



# Lifetimes

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## Children in Worship



I attended a conference in Chicago, in May and was drawn to one of the breakout sessions called “Kids Experience the Same God you do!” I was not disappointed. We read in Matthew 19:14 that Jesus says, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” I’ve worked with children for many years and raised three of my own. We can see why disciples might stop the kids from running up and greeting Jesus. They have sticky stuff on their hands, stuff coming out of their noses, you never know what they are going to say, and talk about wiggles. But Jesus stopped the disciples from blocking children from Him.

Jesus invites them to come and be blessed by Him. I’m heartbroken by the churches that do not invite children into worship. I actually have seen signs in churches that say, “Children this Way” and “Adults this Way”. How will our children learn to worship if they are not with us in worship?

1 Timothy 4:12 tells us we are to set an example for our young. If our children are not in worship, how can they learn and experience what we experience? How are they going to experience Jesus?

I hear from my own parents that the children are the future of the church. I tell my mom, “I hate to break it to you, mom, but the children are contributing members of the Church today! God speaks to them.” Children have gifts that they can offer the Church even at a young age. 1 Samuel 3: 10 reads “Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’ Samuel heard God speaking to him. Eli, the priest, he slept. God speaks to children. There is a list of children in the Bible who God spoke to and they listened.

In Acts 2:38 - 39, Peter says, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” The Holy Spirit is active and busy at work in not only our lives but the lives of our children and the children in worship.

We have made some additions to our worship time so that children who are here can have an intentional and meaningful worship experience. We invite children to be part of worship just as Jesus invited the children to come to Him.

For pre-readers we have:

- Worship Que cards - Pictures that will help children see what we are doing in worship and help them feel they are part of the worship. We are modeling for our young children by using Worship Ques during the worship service.
- SPARK Bibles in each worship space where children can read and experience God.
- In Incarnation Hall we have added the Praise Ground, a space that is designed for our younger children to sit, play quietly with soft toys and hear the Holy Spirit speak to them.

For readers we have:

- Clipboards with worship sheets to engage them with ideas of what is going on in worship. As adults with children, listen for words they understand and words that they don’t understand. Ask, “What song/hymn did you like best?” “What can you pray for this week? “

What can we do as a congregation to support families as they bring children to worship? As a congregation, we made a commitment to partner with parents to help raise their children to know and love Jesus. So when you see children enter into worship, greet them (by name if you know it). Help the children feel part of the worship experience by passing blue folder and offering baskets to them. If children are active in worship remember they are still learning, so we can practice patience with them. In SPARK we like to catch kids doing “good”, so after worship compliment the children around you and tell them they did a great job in worship. Thank you for your help as we all encourage children in worship!

# Art & Reformation: Incarnation Goes to the Minneapolis Institute of Art

By Pastor Jeanne Hartfield

As Lutherans and Protestants around the world prepare to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, Incarnation too will provide opportunities to reflect on this shared history, the gift of Lutheran theology, and celebrate how these shape the future.

One of the early events will be a night at the Minneapolis Institute of Art (MIA) for the new exhibit "Martin Luther: Art & Reformation." Incarnation has reserved spots for up to 45 people at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10. Three docents will guide three groups of 15 people through the exhibit. MIA describes the exhibit this way:

Five hundred years ago, one man took a stand that shook Europe and changed the world. Now you can see the story of Martin Luther and the Reformation brought to life through astonishing artworks and historical objects, traveling outside Germany for the first time ever. Luther used art and the newly invented printing press to challenge Europe's leaders and spread a revolution of religious, cultural, and societal change. This exhibition includes paintings, sculpture, gold, textiles, and works on paper - as well as Luther's personal possessions and recent archaeological finds - that shed new light on an explosive era and the man who ignited it.

Participants will gather at MIA (2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis) by 5:45 p.m. and can either carpool from Incarnation or provide their own transportation. Cost: \$12, includes entrance into the exhibit and the tour with the docent. Sign up in the Incarnation Office by Monday, October 10. The deadline is early because that is the day we confirm the number for our reservation. Questions? Contact Pastor Jeanne Hartfield at [jhartfield@incarnationmn.org](mailto:jhartfield@incarnationmn.org).

## Goodbye to Debbie Morse



Debbie Morse has retired as of Friday, August 19 after 20 years of being a staff member of Incarnation. Debbie will be spending much of her retirement with her grandson Luke, doing volunteer work as a Reading Buddy at Turtle Lake School and helping in her daughter's fifth grade classroom. Debbie also looks forward to participating in daytime small groups and Women Read at Incarnation and also traveling

with her husband, Jim, who will also be retiring at the end of this year. We thank Debbie for her many years of service and a job well done!



# Growing Through Loss to be Held at Incarnation this Fall

Growing Through Loss is a grief and loss support ministry jointly sponsored by the North Suburban Grief Support Coalition, of which 18 churches and organizations in our area are members. The coalition hosts two six-week series each year at various locations that address both the educational as well as support aspects of a variety of loss and grief issues. This fall it is being held at Incarnation.

Each session offers an educational presentation by a professional from the community, followed by peer support groups facilitated by leaders who understand the grieving process. Each session is complete in itself, so you may attend any or all sessions.

**The topics and presenters for Fall 2016 are as follows:**

**September 19:** Characteristics of Grief | Paul Johnson, Bereavement Educator

**September 26:** The Transformative Nature of Grief | Paul Johnson, Bereavement Educator

**October 3:** Understanding the Feelings and Emotions of Grief | Rita Goldhammer, Life Coach and Grief Specialist

**October 10:** Families and Grief | Janice Winchester Nadeau, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist, Marriage and Family Therapist

**October 17:** Everyday and Holidays: Living with Losses | Ted Bowman, Trainer, Consultant, Educator and Author

**October 24:** Connecting with God in our Sorrow (includes a service of healing and hope) | Pastor Jeanne Hartfield

Registration takes place the evening before each session. There is no cost, although donations are welcome. Free childcare is available, but please call a week in advance so they are prepared for your children. You may call 763-755-5335 or visit [growingthroughloss.org](http://growingthroughloss.org) for more information.

### INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH GENERAL FUND - INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING JULY, 2016

REVENUE	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Member Envelopes/Loose	\$921,335	\$1,005,015	(\$83,680)
Special Env./Misc.	\$22,080	\$34,859	(\$12,779)
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>\$943,415</b>	<b>\$1,039,874</b>	<b>(\$96,459)</b>
Other Income	\$6,263	\$6,941	(\$678)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$949,677</b>	<b>\$1,046,815</b>	<b>(\$97,138)</b>
EXPENSES	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Missions	\$131,841	\$131,017	\$825
Salaries/Wages	\$770,257	\$802,083	(\$31,827)
Ministries	\$37,163	\$62,621	(\$25,457)
Administration	\$33,613	\$42,875	(\$9,261)
Building	\$102,793	\$115,821	(\$13,028)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,075,668</b>	<b>\$1,154,417</b>	<b>(\$78,749)</b>
<b>Net Income (loss)</b>	<b>(\$125,991)</b>	<b>(\$107,602)</b>	<b>(\$18,389)</b>

#### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Beginning of the Month balance	\$137,813
Net Income for the month	\$28,713
Mortgage Payment	(28,540)
Other Capital Expenses	(114)
<b>Monthly Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$137,872</b>

Thank you for supporting the ministries, missions, and programs of Incarnation with your continued contributions. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

## Incarnation Receives Memorial Gifts During the Second Quarter of 2016

*In the second quarter of the year, April to June 2016, Incarnation Lutheran Church received the following memorials. We would like to publicly thank these people for remembering Incarnation. "We gratefully acknowledge these gifts and join in loving remembrance."*

**In Remembrance of:** Rollie Sullivan

**A Gift was Received from:** James & Hope Scannell, Don & Jean Alsop, Will & Carolyn Liebenow, Ronald & Geraldine Riley, Kenneth & Michelle Bell, Donald & Colleen Gandrud, Kenneth & Jacqueline Lerdahl, Shirley Erickson, Del & Cynthia Kramer, Cleone Swanberg, Nancy Ness, Frances Smith-Pardee, Barbara Wegleitner, Roy & Lyla Tutt, Allen & Susan Greimel, Carole Engen, Gordon Peterson, Marjorie & Jack Becker, Scott & Julie Becker, James & Bonnie Bigelbach, Jean Heuer, Keith Engdahl, Patricia & Clint Meyer, Vern Kimball, Gail & Dale Mikkalson, Anne Picard, Dottie Sullivan, Carla Relstad, Leonard Fernelius, John & Joyce Erickson, Suzanne Brown, Thomas & Lenore Miller, Bill & LeAnne Linder-Scholer, Jo Hinchcliffe, Betty Coolbroth, Bart & Darcy Brodt, Louise Ostergren, Jeff & Cynthia McCallum, Dave & Linda Dehn, Tim & Cherie Skildum, Roger Scheunemann & Ellen Scholz, Sheryl Pachel, Jeff & Leann Paulson, Don & Jean Alsop, Al & Joyce Anderson, Gary & Mary Ann Anderson, George & Connie Aram, Marge Baab, Jackie Best, Anne Bidne, Orv & Elaine Bratland, Karin Brown, Michael & Jan Carey, Anne & Dave Cremons, Luther & Roberta Dale, Matthew & Patti Dion, Roger & Lu Durbahn, Vicki & Mike Engelen, Randy & Nancy Erickson, Joe & Denise Fleming, Marilyn Fritze, Arvin & Jane Gehrking, David & Karen Graden, Jim & Judy Grubs, David & Sharon Guenzel, Tom & Jan Hardel, Nancy Haugen, MaeEtta Jarvis, Harry & Marian Johnson, David & Shirley Kangas, Dale & Vernita Kennen, Thomas Krueger & Dianne Timmer, Jan & Carl Kuhmeyer, Carol Lacey, Bob & Alice Larson, Will & Carolyn Liebenow, Van Linck, Gene & Mary Lou Lindholm, Roger & Dede Mattison, Dorothy Molzen, Janny Moses, Duane & Marlys Nelson, Marlys Nelson, Lowell & Evie Odland, Larrie & Lou Ann Reese, Matt & Julie Rowles, Rick & Diane Sachse, Lisa Schroetke, Ronald & Gail Schroetke, Bill & Bev Seabloom, Rollie & Murt Seltz, Bev & Joe Stepka, Carol Swanson, Terry & Elizabeth Swanson, Neti Temali, Jerry & Carolyn TerEick, Todd & Susan Thayer, Lynda Thompson, Anna Thorstad, Don & Claudia Wiebold, Larry & Donna Wipf, Cal & Sharon Wilson, Keith & Karna Nelson, Dick & Ann Christiansen, Earl & Kathleen Currie, Harlan & Marlene Stoehr, Gary & Mary Lunstad, Jim & Gretchen Kvikstad, Al & Janet Montgomery.

**In Remembrance of:** Melanie Ahlstrom's mother

**A Gift was Received from:** Marlys Nelson

**In Remembrance of:** Robin Norsted's sister

**A Gift was Received from:** Gary & Mary Lunstad

**In Remembrance of:** Dick Moses

**A Gift was Received from:** Ken & Rosalie Grosch, Marlys Nelson, Ken & Linda Holmen, Marge Baab, Jim & Carol Fruehling

**In Remembrance of:** Barb Stockton's mother

**A Gift was Received from:** Marlys Nelson

**In Remembrance of:** Ed Caillier's mother

**A Gift was Received from:** Don & Claudia Wiebold

**In Remembrance of:** Sharon Wilson's mother

**A Gift was Received from:** Don & Claudia Wiebold, Ken & Rosalie Grosch, Gary & Mary Lundstad

**In Remembrance of:** Ken DeForest

**A Gift was Received from:** Bette Olson

*Gifts to the Endowment Fund in memory of Rollie Sullivan were received from Bill & Joan Reichwald, Harry & Marian Johnson, Duane & Marlys Nelson; in memory of Melanie Ahlstrom's mother from Jan & Carl Johnson, in memory of Chipa from Duane & Marlys Nelson, in memory of Bob Schroeder from Duane & Marlys Nelson, in memory of Dick Moses from Marlys & Duane Nelson, Carl & Jan Johnson.*



# Incarnation Lutheran Church

## Worship, Prayer & Among the Congregation

**Those hospitalized:** Babs Riedel; Van Linck; Lisa Alben; Shayne Hamann; Lorraine Schneider; Randy Erickson; Elizabeth Swanson; Jim Fruehling; Wyatt Stahl; Liz Decker.

**Sympathy to:** Walt Harmer and family on the death of his brother; Kathy Erno and family on the death of her sister; Jeanne Nierad and family on the death of her sister; Jim Meinen and family on the death of his step-father; Aimee Odahl and family on the death of her mother; Sharon Wilson and family on the death of her mother; Gary and Mary Ann Anderson and family on the death of their son.

**Congratulations to:** Trent and Allison Riter on the birth of their daughter, Cecelia Frances; Christopher and Kelly Dunn on the birth of their son, Caden Anthony.

**Congratulations to:** Marit Sundberg and Sean Woulfe on their recent marriage.

## Ministry Focus

### Solid Ground Winter Coat Drive

There are 77 families, including 168 children, who are in great need of winter coats, boots, hats, water-resistant gloves, and scarves. Donate new or gently-used, clean winter-wear items in the coat drive collection box located in the Gathering Space. Although all sizes and items are needed, K-12 children's boots and XL - XXXL coats are always in short supply.  
When: September - October 13.

## Connect and Grow

### Sunday Morning Small Groups

Meet and connect with others while taking a new step in your faith! Groups gather once a month, for a hour, for a short faith study and guided conversation. If you're new to small groups, this is a great starting place. Register or find out more: [dfloe@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dfloe@incarnationmn.org).

When: Once/month on Sundays, 9 - 10:00 a.m. OR 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., October - May.

**Small Group: New Money Mindset**

Just a little more money would bring happiness, right? The research shows otherwise. This small group, based on the book *Your New Money Mindset* (newmoneymindset.com), will consider common attitudes toward money, and how a different mindset could bring a greater sense of contentment and gratitude. More information: incarnationmn.org. Register: dfloe@incarnationmn.org. When: Six Sundays, 4:15 - 5:45 p.m., October - January.

**Seeing Christ in Everyday Life: Small Group for Men**

Watch and listen for God's presence in everyday life - whether at home, at work, or enjoying time outdoors. Get together with a group of men (ages 30-60) to take a deeper dive into faith. The group will start with the book/video, *The Power of a Whisper*, by Bill Hybels, adding in other resources. Cost: \$10. Register: dfloe@incarnationmn.org. When: Once/month on Sundays, 7 - 8:30 p.m., October - May.

**Small Group: Praying with the St. John's Bible**

This small group will use images from the Saint John's Bible and corresponding texts, to delve deeper into the Scriptures. The group will reflect on each text and image, through contemplative prayer practices (lectio/visio divina), and talk about how the texts and images speak to a life of faith. Suggested contribution: \$20. Register: dfloe@incarnationmn.org. When: Once/month on Tuesdays, 7 - 8:30 p.m., October - May.

**Kairos Resumes September 18**

Kairos is a time each Sunday morning of enrichment for mind and spirit. On September 18, Rev. Don and Eunice Fultz and Mary Blomquist, Incarnation members who were instrumental in establishing the partnership, will share about the long term impact of the relationship between the Saint Paul Area Synod and the Iringa Diocese in Tanzania. When: Sundays beginning September 18, 8:45 a.m. & 10:05 a.m.

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**Men's Retreat at St. John's**

The annual retreat at the St. John's University Abbey Guesthouse will feature presentations by political science professor Dr. Claire Haeg on the rise of neo-populism in advanced industrial democracies. The program will also include a discussion of current economic issues by economics professor Louis Johnston. Cost is \$130. Attendance will be limited to 13. Deadline for registration is Monday, October 10. For information, contact Jim Fruehling at 651-483-1704 or jamesw.f@icloud.com. When: October 21 - 22.

**Discover Incarnation**

Discover Incarnation is offered for anyone who wants to learn more about Incarnation's mission, vision, and values, and is required for those who wish to step into membership. Childcare is available for those who make an advanced registration. Registration is due by 4:30 p.m. November 2. When: Saturday, November 5 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Children, Youth and Family**

**Children, Youth and Family Ice Cream Social**

Join the Children Youth and Family Staff as we kick off another great year of ministry! Come and play 9-square, volleyball and eat a delicious ice cream sundae with all the fixings! This event is open to ALL people of Incarnation and friends. When: Wednesday, September 14, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

