

# THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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*Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman*  
*The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod*  
*Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC*

**April 2022**



## From Pastor McPike's Desk...

Why is it called HOLY week?

The week before Easter has, for many years, been called "Holy Week". But what is holy about it?

Holy week starts on Palm Sunday. Of course, the events of Palm Sunday morning where Jesus rode into the city in a triumphant parade of sorts, being hailed with "Hosannas" and called the "Son of David" and being blessed for coming in the Name of the Lord seemed to be a high point for Jesus. Yet it was that very event that caused the first UNHOLY thing of the week to happen. Jesus' enemies met together later that day and decided that Jesus must die. Determining to kill the Son of God would seem very UNHOLY.

So why is it called HOLY week?

Those same leaders spent the next days trying to make a fool of Jesus. They wanted to discredit Him. First, they questioned His authority to do miracles. Even though He was doing miracles, if they could claim it was power from somewhere other than God, they would discredit Him. He would be seen as unholy. Jesus successfully refuted them by asking them about the authority behind John the Baptist.

So why is it called HOLY week?

They then tried to pit Jesus against the Romans... by asking whether the people should pay taxes to Rome or pay money to God. Jesus once again turned it back on them, by telling them to give to each as was good and right. It was another attempt to trick Jesus. It was unholy.

So why is it called HOLY week?

The next challenge painted a hypothetical picture... where a man married a woman, died, and then his brother fulfilled his obligation to keep the family line by marrying the widow... through several brothers who all died. This was pitting Jesus against a teaching of Moses... whose wife would she be in the resurrection? Attempting to make Jesus look like He disagreed with Moses was unholy.

So why is it called HOLY week?

## **From Pastor McPike's Desk..continued**

Not being able to discredit Jesus publicly, the leadership decided to bribe one of Jesus' closest associates, Judas, one of the 12 disciples, to betray Him. Judas accepted the bribe... 30 pieces of silver. Bribery is unholy. Bribery to betray God's son is UNHOLY.

So why is it called HOLY week?

After the most important meal of the year, the Passover Meal on Thursday of that week, Jesus and His disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus would often go to pray. Judas, the aforementioned bribed friend of Jesus, betrayed Jesus. Betrayal is unholy. Betraying God's Son is VERY unholy.

So why is it called HOLY week?

Not only was Jesus betrayed by a close friend, but He was abandoned by the rest of his friends. One of them even denied Him. Running from a friend in need, telling lies to save your own skin... very unholy.

So why is it called HOLY week?

The Jewish ruling council wanted to dispatch Jesus quietly. The trial they held was at night. They had to manufacture witnesses to speak against Jesus to condemn Him to death. Playing with justice in this way – an illegal trial at night, stacking witnesses against Him, all unholy.

So why is it called HOLY week?

Even though the council condemned Jesus to death, they were not allowed to put Him to death under Roman law. They had to have the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, to do so. Pilate at first was reluctant, knowing that it was wrong for them to do so. Even so, he bowed to public and political pressure and condemned Jesus to death. Going against what is right in the face of pressure is UNHOLY.

So why is it called HOLY week?

The Son of God was whipped; Herod made fun of Him; He was stripped of His clothing, and it was given away. He was hanged on a cross to die between two criminals. UNHOLY!!!!

So why is it called HOLY week?

The week was made holy by the innocent, holy blood of the Son of God that was poured out on the cross for you and for me. Jesus Christ came, He lived, He was subjected to all the un-holiness that this evil world could throw at Him, and He did it willingly for all the unholy times in your life. He did it to pay for your un-holiness, so that you could be forgiven.

Why is it called HOLY week?

Many unholy things happened that last week of Jesus' earthly life before his death and resurrection. It became the focus of all the forces of creation, both good and evil, came together in a cosmic war, where the truth of the first promise of a savior in Genesis 3:15 was realized – the Son of God, descended from Eve, had His heel bruised by Satan; but Satan's head was finally and completely crushed.

## **From Pastor McPike's Desk...continued**

It is called Holy Week because our Holy God lived a Holy life for us, UNHOLY people.

It is called Holy Week because our Holy God subjected Himself to the punishment of un-holiness.

It is called Holy Week because our Holy God rose victoriously from the dead and lives and rules in heaven, where He waits for us to join Him.

It is called Holy Week because it resulted, ultimately in a holy, happy ending.

What a privilege we have to gather to worship our great God on a week known for many years in history as "Holy week", right in our own Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman.

Palm Sunday worship with Holy Communion is Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.

Maundy Thursday worship with Holy Communion is Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

Good Friday Tenebrae worship will be held Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

Easter Sunday worship with Holy Communion is Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM.

## **Maundy Thursday Soup Supper**

The Ladies Aid/LWML members will be serving a soup supper before the Maundy Thursday worship service. The menu of soup, sandwiches, desserts, and drinks will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 in the fellowship hall. A freewill offering will be taken to help cover some expenses for mission projects in the upcoming year.

## **Easter Lilies**

This year the Easter lilies that adorn the altar area will be purchased by the Altar Guild so there will not be a member donation sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board.

## **Shut-in Visits**

All members of Ladies Aid/LWML and all church members who are interested in visiting the shut-ins, please sign up on the back bulletin board. You do not have to visit all the shut-ins on the same day; the visits may be divided according to the number of people signed up. Volunteers may decide on the most convenient day and time to visit. A short visit from a church member could make all the difference! Thank you to Connie Warsaw and Brenda Hendricks who visited the shut-ins in March.

## **Quarterly Voters Meeting**

The quarterly voters meeting will be held on Sunday, April 24, after the worship service. Items for discussion will be electing a church treasurer and purchasing a new copy machine.

## **Love Packages**



Thanks to the members who contributed religious material to the boxes in the back of the church. The 4 large cardboard boxes of material were given to Love Packages which is a non-denominational, not for profit, ministry that equips pastors, missionaries, and teachers all over the world with free Bibles and other Christian literature. Their headquarters is in Butler, Illinois. The boxes were delivered to the LWML Spring Gathering at St. John's Lutheran Church – Ash Grove on Saturday, March 19th. After opening prayer and an activity involving fellowship, the fifty-three attendees enjoyed a great breakfast brunch. The program was the highlight of the event. It was led by Colette Ellenberg and Sandy Schubert who are workers at Love Packages. They showed a video about the process of receiving donated religious material, sorting the material, and packing box trucks to transport it to cargo ports. Most of the work is done by volunteers. The stories of how

appreciative these countries are to receive the Word of God were amazing. There is still a box on the back pew if you have Christian material that you want to donate. There is a desperate need for Bibles. Another donation will be delivered in July.

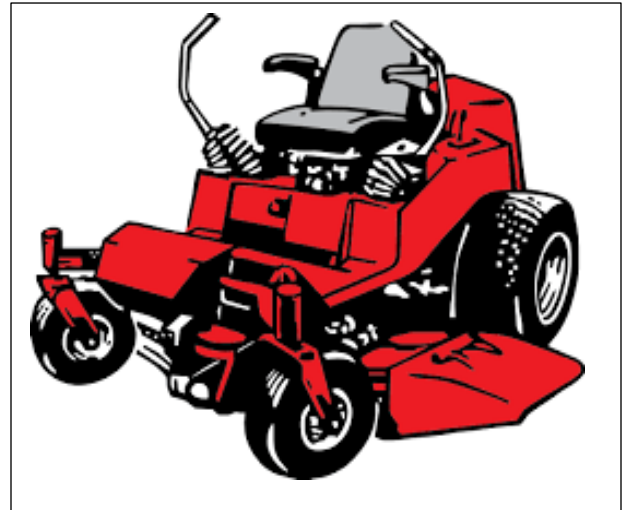
## **Ladies Aid/LWML**

Ten ladies met on March 10th for the Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting at 1:30 PM in the fellowship hall. A devotion and prayer was given by Annette Warsaw. The topic entitled “Setting Our Focus” was given by Connie Warsaw. Roll call was answered by a favorite flower. Marsha Warsaw, substitute secretary, read the minutes, and they were approved as read. The mites were collected, and an update was given on how much more money was needed before March 31<sup>st</sup> to meet the Central Illinois mite goal. Connie Warsaw gave the treasurer's report which showed a balance of \$894.02 after an anonymous \$500 donation was given. Members paid their \$18 dues to the treasurer at the meeting. Brenda Hendricks shared a thank you from the family of Moneta McCleary for the memorial given upon her death and a thank you from the Salt Creek Resource Center for the winter hats, mittens, and gloves. Wilma Grussing reported on the cards that she had sent in the last few months. Terri Hooker reported that she finally was informed that 60 of the 95 quilts that were sent in 2020 went to the country of Georgia. The ladies have now finished 48 quilts. The next quilting dates were announced as April 4 and April 6. The ladies were informed of the Danville Zone Spring Gathering, which was to be held on Saturday, March 19th at St. John's Lutheran Church - Ash Grove. Donations of Christian material was collected for Love Packages for this event. The CID LWML Convention is scheduled for April 29 – 30 in Springfield. Our group needs a voting delegate and an alternate. The group decided that we needed to start visiting the shut-ins again since COVID has interfered with that for two years. A sign-up will be made available for the back church bulletin board for volunteers to sign up monthly. Discussion followed on sponsoring a soup supper before the Maundy Thursday worship service if approved by the council. The next meeting will be May 12 at 7 PM. The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer. Wilma Grussing and Diana Zimmerman served delicious refreshments before the meeting.

**MOWING SCHEDULE**  
**2022**  
**(Please mow between Thurs – Sat)**

**Week of:**

April 3	Jerry Edwards
April 10	Jim VanWakeman
April 17	Brenda Hendricks
April 24	Dick Johnson
May 1	Butch Sprau
May 8	Skinner Johnson
May 15	Kent Whitehouse
May 22	Brenda Hendricks
May 29	John Gercken
June 5	Shane Zimmerman
June 12	John Lammle
June 19	Chase Zimmerman
June 26	Darwin Warsaw
July 3	Steve Warsaw
July 10	Jim Poppe
July 17	Lee Whitehouse
July 24	Jeff Warsaw
July 31	Leonard Delaney
Aug 7	Bob Zimmerman
Aug 14	Don Warsaw
Aug 21	Roy Whitehouse
Aug 28	Kenneth Whitehouse
Sept 4	Myron Zimmerman
Sept 11	Neil Bidner
Sept 18	Bryan Warsaw
Sept 25	John Grussing
Oct 2	Shaun Zimmerman
Oct 9	Steve Martin
Oct 16	Brenda Hendricks
Oct 23	Lee Whitehouse
Oct 30	Dwight Hooker
November	Trustees



## Mowing List

Attached to this newsletter is the mowing list for 2022. If you cannot mow on your designated date, please trade with someone on the list. If you cannot mow, please let Lee Whitehouse know one week in advance at 309-830-0714. There is also a list posted on the back bulletin board. We appreciate everyone who helps our church in this way.

### April Birthdays

Chase Zimmerman.....04-03  
 Courtney Delaney.....04-03  
 Erik Henriksen.....04-08  
 Connie Warsaw.....04-12  
 Benjamin Burgess..... 04-13  
 Leonard Delaney .....04-17  
 Steven Sprau..... .04-18  
 Gina Masko..... 04-19  
 Hallie Payne.....04-23  
 Bob Zimmerman.....04-23  
 Linda Warsaw.....04-25  
 Kristan Hansen.....04-25  
 Deb Lammle.....04-26

### Anniversaries

Alicia and Nicholas Haggin..... 04-28-2007

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>		<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Adult Class</u>
February 27	48		2	0
March 2	28		N/A	N/A
March 6	45		3	9
March 13	43		3	9
March 20	36		1	11

## **Impossible**

It's impossible to find any other  
 who could suffer, die,  
 be resurrected,  
 and give an eternal gift  
 to humankind.  
 That's Jesus.  
 That's Easter.

(By Joanna Fuchs)

