

April 2024



First Lutheran Church  
240 W. Hardanger Gate  
Lee, IL 60530  
815.824.2356

# The Parish Voice

A NEWSLETTER OF HEART OF ILLINOIS LUTHERAN

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
398 Church Road  
Compton, IL 61318  
815.539.6567

## Confirmands Create New Easter Banner



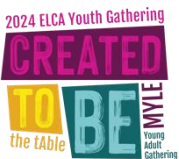
The HOILP Confirmation class which includes Kendall Znaniecki, Natalie and Addy Rebholz, Jacob Nelson, and Brianna Betz, created a new Easter banner that adorns the sanctuary at Immanuel. A great big thank you to them for producing a meaningful art piece that will be inspirational for years to come.

The group was directed by Sarah Pfeifer, who has created and helped with banner creation in the past, including the sesquicentennial banner above the west entrance/exit. Though she did virtually all the sewing, the confirmands were responsible for the design, the cutting and the layout.

HOILP confirmation meets one Wednesday evening each month with PJ and weekly on Sunday mornings with parents rotating monthly for leadership. The Sunday mornings are designed to give the young people experiences and leadership in various aspects of congregational life. So far this year, among other things, they have led the Bingo blitz, provided Thanksgiving treats and decorations for our homebound, and participated in reading the lessons during worship. During the coming weeks they will be leading the intercessory prayers during worship.



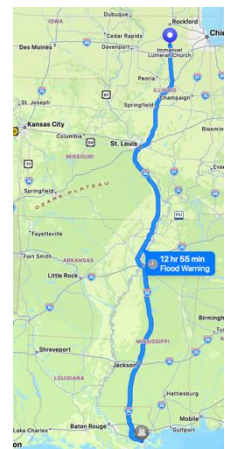
## LYO: Small But Enthused Group Heading to New Orleans for National Youth Gathering



It's been a long-standing tradition at Immanuel to send youth to the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Thanks to the pandemic, that has not occurred since 2018 when the last gathering was held in Houston. The gathering returns this year, and Caleb and Liam Crumpton, both of whom were confirmed this fall, will be carrying the Immanuel torch to the great city of New Orleans in July. Having watched their older sisters attend, the brothers are looking forward to the experience.

This year's gathering will take place from July 16-20 under the theme of "Created to Be." The gathering is the 12<sup>th</sup> hosted in the life of the ELCA, but each of the ELCA's predecessor bodies held gatherings for decades before 1988 when the ELCA formed.

The attending youth has already hosted the Easter breakfast and plans on holding another fund raiser or two for the trip. Pastor Jeff and Jennifer Crumpton will be chaperoning the trip.



# Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish Easter Altars



**Thank you to all who provided flowers for Easter**



## Easter Lilies & Tulips

- Mary Ellen Schroeder – In memory of Family & Loves Ones (1 lily)  
 Dwight & Margaret Frick – In memory of loved ones (1 lily)  
 Tom & Kim Menzel – In memory of loved ones (1 lily, 1 tulip)  
 Kirk & Kathy Ross – In memory of loved ones (2 tulips)  
 Roger & Carol Kern – In memory of loved ones (2 tulips)  
 Harlan & Karla Eames – In memory of loved ones (1 lily, 1 tulip)  
 Rosina Bittner – To the Glory of God (1 lily, 1 tulip)  
 Donna Ganz-Bauer – In memory of loved ones (1 lily)  
 Pastor Jeff & Theresa Schlesinger – In memory of loved ones (2 tulips)  
 Sarah Pfeifer – In memory of loved ones (1 tulip)  
 Holly Phalen – In memory of loved ones (3 tulips)  
 Connie Williams – In memory of loved ones (1 tulip)  
 Minor Avery – In memory of loved ones (2 tulips)  
 Sarah Goetz – To the Glory of God (1 tulip)  
 Alicia & Jacob Nelson – To the Glory of God (1 tulip)  
 Alex Johnson – In memory of Doris Erickson & Mary Ellen Prestegaard (1 tulip)  
 Mike Davis – In memory of loved ones (1 tulip)  
 Laurie Edecker – In memory of loved ones (1 tulip)  
 Rita Thompson – In memory of loved ones (1 tulip)  
 Dave & Janell Koroscik – In memory of family (2 tulips)  
 Kristen & Bryan Edecker – In memory of Joan Benner (1 lily)  
 Simpson Family – (6 tulips, 1 lily):  
 In memory of...  
 ...Cheryl Simpson, devoted wife and mother (tulip)  
 ...Parents/Grandparents Bill & Leona (Winterton) Smith (tulip)  
 ...Grandparents/Great Grandparents Alfred & Dena Winterton (tulip)  
 ...Uncle Raymond Flanders (tulip)  
 ...Parents/Grandparents Olin & Betty Simpson (tulip)  
 In Honor & Celebration of Christian love and fellowship in our church! (tulip)  
 In honor of Aunt Betty (Winterton) Flanders (turned 99 in Oct.) (lily)

## Creation Care “Corner”

The image on the right is of the lunar shadow created on the earth by the moon during the 2023 annular solar eclipse when the moon is too far away from the earth to fully block out the sun. This month (April 8) there will be a total eclipse as the moon is close enough to the Earth to totally block the sun’s rays. What a truly marvelous and phenomenal home God has given us to inhabit!



Creation Care Corp will meet Wednesday,  
 April 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 p.m. @ Immanuel

### “Good Images” - Monthly Categories

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| January: Furry Friends    | July: Sky*                |
| February: Winter Scene    | August: Humans in Nature* |
| March: Earth Scenes*      | September: Wild Critters  |
| April: Spring has sprung  | October: Fall Colors      |
| May: Mountains and Hills* | November: Harvest         |
| June: Flowers             | December: Sunrise/Sunset  |

\*These categories are the 2024 Season of Creation themes. Images will be utilized for SOC power points and videos.

### Don’t forget to celebrate Earth Day...

...April 22 is Earth Day. Consider thanking God by planting a tree, beginning an earth friendly practice like composting, taking a hike and marveling at the earth’s intricacies, or saying a prayer...

### A prayer:

Dear God, thank you for the home you built us called Earth. Inspire us to care for it as well as or better than we care for our own houses. Amen.

---

## Worship

---

### Fourth Thursday Filming Thursday, April 25

- **Liturgists & Readers** – 2:00 p.m. at Immanuel
- **Singers** – 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel

Upcoming months::

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Dates: May 23

June 27



### Share HOILP Worship with Others

A great way to share worship with your friends and family is to invite them to check out our worship videos. You can lead them to our YouTube channel by sharing this link: [www.youtube.com/@hoilp](http://www.youtube.com/@hoilp). In addition, don't forget to like and share the weekly post on Facebook and/or pass on the weekly email with the direct link to the current week's worship.

### Bell Choir

Come be part of the HOILP bell choir as we prepare a piece for HOILP's joint worship on Pentecost Sunday. Look for details coming soon.

### Worship Team

All are welcome to participate on the HOILP Worship Team as it strives to plan meaningful and inspirational worship experiences. Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, here is upcoming schedule through 2024:

- May 9, 2024
- June 6, 2024
- July 4, 2024 – *do not meet*
- August 1, 2024
- September 5, 2024
- October 3, 2024
- November 7, 2024
- December 5, 2024 – *if necessary*

### After Worship Fellowship

Please consider providing simple little treats to enhance the fellowship time following worship. Sign up at Immanuel, and at First, or just bring them!

### Readers at Immanuel & First

Have you ever thought about being a reader for our Sunday worship services? ***New readers are always welcome!*** Contact Debbie at Immanuel or Kristen at First if you are interested.

---

## Discipleship & Fellowship

---

### WELCA

#### WELCA President's Desk – Sarah Pfeifer

- We continue to collect items for **LWR Personal Care Kits**: light or medium weight dark color bath towels, 4-5 oz. size bars of bath soap in wrappers. Donations go in LWR totes in the room next to the office. **Thank you!**
- Quilting continues. Check weekly announcements for dates.

### N.I.C.E. Center Update

- Food/Miscellaneous Items Needed – Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, Miracle Whip, salad dressings).
- We are looking for volunteers to pick up food in DeKalb & deliver to the NICE Center. Call Dave (815-751-0401) or Maria (630-917-5331). We also need help unloading food trucks every month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday (8:00) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday (9:00). Volunteers can also come ANY Saturday from 8:00-11:00 to help with distribution.

# Immanuel News

## Immanuel's General Treasury for Feb. 2024

	Month	YTD
Receipts for February	\$17,868.22	
Expenses for February	\$20,269.48	
Receipts YTD		\$35,938.44
Expenses YTD		\$41,635.82
Net/(Loss)	<b>(\$2,401.26)</b>	<b>(\$5,697.38)</b>

To meet our budget for 2024 our goal is \$3,885.00 a week, we had 4 weekly offerings of \$3,474.00 this month.

Let keep up the good works here at Immanuel. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harlan G. Eames  
Financial Officer

Average Sunday  
attendance in  
February- 48

## Immanuel Council Highlights

March 21, 2024

- The ending balance in the General Treasury on February 29 was \$264.25.
- The General Treasury had a net loss of (\$2,401.26) in February.
- An additional \$900.00 was received from Ag View FS for Backpack Blessings, which has been given to Lincoln School in Mendota.
- The council approved moving \$2,000.00 of undesignated money in the Memorial Fund to the Campership Fund.
- Several of the confirmation students will be attending camp at LOMC this summer, along with Pastor Jeff.

## **Immanuel's New Roof is Complete!**

*Donations can still be made by mailing to Immanuel or place in the offering plate.*

**Thank You to all who donated to the Raise the Roof Campaign!**

## First News

### First Council Highlights

March 17, 2023

- The same company will mow the church property in 2024, with the same cost as 2023.
- Renters are in place and everything is running smoothly with the Parsonage.
- The Lee Sesquicentennial will be celebrated in July. The village has asked if First Lutheran could be used for an opening ceremony of some kind. More details to follow.

### HOILP on the Internet

#### Websites & Facebook

First – [www.flcinlee.com](http://www.flcinlee.com)

[www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee](https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee)

Immanuel – [www.ilccompton.org](http://www.ilccompton.org)

[www.facebook.com/ilccompton](https://www.facebook.com/ilccompton)

HOILP YouTube - [www.youtube.com/@hoilp](https://www.youtube.com/@hoilp)

### Immanuel Church Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Church office: 815-539-6567

*Debbie will is available in the afternoons. If you need anything, call or text: 815-866-6690 or email: [immanuelutherancompton@live.com](mailto:immanuelutherancompton@live.com).*



**Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
398 Church Rd. - Compton, IL 61318**

(First Lutheran - 240 W. Hardanger Gate - Lee, IL 60530)

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Compton, Illinois  
Permit No. 1

**Return Service Requested**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**April 7 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)**  
**April 14 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)**  
**April 21 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)**  
**April 28 – Immanuel (8:30)  
First (10:30)**

**Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish**

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
398 Church Road – Compton, IL 61318  
Phone: 815/539-6567

E-mail: [immanuel.lutheran.compton@live.com](mailto:immanuel.lutheran.compton@live.com)  
[www.ilccompton.org](http://www.ilccompton.org)

First Lutheran Church  
240 W. Hardanger Gate – Lee, IL 60530  
Phone: 815/824-2356  
[www.flcinlee.com](http://www.flcinlee.com)

Pastor Jeff Schlesinger  
(Cell) 815/878-4503  
E-mail: [photo.pastor1965@gmail.com](mailto:photo.pastor1965@gmail.com)

You can also check us out on Facebook!