

# The Voice

*Serving Christ...Enriching families...Building communities...*



**March 2025**

Grace and Peace,

Siblings in Christ, we are at the precipice of Lent, and you will note that in this newsletter we share the theme for our Lenten season is All We Need. We will be exploring together in both Sunday worship and Wednesday evening prayer how God's abundance is showing up in our lives. We will reflect on our needs, such as the need for beauty, the need for sleep and the need for change. Our Sunday services will be punctuated by preaching, from both myself, and our Lay Preachers. On Wednesday evenings we will be gathering for healing prayer and reflection on these same topics. This theme and these topics are directly tied to Immanuel's current ministry abundance and needs.

As a community we are experiencing God's abundance in active ministries, in sharing of time, talents and treasure, and in connections that further God's mission in the world. We are celebrating the near completion of construction for our Water Stewardship garden, the active work of the Church leadership, and each individual ministry and disciple who answers God's call.

As a community we are assessing our needs in the areas of lay leadership and financial stewardship. You have seen and will continue to see information about what those needs are and invitations to how you may be called to fill these needs. We faithfully move forward as God's disciples, with a focus on Abundance and needs.

May God's rich mercy and love accompany you this Lent and into the Easter season of new life

Peace,

*Pastor Katie*

## **Our Mission**

**Enriching families & communities  
through loving Christian service**

## **Our Vision**

**Living God's Mission of love and service in our community by empowering and accompanying each other in our faith journey, with a special emphasis on providing opportunities and activities to encourage youth participation.**

## **Our Purpose**

- **Providing an environment that encourages people to strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ and share the riches of their faith with others.**
- **Offering opportunities for people of all ages, needs and cultures, to learn, teach, and grow in God's Word.**
- **Establishing a close relationship of trust and love with our fellow believers at Immanuel Lutheran Church and our community.**
- **Developing meaningful and helpful service within our members, neighbors, community, and world.**
- **Creating opportunities that encourage our members to grow in Christian service and giving.**

# Church Announcements

## CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Church Family,

Welcome the month of March! I am looking forward to our upcoming Lenton preaching series led by our Lay Preaching team and Pastor Katie, and I am ready for spring. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Stewardship Garden workday on Feb. 22, your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Just a few highlights of the work of your council in February:

- We are using a consent agenda for our council meetings. This will streamline our meeting process and create opportunities for strategic planning and goal setting.

- Each council member is a liaison for all the different ministries of Immanuel, this means we each are responsible for communicating with the ministry leaders and

- We are revisiting our mission, our vision and our purpose.

Our next council meeting is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Happy Spring!

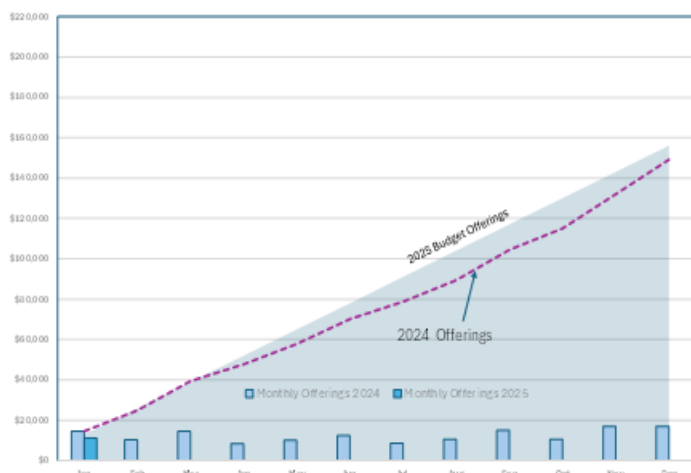
*Signe Fredrickson*

Council President



## CHURCH COUNCIL TREASURERS REPORT

2025 Offerings Compared to 2024 Offerings



### Financial Summary

As of 01/31/25

Description	As of 01/31/25	% of YTD Budget
General Operating Fund Year-to-Date		
Income	\$ 18,316	120%
Expenses	\$ 13,672	81%
Increase (Decrease)	\$ 4,644	
General Operating Fund	\$ 70,146	
Designated Funds	\$ 27,526	
Pass-through Accounts	\$ 20,850	
SSBT Bank Account/CDs	\$ 118,930	

# Church Announcements

## What do you need?

What do you need to survive and thrive? We all know that we need oxygen to breathe, food to eat, water, and shelter. If you go deeper, what else do you need? Sleep, perhaps? Human contact? An abiding sense of purpose? Prayer? Maybe you don't think you need those things at all! How many of your needs are subjective?

What do the people in your congregation need? What are they missing and what do they long for? What about your congregation as a whole? What does it need to survive? How are these needs different from what it needs to thrive?

How about your neighbors, the people beyond your church doors? What do the people in your community need? Would the people in your church's neighborhood describe different needs than the people who worship inside? How do our needs as the people of God differ from the needs of people more broadly? For instance, does everyone need to pray?

We need a multitude of different things. This Lenten season, we're going to talk about it in this worship series, *All We Need*.



## ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5th

6pm, Sanctuary

## LENTEN MID-WEEK Wednesday Evening Services

6pm - 6:30 pm, Historic Chapel

March 12, 19, 26

*More Than Words* © 2024 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission.

## SAVE THE DATE: ILC WORK-DAY: March 15th

Spring cleanup day is fast approaching and we need volunteers to help with the clean-up. Here is a list of the things needing to be done. If you are not able to join us on cleanup day and can do another day please feel free to do any of these task on a day convenient to you. We would like to have everything done by Palm Sunday. There will be a signup sheet on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> at our meeting.

1. Trim trees on the north side of the Fellowship Hall.
2. Clean out flowerbeds around the church buildings and Fellowship Hall
3. Clean the gutters on the Fellowship Hall.
4. Trim hedges around the church and Fellowship Hall and rake leaves underneath hedges.
5. Clean windows on church.



# Church Announcements

## Women of the ELCA

The WELCA ladies had a wonderful lunch meeting after church Sunday 2/16/25. We completed our plans for the up coming Donut & Bake sale on 3/8/25. Be on the lookout for Sign up sheets and more info each Sunday morning before worship.

Mark your calendars & please join us March 8th!

WELCA is for all women of ILC! All are invited to join us. Please speak with Vicky Morris or Pastor Katie if you have questions.



## Busy Bees Quilting



**Tuesdays: 8am-11:00am**  
**Thursdays: 8am-11:00am**

Put your sewing skills to work for a good cause! The quilting ladies are meeting twice a week at the church.

**REMINDER!** Please update the ILC mailing address in your records:

**318 High Street  
Comfort, TX 78013**

\*We will have our PO box open until June while we transfer everything over.



## ILC EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Monthly Communion Visits to our Comfort Nursing Home Residents  
Pastor Katie and the Eucharistic Ministry visit the Comfort Nursing & Rehab every 4th Wed. of the month at 10AM. Next Visit is March 26th.



The Warmth in Comfort Exchange is open to the public on Wednesday Evenings from 5-6:30 or by appointment with the church office. Spread the word!

## Helping Comfort Kids Attend College

Yes You Can is a volunteer community supported organization dedicated to assisting Comfort area high school students to realize their dreams for a college education. The students are hardworking, academically accomplished, and first in their family to attend college. They often work to help provide family needs and have limited resources to pay for college.



This year the program volunteers will be helping three Comfort 2025 graduates including a student familiar to many ILC members, Juana Leon. Juana and her sister Valeria have been assisting with dishes and clean-up duties at the Wednesday community dinner for several years. Juana is the current salutatorian for her class and is waiting to hear from UT and A&M to make a final choice to pursue an aeronautics engineering degree.

This is the fourth year that the program volunteers have assisted hardworking, academically successful students with enrollment and financial assistance to attend college. The program has aided in the college enrollment and financial aid process, identified scholarships, and provided a much-needed Dell computer to each of these students. In addition, each has been provided a "Trunk Party" at which donations were made to provide essential dorm room supplies (sheets, towels, blankets, etc.). Yes You Can hopes to be able to provide the same to Juana and two other students this year. If you would like more information or help in this community volunteer effort, please contact Lydia Beaver at 210-363-4155.



# Church Announcements

## Immanuel Lutheran Potluck Lunch & Ministry Fair



The ILC congregation gathered on Sunday, Feb 23rd for a "Ministry Fair" and Potluck. We had a great turn out with many new connections made. Please reach out to Pastor Katie for more info on the needs for the many ministries at ILC.

As the garden build comes to completion, we are called to look to the future. specifically the growth and harvest of food for our neighbors.

This ministry is new, and once established will have a robust impact for our community. To help us reach that point, please prayerfully consider where you might be called to serve

**\*Build team:** a few more helpers are needed to complete the building and filling of the raised beds to be ready for our April 12<sup>th</sup> planting day.

**\*Planting team:** Mark your calendars for April 12<sup>th</sup> as our big planting day. But also consider tending seed starts between now and then at church

**\*Growing team:** Are you an avid gardener, can you spare a couple hours once a week to help weed, prune and stake growing plants? Let the church office know and we will place you in the rotation

**\*Harvest team:** want to help gather God's abundance 2x a week to share with our neighbors? Let us know if you might enjoy this work.

\* - any starred team is perfect for families with children to help. **We welcome helping hands in all stages of life!**



# MARCH CHURCH HAPPENINGS

## BIRTHDAYS

3/4 Daryl Rechenthin  
3/10 Whitney Munson  
3/17 Martiny Burow  
3/18 Lori Pressler  
3/18 Douglas Koennecke  
3/22 Jacob Geistweidt  
3/25 Dorothy Green  
3/27 Mike Saur  
3/31 Martha Petermann

## BAPTISMAL B-DAYS

3/1 Janis Schwab  
3/10 Justin Stuart  
3/10 Meredith Stuart  
3/10 Vickie Stuart  
3/14 Harrison Heard  
3/19 Douglas Koennecke

## ANNIVERSARIES

March 12: Mike & Nadine Saur

## HEAD USHER

Wayne Taylor

## USHERS

March 2: Kermit Biermann  
March 9: Freddie Blaschke  
March 16: John Whiteley  
March 23: Daryl Rechenthin  
March 30: Roy Lee Kneupper

## ASSISTANTS

March 2: Lori Pressler  
March 9: Vicky Morris  
March 16: Mary Anne Johnson  
March 23: Pamela Nentwich  
March 30: Jane Danz

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

*Carol Allerkamp, Janis Schwab, Mary Imhoff, Shari Marquart, Sandy Falkenburg, Lillie Lim, Clayton Short, Debbie Burow, Jim Rose, A.C. Schwethelm, Jean Burow, Mindy Burow, John Henneke, Laura Henneke & Signe Fredrickson*

## LESSON READERS

March 2: Leslie Pressler  
March 9: Linda Blaschke  
March 16: Kitty Havens  
March 23: Brian Nentwich  
March 30: Lydia Beaver



## MEMORIALS

### In Loving Memory of Maxine Goff

#### Given By:

Cleo & Roy Marquart  
Chester Hurst  
Darel & Debbie Burow  
Freddie & Linda Blaschke  
Kermit & Gloria Biermann  
Leslie & Lori Pressler  
Roy & Charlotte Kneupper  
Mary Seidensticker  
Wayne & Pam Taylor  
Pat Morley  
Jim Morley  
Robert Morley

## ACOLYTES

March 2: TBD  
March 9: Cheyenne Feller  
March 16: TBD  
March 23: TBD  
March 30: TBD

## ALTAR GUILD

Leslie & Lori Pressler

## ILC COUNCIL MEMBERS 2025

<b>President</b>	Signe Fredrickson
<b>Vice President</b>	Mary Anne Johnson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Beaver
<b>Secretary</b>	Kitty Havens

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

Jane Danz Bob Bohn  
Wayne Taylor

**Next council meeting**  
**—Sun., March 16, 2025**



# Comfort COMMUNITY



## Comfort TABLE

The Comfort Community Table serves dinner every Wednesday evening  
5pm-6:30pm - 519 3<sup>rd</sup> street (Immanuel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall)

**March 5th: Dotti's Beef Rotel Pasta**  
**March 12th: Gail's Meatloaf, Potatoes & Green Beans**  
**March 19th: Ernesto's Chicken & Artichoke Pasta**  
**March 26th: Pastor Katie's Beef Stroganoff**

There is no charge for this dinner and donations are appreciated, but most importantly all are welcome and encouraged to bring friends. To-go meals are also available. The Comfort Table is a partner with the Comfort Pantry and serves the community of Comfort by providing community fellowship and a fabulous dinner meal for everyone. The Warmth in Comfort Exchange is open during dinner.

**We invite you to**

# CASINO Night 2025

**Friday, March 28**  
**5:30-9:30 pm** Gaming from 6-9 pm

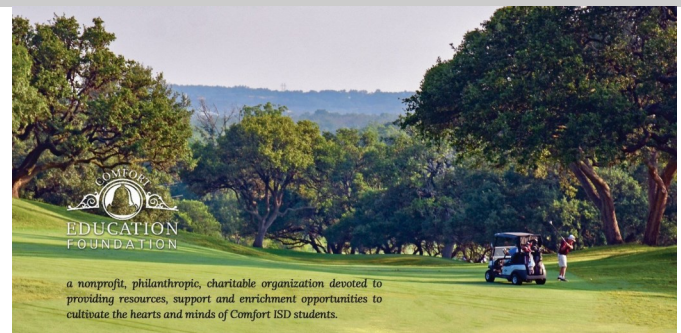
**Hermann Sons Hilltop Dining Hall**

**\$75 per ticket/\$85 at the door - includes gaming chips and heavy hors d'oeuvres catered by Asher's Creative Catering**  
 Beer & wine available by donation.

**Benefitting:**  
  
 Comfort, Texas

**Purchase tickets at:**  
 Comfort Golden Age Center  
 628 Front Street, Comfort  
 830-995-3032

**Help Sponsor This Event!**  
 For more details:  
[www.comfortgac.org](http://www.comfortgac.org)  
[facebook.com/goldenagecenter](https://facebook.com/goldenagecenter)



## 6<sup>th</sup> annual GOLF TOURNAMENT

**MARCH 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**

**Lady Bird Golf Course**  
 Fredericksburg, TX

7:00 AM - REGISTRATION  
 8:00 AM - TEE TIME  
 1:00 PM - LUNCH  
 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM - SILENT AUCTION

**Team Registration: \$500**  
 (team of 4)  
**Individual: \$125**

**Hole Sponsor Opportunity**  
**\$250/ hole**  
 Due by March 7<sup>th</sup>  
 for sign recognition

**Youth Putting & Longest Drive Contests**  
 \$10 for both - Register the day of the tournament  
 3 Divisions: Junior (Kinder - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade); Intermediate  
 (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade); Senior (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
 Start time: 10:00 AM

*Come out and bid on some hand crafted items  
 made by our CHS students & more!  
 Wine Pull - take a chance to pull your favorite!*

**TO REGISTER:**



Silent Auction open to public.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
 CALL OR TEXT 210.259.9601

## COMFORT TABLE PANTRY

**REQUESTED ITEMS FOR MARCH**  
**- Peanut Butter & Jelly**

**- Coffee**

**- Baby Wipes**

## GOOD NEWS to SHARE?

Send your announcements and good news to  
[immanuel@hctc.net](mailto:immanuel@hctc.net) for next month's newsletter.

## COMFORT PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Mondays: 10-12pm (Stocking)**  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays: 3-5pm**  
**1st & 3rd Wednesdays 11-1pm**

Contact: [comfortable.pantry@gmail.com](mailto:comfortable.pantry@gmail.com)



Immanuel Lutheran Church  
PO Box 427  
Comfort, TX 78013

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Return Service Requested

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[www.immanuel Lutheran comfort.com](http://www.immanuel Lutheran comfort.com)

