



IMMANUEL Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY 2009

UPCOMING MESSAGE SERIES

◆ FEB. 1

MARK 1:21-28

◆ FEB. 8

MARK 1:29-39

◆ FEB. 15

MARK 1:40-45

FEB. 22

MARK 9:2-9

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THE MONTH OF LOVE

Typically February is a month associated with love. There are hearts, candles, flowers, cards, and candy in bright red and pink in just about every store you go in. The kids get excited to make valentine cards for classmates and have the sweet, conversation hearts. This month Immanuel will once again hold it's Valentine Potluck on the 15th.

And how many contemporary songs are about love? It's in the air, it's everywhere... Love, love, love!

Jesus wants us to not just only love each other, but to love our enemies. Jesus' teachings give us a lot of examples of love. "I give you a new commandment that

you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35.

We are children of God. This means that there is a close spiritual bond between all of us. It is a reflection of God's love for us and an expression of Christ's love active in us. When asked, 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' Jesus responded by quoting not one but two commandments: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. And the second is like it,' he said. 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On

these two commandments depend the whole law and the Prophets." Matthew 27:37-40.

A verse that explains what love is and is used at weddings is I Corinthians 13:4-7. "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Happy Valentines Day on the 14th and everyday!



KIDS PROGRAMS

Sunday School

Sunday school has been working on learning about creation and will continue this theme in February. Make sure you look for the student's projects that are displayed. If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, contact Michelle Steffa (815-475-5992) or Gena Gerdin (630-552-1954).

Luther League

Luther League will be going to the movies this month. Watch bulletins for dates and times!



Confirmation

The confirmation class will meet on **Sunday, February 8th at 11:45 am.** The homework for February is to review all the verses that you have learned. Choose two Bible people (not Jesus) to use in Bible Charades. Make sure you know your two people well. Read the Confession and Forgiveness found in the catechism.

Living in Christ,
Loving God's
people.
Teaching the
Word,
Reaching the world

Greetings from Pastor Dorothy

I'm reading a lot these days, following our Annual Meeting. I'm learning and I'm identifying resources for those of us who will address the exciting challenges before us now. Working with Council, we'll set up several task forces, each to address an aspect of our future. I'm envisioning a prayer team, a budget team, a planning team, a survey team, a stewardship team, and so on – as I said, Council will be part of discerning the priorities and structures of what we address and how. Please continue to pray for the church leaders, about the future of our church, and how we can best serve God in these economic times.

“In these economic times” is a phrase that I hear used over and over again, and in a very wide variety of contexts – so much so, that I have begun to wonder what, exactly, it means and how do we respond.

“In these economic times” seems fraught with worry about security and our future, fear of what is to come and what will become of us. It seems obvious that our natural human response is to prepare ourselves as well as possible, to protect

ourselves and ensure our own safety and stability. The logical thing to do is to cut “unnecessary spending” on such things as mass mailings to unchurched people and benevolence. We are sure that we have to take care of ourselves, right?

“These economic times” are also an opportunity for growth, both personally and congregationally. We can face our fears about the future, and turn them over to God. We can respond to God's call to deeper prayer, deeper study, deeper trust and faith. We can prepare to welcome those who come seeking a church community, and seeking assurance that God is in control, that they are not alone, that our security and safety are not in our own hands: They are as they always have been entirely in God's strong and gentle hands. “These economic times” will serve as a door for people to come (or return to) church and relationship with God.

The fact is that we are always living “in these economic times,” with no real knowledge or control of what the future will bring. Our security is never really secure in money, but in

Christ. Still, of course, we must act responsibly as good stewards of what God continues to provide. (An example of that will be evident over the next few weeks as we change the bulletins, trying to find a balance in commitment to good worship practices and conservation of resources.)

“These economic times” are giving us a wonderful opportunity to identify what our priorities are and to evaluate how we are responding to what God is calling us to do. The word ‘economy’ comes from the Greek *oikonomia* and has much to do with relationship and community. “These economic times” can strengthen our relationship with Christ, and our reliance and trust in Him. “These economic times” can also strengthen our community. “These economic times” call us to be Christians.

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want” Ps 23:1 (NIV)

God's Blessings,
Pastor Dorothy



Pastor Dorothy will be at Panera on **Tuesday, February 10th from 8:30 am to 10 am.** Stop in to chat and warm up with a cup of coffee.

Happenings at Immanuel



ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild meets quarterly in March, June, September, and December. The meetings are held on the first Monday of the month. Brenda Corrigan (630-553-1525) is the President for 2009. Altar Guild's duties are to take care of the altar cloths, candles, flowers and communion.

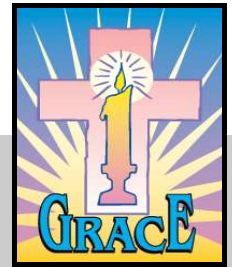


Servant Hearts Circle

Servant Hearts Circle will meet on **Wednesday, February 11th at 6:30 pm.** The Bible study will continue with the Mayberry Series. Warm up on a chilly night with Bible study and friends! If you have any questions, contact Brenda Corrigan at 630-553-1525.

RUTH CIRCLE Ruth Circle RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet on **Saturday, February 21st at 1:30 pm.** The ladies will meet in the meeting room. Join in for an afternoon of fellowship with these faithful ladies! Contact Brenda Corrigan at 630-553-1525 for more info.



The next Council meeting is Tuesday, February 17th @ 6:30 pm.

OUR GREETERS AND USHERS



GREETERS

Feb. 1—Kent & Lea Bateman

Feb. 8—Craig & Jenni Borneman

Feb. 15—Neil & Bev Borneman

Feb. 22—Steve & Kim Borneman
yle Lippold (9 am) and Megan Devick (10:30 am)

USHERS

Dick Nenne (H), Dianne Nenne, Neil Borneman, & Kent Bateman

COUNTERS

Beth Hage, Sandy Collman, & Keith Collman

ACOLYTE

Joe Hughes (9 am) & Rachel Stoehr (10:30 am)

Senior High School

AND COUNTERS & READERS

READERS

Feb. 1—Judy Hage

Feb. 8—Jane Wallis

Feb. 15—David Hughes

Feb. 22—Bev Borneman



ALTAR GUILD

The cookies made from the ladies in Altar Guild were appreciated by all!



CHOIR NEWS

There is some great music that is a lot of fun to sing. How about joining the choir, once, twice, whatever works for you!

SUPPORT THE 30 HR. FAMINE

Have you ever gone without food for 30 hours? The young people of the congregation will be doing the 30 hr. famine again this year. The event is planned for Friday and Saturday, February 20th and 21st. Most of you know for teenagers this is going to take an awful lot of effort on their part. They believe in this cause and they are reaching out to help and make a difference. This is a great example of showing how God wants all of us to be - giving of ourselves!) When the going gets tough, they will be there to support each other. At the end of 30 hrs. they will share communion and enjoy a meal that they will prepare together. In preparation for this awesome event, they will be selling links for the chain and will want the support of the congregation. This can be done by being a prayer buddy, or offering your help in any way to help make this a meaningful event for these young people. For more info or if you want to know ways to help support them, contact Paula Stoehr at 630-554-0065 or pbstoehr@earthlink.net



**IMMANUEL
COOKBOOKS**

Soup's on! At this time of year a bowl of soup is easy to make and nice to take the chill off. Have you tried a new recipe? There are a lot of great recipes in the cookbook. If you are interested in purchasing one, contact Maryjo Mott at 815-254-9117.



Celebrations!

February

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 2/2 – Brenda Corrigan | 2/14 – Sharon Robinson |
| 2/5 – Dale Nelson | 2/16 – Joseph Hughes
Ed Guettler |
| 2/6 – Kailee Sampson | 2/18 – Robert Hajost |
| 2/7 – Diane Nenne
Parker Dove | 2/20 – Craig Borneman
Jessica Dean |
| 2/11—Eric Straughn | 2/24—Tommy Schoot |
| 2/12 – Kelli Dockstader | 2/26 – Kara Dyer
*over 80 years old |

Anniversaries

- 2/2 – Dale & Sue Nelson
- 2/8 – Verne & Jean Riemenschneider**
- 2/14 – Tom & Jeanene Coziahr**
- 24 – Frank & Rita Campbell

**over 50 years



Sister Church

Looking forward to helping our sister church this year? There are blue envelopes on the table in which to put your donation in. Thanks for your help!



Pray for Irene Thanepohn who seeks relief from pain. Also pray for strength and comfort.

Continued prayers for Jacob Kellen and his family. Pray for their faith to remain strong and that Jacob will have more good days than bad.

Keep the Boldt family in prayer. Sue's father passed away in January.

Pray for Shirley Lippold who is recovering from a fall.

Pray for all your loved ones.

Pray for all those who so bravely serve our country. Continue to pray for their safety and comfort them when they miss their homes and families.

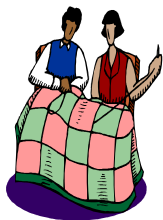
Pray for our sister congregation as they rebuild in this new year.

Pray for all those things that we may not be able to give words to but lay heavy on our hearts.

Pray for the families that seek a break from the cold winter as they travel to warmer climates.

Pray for all those who are experiencing "cabin fever" as they patiently wait for the beginning of spring when they can get out.

Reaching out to others...



BUSY HANDS

Busy Hands will be meeting on **Wednesday, February 11th and 25th**. We have some beautiful yarns to crochet or knit prayer shawls. The ladies have made some lovely ones. With all the yarn that was donated we could sure use extra hands! There are plenty of pieces of fabric to piece into quilts. If you don't know how or just want to brush up on your sewing, knitting or crocheting skills, then join us on Wednesday mornings. There are lots of ladies willing to help you get back into it. Or even if you have never tried but are interested, you are invited to come. Come and join us for lively conversation and fellowship!



www.Goodsearch.com

To date \$14.95 is being donated to the church and 979 searches have been done.

Have you tried this search engine? This is a very easy fundraiser and a great tool for searching the internet. Immanuel will receive "free money". It is very simple. Go to the above website and select "Immanuel Lutheran Yorkville" before searching, Immanuel will receive the credit. The search is free to you, the user, and is powered by Yahoo to provide thorough results.



Community Connections

Back in Action!

Community Connections is gearing up for Spring. Over the next couple of months, we'll continue to explore some important health and wellness topics, stress management, and identity theft prevention/personal safety. We'll also be bringing back the "Munch-n-Learns"...so get out of the house and come hungry! Programs are open to everyone. To suggest a topic, contact Kathy Dove at (630) 551-7045 or krdove5@comcast.net.

Perspective—Through a Child's Eyes

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was great, Dad."

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked.

"Oh yeah," said the son.

"So tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered, "I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friend's to protect them. " The boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are."

Isn't perspective a wonderful thing? Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks to God for everything we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.

Appreciate every single thing you have for they are God given!

LOOKING AHEAD

SOUP SUPPERS DURING LENT

Share a simple meal of soup and bread during Lent. Soup will be served on March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1 at 6 pm. The council members are organizing the soup suppers. Five soups, 3-4 salads, assorted bread and crackers, and beverages (milk, juice, and coffee) are needed for each of the soup suppers during Lenten devotions. Below is a schedule of the council member who will be organizing each week's supper. Thanks for helping with this ministry!

March 4th—Last names beginning with M-R—Pat Johnson

March 11th—Last names beginning with H-L—Sandy Collman

March 18th— Last names beginning with A-B—Gena Gerdin

March 25th—Last names beginning with S-Z—Craig Borneman

April 1st—Last names beginning with C-G—Cary Stevenson

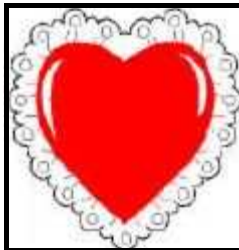
Northern Illinois Lutheran Marriage Encounter

A Lutheran marriage encounter weekend is 44 hours where married couples can get away from it all and focus on each other. The next three LME weekends will be in Schaumburg, IL on April 17-19, June 17-19, and October 16-18. For more information contact dave_jean@comcast.net.



Yorkville School Registration

Yorkville District #115 Kindergarten registration will be at the elementary schools in Yorkville on Wednesday, February 26th for the 2009-2010 school year. It's a great way to become acquainted with the school system. To enter kindergarten, the child must be 5 by September 1, 2009.



Valentine Potluck

The Valentine Potluck will be held on Sunday, February 15th following the 10:30 am Worship service. The meat will be furnished (BBQ & hot dogs). Please bring a salad or a dessert. There will be a free will offering to offset the cost of the meat.



It is amazing how many great books have been donated to the library. There is a nice selection of books to choose from. Please fill out the book sign out sheet when taking out a book. If you have any questions, please call Janet Bretthauer at 630-553-5941.

Lutheran Sports Association

The Lutheran Sports Association needs volunteers. Can you help with being a scorer/timer, ticket taker, sell souvenirs and team check in? If you are interested go to www.luthsports.org for more information.

Fox Valley Volunteer Hospice

More than ever the Fox Valley Volunteer Hospice needs help in this uncertain economic time. They provide the best compassionate care to all patients and clients. In addition they offer bereavement care free of charge to any family or person in need. If you support them financially, that is also appreciated. For more information see www.FVVH.org or call 630-232-2233.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

630 553 5368

FEBRUARY 2009

www.ImmanuelYorkville.org

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 9 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Confirmation	9	10	11 9 am Busy Hands 6:30 pm Servant Hearts Circle	12	13	14
15 9 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 am Valentine Luncheon	16	17 6:30 pm Council	18	19	20 30 Hour Famine begins	21 1:30 pm Ruth Circle
22 9 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	23	24	25 9 am Busy Hands Ash Wednesday	26	27	28

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.ImmanuelYorkville.org



Upcoming Events

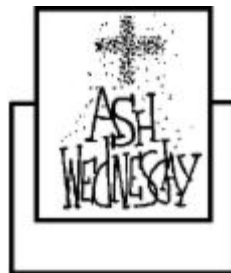
VALENTINE POTLUCK

Sunday, February 15th
following the
10:30 am service



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 25th
7 pm



LENTEN DEVOTIONS AND SOUP SUPPERS

March 4, 11, 18, 25, &
April 1

Soup Supper
6 pm

Devotions
7 pm