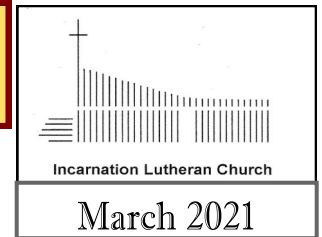


Incarnation Image



Dear Pastor,

When I think of the church season called Lent, I also think about the trials and rising anxiety levels Jesus faced as he knew that his life's journey was coming to an end. I don't know if I could have survived the rising pressures Christ faced. It has been difficult enough living with COVID-19 and the trials connected with it. Talk to me about strength in times of trial. I need not only strength, but an increased sense of hope. I need something to cling to.

Dear Parishioner,

When things aren't going quite right, a bit of advice frequently handed out is to keep a stiff upper lip. Such advice suggests that there are certain difficulties you can expect in life, and the only way to cope with them is to: "grit your teeth and make the best of it."

But we who believe in Jesus Christ have a different view of life's difficulties. First of all, Jesus understands their origin. How is that possible you might be thinking? But we must remember that Jesus was not only True God. Jesus was also True Man. Jesus himself we believe truly experienced times of trial. Such is possible because as **2 Corinthians 2:5 says: "Christ never sinned! But God treated him as a sinner, so that Christ could make us acceptable to God."** The truth is all problems, all suffering, all sorrows, all difficulties, all misery, all frustrations have a common origin. They result from sin. Sin has contaminated the whole human race, and the believer also suffers from that passed on contamination sin has created.

In addition, Christians have another view of the difficulties they encounter in life. Jesus and his believing brothers and sisters know that such difficulties are under God's control and that they are intended for our good. Granted there are times when this is extremely hard to understand and accept. Yet the Bible stresses this again and again. God sends corrective measures into our lives, just as parents do with their children. Peter wrote to his readers that the trials they were encountering had come: "So that their faith...may be proved genuine and result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ returns."

God's love is so great for us that God wants nothing to lure us from living and abiding in the saving grace offered us through Christ. It is our trials in life, our problems, our tribulations which keep us from becoming too wrapped up in worldly affairs. If everything went along smoothly in life, if every day brought nothing but joy and pleasure, if every week and every month were nothing but one big pleasure trip, we would face the grave danger of becoming too attached to this world.

But we are strangers on this earth just as Jesus was. Heaven is our home. The trials of life remind us of this. With the strength God provides, we can endure these trials just as Christ did. The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is God's assurance that God will give us that strength in this life. This is a very important part of the living Easter hope that awaits us following Lent. How blessed we are that God strengthens us in all the trials of life. And so I say, "Help us Lord to face our trials like Jesus faced his."

**Christ's Lenten Peace,
Pastor Ralph**



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

A 6-SESSION BIBLE STUDY FOR LENT

All too often it feels like the foundations are being destroyed all around us—political quarrels, wars, terrorism and disasters surround us. We are on shaky ground, not only due to events around us but often because of personal, inward struggles as well. We may feel alone or think we are too unworthy to receive God's forgiveness. We seek to do God's will and to grow in faith. In every situation, through all of the events of our lives, there is only one place to set our focus, one to whom we can turn at all times. **We can fix our eyes on Jesus.**

Session 3: When You Pray—March 2nd

Session 4: When You Are Alone—March 9th

Session 5: When You Seek Forgiveness—March 16th

Session 6: When Facing Death or Grief—March 23rd

The mid-week ZOOM only Lenten Bible study continues on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. concluding Tuesday March 23rd. This study focuses on Jesus, trusting Him to bring us forgiveness, peace and hope, because He—for us and for the sake of our salvation—fixed His eyes on the cross that awaited Him. There is still time to join the study—contact the church at incarnationgb@gmail.com

NANCY ANDERSON MEMORIAL REMODELING PROJECT

The Incarnation Church Council has approved the proposal submitted by Brian Eichinger (IKE Welding & Fabrication, LLC) to remodel the altar area in the sanctuary. The scope of the work will include removal of the existing floor coverings, reframing the floor structure at the pulpit area, installing new flooring and a handrail as needed. Flooring samples were reviewed and approved on Sunday, February 21st after the worship service.. The pulpit will be lowered for easier access as part of the project scope. The total price including demolition, new framing, new flooring , handrail and all related material is \$2,936.50. Myrna Herrbold is project manager for Incarnation Lutheran Church.

Monies will be provided by the Nancy Anderson Memorial Fund. We wish to thank the Anderson family and all individuals that contributed to this fund to make this project a reality.

A dedication of the altar renewal is scheduled to occur on Easter Sunday, April 4th in the sanctuary during the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

WORSHIP LESSON READERS

FEBRUARY 28TH—Jean Watson

MARCH 7TH— Karen Nantelle

MARCH 14TH—Sandy Krakow

MARCH 21ST—Ken Anderson

MARCH 28TH PALM SUNDAY—Al Kvam

APRIL 1ST MAUNDY THURSDAY—Karen Nantelle

APRIL 2ND GOOD FRIDAY—Karen Nantelle

APRIL 4TH EASTER—Ken Anderson

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Account	January 31 2021	December 31 2020	December 31 2019
Cash Balances				
General Fund Savings	S	\$525.36	\$1,474.36	\$7,773.78
General Fund Checking	C	\$1,317.38	\$2,319.31	\$113.75
Total Cash Savings/Checking		\$1,842.74	\$3,793.67	\$7,887.53
Memorial Fund Savings (\$919.32 Designated)	M	\$7,094.83	\$7,094.83	\$7,090.17
Anderson Memorial Fund	M	\$2,990.00	\$2,990.00	\$0.00
Kesy Memorial Fund	M	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Watkins Memorial Fund	M	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Capital Fund Savings	CF	\$11,518.23	\$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		\$26,534.62	\$27,485.55	\$26,924.80
	Checking	\$1,317.38	\$2,319.31	\$113.75
	Savings	\$3,084.46	\$4,033.46	\$9,071.08
	Memorial	\$10,614.55	\$7,474.55	\$7,469.89
	Capital	\$11,518.23	\$10,518.23	\$10,270.08
Mortgage Note Balance				
Nicolet Bank Due 5/18/2025 (4.75%)		\$66,190.21	\$67,514.06	\$82,537.86
Payment 18th of the Month \$1,600				
Credit Available		\$13,000.00		
PPP Loan Program				
		\$9,000.00		
SBA Disaster Advance				
		\$2,000.00		
General Fund Deposits 2021				
		\$6,048.00		
General Fund Deposits 2020				
		\$7,269.27		
2021 vs 2020				
		(\$1,221.27)	-16.80%	

PPP LOAN PROGRAM UPDATE

Incarnation Lutheran Church has received notice that Nicolet National Bank has received the forgiveness funds from the SBA regarding the PPP loan. This loan is paid in full and no further action is required regarding this matter. This line item will be removed from future reports.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Start 2021 on a generous note! If you haven't already, you can still direct 2020 Choice Dollars® before they expire! With over 40,000 organizations to choose from, you can make an impact on the causes you care about most. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent gives back! Directing Choice Dollars online is fast and easy.

Want to make a bigger impact? You can also make a personal donation to any organization in the Thrivent Choice Catalog and we cover all the processing fees. That means 100% of your donation goes right to the cause!

If you have any questions about directing Choice Dollars or making a personal donation, contact the Thrivent call center at 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice®" at the prompt.

Please consider Incarnation Lutheran Church when directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Choice Dollars must be designated by March 31, 2021.

LENTEN CHARITABLE CAMPAIGNS

40 FOR 40 DRIVE

Please consider donating non-perishable consumer goods for the area food pantries

LONG JOHNS FOR ST. JOHN'S HOMELESS CENTER

Donations of new and gently used long underwear and other winter gear are being accepted. There is a need for men's and women's long underwear in all sizes, most specifically larger sizes (2XL and up). All donations will be given to the St. John's Homeless Shelter. This is a campaign that was created by Notre Dame Academy student, Delaney Gallagher to address the needs of the guests of the St. John's Homeless Shelter. Further information is available at www.longjohnsforstjohns.org

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS HYGIENE DRIVE

The following items are needed for the St. John's Homeless Shelter -

Soaps—laundry, dish, soft, shower gel, 2 in 1 shampoo

Trash bags (shelters need these especially for the bedrooms)

Diapers, size 3-6 and Pull-Ups

Deodorant (unscented)

Wet Wipes for babies

Toilet Paper Toothbrushes & toothpaste

Paper towels

Disposable razors

Tampons & pads (pads for young teens)

CASH DONATIONS— 100% of donated funds will be used to secure items for the homeless

Items can be brought to Incarnation Lutheran Church on Sunday mornings or dropped off at sites around the greater Green Bay community such as Festival Foods

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Website: incarnationgb.com

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

Thursday, February 11th 2021

7. STANDING TEAMS:

- Worship & Music – Aaron Hankermeyer and Myrna Herrbold
 - Live Services at Incarnation and Online Services through YouTube continue
 - Online services selection is embedded in Incarnation website
- Stewardship – Allan Kvam
 - No report
- Evangelism – Don Kneisler
 - No report
- Finance & Treasurer – Myrna Herrbold
 - Written reports reviewed and approved
 - PPP Loan has been forgiven
- Building & Grounds – Rick Manning (Tim Kesy)
 - With no one using the church, we have had to watch for rodents
 - Sign change to reflect service time and being on-line
- Christian Education – Don Kneisler and Judy Trow
 - Lenten Mid-Week Bible Study continues on Tuesdays at 6:30
- Technology Team – Aaron Hankermeyer and Bob Brumm
 - Speaker System tested and corrected
- Social Ministry – Sherry Rasmussen
 - Lenten Charitable Campaigns
 - Long John's for St John's
 - 40 for 40 Drive
 - Homeless Hygiene Drive

8. OLD BUSINESS: None

9.

9. NEW BUSINESS::

- Altar Area Update / Remodel
 - (late update) IKE Welding & Fabrication Quote of \$2936.50
 - (late update) Council Reviewed, Discussed and Approved

10. NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday, March 11th at 6:30 pm
- Devotions by Rick Manning

11. ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion by: Rick Manning Second by: Aaron Hankermeyer Approved YES
- Adjourn at: 7:00

12. LORD'S PRAYER

ANNUAL MEETING POSTPONED

The church council has authorized that the annual meeting will be postponed until the time when masks and social distancing requirements are no longer in force. The 2020 approved budget will be followed until the 2021 budget can be approved by the congregation. The 2021 Church council was installed at the February 14th council meeting by Pastor Ralph Hankermeyer.

The 2020 Year End Financial Reports and 2021 Budget can be found in their entirety on the church website.



JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus love me! This I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him Belong.
They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so

Jesus loves me! This I know.
As He loved so long ago
Taking children on His knee.
Saying, "Let them come to Me."

Jesus loves me still today.
Walking with me on my way.
Wanting as a friend to give.
Light and love to all who live.

Jesus loves me! He who died.
Heaven's gate to open wide:
He will wash away my sin.
Let His little child come in.

Jesus loves me! He will stay
Close beside me all the way:
Thou hast bled and died for me.
I will henceforth live for Thee

The Story Behind "Jesus Loves Me"

By Jeanne Zornes

Few people realize that one of the world's most beloved children's hymns began as a poem in a Victorian novel. Anna Warner of New York composed the text for her sister Susan's novel, *Say and Seal*, which was a best-seller in the late 19th century. One of the main characters recited the poem to comfort a dying child. Few remember the novel's plot, but children and adults worldwide have sung the poem to a tune composed in 1861 by William Bradbury, a choir director on the East coast especially noted for his work with children. The Warner sisters did more than write for a living. They were devoted Christians who for a number of years conducted Sunday school classes for the nearby U.S Military Academy at West Point. They willed their home to the Academy and it was made into a national Shrine.

"Jesus Loves Me" is one of the first hymns taught converts in other lands. The simple depths of its message have impressed scholars. Theologian Karl Barth, when asked to state his most profound thought, reportedly replied by quoting the song's first line, "Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so." Both great and common people have found comfort, hope and instruction in its simple verses.

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SPECIAL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY—March 2th—9:00 A.M

MAUNDY THURSDAY—APRIL 1st—2:00 P.M

GOOD FRIDAY—APRIL 2nd—2:00 P.M.

EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 4th—9:00 A.M.

All services will be recorded and available for online viewing from the church website or YouTube

All are welcome to attend the worship services in the fellowship hall.

Masks and social distancing are practiced

All Sunday morning worship services will be available for viewing from the church website or YouTube at 5:00 p.m. on the same day

“You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Jesus Christ”

Ephesians 2:13