



Summer 2025 Newsletter



THE MESSENGER

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - GREENWOOD, SOUTH CAROLINA



A Prayer for Summer

God, Creator of ALL, thank you for another summer. Thank you for the warmth of the sun, as your love is fulfilled in the warmest of days. Thank you for the beauty all around us, as all the summer fruits ripen. Thank you for the increased time we have to be with friends and family. Warm our souls with awareness of your presence and light our path with your word and council. In Christ's name, AMEN.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

Members Present: Pastor Chris Christopher, John Kinard, Carl Monson, Mary Ann Stroup, Leisa Hotchkiss, Steve Presley, Mary Elizabeth Bowen, Lianne Smith Courtney Christensen (via phone), Kat Finkbeiner

Absent: Suellen Holmes, Trey Morris

Opening Prayer – Pastor Chris

Minutes from the March church council meeting were approved.

Committee Reports

***Service

March SK 669 Plates FP 230 Families

April SK 598 Plates FP 259 Families

Immanuel's Children – Mary Ann Stroup continues to pack and distribute +100 weekend bags of food for school children in District 50. This ministry works on Wednesday mornings – if interested in volunteering please contact Mary Ann.

Connections (from April 6)

Present: Courtney Christensen, Wayne Boozer, Jean Boozer, Ann Coker, Daniel Kinard

- Welcome bags are going well according to Ann Coker. She needs more ILC flyers when they become available.
- New member bags are going well according to Courtney. She is going to make crosses like the ones Pam Crooks used to make and include them. A note noting the connection to Pam will be included. Pam's family has approved this plan.
- The member mail boxes have been installed. Jean Boozer and Ann Coker will make sure a notice is put out so that anyone who wants to take advantage of this method of communication understands and avails themselves of it.
- Suellen Holmes is working on the new directories and they should be available soon. She still needs pictures for many regular members. She is going to put a notice out reminding people they can email pictures to her. Wayne Boozer offered to call anyone who needs reminding.
- Staff appreciation was celebrated today with all members of staff being given a gift card, candy and card compliments of Debbie and Kevin Neuman.

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Learning

The Learning Committee met on April 6, 2025. Zeolean Kinard, Debbie Cochran, and Lianne Smith were present.

Items discussed were increasing involvement in Sunday school/bible studies, upcoming children's programs for the fall, and future children's programs possibly in collaboration with other churches.

To increase bible studying, a suggestion was made to have book club(s) where members can get together in small groups either at church or in their homes to discuss religious based books etc... Debbie mentioned that this was something that had worked in a church she had attended.

Another suggestion was to have a bible study on another day such as Wednesday evening based on congregational interest.

For the children's programs, Zeolean has a company she has used for lessons during Advent and Christmas which she is going to follow up on in the summer. The information for the fall is not yet available online.

Since we have so few children right now, we discussed possibly going together with other churches for a program for the children. It could be music, drama, sports, or art related. This could be held over several Saturdays, during the summer, or school breaks. We will address this again in the future.

Seeking new ideas for learning programs

- Bible studies held during the week
- Book clubs
- Small group gatherings

Members will be surveyed to gauge the interest in these ideas

Day camp is scheduled June 23rd-27th

- children from the Boys and Girls Club will be invited
- additional information will go out to members after Easter seeking volunteers

Plans for First Communion continue...

Fall Plans:

Children's Sunday

The children of the church will participate in service as lectors, ushers, singing, etc.

Upcoming agenda items

Feedback from Survey Results

Children's Christmas Program

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Treasurer's Report (C. Monson)

Our anticipated offerings/budget is behind (actual vs. projected is a deficit). All future requests need to be frugal – not a matter of want – is a matter of need and what is necessary.

Other Business

SYNOD – June 12 – 14 Steve & Lynne Presley have volunteered to participate

Pianos – ILC currently has 7 – plan is to give away 3 to any Church, etc. that would like one...group receiving them will have to provide pick-up, etc.

Front Lawn & Repair – Needs dirt and a tractor to level it out

Garden Fence – needs to be taken down – J. Kinard will do this..

New Altar Linens – WELCA will pursue this as a project. Present linens will be washed, starched, etc. (KF).

Second Harvest Food – will be donating less (DOGE)..

Lenten Services – Feedback requested (will ask Dr. Will to arrange this...)

Luther Road Day Camp – at ILC in June...will be housed at Eisenhower's home..need volunteers to help...Zeolean Kinard plans to meet to coordinate and plan. Boys and Girls Club will participate – from 32 in the past to 24 now...

Redbook Program – needs updating (Leisa, Wayne, Jean and Pastor)

Pictorial Directory – need to do ASAP if you have not already either had your picture made or sent one

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Mutual Ministry

Evangelism – was excellent on Easter – both at Service and Brunch

Homebound – Pastor is making visits to Wesley Commons & to our Homebound members and those in hospital

Animals at Church – Motion to not allow animals in Sanctuary area or others due to DHEC guidelines/rules and possible allergies. Motion Passed.

Lenten Offerings - \$350 to GGUM and the remainder to Day Camp

Church Clean-Up – need to clean out old “stuff” in and throughout ILC storage areas

Meeting was closed with a prayer (JK)

Next Meeting: SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 11 AM IN MCCOMBS MEETING ROOM

Respectfully Submitted,
Kat Finkbeiner, Non-Voting Secretary

SUNDAY, 9 A.M. WORSHIP ATTENDANCE MAY 2025

5/4 - 80
5/11 - 110
5/18 - 76
5/25 - 82

*Totals include registered online viewers.

SUMMER CAMP

Day Camp at ILC June 23 - June 27.
Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.



Board of Fellowship

May 4, 2025

Those in attendance: Larry Crooks, JoAn Crowder, Kat Finkbeiner, Sue Kaufman, Zeolean Kinard

Items Discussed

There will be a Fish Fry on Sunday, June 8 at 5:30 pm. Ray & Barbie Frick have graciously offered to provide the fish and tater tots. Hush Puppies will be provided by the Finkbeiner's. Nancy Crooks will shop for a large quantity of tartar sauce and will also provide the ketchup. There will be an announcement in the Sunday bulletins asking for an RSVP, with the cut off being June 1. Also, we need several cole slaws, desserts, lemonade and iced tea.

The New Member pot-luck brunch will be on Sunday, August 3 after the church service. Nancy Crooks will get an updated list of new members and send invitations to each member. She will also see if there is some brochure listing all the boards of the church and how new members can get involved.

The annual church picnic will be held in the fall, when the weather will be somewhat cooler. Kat mentioned maybe having a “Picnic on the Pavement” with outdoor games and activities.

Our meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Your in Christ,
Nancy Crooks, Chair



 **Divas** Divas will be going to Carolina Tavern on June 12, 2025. Join us for fun and girl's night out. Sign up on the WELCA Board, or text JoAn Crowder at 864-942-9191.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/4 Barry Crowder
6/5 Nancy Hogan
6/6 Larry Cobb
6/11 Parker Kinard
6/12 Linda Cobb
6/17 Beth Krumwiede
6/19 Steve Presley
6/20 Charlsie Rudd
6/21 Jenney Johns
6/22 Sonja Crenshaw
6/23 Freddie McClendon
6/24 Leisa Hotchkiss
6/27 Jim Wolfer
Glenda Powell
6/28 Liz Coker
6/29 Mary Elizabeth Bowen

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6/1 Dave and Maggie Slimmer
6/2 Jeremy and Katherine Hodges
6/8 Charles and Dot Hershey
6/9 Ryan and Paige Johnson
6/10 Will Stroup
6/11 Joe and Dianne Pitts
6/15 Steve and Lynne Presley
6/16 John and Zeolean Kinard
6/17 David and Beth Krumwiede
6/19 Jim and Debbie Cochran
6/23 Allen and Maria Ashlaw
Mac and Linda Cobb
6/25 David and Elaine Rosenbaum
6/29 George and Linda Beveridge

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/2 Ray Frick
7/5 Cheryl Gagné
7/8 Becky Koch
7/11 Charlotte Ehney
7/15 Andy Wanto
7/17 Suellen Holmes
7/18 Toni Justus
7/19 Tommy Hipp
7/20 Collin Ehney
Pastor Chris Christopher
7/21 Myrna Arnold
7/22 John Leemhuis
7/23 George Beveridge
7/24 Tracy Lopez-Oropeza
7/26 Cile Davis
7/28 Dianne Simmons
7/29 YJ Ahn

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

7/12 David and Lynn Isenhower
7/15 Will and Rodney Cleveland
7/17 Norm and Cheryl Gagne
Joey and Suellen Holmes
7/26 David and Mary Kenzie
7/27 Ray and Barbie Frick
7/31 Steve and Charlotte Ehney
Rob and Courtney Christensen



CONTACT INFORMATION

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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864-223-0590, Church Web Site: www.ilcgreenwood.com
office@ilcgreenwood.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

* Closed on Mondays

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor
pastorchrис.ilcgreenwood@gmail.com

Dr. Will Cleveland, D.M.A., Parish Administrator / Director of Music
will@ilcgreenwood.com

Kevin Davis and Sammy Hurley, Parish Custodians

George Beveridge, Parish Sexton
glblsb@outlook.com

Trey Morris, Campus Ministry Coordinator
treyorville@icloud.com

John Kinard, Congregational President
jlkinard29@yahoo.com

SERVING THE CHURCH IN GREATER CAPACITIES

The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Ginny Aebischer, Bishop, South Carolina Synod