



Lifetimes

Step Up and Share the Grace On November 11

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October 7, 2018

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Together we are living out the mission and vision of Incarnation: *Our mission: Filled by God's grace, we feed the hungry in heart, body, mind and spirit. Our vision: A world filled with God's grace and love.*

Living out the mission and vision of Incarnation stands in stark contrast to the ways of the world. Yet, as followers of Jesus Christ, this is exactly what we are called to do - to step up and share what we have and who we are with others - so that they may know God's love and grace.

Share the Grace is the name of the campaign to support the ongoing ministries of this faith community. Toward the end of October, a letter and a sample of a new simplified pledge card will be mailed to you. On Commitment Sunday, November 11, you will pick up an actual pledge card before worship and fill it out during the service. If you are not able to be in worship that day, you will receive your pledge materials through a Neighborhood Route system. These financial commitments will support the 2019 operating budget and the 2018-20 capital campaign for our building mortgage.

During this time of transition of seeking a new senior pastor, it is especially important for the congregation to stay engaged financially. In order for the staff and leadership to plan the work of the coming year and beyond, your participation is critical.

It's been said, "You can't be a Christian alone." It's true. The abundant life of following Jesus Christ is one that we experience in community, with others. As a people of faith, we believe that the Holy Spirit weaves our gifts, interests and efforts together with others. Individuals have brought their gifts of money, time, and talents - their very selves - in service to the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is the story of how Incarnation Lutheran Church has accomplished significant ministry together.

Thank you for the ways you have supported our life together in faith. It is incredible what can be accomplished when people step up and join their gifts together for the sake of the gospel. May God continue to grant you wisdom and understanding as you serve God's people through Incarnation.

From The Staff

Jeanne Hartfield

Pastor for Adult Learning & Spiritual Formation



Our daughter started preschool at Incarnation this fall. She has settled in and loves school and her teachers, but the first week was a pretty tough transition. It was hard because it was a new experience. It was hard because it was a change of routine from what was familiar and safe at daycare. It was hard because at the same time she started at the Incarnation Preschool, her two best friends left daycare and started preschool at an all-day site. That's a lot of change at once. Fortunately, Tillie's daycare provider is really good at making goodbyes special and Tillie's teachers are good at making hellos welcoming for new students and helping them learn the ropes.

I have been thinking a lot about transitions lately. Besides Tillie's transition to school, my family has been processing my dad's estate following his death, and at Incarnation we are in a leadership transition. We have had to walk through a number of goodbyes - important people in our lives, my parents' home and its belongings, the familiar pattern of phone calls and visits and shared activities - but in the midst of the goodbyes and letting go, we are also discovering space for new beginnings. These new beginnings look different, for sure, but that's not a bad thing. It's cause for hope.

What has been helpful for me in this season of transitions are the rituals for saying goodbye to what was and the rituals for saying hello to what will be. While I have been mourning my dad's death and the loss of shared experiences like golfing together or pontoon rides at the lake, the process of sorting through his belongings and photos has been strangely cathartic. Some of my parents' furniture and belongings came to Andrew's and my family. On that front, a ritual of new beginning has been to weave those things into our home in a way that allows us to enjoy my parents' things but it still feels like our home.

Similarly, the events around Pastor Gary Medin's retirement created space to celebrate and be grateful for what has been while preparing our hearts for our shared future that is yet unknown. Collectively, the rituals for new beginnings include engaging in the call process for the new Senior Pastor through the Town Hall Meeting or the discussion forums, praying for that process and the Call Committee, and, eventually, actually welcoming a new person into our faith community with open hearts.

What are the rituals that you find helpful in times of transition? What are the processes that help you say goodbye and let go of what has been? What are your rituals for new beginnings?

In the midst of all of these transitions, in grieving losses and looking to new beginnings, I hold fast to the knowledge that as we move through transitions, our God is present in all of it and through all of it. The God we know through Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit is our God who makes all things new - including making life out of death. May God's presence and power sustain you through all your transitions, big and small, and in time bring you to the place of new life.

Volunteer Appreciation Event: November 1

A Volunteer Appreciation Event will be held on Thursday, November 1 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

All who have committed significant time to Incarnation service for the last year and/or the upcoming year are invited to be a part of this event. In addition to dinner, The Looney Lutherans will be back to provide entertainment.

Please RSVP by Thursday, October 25 in the Incarnation Office, by calling 651-484-7213, or online at incarnationmn.org/RSVP. Those who RSVP after October 25 will be placed on a waiting list. With an advance registration, a Kids' Zone will be available for children who need care during the event.

Thank you to the Endowment Fund for the generous gift that makes this event possible.



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 AUGUST, 2018

	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Revenue	\$1,072,998	\$1,202,806	(\$129,808)
Transfer of Funds	-	-	-
Total Funds Available	1,072,998	1,202,806	(129,808)

EXPENSES	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Missions	\$123,368	130,367	(6,699)
Salaries	\$999,879	946,667	53,213
Ministries	\$36,607	76,217	(39,610)
Administration	\$36,348	45,717	(9,369)
Building	\$78,724	139,333	(60,609)
Total Expenses	\$1,274,926	\$1,338,000	(\$63,074)
YTD Income/Loss	(\$201,928)	(\$135,194)	(\$66,734)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Beginning of the Month balance	\$186,311
Net Income for the month	20,748
Mortgage Payment	(28,540)
2nd Qtr Deffered Maintenance	0
Additional Principal Payment	0
Other Capital Expenses	(540)

Monthly Ending Balance \$177,979

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 2018

In the second quarter of the year, April to June 2018, 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: Nicholas Bremer.

A gift was received from: Gina Nerison.

In remembrance of: Sheryl Dickison.

A gift was received from: Barb Bailey, Shelly Elmore.

In remembrance of: Alan Stender.

A gift was received from: Cal and Sharon Wilson, Bette Olson.

In remembrance of: Bill Seabloom.

A gift was received from: Gary and Mary Ann Anderson.

In remembrance of: Richard Schulze.

A gift was received from: Douglas and Heather Elliott.

In remembrance of: Lee Marquart.

A gift was received from: Marlys Nelson, Cal and Sharon Wilson, Ken and Rosalie Grosch.

In remembrance of: Carol and Vi Swenson (Grandparents).

A gift was received from: Sara Swenson on behalf of grandchildren: Keelan, Evan, Patricia and Jenna Watkins.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund

In memory of Ann Hoff were received from Gina Nersion.

In memory of Dianne Schulze were received from Carl and Jan Johnson, Al and Joyce Anderson, Marlys Nelson, Bob and Donna Quick, Mary Birkeland.

In memory of Lee Markquart was received from Jill and Jon Nelson.

In memory of Shirley Wendel were received from Marlys Nelson, Matt and Julie Rowles.



Incorporation Lutheran Church

Worship, Prayer & Among the Congregation

Hospitalized: Clara Schornstein.

Sympathy to: Matt and Amanda Linn and family on the death of her mother; Leshia, Jeremiah, and Kinsley Badger on the death of their birth mother; the family of Denny Campbell on his death; Lamont and Becky Koerner and family on the death of their son-in-law; Dick Trapp and family on the death of his mother; Meg Spangler and family on the death of her father.

Recently Baptized: Olivia Eleanor, daughter of Ellie and Kyle Thibodeau; Eleanor Thibodeau; Allie Marie, daughter of Jane and Todd Anderson; Maycee Carol, daughter of Ashleigh and Bryan Hegseth; Evelyn Vivian, daughter of Emily and Bradley Grove; Ellis Kristine, daughter of Whitney and Brice Anderson; Owen Hunter, son of Katherine and Kevin Tollefson; Crosby Carl, son of Abbey and Kyle Bliss; Sloan Mackenzie, daughter of Melissa and Steven Quick.

Recently Married: Charlie Aus and Sam Krause.

Congratulations to: Megan and Dan Sailsbury on the birth of Max and Jonah on September 20; Todd and Jane Anderson on the birth of their daughter, Allie Marie, on August 14.

Connect and Grow

Healthy Aging Forum

Select from a variety of mini-sessions on healthy aging, possibly including: brain health, heart health, sitting exercise, diabetes, etc. The forum is offered through a collaborative that includes Incarnation's ministry partner, Lyngblomsten. For more information about the forum: 651-632-5330. Explore other offerings at Lyngblomsten: lyngblomsten.org/community-services/2ndhalf

When: Thursday, October 18, 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Fairview Community Center in Roseville.

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 advance registration. Registration is due October 24 by 4:30 p.m.

When: Saturday, October 27, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Faith on the Way to Work Small Group for Men

Start the week with a brief faith study and prayer in a men's small group at Incarnation before heading to work or other activities. This group is using a faith study written at Incarnation, Connecting in Grace: Living Our Faith. Suggested contribution: \$10. Leader: Tim Gray.

When: Twice/month on Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 a.m.

Contemplative Prayer with the Saint John's Bible Small Groups

Connect with others in a small group to reflect on illuminations and texts from the Saint John's Bible. The groups will use a contemplative prayer practice (lectio/visio divina) to reflect, talk about and pray with the illuminations and texts. Suggested contribution: \$15.

When: Once/month on Tuesday OR Thursday evenings OR Wednesday early mornings.

Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity Small Group

Discover the Bible's wisdom around financial practices, generosity, contentment, simplicity and joy. This group will read and talk about Adam Hamilton's book *Enough: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity* in a small group setting. Suggested contribution: \$10. Leaders: Tim Gray and Janet Karvonen-Montgomery.

When: Once/week on four Mondays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., October - November.

Sunday Morning Small Group

Gather with others to watch and talk about short videos from the faith studies NOOMA (Rob Bell) and Everybody Always (Bob Goff). This easy-to-do small group is a great way to connect with others, especially if you are new to small groups. Leader: Grant Rykken.

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

Grateful Small Group

Explore gratitude as a faith practice and a way of life that connects us with God and with one another. This group will read *Grateful* by Diana Butler Bass. The book unpacks the role of gratitude in our lives and our world with practical suggestions. Suggested contribution: \$10. Leader: Denise Floe.

When: Once/week on five Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., October - December.

Children, Youth and Family

Evening in Bethlehem

Join us for an Evening in Bethlehem. This is a wonderful way to kick-off the Advent season with dinner, special activities and fellowship. Cost: \$15 per family. Please sign up in the Incarnation Office by Monday, December 3, after this date you will be placed on a waiting list. Donations will be collected that evening for Ralph Reeder food shelf. Please bring any of the following items: flour, balloons, cake mix, birthday bags, sprinkles, and frosting.

When: Friday, December 7, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Serve

Hurricane Florence Relief

Support those affected by Hurricane Florence through the ELCA's Disaster Relief by either writing a check to Incarnation with "Hurricane Florence" in the memo or donating through the ELCA website at ELCA.org.

Congregational Business

Lifetimes is Going Digital!

The October 2018 issue of the Lifetimes is going to be the last mass printed version of Incarnation's newsletter. Going forward, Lifetimes will be emailed out and can currently be found in pdf format on Incarnation's website under the "About" menu. If you don't have internet access and need a printed copy of the Lifetimes mailed to you, please contact Shelly Maesse at 651-484-7213 in the Incarnation Office. If you have any other questions, please contact Erin Thorstad in the Incarnation Office.

2018 Volunteer Appreciation Event

Mark your calendars! The 2018 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held Thursday, November 1. Check out the body of this Lifetimes issue for more details. RSVP by October 25.

When: Thursday, November 1, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Incorporation Lutheran Church Office: 651-484-7213

Web Site: incarnationmn.org - If registering online, most major debit and credit cards accepted
If payments are made at the Incarnation Office, Visa and Mastercard are accepted for payment.



Incarnation Lutheran Church

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