

Immanuel Lutheran Church

20 Rocky Mountain Blvd. West
Lethbridge, Alberta
403-327-4336

Newsletter

MAY 2014

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS ...HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, We thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of every precious human life from its very beginning in the womb. You have given to women the capacity of participating with You in the creation of new life. Grant that every woman may come to understand the full meaning of that blessing, which gives her an unlimited capacity for selfless love for every child she may be privileged to bear, and for all Your children.

Watch over every mother who is with child, strengthen her faith in Your fatherly care and love for her and for her unborn baby. Give her courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and doubt, and hope in times of trouble. Grant her joy in the birth of her child. To mothers You have given the great privilege and responsibility of being a child's first teacher and spiritual guide. Grant that all mothers may worthily foster the faith of their children, following the example of Mary, Elizabeth, and other holy women who follow Christ. Help mothers to grow daily in knowledge and understanding of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant them the wisdom to impart this knowledge faithfully to their children, and to all who depend upon them.

Assist all "spiritual mothers", those who, though they may have no children of their own, nevertheless selflessly care for the children of others—of every age and state in life. Grant that they may know the joy of fulfilling this motherly calling of women, whether in teaching, nursing, religious life, or in other work which recognizes and fosters the true dignity of every human being created in Your image and likeness.

We beseech you to send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to all mothers who sorrow for children that have died, are ill or estranged from their families, or who are in trouble or danger of any kind. Help grieving mothers to rely on Your tender mercy and fatherly love for all your children.

We ask your blessing on all those to whom You have entrusted motherhood. May Your Holy Spirit constantly inspire and strengthen them. May all mothers receive Your Grace abundantly in this earthly life, and may they look forward to eternal joy in Your presence in the life to come. We ask this through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one triune God. Amen.

SPRING VOTER'S MEETING

On May 4th, Immanuel will be having a **Voter's Meeting** wherein the congregation will elect those who will be serving on Parish Planning Council (PPC) for the next 2-year term. If you know of a member of the congregation that you think would do well to serve, you may nominate him or her by calling Linda Egli, Nominations Coordinator, at (403) 381-4351.

LITTLE LAMBS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Little Lambs Christian Preschool would like to thank Shannon, Becca, Andrea, Alyshia, Annemarie and Bonnie, for all their hard work in the days following the fire/flood. Many hours were spent cleaning toys and preparing our temporary classrooms so the children wouldn't miss too much school. Thank you as well to the Sunday School staff for being so flexible about sharing your classrooms with us! That being said, there is still a great deal of work ahead, as we look forward to being able to move back upstairs.

Registration for the fall is going well. We do still have spaces available, so if you or someone you know is interested in registering, please give us a call at 403-892-6627.



The preschool is having a bottle drive fundraiser in May. FaithLife will match funds raised up to \$500.00. Bottles/cans can be brought to the Church in May.

Thanks to Tyler Rodgers for the use of a trailer to collect them in.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Walk in Light: *Ephesians 8 – 10: "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), proving what is acceptable to the Lord."*

First of all I want to extend a huge "Thank-you!!" from myself and all the parents, to all the Sunday School teachers and assistants! You have really helped to make this past year a wonderful experience in many children's lives. They were able to learn about God and so many people that God made to be His special helpers and they have learned that they are His special helpers too!

Sunday, June 1st is our final day of Sunday School for this term. All the Sunday School students will stay in the sanctuary until after they have participated in the Object Lesson and then all the Sunday School children will then leave the sanctuary to participate in our "Fun Day" events. These events will hopefully take place in the Gerald Probe playground across the street from the church. If the weather does not suit we will have fun in the two large Sunday School rooms in the church.

Following the "Sunday school children's Fun Day" time outside, there will be a congregational potluck, in the Fellowship Hall, to celebrate the completion of Sunday School and to celebrate the fact that our church has been repaired and is whole again. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall for the potluck.

Two grade six students will be moving on to confirmation next year. We will miss having: Emma Marriner and Nathan Hall with us next year! Congratulations to both of you for completing Sunday School!!

There is a Sunday School staff get-together planned for lunchtime on Sunday, June 8th. Please RSVP to Kathy Withage. We will be going to the Paradise Canyon Golf Resort Restaurant for brunch.

Sunday School will begin its Fall term on Sunday, September 7th. If you have any questions or concerns about Sunday School please speak to myself or to Kathy Canfield, Parish Coordinator.

If you feel that you would like to be the Sunday School Assistant Coordinator next year please let me know. If you feel that you would like to participate as a Sunday School teacher in any of the grade levels or as an assistant to the Sunday School teachers, in the Pre-School and Kindergarten classrooms next year, please

let me know. If you have a strong interest in teaching music, drama, art or through story-telling please let me know.

1 Peter vs. 17: "For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil."

1 Peter Chpt. 4 vs. 7 & 8: "But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins."

In His Service,
Kathy Withage,
Sunday School Coordinator

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 14-18, 2014



Every child needs to hear the Good News that Jesus their Savior calls us, teaches us, keeps us safe, saves us and provides all we need by His amazing grace through faith. Please help us connect children with the most important

message of their lifetime, the miraculous story of what Jesus did for us, what we could never do for ourselves. As VBS continues to grow each year the amount of work it takes for it to run also grows. We are not only looking for volunteers for the week of VBS to work in various areas but also for people willing to help out in the weeks leading up to VBS as well. Please take a volunteer flyer from the bulletin board and drop it off in the volunteer box or speak to Debbie 403-328-8172 or Katherine at 403-756-2149. Please consider volunteering.

LAWN MAINTENANCE



We thank Paul Ragan who has faithfully mowed the church lawn with our push mower these past 5

years. We are now looking for volunteers for the summer to maintain our lawn. If you have experience in operating a riding lawn mower (or you can use the push lawn mower as Paul preferred) and can spare a couple of hours, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board.

ROSEBUD THEATRE

The **Inter-Lutheran Fellowship Committee** has planned an event for "Lutherans in Lethbridge & area"; a trip to Rosebud. We are offering two plays; one is

Diary of Anne Frank scheduled for May 10 and the second is *Chickens* scheduled for June 14. Arrangement for each play includes coach transportation, noon meal at Rosebud and the play. The event would take the better part of a Saturday, having to leave at 8:00 a.m. and return around 5:00 p.m. For more information/costs etc. take a flyer from the Bulletin Board or to register contact Wayne Street 403-345-4178 or wearn@shaw.ca or speak to Katherine Canfield 403-756-2149.

PICTURE DIRECTORY

They Have arrived! The Picture Directories are **finally** here. For those who had their picture taken your directory should be in your church mailbox. There are a limited number of extra copies should someone who has not had their picture done for the directory wants a book they are \$10.00 per book and available through the church office.



GREETER COORDINATOR

A Thank You and Welcome to Hilda Oseen who has volunteered to take on the role of Greeter Coordinator. Please call Hilda 403-327-4404 if you are able volunteer as a Greeter. Please be open to consider greeting should Hilda call you. As always please keep Hilda and all the volunteer greeters in your prayers as they fulfill this important role in our church family.

MARCH FOR LIFE

7th annual March for Life will take place on Thursday May 8, 2014 at 12 Noon at the Alberta Legislature and will conclude at 3:30 p.m. Canada has no legal restriction on killing babies in the womb. Since 1969 about 3.6 MILLION, Canadians have been aborted. About 115,000 abortions are performed each year in Canada. In Alberta, 13,000 unborn children are killed annually by abortion. These faceless numbers are staggering and yet so “abstract” that many people, Christians included, are not moved to mourn for the death of these unborn children. Lutheran Church Canada has sent us some pamphlet on this important event. They are posted on the bulletin board in the church Foyer please take one and learn more. This is peaceful march and rally which will provide us with an opportunity to speak for the silenced voices of the aborted and for those women and men who are scarred by abortion. This march will include inspiring and educational speeches to generate awareness regarding life issues. We are encouraged to consider filling a car with people who would be willing to participate in the march in Edmonton. If you would like participate please

speak to Katherine Canfield 403-756-2149. Please keep those who are scarred and effected by abortion and the unborn in your prayers.

LETHBRIDGE PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE

The Board of Outreach of Immanuel Lutheran Church is encouraging families in our congregation to support the Lethbridge Pregnancy Care Centre in their Baby Bottle fundraiser. The Lethbridge Pregnancy Care Centre (LPCC) is an interdenominational ministry working with women and men in our city facing an unplanned pregnancy. They provide free pregnancy tests, baby/maternity clothes, and most importantly, honest options counselling to those having to make a decision regarding the life of their unborn child. The LPCC also sees women who have had abortions or have placed for adoption, working through the grieving and healing process with them. All of the services are free and completely confidential.

The LPCC is getting ready for their annual “Baby Bottle” Fundraiser which is running from Mother’s Day (May 11) to Father’s Day (June 15). There will be empty baby bottles available to the congregation on Mother’s Day, so you can take them home, fill them with change (and bills!), and return them to church on Father’s Day, with the funds going to the LPCC. Last year, over \$30,000 was raised for the ministry of the LPCC. It is a great way for families to give together – thanks for your involvement!

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Financial Statement
MARCH 31, 2014**

MISSION OFFERINGS

A-BC District Mission Donations for Month	\$40.00
A-BC District Mission Donations to Date	120.00
CLWR Mission Donations for Month	175.00
CLWR Mission Donations to Date	465.00

BANK ACCOUNTS

Servus Credit Union Cheq. Acc.t Balance . . .	\$5386.28
Dedicated Accounts Balance	39,733.89
Church Extension Savings	10,000.00

CURRENT MONTH

Budgeted Income	32,584.42
Actual Income	
Budgeted Disbursements	32,584.42
Actual Disbursements	

YEAR TO DATE

Budgeted Income	391,013.00
Actual Income	85,742.74
Budgeted Disbursements	97,753.25
Actual Disbursements	88,731.03