



April 2025



The Parish Voice

A NEWSLETTER OF HEART OF ILLINOIS LUTHERAN

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
398 Church Road
Compton, IL 61318
815.539.6567

Holy Week at HOILP

The most holy week of the church year arrives this month. And with it, there are numerous opportunities for worship, learning, and fellowship.

It begins with our regularly scheduled worship service on April 13th. Beginning with the procession of the palms and concluding with hearing the passion story, this is always a very powerful service. You won't want to miss it as the confirmation students have been working hard to prepare the passion story.

The final session of the Lenten Bible Studies will take place on Wednesday of Holy Week. Even if you have not attended any of the others, you may want to catch this one as we look at the resurrection stories. "This is designed for the week after Easter," said Pastor Jeff, "but since I will be gone that week I decided to have it during Holy Week. It will be like a 'foretaste of what is to come' on Easter Sunday."

As has been the tradition at HOILP, Maundy Thursday will take place at Immanuel and will include the stripping of the altar, while Good Friday will be at First Lutheran as we ponder our Lord on the cross.

The climax of Holy Week, of course, is Easter Sunday. Immanuel will hold a sunrise service and follow that up with the Easter breakfast. First Lutheran will flip that schedule, with the Easter breakfast preceding worship.

"Don't forget that Easter is not just one day," PJ commented. "We will continue to celebrate Easter on April 27th, May 4th, and beyond."

Holy Week - 2025

Palm/Passion Sunday Worship – April 13

8:30 a.m. – Immanuel Lutheran

10:30 a.m. – First Lutheran

Lenten Wednesday Bible Study – April 16

Lunch with Luke – 12:00 p.m.

Luke after Dinner – 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Worship

7:00 p.m. – April 17, 2025

Immanuel Lutheran

Good Friday Worship

7:00 p.m. – April 18, 2025

First Lutheran

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025

Immanuel Lutheran

- Sunrise Service – 7:30 a.m.
- Easter Breakfast – 8:33 a.m.

First Lutheran

- Easter Breakfast – 9:32 a.m.
- Resurrection Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Noisy Offering

The "Lenten" noisy offering designated to Lutheran Disaster Response will continue through April and May. So remember to bring your "change" as we change the world a little bit at a time.

Worship

Worship: Here, There, and Everywhere

With spring break upon us and summer right around the corner, it means many of you travel. Don't forget that you can be part of the worship life at HOILP even from long distances.

We continue to provide online worship services on a weekly basis. They are designed to make our worship life accessible to the homebound, **the wanderer**, the stranger, and our distant friends – members and former members alike.

On top of that, remember to share our online worship services with your friends and relatives:

- Confirmation parents – proud of your child's participation in the Passion Sunday worship? Send the YouTube link to their grandparents, Godparents, aunts & uncles.
- Have an old friend that was in confirmation with you? Send the YouTube link to them to remind them of the place they grew in faith with you.
- Do you facebook, or tweet, or Instagram? Post a link to the service.

We of course want in-person worship to be the main gathering of people. But our online presence is an important way to respond to an ever changing culture. So please remember to utilize it when you're away, and share it however you are able.

One of the ongoing compliments HOILP receives about our online worship is the participation of the members. Seeing more than just the pastor on the screen gives a much greater sense of community. Please consider participating in 4th Thursday filming whenever you may be able so that we can continue this.



On Transfiguration Sunday, Immanuel dedicated the new communion paraments in memory of Karla Eames.

Worship Team

No meeting in April

May 8, 2025

6:30 p.m. at Immanuel

All are welcome!

4th Thursday Filming

Will not meet in April

May 22, 2025

Readers – 10 a.m. @ Immanuel

Singers – 6:30 p.m. @ First

All are welcome to come for one or both as we prepare for this important ministry.

Ways to Share HOILP Worship

- Share our YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/@hoilp
- Ask people to subscribe to YouTube channel
- Share and like the weekly Facebook post to worship
- Forward weekly email about worship to others.
And most importantly...
- Invite people to worship with you on Sunday morning

Sunday Fellowship

Please consider providing simple little treats for fellowship time following worship at Immanuel or before worship at First. Sign up today!

HOILP on the Internet

First

www.ficinlee.com

www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee

Immanuel

www.ilccompton.org

www.facebook.com/ilccompton

HOILP YouTube

www.youtube.com/@hoilp

Around the Parish

Immanuel

First

Council Highlights – March 17, 2025

- The General Treasury ending balance on February 28, 2025 was \$7.38. That was a net loss for the month of (\$7,510.20). \$7,000.00 was transferred from the AMDEX Account to the General Treasury in February to pay operating expenses.
- A motion was approved to take the 10% allowed, \$6,168.44, from the Thrivent (Florschuetz) Account along with \$78.98 from the Council Discretionary Fund to complete the 2024 loan repayment of \$6,247.42 to the Capital Improvement Fund.
- A motion was approved to accept Andy Kromm as a confirmed member of the congregation.
- A motion was approved to give \$400.00 from the Council Discretionary Fund to Backpack Blessings to supplement the need at Lincoln School in Mendota.

Immanuel General Treasury – February 2025

	Month	YTD
Receipts for Feb.	\$10,681.76	
Expenses for Feb.	\$21,920.96	
Receipts YTD		\$24,734.54
Expenses YTD		\$43,690.42
Net/(Loss)	(\$11,239.20)	(\$ 18,955.88)

Weekly need for budget: \$3,991.00

Feb. average weekly offering: \$2,670.00

Let's keep up the good work! Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted – Harlan G. Eames

Church Office Hours

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

email: immanuelutherancompton@live.com

Council Highlights – March 16, 2025

- Easter breakfast is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., prior to worship service. There will be no sign-ups, but congregational members are encouraged to bring a dish to pass.
- Council is planning to meet with Northern IL Bishop of the ELCA prior to the May meeting, to discuss future plans.
- A prayer request mailer sent by another church was presented as a potential opportunity for future outreach.
- May/June benevolence recipient is the Fox family in Paw Paw, a family of eight whose home recently burned down.

WELCA

WELCA President's Desk – Sarah Pfeifer

- **LWR Personal Care Kits:** light/medium weight dark color bath towels, 4-5 oz. size bar of bath soap. Place items in LWR tote in room next to the office. Thank you!
- Quilting continues. Check weekly announcements for dates.
- **“Storytelling with Jen Miller”**, Sat., April 12, 9:30 am-12:30 pm at First Lutheran Church, 324 N. 3rd St., DeKalb. Freewill offering.
- **“Walking the Ancient Path”, WELCA Spring Retreat**, Saturday, April 26, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at LOMC, Oregon, IL \$30.00 per person.

Discipleship & Fellowship

Adult Confirmation Coming to an HOILP Congregation near You

Plans are being formulated for adult confirmation with an eye of May and June for get togethers. Look in announcements and future newsletters for details.

This class is appropriate for new members, those who never went through youth confirmation, and anyone who just wants to renew what they learned many years ago.

“life renewed”
Devotions for Lent 2025
are now available at both
Immanuel & First
Pick one up today!

N.I.C.E. Center Update

- Food/Miscellaneous Items Needed – Jelly or Jam NOT Grape (Dollar Tree brand is fine), Shelf Stable Almond Milk (unsweetened), Crackers (saltine or snack), Canned Fruit, Kleenex.

Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
398 Church Rd. – Compton, IL 61318**

(First Lutheran – 240 Hardanger Gate – Lee, IL 60530)

Non-Profit
Organization
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Return Service Requested

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**April 6 – Immanuel (8:30)
First (10:30)**

**April 13 – Immanuel (8:30) (Palm Sunday)
First (10:30)**

**April 20 – Immanuel (7:30) (Easter)
First (10:30)**

**April 27 – Immanuel (8:30)
First (10:30)**

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240 W. Hardanger Gate – Lee, IL 60530

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You can also check us out on Facebook!