



October 2022



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

Final Weeks of Season of Creation

Worship & Events

Season of Creation comes to its eventful conclusion during the first half of this month. Don't miss your last opportunities to participate in the various activities and of course, come on down to worship.

Remaining Season of Creation Schedule

Sunday 10/2

Storm & Weather Sunday Worship

Tuesday 10/4 and 10/11

Online Trivia

Sunday, October 9

Cosmos Sunday Worship

Star Gazing - 6:24 pm (sunset) to ?

Saturday, ~~September 24~~ October 15

Lakeside Dinner Sunset Cruise - 5/6 p.m.

Sunday, October 16

Season of Creation Give Away drawing

The worship services are all posted on our YouTube channel so if you missed any of them, or would like to share them with others, just search "Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish" on YouTube to find our channel (and don't forget to subscribe if you haven't done so already).

Fall Star Gazing

On October 9 you're invited to gather at Immanuel for an evening of stargazing. PJ was misinformed regarding the moon phase. The 9th will be the full moon rather than the new moon, so we will be doing some moon gazing as well. Whatever the evening brings, will look up into the night skies and see what we can see. And maybe enjoy some s'mores and moonpies as we do so. Come join us anytime after 6:24 p.m. (sunset).

Dinner Out & Sunset Cruise

Night on the Town is being resurrected in conjunction with Season of Creation. Rescheduled to Saturday, October we will reverse the original plan for the evening.

We'll begin with a pontoon boat cruise around the lake at 5:00 p.m. docking shortly before sunset. Then we'll conclude with dinner at the lakeside restaurant – Pokanoka's. There is a sign up sheet at each congregation. Sign up for the meal, the boat ride, or both.

Season of Creation Give Away

Holly Phalen has a dear and generous friend who is a photographer in the Northwoods of Minnesota. He has graciously provided us with beautiful prints for each week of SOC as well as slide shows which we will utilize in worship.

These prints will be given away via a drawing that will take place the Sunday following Season of Creation. You get your name in the drawing each time you participate in one of the SOC events, including worship, trivia, the lakeside events, the pet blessing and star gazing. Opportunities to win additional chances will be available at trivia and during other events.

Upcoming Field Trips

The pandemic saw some field trips canceled. PJ is finally rescheduling them. On October 27th, there will be leaf peeping trip to gaze at fall colors. Details on this trip are being finalized at the time the newsletter is being printed – look for details in our weekly announcements.

Sometime between March 13 & 24, 2023 there will be a trip to Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge to view migrating birds, including the huge flocks of snow geese that travel through there.

Look to future newsletters for details on both these trips.

Images from Season of Creation



Holly Phalen with dog Jade

Images from Pet Blessing
September 25, 2022
(check out videos of the blessings on HOILP YouTube channel)



John & Jill Hoelzer with cat Snow and PJ and Theresa (behind camera) with cat Clark



Kirk, Kathy and Luke Ross with dog Grizzly



Theresa & Evan Komitas (Immanuel neighbors) with dogs Lexi and Annie



Kim Menzel with dog Addie

Worship

Immanuel's Altar Committee Needs Help!

In looking ahead to plans for 2023 (it's not that far away!) we are in desperate need of some additional volunteers. No experience needed!! Duties include preparing for weekly services, decorating for holidays and festivals, and prepping for weddings and funerals. Many hands will make light work for everyone! You may sign up at church or call the church office. Any questions, call Karla Eames 815-539-6055.

Wanted: Ushers at Immanuel

Soon, we will be reviving and redefining ushers at Immanuel. Volunteers are needed. Ushers can range in age from 12 to 100. It's a great thing to do as a couple or family. Please sign up on the table in the overflow.

WELCA

JUSTICE (Mission Action) – Charlene Zimmerman

What does the Lord require of you but to do *justice*, love kindness and walk humbly with your God. (*Micah 6:8*)

The Illinois Valley Pads in Peru is now open for the season.

Their greatest needs are: drink mixes, individually packaged snacks, cookies, granola bars, cleaning supplies, ALL paper products. Please put these items in the totes in the room next to the office.

Thank you all.

WELCA President's Desk – Sarah Pfeifer

We have completed our LWR quilts & kits for 2022. The total is: 101 school kits, 29 health care kits, and 65 quilts for LWR (we also made 6 other quilts, 3 for raffles and 3 for High School seniors.) **Thank you** all for sewing the school bags and quilts and for all your donations.

This and That

N.I.C.E. Center Update

- Food/Miscellaneous Items Needed – Canned soups – not tomato or cream of mushroom, jello, pudding, frosting, cake mixes, boxed potatoes. Skillet Helper Meals – all kinds – beef, chicken, tuna, etc. Condiments, mustard, ketchup, dressings, ranch dressing.
- New opportunity to help on Friday mornings at N.I.C.E. Food pickups in DeKalb on Friday mornings (leave N.I.C.E. at 7:20 a.m.) and/or help sort produce and other food items at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call Dave Koroscik at 815-751-0401.

Thank you for your continued support for the N.I.C.E. Center.

First Lutheran Council Highlights September 25, 2022

- A regular cemetery visitor presented some concerns to Council President Jim Johnson. All comments were addressed by the Council.
- Pastor's Report included an expression of sympathy to Pastor at the passing of his father and regular updates on the Parish and Worship Teams.
- Jim will form a small committee to put forth a plan for the future of the church parsonage.
- Volunteers agreed to plan and provide meat dishes for the 11/20/22 Joint worship service/Joint council meeting/First regular council meeting that will all occur that day.

Benevolence Offerings

Immanuel: October – World Hunger. Please use the envelope found in this newsletter.

First: October – Opportunity House. Please use the benevolence box at church or designate it on the memo line of your check.

Immanuel Council Highlights September 15, 2022

- General Treasury ending balance August 31, 2022 is \$65.46
- Season of Creation events continue:
Sept. 20, Tuesday, Trivia Night via ZOOM for next 4 weeks.
Sept. 24 – Lakeside Supper & Sunset Cruise at Shabbona Lake.
Sept. 25 – Pet Blessing at Immanuel 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Oct. 9 – Star Gazing event at sundown
- Pastor attending NIS Professional Leaders Conference at Lutherdale September 19-21.
- Confirmation resuming in October – Sixth graders will be invited to train and acolyte.
- Drew names for Farm Lease 2023 – Adam Betz with Nick Ganz as alternate.
- Rev. Julie Bernard, assistant to the Bishop, will provide sermon on Sunday, October 9.
- Blinds have been installed at parsonage and damaged tree to be removed.
- Letter has been received from a parishioner pledging a \$10,000 contribution toward the proposed roof project and is encouraging other parishioners to make pledges.
- Thank you letter received from Brooke Heiman for scholarship award.

Immanuel Church Office Hours

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

Debbie will be available from home in the afternoons. If you need anything, call or text: 815-866-6690 or email: immanuellutherancompton@live.com.

HOILP on the Internet

Websites & Facebook

First – www.flcinlee.com

www.facebook.com/firstlutheranchurchlee

Immanuel – www.ilccompton.org

www.facebook.com/ilccompton

www.youtube.com/channel/UChxbzUMEeE1C2SIsP-YI65A



Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish Food Swap

The November Food Swap date of November 20th is on the joint service day in Lee. We will have a special swap called the Food/Recipe swap. With Thanksgiving the following Thursday, bring your favorite Thanksgiving food recipe, in print form, along with your food items to the swap. After the service, review other recipes and take home your favorite to try for a new taste to your Thanksgiving meal. Bring the recipe in a print/written form of some kind. Maybe even with a picture, if you would have one.

The December Food Swap date of December 18th will be a Christmas Cookie Swap. Bring small plates of your favorite Christmas cookies/bars/desserts to the food swap. After the service, come back and swap a scrumptious looking dessert back to your house.

A reminder that, although only fresh, canned or dry good items can be taken to the pantries, everyone is encouraged to bring those and/or frozen, preserved, canned items to the swap. Also, we encourage for all food swap events that if you know of specific families in need to bag up any of the times to take to them directly. Everyone is able to participate in the swap and anyone can take leftover items once the swap is finished. Those items that can't go to a pantry, we ask that you take back home with you.

Thank you for your participation.

Thank you everyone all of your compassion during my father's illness and death. Your texts, calls, cards, and prayers meant more than I can express. Thank you so much.

Thank you also to the entire parish for your patience as various events and activities have been rescheduled and canceled so that I could be fully present with my family in our time of grief.

You have offered me so much grace. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jeff

Sunshine Meals

Our Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish will be participating in a service project for "God's Work, Our Hands" on Sunday, October 9. We will be putting together pans of lasagna to be stored in the freezer. When needed, a lasagna will be combined with a salad and garlic bread to create a meal. These "**Sunshine Meals**" will be given to congregation and community members who are sick, getting home from the hospital, etc., or just need a "perk me up".

We will be assembling the lasagna on Sunday, October 9, at 5:00 p.m. in the Immanuel kitchen. Please join us in the outreach project to put a ray of sunshine in someone's life!

WELCA Christmas Quilt Raffle



Tickets: \$5.00 each or 3 tickets for \$10.00

Starting October 16 WELCA is raffling this Christmas quilt. Drawing will be after church on November 27. Please write your name, address, phone number on the slip of paper and place it in the container. Make checks payable to WELCA.

Elaine's Quilt size: 94" x 84"

This quilt top was assembled by Elaine Zimmerman. Our quilting ladies finished putting it together. Funds received from this quilt will be used for yearly donations made by our WELCA group.

HOILP Happenings

Communion Celebrations



Kendall Znaniecki, Farrah Collins, Brianna Betz, Griffin Collins, Brad Betz, Jacob Nelson, Addy Rebholz, Natalie Rebholz

Food Swap



Levi David Gonzales Baptism

Mary Wackerlin, Tyler McCoy, Levi, Becca Wackerlin, Hunter Gonzales



Quilt Sunday

**Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish
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(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

October 2 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)

October 9 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)

October 16 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)

October 23 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)

October 30 – Immanuel (8:30) First (10:30)

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Pastor Jeff Schlesinger
(Cell) 815/878-4503
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You can also check us out on Facebook!