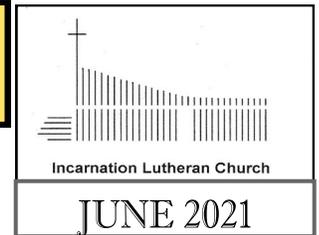


Incarnation Image



On June 13th, I will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of my Ordination into Word and Sacrament Ministry with the people of Incarnation. On June 9th of 1996, the Rite of Ordination took place at my home congregation, Zion Lutheran Church in Wausau, WI. On that day, my life took an entirely new direction. Although ministry in the Church was not new to me after teaching in church schools for some 25 years, my learning at Wartburg Seminary was now complete, and my pastoral ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Coloma, WI would soon begin. The mustard seed of faith that had been planted in me when I attended St. John's Lutheran School as a child and Walther Lutheran High School as a teenager, was growing into quite a large tree. A tree larger than I ever expected when I graduated from Concordia Teacher's College in River Forest.

Jesus often used parables such as the mustard seed in his teaching to shock his listeners into new ways of thinking. School teachers and pastors do the same thing. Parables begin with ordinary, everyday elements but then suddenly take a turn into a reality, an outcome, or a plot twist that no one expected. Perhaps that is why parables are often called earthly stories with a heavenly meaning. They are a good teaching vehicle for explaining the kingdom of heaven—a reality that requires us to open our minds to things we thought were impossible. Like me becoming a pastor.

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We would expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we have been grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup that we share. It may not be all that impressive, but while nobody is looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding, beyond our expectations.

Christ's parable of the mustard seed reminds us that the same is true with God's kingdom. Faith that can move mountains and ministries that change lives—these things also grow out of small and ordinary people, places, and times. As most of you know gardening is a hobby of mine but my journey in life like yours as well has been a process of growth. Sometimes growth is a painfully slow process, and it takes patience and courage to let things grow beyond our control. But that is what the Christian life is all about growing, nurturing, and harvesting. All being done for the glory of God. I look forward to June 13th and our celebration together.

May God continue to bless our growth together,
Pastor Ralph

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION REV. RALPH HANKERMEYER



Please join us on June 13, 2021 as we celebrate the 25th year of Pastor Ralph Hankermeyer's ELCA ordination and 50 years of Christian Education.

The celebration will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary with a time of reflection and music. A special catered meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

All are invited to attend on this special day as we show our appreciation for his years of devotion and as he continues to shepherd us and share his love for our Lord and Savior.

RECYCLING EVENT RESCHEDULED

The recycling event has been rescheduled for July 31, 2021 in the Incarnation Lutheran Church parking lot. Please save your items and bring them that Saturday morning.

WORSHIP LESSON READERS

May 30th—Jean Watson

June 6th—Karen Nantelle

June 13th—Ken Anderson

June 20th—Sandy Krakow

June 27th—Bonnie Zima

July 4th—Karen Nantelle

July 11th—Jean Watson

July 18th—Ken Anderson

TREASURER'S REPORT

**Incarnation Lutheran Church
Council Meeting May 13, 2021**

Cash Balances	Account	April 30 2021	December 31 2020	December 31 2019
General Fund Savings	S	(\$1,176.11)	\$1,474.36	\$7,773.78
General Fund Checking	C	\$729.73	\$2,319.31	\$113.75
Total Cash Savings/Checking		(\$446.38)	\$3,793.67	\$7,887.53
Memorial Fund Savings (\$919.32 Designated)	M	\$6,835.61	\$7,094.83	\$7,090.17
Anderson Memorial Fund	M	\$0.00	\$2,990.00	\$0.00
Kesy Memorial Fund	M	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Watkins Memorial Fund	M	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Capital Fund Savings	CF	\$11,518.62	\$10,518.23	\$10,270.08
Sunday School Fund (Snell Memorial)	M	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Outreach	S	\$38.89	\$38.89	\$38.89
Seasons of the Church Banner Fund	S	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Quilter's Fund	S	\$59.34	\$59.34	\$59.34
Womens Group Fund	S	\$410.21	\$410.21	\$410.21
Library Fund	M	\$329.72	\$329.72	\$329.72
Emergency Fund	S	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Technology Fund	S	\$1,261.80	\$1,261.80	\$0.00
Special Events & Fundraisers				
Rally Day Picnic Fund - (T Shirt Sale 2018)	S	\$240.95	\$240.95	\$240.95
Fundraisers - Garden Ministry	S	\$47.91	\$47.91	\$47.91
Fundraisers - Property Improvement Project Fund	S	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fundraisers - Property Improvement Project Fund (Parking Lot)	S	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fundraisers - Property Improvement Project Fund (Sign)	S	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Checking, Savings & Fund Balances		\$20,846.67	\$27,485.55	\$26,924.80
	Checking	\$729.73	\$2,319.31	\$113.75
	Savings	\$1,382.99	\$4,033.46	\$9,071.08
	Memorial	\$7,215.33	\$7,474.55	\$7,469.89
	Capital	\$11,518.62	\$10,518.23	\$10,270.08
Mortgage Note Balance				
Nicolet Bank Due 5/18/2025 (4.75%)		\$62,160.46	\$67,514.06	\$82,537.86
Payment 18th of the Month \$1,600				
Credit Available		\$13,000.00		
PPP Loan Program		\$0.00		
SBA Disaster Advance		\$0.00		
General Fund Deposits 2021		\$32,033.00		
General Fund Deposits 2020		\$32,314.82		
2021 vs 2020		(\$281.82)	-0.87%	

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES – EFFECTIVE 5-14-2021

It is with much excitement that the Incarnation Church Council presents to you the following relaxed guidelines for worship at Incarnation:

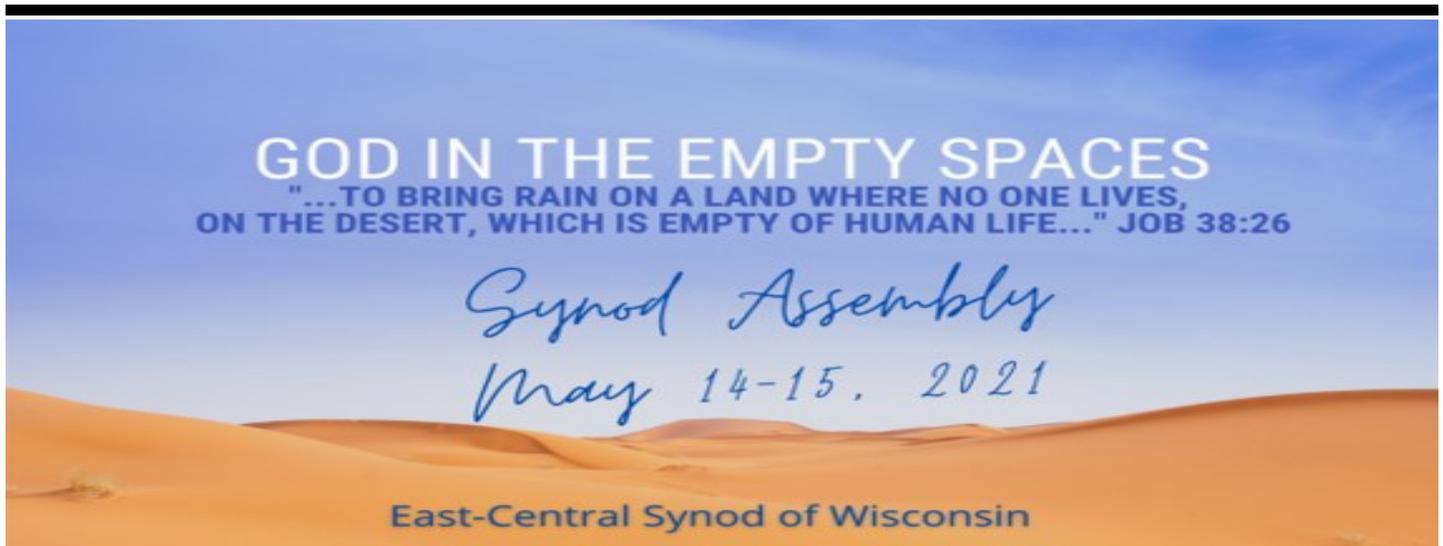
"Masking and social distancing are not required, but are encouraged."

All pews in the sanctuary will now be available during worship.

Please be understanding of all individuals and whether they choose to wear a mask or not.

Incarnation's Church Council invites all individuals to return to Incarnation for in person worship.

Worship services will continue to be taped for online viewing through Sunday, May 30th. Recordings will resume in the future if needed.



Congratulations to Barb Brumm who was elected to the Discipline Committee of the East-Central Synod of Wisconsin during the recent Synod Assembly gathering .

We lift up praise and prayers for Barb for her service to Our Lord.

EXTERIOR SPRING CLEANING

A very special thank you to Don Sterling for the May 8th spring cleanup of the church grounds.

The exterior of the church property looks fantastic because of you.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study is being held each third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship. Pastor Ralph is leading an in-depth study titled "Women Of The Bible".

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Website: incarnationgb.com

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

1. **CALL TO ORDER**—Don Kneisler at 6:30 PM.

2. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Present Pastor - Ralph Hankermeyer

Present Allan Kvam

Present President – Don Kneisler

Present Rick Manning

Present Vice President – Judy Trow

Present Sherry Rasmussen

Present Treasurer – Myrna Herrbold

Present Aaron Hankermeyer

3. **DEVOTIONS** – Sherry Rasmussen (By Still Waters Devotional Book)

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**—

a) Motion by: Judy Trow Second by: Aaron Hankermeyer Approved

5. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

a) Changes: None

b) Motion by: Don Kneisler Second by: Sherry Rasmussen Approved

6. **PASTOR’S REPORT** – Pastor Ralph Hankermeyer

Communion

Individually or Phone = 3

In-Home = 0

During Sunday Worship = 26

Membership Updates and Health issues

Pastor is working with 2 individuals that are considering becoming members of Incarnation

7. **STANDING TEAMS:**

Stewardship – Allan Kvam

Letter will be included in newsletter for summer giving

Evangelism – Don Kneisler

No report

Social Ministry - Sherry Rasmussen (Sandy Krakow, Jean Watson)

Charitable Campaigns will continue (items for various food pantries)

Painters Group will begin using the church building in the fall on Monday and Thursday

NA Group will begin using the church building in May

Finance & Treasurer – Myrna Herrbold

Written reports reviewed and approved

Christian Education - Don Kneisler and Judy Trow

Women’s Bible Study has begun (3rd Wednesday of each month)

Additional Bible Studies being looked into

Technology - Aaron Hankermeyer

WIFI— guest WIFI access has been established

WIFI name: ILC_Guest

Password: Incarnation2021

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Website: incarnationgb.com

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

7. STANDING TEAMS: CONTINUED

Building & Grounds - Rick Manning

Sound system is still being updated and worked on

Sign Up sheet for lawn mowing

Sign Up sheet for Spring Cleanup May8, 2021

Recycling Project has rescheduled for July

Sanctuary Area—musicians to be relocated to rear in front of piano / organ

- back two pews in front of piano relocated to front of church (one pew each side)

Worship & Music – Aaron Hankermeyer and Myrna Herrbold

Pews and musical instruments to be rearranged

CDC Health and Covid changes

Communion and distribution will be reviewed in July (we have enough kits until then)

Fellowship and Adult Bible Study will resume in the fall

Masks and social distancing will no longer be required but will be encouraged

Church materials can be put back in place (Allan Kvam has volunteered to do this)

Lutheran Book of Worship will be placed in pew racks

Online Sunday Worship will end after Memorial Day

Summer Services

Sunday—in the Sanctuary unless air conditioning is needed (locate to Fellowship Hall)

Midweek service—at be recorded at Pastor's discretion and available on online

beginning Wednesday June 2, 2021

Linda Grezca has volunteered to play the organ beginning in the fall

Mailing of worship materials to individuals who are not attending in-person services will be

Reviewed on a case by case basis.

Bibles may be purchased and located in each pew next to the Lutheran Book of Worship

Aaron Hankermeyer to research costs

Events - Don Kneisler & Sherry Rasmussen

Pastor Ralph 25th Anniversary of his ELCA Ordination

See newsletter for details

8. OLD BUSINESS:

Synod Assembly—May 14th & 15th (ZOOM MEETING) Judy Trow and Pastor Ralph delegates

9. NEW BUSINESS::

Open Doors Grant—Don Kneisler

In reviewing the details, it was decided that it would not a good fit for Incarnation

10. NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 10th at 6:30 pm—Devotions by Allan Kvam

The council wants to invite all member to join us!

11. ADJOURNMENT: 7:50 p.m. Motion by: Sherry Rasmussen / Don Kneisler Approved YES

Adjourn at: 7:30

12. LORD'S PRAYER

Hold On To Me Lauren Daigle

When the Best of me
Is Barely Breathing
When I'm not Somebody
I Believe in , Hold on to me
When I Miss the Light
The night has Stolen
When I'm Slamming
All the Doors You've Opened
Hold on to me, hold on to me

CHORUS

Hold on to me when
It's too Dark to see You
When I am Sure
I have Reached the end
Hold on to me
When I Forget I need You
When I let go, hold me again

When I don't feel like
I'm Worth Defending
When I'm Tired of all the Pretending
Hold on to me
When I start to Break in Desperation
Underneath the Weight
Of Expectations
Hold on to me, hold on to me

I could Rest here
In Your Arms Forever
'Cause I know nobody
Would Love me Better
Hold on to me, hold on to me

Lauren Daigle CCLI #7130439

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"I want people to listen to this song and be reminded that even when they don't feel like themselves, they can find comfort in knowing that there are people who can see beyond their darkest moments. We need to remind others that they have an army of people standing behind them, supporting them through the best and worst of times."

Lauren Daigle

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

920 499-2011
incarnationgb@gmail.com
2071 Ninth Street
Green Bay, WI 54304

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE NEWLY REMODELED SANCTUARY EACH SUNDAY AT 9:00 A.M.. NO RESERVATIONS NECESSARY; MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING NOT REQUIRED BUT ENCOURAGED. COMMUNION IS OFFERED THE FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY. WHEN ENTERING THE CHURCH ON COMMUNION SUNDAY, PLEASE TAKE AN INDIVIDUAL SERVING OF THE SACREMENTS WHICH WILL BE USED DURING THE SERVICE.. THE OFFERING PLATE IS LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE FOR YOUR GIFTS WHICH WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE ALTAR DURING THE OPENING HYMN.