

Immanuel Informer

“What Is Lent?”

The Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms defines it as:

Lent comes from the Old English word *lente*, spring, to lengthen as in daylight. The period of forty weekdays prior to Easter, beginning with Ash Wednesday. It was originally a time to prepare candidates for baptism and became a period of penitence (*The condition of being sorrowful and remorseful for sins one has committed.*) for those who have been baptized.

Lutheran Christians have historically used this time to examine themselves and their sins which made Jesus' death of the cross necessary. In preparation for commemorating his substitutionary death and his ultimate conquering of death and the devil midweek services are attended on Wednesday evenings. The focus of these services will be to focus on the events and people which figured into Jesus' Passion (suffering and death)

People of the Passion: Many people were part of Jesus' passion. What do you know about them? What if you could have been there? You can take a trip back in time with us during the special midweek Lenten services to gain valuable insights about the People of the Passion. Be sure to set the time aside.

Ash Wednesday March 9th (Judas): What if you had been in Judas' sandals? What would you have done as Jesus' leadership seemed to falter?

March 16th (Caiaphas): Do you wonder what it was like to be part of Christ's passion? What motivated a man like the high priest Caiaphas to prosecute Jesus?

March 23rd (Nicodemus): Of the people of the passion, do you know the man whom we could call the Silent Believer? Are you at all like him? Learn who he was and how he came to break his silence.

March 30th (Peter): Have you ever thought of how much Peter was like Judas? What was Peter thinking when he denied Jesus? How were Peter's bitter tears afterward different from Judas' deep remorse? How are you like Peter?

April 6th (Pontius Pilate): How is it that an obscure Roman governor lives in infamy? Here is the one man who could have stopped Jesus' execution. Why didn't he? He knew Jesus was innocent. Did he just “think” too much?

April 13th (One of the Mob): Think of the cheers of Palm Sunday: “Hosanna to the Son of David!” Then think of the jeers five days later: “Crucify him!” What had changed? What would you have done if you had been “one of the mob”?

April 21st Maundy Thursday (The Apostles): Who were those men who ate the Passover meal with Jesus on the evening before he was arrested? Can you name them all? What lesson did Jesus teach them that night, and how well did they carry it out? What did Jesus do for them?

April 22nd Good Friday (The Centurion): The Jewish religious elite orchestrated Jesus' death. An unnamed Roman officer presided over his crucifixion. Which of them had a change of heart? The officer was a pagan. Do you think you would have seen what he did there on Calvary?

Pastor Ted

“Choosing Eternal Over Worldly Treasures”

God has entrusted some of us with few and others with many material blessings. Regardless of what God has chosen to bless us with, we are simply the managers of what He has given us. God is the creator, provider, and owner of all things. Our heavenly Father has chosen us to be His privileged stewards. As stewards, we've been given an important position with much responsibility. *“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy”* (1 Corinthians 4:2). Our lives and resources are to be managed responsibly to fulfill the purpose God gives us.

In our materialistic society, being a manager rather than an owner is a difficult concept to accept. Our culture encourages the accumulation of things, and it places value on people according to what they own. In our humanity, we want to be in control and to feel important. Having our names on car and house titles gives us the illusion of being in control and of having the power and importance we seek. Doesn't the American dream include owning a big house and driving a nice car?

Come to think of it, don't we deserve all we have? After all, wasn't it through our hard work that we have attained all we enjoy? These are attitudes that creep into our thinking. We forget that not only does God give us things to enjoy, He gives us the ability to earn our money. *“Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand gives you power to get wealth.’ You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you power to get wealth... (Deuteronomy 8:17-18).* As God's people, let us not become arrogant and forget that He is the source of all things and the giver of *“every good and perfect gift”* (James 1:17).

As God's people, we should see money as a tool rather than an end in itself. Unfortunately, many people devote all their time and energy to acquire more of it. Jesus said we can't serve both God and money (Matthew 6:24). If we choose to serve worldly treasures, we will end up broken, frustrated, and unhappy with no hope and no future. In Christ, we will find peace, joy, and our eternal life. As we serve the Lord, we can be encouraged by these words in Proverbs, *“Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf”* (Proverbs 11:28).

SPECIAL GUEST VISIT



Back in November, on Veterans Day, we had the opportunity to do a live skype with Major Jason Hansa who is in the Army and stationed in Kuwait Afghanistan. The students were allowed to ask questions about his military experience, his family, his beliefs, etc.

Major Hansa enjoyed this so much that he asked if we could do this again. So we did a live skype again in December just before the school's Christmas Break. The students performed their Christmas program "Joy to You and Me."

In January, while Jason was home on leave, he asked if he could come and visit the students. So on January 21st, he came to Immanuel for the day. He ate lunch with the students, visited all the classrooms, talked about himself & his experiences in the Army as well as what it was like to be away from home. This coming April his tour in Kuwait will be over. He will then be stationed in Kansas City, Kansas. He and his wife Angie and their two children, Colton & Mitchel will be moving from St. Charles, Illinois to Kansas.

Jason will be in the Army for seven more years. After that time, he would like to be able to teach History.



Immanuel Lutheran School News

NO SCHOOL -



**March 23-25
Teachers' LEA Confer-
ence in Ohio**

**March 28 - April 1
Spring Break**

MARKET DAY

Order forms are always avail-
able in the narthex & the front
hall of the school.

Pick up dates:

March 1

April 5

May 3

May 31 (June sale)

Pick up times are 3:00-4:00 pm



IMPORTANT DATES

1-4 - Indoor Skating

1 - 6:30pm PTL meeting

1 - 3:00pm Market Day sale

8 - Science Fair

9 - Grandparents Day Lunch

11 - School Spring pictures

**13 - 12:00 Noon School Open
House**

14 - Manna orders due

**19 - PTL Family Miniature
Golf**

22 - Gr. 7&8 attend opera

**23-25 - Teachers' LEA Confer-
ence in Ohio**

**28-Apr.1 - NO SCHOOL-
Spring Break**

“Lutheran Schools Week”

Lutheran Schools Week will be held from Monday, March 7th thru Sunday, March 13th. The weeks events will be: Tuesday, March 8th - Science Fair from 7:00-8:00 PM. Wednesday, March 9th - Grandper- sons Day beginning at 9:00 AM with chapel & ending with lunch. Book Fair will be held from March 8th to 10th. (schedules TBA) Friday, March 11th Spring Picture day for the students. Sunday, March 13th at 10:45 AM - Special coffee hour after our 9:30 AM church service served by the Day School Commission & PTL. Open House from 12:00-2:00 PM. Enrollment applications will be accepted for the 2011-2012 school year.

March Birthdays

- 2 - Mary Ann Bettin
- 2 - Jennifer Senne
- 6 - Karen Sierawski
- 6 - Hans Hansen
- 6 - Harold Zedler
- 6 - Vera Wilcox
- 7 - Bob Brown II
- 7 - Dolly Harding
- 7 - Brandon Swasko

- 11 - Carol Northcutt
- 11 - Sandra Houle
- 13 - Heather Hempel
- 17 - Haley Swasko
- 23 - Lynne Hempel
- 26 - Leonard Sierawski Jr.
- 28 - Aissa Perez
- 30 - Thomas Zimmerman
- 31 - Bud Boese



SECOND TRIMESTER HONOR ROLL

The following students in grades 5-8 were placed on Immanuel's Honor Roll for the second trimester: Kyla Clark, Lillian Brown, Joshua Coleman, Carone Pierce, Amber Reese, and Arielle Reese.

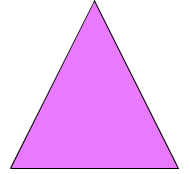
Congratulations!

From the Principal's Desk



Legend has it that St. Patrick was responsible for ridding the Emerald Isle of snakes; but more importantly, it is said that St. Patrick used the shamrock as a symbol to explain the Trinity. As St. Patrick witnessed in his pursuit to bring Christianity to unbelievers, he would hold up a shamrock and challenge his hearers, "Is it one leaf or three?" "It is both one leaf and three," was their reply. "And so it is with God," he would conclude.

Christian educators have used this and other examples to help explain the Trinity to young children. Consider the triangle. The three points represent Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These are three distinct points; yet part of the triangle as a whole. Without any



one of these points, there isn't a triangle. Another example is the apple. As the apple is sliced in half from top to bottom, the apple is skin, flesh, and seeds—three parts. Without any one of them, it wouldn't be an apple. The Trinity, too, works together as one. Another example is three candles. As three candles are lit, there are three separate flames. Yet, as the three flames are put together, they become one flame. Together they are one flames, yet three separate flames. Although none of these examples can fully explain the mystery of the Holy Trinity, we can use these simple models to help us to teach and learn about the Holy Trinity.



**You Are Invited
to an
Open House**

March 13, 2011

12 to 2 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran School

2329 S. Wolf Road

Hillside, IL

See what our school is all about!

Meet the teachers!

Tour the building!

Enrollment information available.

(708)562-5580

www.immanuel-hillside.org

MONTHLY EVENTS (unless otherwise noted)


Sunday School classes on Sundays at 8:30 AM
 Adult Bible Study on Sundays at 8:30 AM
 Self-Defense classes Mondays at 7:00 PM
 Confirmation classes Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
 Darts Tuesdays at 8:00 PM
 Adult Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays at 7:30 PM
 Men’s Club every second Saturday of the month
 8:00 AM
 Prayer Shawl Group every first Thursday of the
 month 7:00 PM

Prayer Shawl Group

The Prayer Shawl Group will be meeting on **Thursday, March 3** at 7:00 PM at the Old School House (4733 Cermak Rd. - behind the Verizon store). See Patricia Contraveos if you have any questions.

FOR THE RECORD:
Deaths - Lynne Olsen - January 22

Transfer In -
Rhonda Bollinger & children
Adam, Chase & Rachel



Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us.

Romans 15:4

Getting the Most Out of Your Daily Bible Reading

As you read the Bible each day, allow the Scriptures to speak to you. This daily “dialogue “ between you and the biblical text will reveal new understandings about God, and about yourself.

- **Set aside time** to read the Bible on a daily basis.
- **Find a quiet place** to read and reflect on each day’s reading
- **Begin with prayer**, asking God for guidance and blessing.

**Believe the Good News
 And Share God’s Love**

MARCH

- 1 - Matthew 5.1-16**
- 2 - Psalm 80**
- 3 - Psalm 84**
- 4 - Psalm 85**
- 5 - Joel 1.1-12**
- 6 - Joel 1.13-20**
- 7 - Joel 2.1-17**
- 8 - Joel 2.18-27**

- Second Sunday in Lent**
- 20 - 2 Kings 19.8-19**
 - 21 - 1 Chronicles 17.16-27**
 - 22 - 1 Chronicles 29.10-25**
 - 23 - 2 Chronicles 1.1-13**
 - 24 - 2 Chronicles 6.1-11**
 - 25 - 2 Chronicles 6.12-21**
 - 26 - 2 Chronicles 6.22-33**

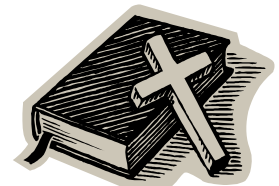
Ash Wednesday

- 9 - Matthew 6.1-18**
- 10 - Habakkuk 1.1-17**
- 11 - Habakkuk 2.1-20**
- 12 - Habakkuk 3.1-19**

- Third Sunday in Lent**
- 27 - 2 Chronicles 6.34-42**
 - 28 - Ezra 9.5-15**
 - 29 - Nehemiah 1.1-11**
 - 30 - Daniel 9.1-19**
 - 31 - Jonah 2.1-10**

First Sunday in Lent

- 13 - Psalm 38**
- 14 - Psalm 39**
- 15 - Psalm 40**
- 16 - Psalm 42**
- 17 - Psalm 51**
- 18 - Psalm 56**
- 19 - Psalm 57**



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Church phone - 708-562-5590

School phone - 708-562-5580

E-Mail: general@immanuel-hillside.org

www.immanuel-hillside.org

RETURN REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

Rev. Teddy Vratny, Pastor
Office: 708-562-5590 ext.101
Pastor@immanuel-hillside.org

Lana Hahn, M.A., Principal
Office: 708-562-5580 ext. 201
lhahn@immanuel-hillside.org

Donn Hempel, B.A., Director of Music
Office: 708-562-5580 ext.205

Carol Northcutt, Admin. Asst.
Carol@immanuel-hillside.org

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE



March 6 -
9:30 AM - Joshua DuBois

March 9 - Ash Wednesday
7:00 PM - Sebastian Manilla

March 13 -
9:30 AM - Christopher Swasko

March 20 -
9:30 AM - Selena Perez

March 27 -
9:30 AM - Mia Railing

REMEMBER TO PRAY. . . . If you have a prayer request, please call the pastor in the church office (708-562-5590) . We are praying for you! Please notify the office when circumstances of your request change or when the Lord answers our prayers. We want to rejoice with you and thank the Lord.

