



Lifetimes

All Hands on Hope: FMSC

2018 All Hands on Hope: Feed My Starving Children MobilePack™ Event, April 30 - May 3

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." - John 10:10

Lifetimes

April 8, 2018

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Let's get a show of hands: how many of you have packed at every single one of Incarnation's MobilePack™ Events to date (Incarnation Staff, put your hands down)? It seems like we've been doing these packs forever but in reality, this 2018 MobilePack™ will be Incarnation's 11th which is still an impressively long running commitment. It doesn't take long for something to feel like tradition at Incarnation and our annual spring MobilePack™ is no exception.

You know the drill: volunteers like you, your friends, your family members, your work colleagues, and your neighbors, ages five years to 100 years, pack Feed My Starving Children food together in Incarnation Hall for two hours segments, and at the end of each shift you learn how many kids will be fed for a year by the work you did together. You also know that Incarnation is responsible to finance the food that will be packed and you have stepped up generously to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars donated for each year. Together, with Roseville Lutheran, our 2018 goal is to pack 750,000 meals costing a total of \$165,000, of which \$143,000 is Incarnation's commitment. By the end of this pack, nearly six million meals will have been packed feeding well over 16,000 children, over 11 MobilePacks™ hosted at Incarnation. Take that in. Six million meals. 16,000 children.

If you haven't yet made your reservation to pack, grab some folks and go to incarnationmn.org/fmsc, or call the Incarnation Office for assistance if you don't have access to the web. What else can you do to be involved and heighten the energy around this event, ensuring we successfully pack 750,00 meals, with 3300 volunteer shifts, feeding 2054 kids for a year?

- Donate money to help meet Incarnation's goal of \$143,000 needed to pay for the food we'll pack. Make out a check to Incarnation writing "FMSC MP" in the memo or donate online at incarnationmn.org/fmsc.
- New this year! Take on the HAIRNET CHALLENGE by posting your favorite hairnet picture on Incarnation's Facebook page and/or email/drop off a picture to Becky Benson (bbenson@incarnationmn.org) to be included in a HAIRNET CHALLENGE collage!
- Approach your company about doing a company match. Instructions on how to do this can be found on Incarnation's Feed My Starving Children page.
- Follow Incarnation's Facebook page or "FMSC Mobile Pack at Incarnation" updates, and share, Share, SHARE! Use #AllHandsonHope and #HairnetChallenge as a way to draw attention, to organize, and to promote this endeavor.
- Be a part! Don't miss out on being a part of this ministry as we live into Incarnation's mission of feeding the hungry in heart, mind, body and spirit!

From The Staff

Joel Vander Wal

Pastor for Children, Youth, and Family



Summer is quickly approaching and one of our highlights for my family is checking things off of our summer bucket list. Some of them are centered around activities we will do as a family, like going to a Twins game or visiting some of the nearby farmers' markets. Others are more individual goals like reading a certain number of books or running in a specific race. We also included our family vacations on our summer bucket list. We'll get to visit some family and friends in Michigan, do some camping, and even see Mount Rushmore.

These trips can be really helpful in bringing us closer together as a family. We share in the same experiences, make new memories, and meet new people. Of course, we'll bring our phones with us in order to take pictures to try and capture some of those memorable moments. We'll also use our phones to navigate the unfamiliar roads as we make our way west and we'll be sure to update the grandparents on our travels along the way. But, we will also intentionally leave our phones behind when we go on some of these adventures. Although our phones have the ability to connect us to everyone instantly, they sometimes get in the way of allowing us be present with the people right in front of us.

In her book, *Alone Together*, Sherry Turkle considers deeply the ways in which technology affects our ability, and sometimes our inability, to communicate with one another. In one of her chapter's she laments that as a society we are "always on," meaning that even when we are supposed to be on vacation, away from work, we bring our cell phones and laptops with us and stay connected with our work life back at home. She says, "On vacation, one vacates a place, not a set of responsibilities . . . We insist that our world is increasingly complex, yet we have created a communications culture that has decreased the time available for us to sit and think uninterrupted. As we communicate in ways that ask for almost instantaneous responses, we don't allow sufficient space to consider complicated problems," (pp. 165-166).

Perhaps this summer we should add a fast from technology to our summer bucket list - a dedicated amount of time away from screens and interruptions in order to either sit and think, or to be more present with our family and friends. So, what's on your summer bucket list? How are you seeking ways to connect with God, and your family and friends?

Easter Season Banners

By Jane Gehrking

White is the liturgical color for Easter season. White celebrates the joy of the resurrection and highlights this important festival of the church year. Another color for Easter is gold, used as a “crown” to give prominence to this high church festival.

The banner in the Sanctuary is titled Morning of the Resurrection. The banner features a watery landscape lit from above by a burst of light. The bright aura signifies Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, and his promise of redemption. The water moving toward the light suggests our life journey, buoyed by waters of Baptism, leading us toward our final resting place in heaven at our Lord’s side.



Romans 6:4-5 - We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

Malachi 4:2 - But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays.

The Incarnation Hall banner features two symbols of the Resurrection, an empty cross and a butterfly. The empty cross represents a risen and living Christ. The butterfly signifies bursting from the grave and being raised to a new life. Parallels have been drawn between the stages of the life of a butterfly and the life of a Christian. The plain looking cocoon, wrapped in what reminds one of burial shrouds, parallels the grave. The cocoon emerges as a beautiful butterfly. We, who were wrapped in the shrouds of sin and death, emerge in Christ as the beautiful people God intended us to be.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come.

Goodbye to Janet Holdorf

Janet Holdorf, the assistant organist and Senior Choir Accompanist, will be retiring on April 30. For the past thirteen years, Janet has been a crucial part of the music ministry at Incarnation by leading worship on both the organ and piano and serving as the accompanist for the Senior Choir. There will be a reception for Janet in Grace Hall on Sunday April 29 following the 8:45 and 10:05 worship services. Take a few minutes to greet Janet and thank her for her ministry at Incarnation.



Summer Programming

Although it may not seem like it when you look out the window, summer is just around the corner! Perhaps you have heard about the mountaintop experiences of youth who attend summer ministries. Whether it’s a mission trip, Vacation Bible School or a summer camp with other youth their age, summer ministry can be a vital part of a young person’s spiritual development. Summer ministry opportunities provide many great opportunities to stretch and grow in meaningful ways.

For most kids, it’s a change in routine. We all know how freeing it can be to spend a week or a few days away from our everyday routines and responsibilities. Summer ministry opportunities focus on immersing kids and teens in experiences that allow them to meet new people, and focus on our faith journey with minimal other distractions. These experiences help relationships form and provide new outlets for faith formation. Kids may see God while serving in their community, while creating art, while experiencing nature at camp, while making new friends at church, or while singing VBS songs at the top of their lungs!

We know that youth are relational and that they learn about who God is through each other and through their experiences. Immersion experiences such as summer camps allow for kids relationships with God and with each other to grow quickly. Incarnation offers several opportunities for kids and youth to serve and grow during the summer months. Vacation Bible School, Art Camp, Camp Wapo, Mission Trips, Summer Stretch and Family Camp opportunities are just several of the many opportunities that your youth can participate in this summer. Check out the website at <https://incarnationmn.org/summer-camps-and-opportunities-2/> to see more information about all the ways you can connect this summer!

Every summer we see the lives of hundreds of children and youth impacted by one or more of the summer ministry programs. If you don’t have children involved in these programs, please consider praying for all the children and youth that will participate or contact one of the Children, Youth and Family ministry staff to find out how you might get involved as a volunteer. It takes lots of help to make these opportunities happen!

Goodbye to Joan Volkmann

After almost 20 years on staff at Incarnation, Joan Volkmann is retiring. Joan joined Incarnation’s staff in 1998 as the Office Manager. Joan has been involved in much more ministry at Incarnation than what might be considered managing the office. She has worked with funerals, weddings, coordinating pastoral care, coordinating the Primetimers group, coordinating Lenten Soup Suppers, to name just a little of the ministry she has had at Incarnation. She has managed the office and supported the rest of the Incarnation staff in their ministry as well. As one staff person rightly said, Joan poured her heart into Incarnation. We will most certainly miss Joan’s many ministry gifts, contributions, and her heart for the mission of Incarnation. We wish her well and send her with our blessing as she and her husband, Bart, take up residence in their new home in Danbury, WI.

Joan’s last day on the staff at Incarnation will be on April 30. On Sunday morning, April 15, we invite you to visit with Joan and thank her for her ministry and friendship with us during a continuous reception in Grace Hall from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and in the Gathering Space following 10:45 a.m. worship.

INCARNATION MISSION

Filled by God’s grace, we feed the hungry in heart, body, mind and spirit.

INCARNATION VISION

A world filled with God’s grace and love.

**INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH
GENERAL FUND - INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT
FOR THE MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY, 2018**

REVENUE	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Member Envelopes/Loose	\$265,216	\$290,660	(\$25,444)
Special Env./Misc.	\$4,104	\$4,565	(\$461)
Total Offering	\$269,320	\$295,225	(\$25,905)
Other Income	\$1,675	\$1,316	\$359
Total Income	\$270,995	\$296,541	(\$25,546)
EXPENSES	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Missions	\$36,243	\$32,517	\$3,727
Salaries/Wages	\$249,055	\$236,667	\$12,388
Ministries	\$4,485	\$19,054	(\$14,569)
Administration	\$12,327	\$11,429	\$898
Building	\$29,115	\$32,500	(\$3,385)
Total Expenses	\$331,226	\$332,167	(\$941)
Net Income (loss)	(\$60,231)	(\$35,626)	(\$24,605)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Beginning of the Month balance	\$215,348
Net Income for the month	23,578
Mortgage Payment	(57,080)
Additional Principal Payment	0
Other Capital Expenses	(84)
Monthly Ending Balance	\$181,762

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



Incarnation Lutheran Church

Worship, Prayer & Among the Congregation

Hospitalized: Sterling Rule; Randy Erickson.

Sympathy to: The family of Judie Pratt on her death; Gene Hoff and family on the death of his mother; Carmen Bell and family on the death of her brother; Gaitha Good and family on the death of her grandson; Maryl Wahlstrand and family on the death of her sister.

Connect and Grow

Discover Incarnation

Discover Incarnation is offered for anyone who wants to learn more about Incarnation's mission, vision, and values, and is required for membership. Childcare is available with advanced registration. Registration is due Wednesday, April 11 by 4:30 p.m. When: Saturday, April 14, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Faith and Work Gathering

A Faith and Work Gathering will be featuring Kim Peeples who will speak on "Servant Leadership". A panel of working professionals will share their servant leadership experiences to help you learn how it might work in your organization. Cost: \$10, includes a light dinner. Register by contacting Becky Benson at bbenson@incarnationmn.org by April 20 at 4:30 p.m. When: Tuesday, April 24, 6 - 8:00 p.m.

Serve

2018 All Hands on Hope Feed My Starving Children 11th MobilePack™ Event Registrations Are Open!

Help pack 750,000 meals, feeding 2,054 kids for one year by going to incarnationmn.org to make your reservation. Help raise the \$143,00 for food that will be packed by making an online donation or making a check paid to Incarnation with "FMSC MP" in the memo. Follow Incarnation's Facebook page or the "FMSC Mobile Pack at Incarnation" Facebook page for updates, and share! Use #AllHandsOnHope as a way to draw attention, to organize, and to promote this event.

When: The MobilePack™ date is April 30 - May 3.

Words of Hope Prison Ministry

Words of Hope Prison Ministry is an opportunity to support inmates through letter writing. Incarnation will partner with Amicus/Volunteers of America to provide training, match volunteers with inmates, and provide support. Register for volunteer training held on April 28 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., by contacting Becky Benson at bbenson@incarnationmn.org by Thursday, April 26 at 4:30 p.m.

When: Learn more on April 15 & 22 following morning services.

Meals on Wheels Coordinator

Meals on Wheels is a program that delivers meals to seniors who are living independently. Based out of 3490 Lexington Ave. N in Shoreview and serving the Mounds View area, Incarnation is responsible for a Meals on Wheels route on Fridays beginning at 10:45 a.m. This is a fun, low time commitment opportunity to do with a friend, your children, or on your own. To volunteer, contact Becky Benson at bbenson@incarnationmn.org.

Congregational Business

Reception for Joan Volkmann's Retirement

You are invited to join in celebration of Joan Volkmann's retirement and her nearly 20 years of service to Incarnation on Sunday, April 15. Special treats will be served after each morning service from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Grace Hall. Stop by to greet Joan and wish her well in her retirement beginning May 1. When: April 15 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Office Manager Position

Incarnation is seeking a full-time Office Manager. The position includes assisting those who come into the Incarnation Office, supervision of support staff, purchasing and budgeting office supplies, coordinating the Incarnation calendar, supporting congregational projects and events and participating in the Sunday morning rotational support. For more information, contact Kathy Kalsow at kkalsow@incarnationmn.org

Handbell Choir Director

Incarnation is seeking a part-time Handbell Choir Director. The position includes directing the Chapel Bells and Evening Chimes Bell Choirs. This person will possess strong musical and leadership skills in handbells. A complete job description is posted on the Incarnation website. For more information contact Dave Ellison at dellison@incarnationmn.org.

Organist

Incarnation is seeking a part-time Organist. The position includes playing for the 8:45 and 10:05 worship services, festival services, and serving as the accompanist for the Senior Choir. This person will possess strong musical and leadership skills on piano and organ. A complete job description is posted on the Incarnation website. For more information contact Dave Ellison at dellison@incarnationmn.org.



Incarnation Lutheran Church

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