to support their efforts during the Mother's Day through Father's Day benevolence campaigns. These organizations walk individuals and families through services that heal, strengthen, and provide hope! Both organizations have a local presence in Greeley and in Northern Colorado so we will be helping members of our larger community beyond our church walls.

Funds will be split evenly between Lutheran Family Services of Rocky Mountains and the Resource Center. Collectively, these organizations provide critical resources for issues ranging from adoption, foster care, and family support and education.

Simply designate your special offering during this period by noting *either* “L.F.S.” or “Resource Center” in the memo line on checks or special offering envelopes.

Thanks for your generosity and prayerful consideration.

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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.

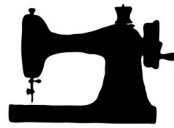
Committee members: Cindy Thompson, Jacqui Larson, Bev Peterson,
Melissa Hawkins, Janet Johnson



WELCA

Love and Priscilla/Ruth Circle
will not be meeting in May

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



Sewing Group

Please join us...

Sewing dates for May are:
Tuesday, May 4 &
Thursday, May 20 at 9:00 am

May Birthdays

4 Cheryl Clausen
5 Kristi Deines
Katy Sickles
13 Matt Ward
17 Brandon Clum
Dianna Fuller
18 Austin Denman
19 Tina Stooddy
20 Jacqui Larson
22 Malin Larson
30 Madilyn Shamburger

May Anniversaries

4 Michael & Janet Crespín
14 Nicholas & Shannon Alm
20 Bill & Barbara Suhre
24 Bret & Cheryl Clausen

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



Tied in Faith

9 am—Noon
May 12 & 29, 2021

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Council Highlights

- ♦ Council approved purchase of materials to facilitate [streaming](#) the Sunday service
- ♦ A graduation celebration will follow worship on Sunday, May 16
- ♦ The new tech position is being circulated to find other people that are interested in the position

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Join us for our next meeting on
Tuesday, May 11, 2021
at 6:30 pm. Please contact Janet Willis
for a Zoom invitation.

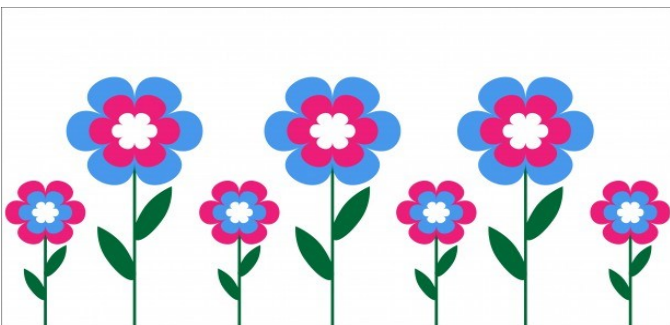
COVID Worship Options

You have the option to worship in person, in the parking lot or on-line.

Inside, social distancing is designed to exceed the 6 feet distancing recommendation, masks must be worn at all times, and congregational responses and singing will be strongly discouraged.

In the parking lot, you will tune in to 90.9 FM to hear and participate in worship. Communion will be provided for those worshipping in the parking lot. And, on-line, the worship service will be live-streamed. You will be able to worship at home at the same time with those worshipping inside the church and in the parking lot.

Thank you for responsibly choosing the worship option each week that will work best for you and your Immanuel family members during this health crisis.



ASAP Team has been praying for you
since 2008.

For Prayer Requests, contact Pastor
at 352-3003 or any member of the
prayer team.

Roma Arithson
Dianna Fuller
Shirley Marine



Don Peterson
Diane Filipe
Janet Willis

Our Immanuel Family

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



We will start our summer worship schedule on Sunday, June 6. Worship will begin at 9: 30 whether you are in the church, in the parking lot or joining on line.

IMMANUEL ORGAN FUND



Immanuel has established a fund to replace the organ. Our current instrument is old and we are at the point that repairs are more costly and more frequent. In reality, the organ may no longer work within the next few years. Since this will be a sizeable investment, we need to consider our move toward the future. What will worship at Immanuel look like in the next 5 to 10 years? What type of instrument will be needed to accommodate that vision? How can this investment reach out to the community? Council has begun to look into these questions and has started searching for options that are available. We will be looking for the congregation's help and opinions as we answer these questions. In the meantime, we know this will be a costly investment and have established the organ fund to begin addressing the financial needs for this project. Please prayerfully consider how you might be a part of this project.

Lenten Challenge 2021 – Give It a Shot And the shot you gave was amazing!



Your gifts will provide:

- Stocking a clinic for 4 full weeks
- Personal Protective Equipment for 8 medical personnel
- Necessary Vaccinations for 9 children
- Nutrition help for 8 children
- Clinic visits for 13 children

Your generosity will be felt for many years to come. Thank You! Thank You!

Your Lenten offerings will be divided between Lutheran Disaster Relief for help in Texas and The Sunrise Clinic in Eaton. Each organization will receive \$425.00.



IT'S TIME TO ARMOR UP
with Vacation Bible School
at Immanuel Lutheran Church!

Knights of North Castle
June 21 – 25, 2021
Dinner at 5:30pm
& VBS from 6-8pm

Plan to Attend & Invite a Friend!
To register, volunteer or inquire
about VBS, please contact
Amy Herold at 970.978.0870.



Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power. – Ephesians

To volunteer, receive curriculum, and learn more about Vacation Bible School,
mark your calendars & plan to attend...



Knights of North Castle
Vacation Bible School Meeting
Sunday, June 6, 2021 -
following the 9:30am worship service.

Feeding Students at Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry



THANK YOU to:

The Larson Family, The Deines Family, The Elmquist Family, The Herold Family, Janet Willis & Diane Filipe for volunteering to take meals to Campus Ministry!

A few Fall dates are still open....

May – July 2021: Summer Break – Meals Not Needed

Sunday, August 15, 2021: HELP NEEDED!

Sunday, September 19, 2021: Meal will be provided by Diane Filipe!

Sunday, October 17, 2021: Meal will be provided by The Herold Family!

Sunday, November 21, 2021: HELP NEEDED!

December 2021: Christmas Party/Break: Meal Not Needed

If you can provide a meal, please contact Amy Herold
at 970.978.0870 or email her at herold_amy@hotmail.com.

Congratulations to our 2021 high school graduate –

Gema Martinez-Padilla

Please join us for a reception to celebrate!

Sunday, May 16, 2021

immediately following the worship service.

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments!



May your future be filled with fun adventures and many blessings!



Scrap Happy & Paper Crafting
will be back at Immanuel this summer!
More details will be released soon!



GIA Clothing Bank

Several Greeley-area churches are sponsors for and help operate the Greeley Inter-faith Assn. Clothing Bank, located at 228 N. 9th Avenue in Greeley. The hours open are 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays (and some Saturdays). 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.

Some Immanuel members have committed to being on duty on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month. The Clothing Bank is following CDC guidelines for COVID-19 (masks, limiting the number of customers, etc.). 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.



Baptized!

Cole Matthew Peterson, son of Cody & Elisabeth Peterson, brother of Madelynn, grandson of Lelyn & Jacqui Larson and great-grandson of Jack & Ila Mae Larson was baptized on April 25, 2021.

Sponsors were Casey & Jennifer McDaniel. Cole was born on April 27, 2019



KING SOOPERS

Immanuel has received \$66.94 from King Soopers community funds for the first quarter of 2021.

As Immanuel continues to live stream and record services, we are in need of additional people to help with this process. Following is a job description for this media position. If you are interested in this position or have questions, please contact Pastor Daren, 352-3003, or any council member.

MEDIA POSITION IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

- **We are looking for...**

- Someone to help in the video recording of services and the updating of the church website to enable access to those services.

- **Training:**

- The Media person will be trained by Pastor Daren with website work gradually transitioned to them.

- **Responsibilities:**

- Record worship services through the video camera and live-streaming through the computer.
 - ◇ Set up the video camera and be prepared to live-stream at least 15 minutes before the service.
- Regularly update the worship service links on the website.
 - ◇ Create the video and bulletin links for each service a few days before the service is live-streamed and recorded.
 - ◇ Upload the recorded version of the video to YouTube and change the corresponding link on the website sometime after the service (preferably by that evening).
- Help with sound as needed.
- **Commitment and Compensation:**
 - Training and supervision will be provided by Pastor Daren.
 - Time required - approximately four (4) hours per service, which includes the worship service and website work during the week.
 - Compensation will be \$60 per service.

Lutheran World Relief Report for 2020

The latest updates on the Beirut explosion that occurred on August 4, 2020 are as follows:

There were three containers of quilts and kits in the port, awaiting customs clearance on the day of the blast. Immediate reports from the Port Authority indicated that the containers could not have survived the blast. A fourth container had been separated at the port in the United States, and was still on the water at the time of the explosion. This ship was rerouted to Tripoli. On the morning of August 26, 2020, word was received that all the containers were intact! On September 22, 2020, it was determined that the seal on the containers consisting of Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Mission Quilts and Kits had not been broken. Their placement in the port had been inside a concrete storage building where they were surrounded by other shipping containers. This protected the containers enough to even prevent chemical contamination. The fourth container cleared customs in Tripoli and traveled over land to join the three containers in the Beirut warehouse.

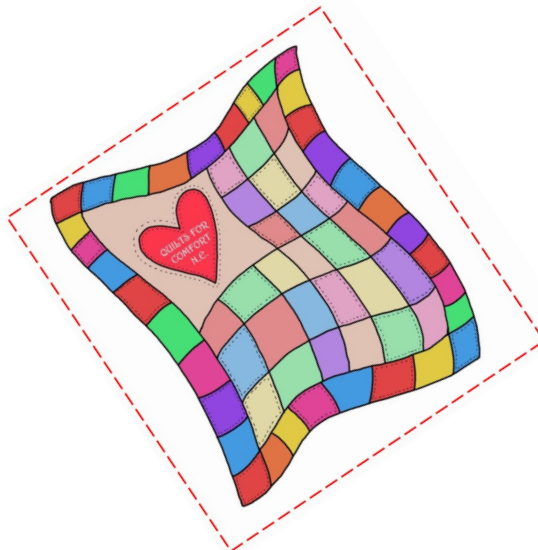
We give thanks to God that the love of hundreds of Lutheran congregations contained in this shipment will be able to be shared with more than 24,000 of our neighbors in Beirut and across the country of Lebanon — many refugees from across the region and, now, those affected by the blast in the heart of Beirut. From the ashes of this crisis rises a beautiful ray of hope: your love, intact and powerful, in just the right place, as just the right time.

Worldwide you reached 616,210 neighbors in need in 23 countries with \$11.1 million worth of quilts, care kits and masks — 264,585 quilts, 12,960 blankets, 174,055 school kits, 71,900 personal care kits, 12,300 fabric kits, 52,860 baby care kits and 40,750 masks.

WOW!

**Immanuel Lutheran Church in Greeley, Colorado
was a part of that!**

Thank You!!





PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



This is a ministry of prayer and love for those in need. Prayer shawls are usually given in a time of transition in life, illness, emotional or spiritual upheaval, or for a time of celebration like birth or a marriage. The shawl serves as a tangible reminder to each person that they are covered in God's love each time they wear the shawl.

Prayer Shawls have their origin in the Old Testament. In Biblical times, the Jewish men wore the prayer shawl at all times, not just at prayer. Prayers shawls have been made informally and silently for centuries. As it is being made, the maker will offer prayers asking God to bless and comfort whoever will receive the shawl. Most prayer shawls will incorporate the number 3, to represent the Trinity.

This ministry is intensely private and prayerful, a gift of love and concern. They are universal, they comfort and enfold, they wrap and warm, they shelter and beautify. Those who receive a shawl and those who make a shawl are loved and blessed. But most important are the prayers that go with it. Prayers to let the recipient know that someone on earth cares for them and that God is always there.



Stitched in Prayer – Given in Love

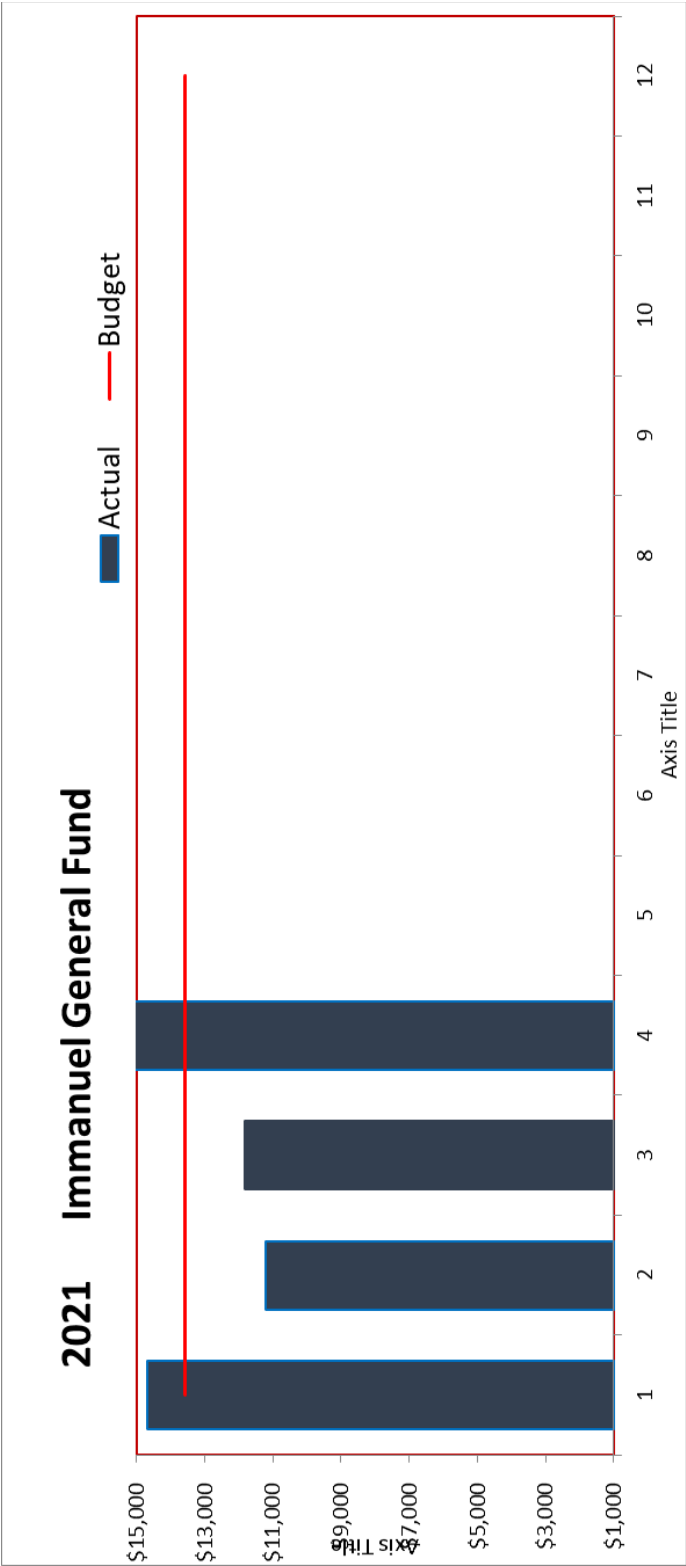
The ASAP team has been given a few completed prayer shawls that need a good home. If you know of someone who is in need of such a gift, please contact Janet Willis, 970-356-6046. If you would like to learn to make a prayer shawl, need yarn, or a prayer shawl in certain colors, please contact Susan Truchses, 970-356-5227.

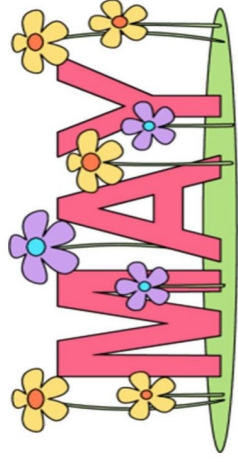
Financials thru April 2021

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

DESCRIPTION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Budget	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579	13,579
Actual	\$14,675	\$11,205	\$11,821	\$16,339								
(Over) / Under	(1,096)	2,374	1,758	(2,760)	Over							
YTD	(1,096)	1,278	3,036	276	Under							





2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:30 am—Holy Communion	3	4 9:00 am-Sewing & Lunch	5	6	7	8
9 10:30 am—Holy Communion	10 Common Sense Cleaning Church Building	11 6:30 pm-Committees & Council	12  Tied in Faith 9-Noon	13	14	15
16 10:30 am—Holy Communion 11:30 am-Graduate Reception	17	18	19	20 9:00 am-Sewing & Lunch	21	22
23 10:30 am—Holy Communion	24 Common Sense Cleaning Church Building	25	26	27	28	29  Tied in Faith 9-Noon
30 10:30 am—Holy Communion	31 OFFICES CLOSED					

Thanks to our Volunteers!

May 2021

May 2:

Greeter: Julie Elmquist
Ushers Indoor: Ron & Cindy Thompson
Ushers Outdoor: John Johnson & Sally Stewart
Assisting Minister: Janet Willis
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
Tellers: Linda Sample

May 9:

Greeter: Janet Willis
Ushers Indoor: Katy Sickles, Vera Sylvester
Ushers Outdoor: Tim Adams & Shirley Marine
Assisting Minister: Julie Elmquist
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
Tellers: Vera Sylvester, Brenda Turnwall

May 16:

Greeter: Vera Sylvester
Ushers Indoor: Cheryl Clausen, Juan Cruz
Ushers Outdoor: Matt & Molly Ward
Assisting Minister: Julie Elmquist
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
Tellers: Linda Sample

May 23:

Greeter: Julie Elmquist
Ushers Indoor: Ron & Cindy Thompson
Ushers Outdoor: John Johnson & Sally Stewart
Assisting Minister: Janet Willis
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
Tellers: Clarence Carlson, Janet Crespino

May 30:

Greeter: Janet Willis
Ushers Indoor: Katy Sickles & Vera Sylvester
Ushers Outdoor: Tim Adams & Shirley Marine
Assisting Minister: Julie Elmquist
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
Tellers: Bob & Sue Morse

CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary: Denise Pollard Stricker 970-352-3003
Office Hours: M, T, Th 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
 W 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
 F 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman 760-814-5171

Executive Council:

Lelyn Larson 970-371-0307
Janet Crespino 970-397-5104
Janet Willis 970-356-6046

Treasurer: Connie Deines 970-378-1475
Financial Secretary: Bob Morse 303-359-5919

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@immanlutheran.org

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1865 14th Avenue
Greeley, Colorado 80631

Return Service Requested

May 2021