

Augsburg Church

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 (B) Bonnie Clark
4	5 (A) Albert & Colleen Wefer 64 (A) Steve & Caryl Hickerson 86	6	7	8	9	10
11 (A) Mark & Andrea Meadows 15	12	13	14 (B) Pastor Landskroener	15 (B) Gerald Schaal	16 (B) Alania Koonce (B) Ashley Bauer	17
18	19	20 (B) Charles Kruenegel	21 (B) Matt Bauer	22 (B) Helen Meseke	23 (B) Kristen Barnick	24 (B) Michael Sasse
25 (A) Krystal & Clint Elam 09	26 (A) Clarence & Lisa Smith 86 (A) Mark & Lisette Ehrat 86	27 (B) Alan Harrison (B) Rachel Meseke	28 (B) Sharon Dolly (B) Twana Bauer	29	30 (B) Randy Sasse	

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April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service	2 7:00 pm Good Friday Service	3
4 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	5	6	7 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	8	9	10
11 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	12	13	14 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	15	16	17
18 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	19	20	21 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	22 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	23	24
25 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	26	27	28 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	29	30	

Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg
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Pastor Timothy J. Landskroener
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April, 2021

“Alleluia! Christ is Risen”
“He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”

That’s how we’ll greet each other on Easter (April 4) and the weeks following as we celebrate our Lord’s resurrection from the dead. What a glorious celebration it is as we hear the Easter Gospel and sing the Easter hymns (and Alleluias) once again. And while it all might not seem as fresh as it once did, it is still the message of life after death, not only for Christ, but also for you.

Now the church probably won’t be as full as it once was or as you remember it, though it will still be full of God’s people along with the angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven. And this is no small matter. For what is more glorious than joining the angels and living and departed saints to celebrate the new life we have in Christ Jesus?

That’s why it’s important for you to be in Church on Easter, and every Sunday for that matter. After all, the greatest privilege and joy of being a Christian is to go to Church and actively participate in her worship life—confessing sins and receiving absolution, hearing God’s Word read and proclaimed, eating and drinking our Lord’s Body and Blood, singing His praises, and praying. That’s why the psalmist writes, “I was glad when they said to me, ““Let us go to the house of the LORD!”” (Psalm 122:1).

So have you ever wondered what you missed when you didn’t attend church one week? Consider what it would have been like to be Thomas during that week after our Lord’s resurrection? Imagine being told that your beloved Jesus, whom you had seen dragged away in the garden, condemned, die on the cross, and buried in a tomb, was alive. The others said they had seen Him with their own eyes, but you wouldn’t believe it unless you saw Jesus for yourself. It was inconceivable and too good to be true. (John 20:19-25).

Then imagine being in that room with the disciples the next Sunday evening when Jesus appeared to them again. Imagine the shock, the bewilderment, the joy at seeing your Savior alive. Then think of the great blessing you missed by not being with the other disciples that night when Jesus first appeared. You missed the forgiveness, the blessing, the joy that came from being in the presence of the risen Lord Jesus. You were deprived of the peace that came from seeing Him and receiving His gifts.

That's what happens when you miss church. You miss being in the Lord's House in the very presence of the risen Lord Jesus to receive His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. You miss the joy and gladness of gathering with fellow believers, fellow members of the body of Christ, to be blessed by His Word, forgiven of all your sins, fed and nourished with Christ's very Body and Blood, refreshed for another week of trials and temptations and loving service to your neighbor. And you miss the opportunity to encourage your fellow Christians in their faith and life by your very presence. That's why the author to the Hebrews writes:

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Heb. 10:24-25)

So, dear friends, not only do you miss Jesus and His gifts, your fellow members miss you. They miss hearing you singing the hymns, confessing the faith, and responding with your "Amen." They miss the encouragement you provide as together we struggle through this life ever looking forward to the life to come.

So, dear friends, what would ever keep you away? What is more important than being in God's House on the Lord's Day to receive His gifts? What could possibly induce you to despise your Lord, your Savior, your Jesus as to be absent when He is present to bless you? After all, everything else is fleeting and has no lasting value. What happens in Church has eternal value since it's Jesus and His gifts and everything needed for eternal life.

God grant you to be in His House every Sunday, including Easter, because this is where you belong. God gives you this great privilege and it flows from your baptismal identity and your confession of faith. Yes, it greatly pleases God to have His children in His House. And if you don't believe you need to come to Church for yourself, then come for the sake of the others who sit in the pews with you as well as to give witness to the people you pass on the way.

Christ is risen indeed! Let us rejoice and be glad and come into His courts with singing.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

Church Week @ Rural King – Special thank you to everyone that turned in their Rural King receipts for me to submit for Church Week.

Special thanks to everyone that purchased Easter Lillies. Be sure to pick yours up after service, to decorate your home.

SACRED MUSIC FOR THE EASTER SEASON... “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today,” “Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands,” “I Know That My Redeemer Lives,” “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness,” “He’s Risen, He’s Risen.” You can listen 24/7 to sacred music for the 50 days of the Easter season at lutheranpublicradio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

ARK ENCOUNTER & CREATION MUSEUM TRIP...Immanuel, Springfield is hosting a trip see the Ark and Creation Museum in Kentucky. Dates are April 26-29...roundtrip motorcoach, 3 night stay in Cincinnati area, breakfast and dinner 3 days, admissions, baggage handling...all for \$450.00 per person (double occupancy). Call Pastor Stuenkel at 217-622-7266 (cell) or the church office at 217-528-5232 for details and sign-up.

Tre Ore Meditations on the Seven Words of Christ from the Cross will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on April 2nd Good Friday beginning at noon. See flyer in Narthex for more details.

CORLHS Sterling Evening Dinner and Auction 2021 Update: Plans are underway for the 2021 Sterling Evening Dinner and Auction. While we are not able to gather in March, we are hopeful to have it *the third weekend in July*. Much still depends on what we are able to do safely. Watch for future updates and thank you again for your support.

For a Pastoral visit, please contact Pastor Landskroener

LERT Volunteer Training is April 24th. See flyer in Narthex.

Bulletins are printed on Wednesday evenings. Contact me if you would like to have something placed in the bulletin. You can send emails to Storbeck@augzburgchurch.com or Church email augzburg@augzburgchurch.com call @ 349-6152, call or text 367-3355, hand me a note. Must receive bulletin note by 4:00 pm Wednesday afternoon to make in the bulletin for Sunday morning. Thank you, Scott Torbeck

Trimming Stamps for Mites -- Trim each stamp leaving paper measuring 1/8 of an inch or less around the stamp. Be careful not to trim too close to the stamp. No corners or edges should be cut. The stamps must be 100% complete. If there is a group of stamps trim around the whole group.

Augsburg is collecting Christian materials, bibles, Portals of Prayer, Sunday School and VBS materials, Lutheran Witness, books, etc., to be given to the mission in Butler to distribute worldwide. Please put them on the table in the middle of the basement.

Parish Hall reservations – If you would like to plan an event or meeting to use our Parish Hall for any reason, this also includes Church activities. You will need to contact Scott or Karen Torbeck. If not asked, we don’t know. Use of the Parish Hall will be determined by the first reservation made.

Church office is looking for help in maintaining accurate records for Augsburg. Have you moved since our last directory or had a change in marital status or phone number changes? Have you noticed a birthday or anniversary that is incorrect or missing? Please notify Scott Torbeck to get our Church records updated.

