



Lifetimes

April 2024

From the Pastor



Pastor Kai Nilsen

For everything there is a season! We all know it's true. Nothing lasts forever. But, even knowing the truth of it, we often resist the reality of it especially when we have personally benefitted from the experience or the circumstance.

This is certainly true when we move through staff transitions in a faith community. We get used to people's presence over time. We are open to the ways they invite us to experience and express the faith. We genuinely appreciate them as humans.

So many of you had have that kind of experience with Pastor Joel. As he has now been called as a lead pastor in Naperville, Illinois, we can both be grateful for the opportunity he has to lead another faith community and be sad he is leaving. Grief is a good and right experience for a community to go through together. For everything there is a season.

So, what's next?

There is a process that we follow to call a new pastor:

- We have been in contact with Bishop Lull of the St. Paul Area Synod, alerting her that we will be moving into a call process.
- At our April meeting, the Church Council will encourage the creation of a call committee that will work closely with me in the interview process.
- The congregation will be asked to accept the nomination of the call committee after it has been affirmed by the council.
- We will fill out a ministry profile that will be sent to potential candidates.
- Having recently been working on a three-year plan, we already know the candidate will be focused primarily on Adult Formation (encouraging the Inward/Outward Journey) with oversight of other formation staff across the age spans.

- We will accept names of candidates from congregational members (feel free to let me know if you have experienced transformative pastors that you would like us to consider).
- The synod also will make recommendations.
- We hope to be interviewing over the summer.

For now, here is what you can do:

- Celebrate and encourage Pastor Joel and his family over the next few weeks. His final Sunday with us will be May 5.
- Start praying and hoping for and identifying pastors who will be creative team members for us as we move forward.

For everything there is a season. We've been blessed with a wonderful season of ministry with Pastor Joel. We anticipate, with hope, the new season ahead.

Peace, Kai



More information will be announced on celebrating Pastor Joel, Amanda, Sam, and Sybil and their time with us.



Tracy Strantz
President

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work... Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12 [New International Version]

I've been thinking about these scripture passages for several weeks now. When I think about the Body of Christ represented as parts of a body, I consider "vision" as the process of figuring out where we need to go, what we need to do, and what's needed along the way. I think about the importance of listening; encouraging questions and being open to new ideas and possibilities. I think about being the hands and feet of Jesus in this world and how many hands working together makes the seemingly impossible, possible. And perhaps most importantly, I think about the commitment and dedication it takes to do new things or big things, and how the Incarnation community continuously demonstrates heart in everything we do. Our heart is reflected in how we care for and pray for one another and others in our local and global communities.

I started reflecting on the importance of vision as I listened to Pastor Gary Anderson's two-part Kairos series a couple months ago. His discussion guided us to "see like Jesus" which is more about seeing with our hearts than seeing with our eyes. Seeing like Jesus can take on so many life-changing forms. Sometimes seeing like Jesus is seeing when

people are hurting and being willing to help. The March MN Food Share/Ralph Reeder food drive is one of the many ways our congregation makes a difference to those in need. Thank you for your generous donations!

Sometimes seeing like Jesus is about having the courage and creativity to see possibilities. We appreciate your support and inputs as we create the vision for our future. As we continue to define and execute the details in our strategic Three-Year Plan, one of our Council priorities is to regularly engage in congregation discussion forums. We appreciated all the topics and questions we received in our February discussion forums and our annual meeting. Please see updates on several of those topics in this Lifetimes publication.

We will host our next quarterly discussion forum in early May. If something is on your mind, you do not have to wait for that event. We welcome your feedback and questions anytime! You may connect with us through email at council@incarnationmn.org or come visit us in person after Sunday worship services. You will find a Council member at our mobile Welcome Kiosk which will be stationed either by Bethany Lounge or near the entrance to the church office, depending on what's going on in the Atrium any given Sunday.

We are all part of the Body of Christ. We all bring unique ideas, insights, and gifts to support the mission and vision of this faith community. Thank you for all you do as we imagine and co-create a better, more loving world.

Updates From the Council

We received many helpful suggestions and questions in our February Discussion Forums and the Annual Congregation Meeting. Here are a few updates on various topics for everyone's awareness.

Financial Updates:



The Congregation Council has responded individually to various questions concerning the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) and Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) eligibility criteria. For transparency

and broader awareness, both the PPP & ERC funds were received correctly and in compliance with IRS guidelines. In our March Council meeting, we finalized the discussion on the Voluntary Disclosure Program assessment and voted unanimously that no further action was required for Incarnation.

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Let's Talk

Email us at
council@incarnationmn.org
Welcome Kiosk - is staffed by
council members on Sunday
mornings

The Council's Communication Committee will continue providing financial updates in the quarterly congregation discussion forums. We will also partner with the Facilities Committee and staff to share updates on the facility improvements, including the roof replacement, and host Q&A sessions on the solar energy exploration.

Ministry Updates:

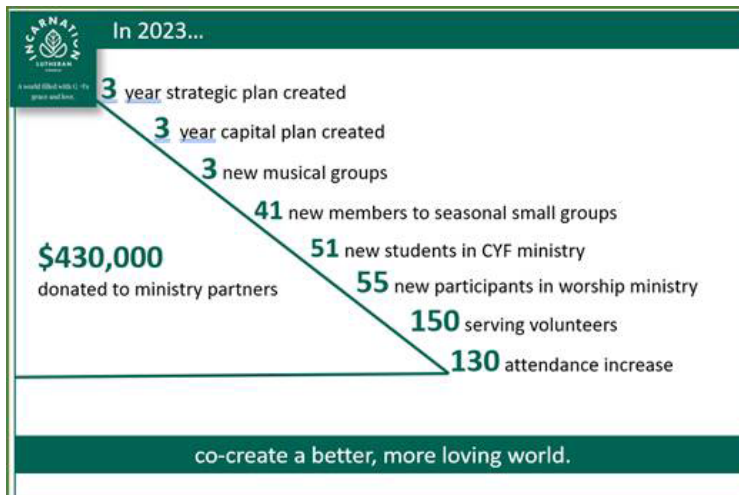
We received suggestions on transportation support for congregation members who need that service. One of the strategic pillars in our Three-Year Plan is to Innovate ways to encourage spiritual formation across the life stages. Initial priorities will focus on young adult and senior ministries. We will look forward to sharing updates as detailed plans come together. The Incarnation Care Team supports a wide variety of services, including transportation support to help people get to worship or other events. If this is a ministry opportunity you would like to learn more about or get involved with supporting, please visit our Care Team web page for more information.



Statistics

Data Sharing:

Another common interest centers around providing data metrics more frequently. We are currently in the process of updating demographic data that will be needed for our upcoming Call Committee. We will share more updates in next month's Lifetimes. For now, please see some of the data we shared in our February meetings if you weren't able to attend.



Among the Congregation

PUBLIC PRAYER LIST:

Jon Nelson, Mike Branch; Karin Brown; Nancy Ruehling; Matt Monzel; Kate Tollefson & family; Fred Knox; Dale Anderson; Joe Doncits; Roger & Dede Mattison; Jan Kuhrmeyer; June Fischer; Kirsten Blaseck; Wayne Quehl; Carol Beckerleg; Gene Lindholm; Marian Ness; Joe Stepka; Lowell Odland; Linda Hudepohl; Sue Bernlohr's mother; Lana Bergin's brother; Nicole & Troy Heller's brother-in-law; Mike Wielenberg's parents; Al and Carolyn Ek's son; Jason; Kim Wielenberg's friend, Cindy; Roger & Dede Mattison's friends, Linda and Yvonne

SYMPATHY TO: the family of Marian Johnson on her death; the family of Matt Monzel on his death; the family of Mary Beth Mutchler on her death; the family of Jack Odell on his death; Joan Lindquist & family on the death of her brother; Anita & Jim Christiansen & family on the death of Anita's father

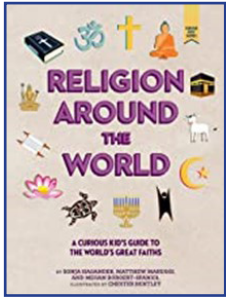
RECENTLY BAPTIZED: Catherine Hennen, daughter of Laura & Waylon Hennen

Welcome to New Members

- Caleb & Melissa Cordes – Emmett, Felicity, Lenora
- Mike & Dawn Etmund – Ben
- Sue Glennon
- Pete & Jill Larson – Charlie, Freddie & Ozzie
- Ken & Patricia Olson
- Max & Cristol Peterson
- Don & Wanda Peterson
- Bruce Sachs
- Judy Sternal
- Scott & Erin Sturm
- Caleb & Nicole Westadt – Tenley
- Judy Whitney
- Bryan & Kimberly Zlimen – Ani & Jacob
- Kyle & Sydney Zogg



Apostles Library Book Review



Religion Around the World: A Curious Kid's Guide to the World's Great Faiths
By: Sonja Hagander, Matthew Maruggi, et.al

Are you curious about some of the other world religions? Do you wish you knew just enough about them to be able to understand their beliefs in relation to those of our Christianity? Can you

name the Five Pillars of the religion of Islam? Do you know about the Five K's of the Sikh religion - or anything about the Sikh faith? Why not pretend you are a "curious kid" and find out!

Religion Around the World: A Curious Kid's Guide to the World's Great Faiths is a newly published book which explores the world's major faiths, making the traditions, beliefs, practices, and history of each accessible to children ages 8-12. Each religion is presented as a rich tradition that has served importantly for human connection and good in the world.

Colorful illustrations, charts, graphs, maps, and other infographics make this an appealing book for browsing, research, and learning. This book isn't just for young people; we're using it for a small group of adults, too.



**THURSDAY, April 18, 10:30 a.m. in Grace Hall
Doors Open at 10:00 a.m. - Program at 10:30 a.m.**

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. - NO COST

BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE!

Call the church office at 651-484-7213 to reserve your spot for lunch!

What will we be able to tell the next generation about what God was doing in our time? The story we tell THEN will be a product of the decisions and actions we take NOW!

Join Pastor Kai and fellow Primetimers in discussion and information sharing of the Three-Year Plan to deepen faith of young adults and seniors, getting our community engaged in service, and preparation for a number of critical facility projects.

We want YOU to be a part of this conversation!

Welcome to Marina Nyberg, Communications Director



Please welcome Marina Nyberg, Communications Director. She will begin on April 8.

Marina is originally from Hamburg, Germany, and moved to Minnesota after earning a master's degree in American literature and language. She comes to us from St. Timothy Lutheran Church, St. Paul, where she worked as

communications director and office administrator. Her previous work experience includes journalism, marketing communications, and PR.

Marina and her husband, Dan, make their home in Roseville. They have two adult daughters, Emily and Melissa, and a "grand dog" named Oni. In her spare time,

she loves to knit and sew and go for bike rides with Dan. They are both avid home cooks and Marina enjoys baking bread, especially the rustic northern European varieties. Having grown up near the ocean in northern Germany, Marina loves to visit and recharge along the North Shore of Lake Superior, which she fondly refers to as her "happy place."

Marina is excited to join the staff and meet the Incarnation community. Her email address will be mnyberg@incarnationmn.org.



The good news for 2024 is that we will be working close to home on new construction. The Holy Hammers (an ecumenical coalition of 15 area churches) will be working eight weeks, April 15 - June 14, to complete the construction of a Habitat for Humanity twin home at 3092-94 North Victoria Street in Roseville (across the street from Lutheran Church of the Resurrection).

Construction volunteers will be needed for interior and exterior painting, flooring installation, trim work, porch construction, etc. Food providers are needed to provide lunches and snacks for breaks. No prior construction experience is required since this is an excellent DIY learning experience. However, we do appreciate prior experience for the food providers.

Your volunteer work on a Habitat project helps a family achieve their dream of home ownership. You also benefit from the physical activity, mental stimulation, and social interaction. It is a good opportunity for the newly retired or anyone who can contribute for a day or two.

For more information contact Jim Fruehling at 651-335-3554 or jamesw.f@icloud.com.



Solid Ground

You are invited to attend Solid Ground's "Every Family Needs a Home" breakfast.

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 AM

Vadnais Heights Commons

Our breakfast is an inspiring morning of community and philanthropy.

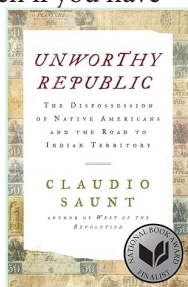
The morning will include a time for community conversation, a personal testimony from a Solid Ground participant, time to connect with Solid Ground staff, and an opportunity to financially support our work of preventing and ending homelessness.

Funds raised at the breakfast support Solid Ground's work to provide families experiencing homelessness with the hope and opportunity needed to thrive. To join others from our community at this inspiring event, indicate "Incarnation" in your seating preference as you register.

Registration is free! Register [HERE](#).

The men's history book group meets the first and third Tuesday in Bethany Lounge at 9:00 a.m. Even if you have not read the book, you are welcome to participate in the discussion if there is a topic that interests you. The upcoming books are as follows:

April - We will discuss *Unworthy Republic: The Dispossession of Native Americans and the Road to Indian Territory* by Claudio Saunt which chronicles the forced



Calling All Savvy Shoppers!

Incarnation will be collecting new and gently-used winter wear items for our neighbors at Solid Ground this fall. Please keep Solid Ground families in mind during winter clearance sales, at thrift shops and rummage sales. Warm coats, boots, weatherproof gloves/mittens, snow pants, hats and scarves in all sizes will be needed. Your generosity helps keep our neighbors warm!

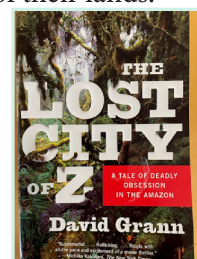


Men's History Book Group

migration of Native Americans across the Mississippi River in the 1830's and the state-sponsored theft of their lands.

May - We will discuss *The Lost City of Z: A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon* by David Grann. A fascinating story that touches on science, history, and some truly obsessive personalities.

All are welcome to come for the discussion if the topic is of interest.



CARE OF CREATION CORNER.



The Next Life for Recycled Plastics

In the Twin Cities metro area, we are fortunate to have good local and regional markets where recycled items can be sold, processed and made into new products.

Here are some examples:

- Plastic bottles, peanut butter jars, and produce containers are commonly made into new bottles at manufacturers in Idaho, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Some of these plastics are sent to Georgia to be made into carpeting.
- Milk and laundry detergent jugs and shampoo and dishwasher bottles are commonly made into a variety of outdoor products right here in Minnesota. Avon Plastics in Paynesville, Bedford Technologies in Worthington, and By the Yard in Jordan make products like plastic lumber, decking, furniture, and playground equipment. These materials may also be recycled into agricultural products, cleaning bottles, or milk crates.
- Yogurt cups and cottage cheese and margarine tubs may be sent to Ohio to be made into food containers, to Missouri for car parts and large plastic items, or to Alabama to be made into milk crates.

Learn more about what happens to your recycling at RecyclingExists.com, a webpage created by metro counties.

Blood Drive in May

It's spring! It's hard to believe that incarnation's next Red Cross blood drive is only a month and a half away.



We'd love to have you schedule an appointment to donate blood and help save lives.

The drive will be Tuesday, May 14, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Click [HERE](#) to schedule or call Gil Hartley at 651-270-5376.

Faith Formation Leader for Children's Ministry

This person will assist in adapting curriculum for the program year, assist in executing ministry on Sunday and Wednesday for children in preschool through fifth grade, assist with the planning and preparation for family & preteen fellowship events throughout the year and assist with special projects as they come up. The ideal candidate will have a heart for Jesus and children along with a minimum of two years of experience working/volunteering with children in a ministry setting. Computer skills are required. This position has flexibility to work remotely or in an office environment. Please submit a cover letter and resume to dgriffith@incarnationmn.org.

Prime Chimers

Four weeks, Mondays

April 8 - April 29

10:00 - 11:00 AM



Making music is fun! This new group will play handchimes, sing, and probably laugh while enjoying fellowship, devotions, and light snacks. Our primary purpose is to encounter God's gift of music without the stress of preparing for performance. No music background is necessary, but a desire to learn through experience is a plus.

Contact director Amy Maakestad at amaakestad@incarnationmn.org for more information and to join.

Small Group for Men (Young Adults)

A new small group is starting for men who are young adults (college-age up to age 35). The group is a chance to get together on Tuesday evenings (every other week) to get to know one another, learn about texts from the Bible, and talk about how the texts apply to our lives. Videos from *The Bible Project* (www.bibleproject.com) will be the starting place for conversation. No experience is needed. There is also an option to stay for Pickleball in Incarnation Hall after the group. The group will meet from April through early June, with the possibility of continuing over the summer. Led by: Drew Lindgren and Charlie Schwieters. Register: dfloe@incarnationmn.org.

When/Where: Tuesdays (every other week), 7:00-8:30 p.m., starting in early April at Incarnation

Kairos meets Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m.

April 7

From Incarnation to Easter: Salvation, Ecology, and Kin-dom Come

David Weiss, former college religion professor now public theology blogger

The story of Jesus is the good news of God's work for our salvation. But that good news reaches even beyond us—through us—to all creation. It's fair to say that the gospel is about salvation, ecology, and kin-dom come. Indeed, as we work to care for creation, the story of Jesus, from Incarnation to Easter, is good news in some surprising and challenging ways.

Weiss has graduate degrees in theology (Wartburg Seminary) and Christian ethics (Notre Dame). For 20 years he taught religion at Luther College in Iowa, Augsburg, St. Kate's, and Hamline. He now devotes himself to community-supported public theology on his blog, "Full Frontal Faith: Erring on the Edge of Honest" at www.davidrweiss.com. His topics range across sexuality, politics, diversity, and more, but since 2015 his primary focus has been exploring how persons of faith can respond to climate change with conviction and integrity.

April 14

Pieces, Knots and Friendship: Stories from the Incarnation Quilters
Incarnation Quilting Group

Hear from women in the Incarnation quilting group about the history of the group, see the process they use in making the "comforters", and learn about recipients of the quilts. Stories from the group will help you understand how quilt making builds not only beautiful and practical quilts but also brings the group together personally and spiritually. You may be inspired to join!

Incarnation Quilters is a longstanding group whose work not only graces the walls of the Fireside Room but supports ministries in our community and around the world. Many of the quilters have been a part of the group for years while others are new; some are not official members of Incarnation but come to share their gift and benefit from the friendships. Connections, devotions, and prayer are a part of each quilting session as are, of course, coffee, treats and plenty of conversation over the knots.

April 21

Glad, Sad, and Mad: Living With Climate Change
Luther Dale, former teaching pastor at Incarnation, long-time volunteer leader with state and national Sierra Club

Climate change has entered a new phase and urgent response is the order of the day. The glad response includes elements of hope and action that are in our control, knowing we (individually and together) have what we need to bend the

curve of a warming planet. There are things to be said about as many impacts are making life more chaotic and costly. And we can be made (energized?) at the barriers we are facing that make our response challenging, but necessary.

Dr. Luther Dale, a former teaching pastor at Incarnation, is a long-time volunteer leader with the state and national Sierra Club. He has studied, worked on and made presentations about sulfide mining and climate change issues for many years. He loves God's gift of creation and spends as much time outdoors biking and walking with his wife Roberta as weather allows.

April 28: Friends of Huruma: Serving and Empowering the Most Vulnerable

Pastor Chris Smith, founder of Friends of Huruma and active collaborator with the Huruma Centre and Iringa Diocese

The Huruma Centre Children's Home in Iringa, Tanzania is now home to 93 children. Most of these children come from very dire circumstances and, if not for the ministry of the Huruma Centre, would be trafficked and eventually die too young. Through the ministry of the Huruma Centre, their basic daily needs are met through the care of a loving and supportive staff. And through the gift of education, they grow up to be young adults, who have meaningful work, contribute to the improvement of their community, and raise families of their own.

Pastor Chris Smith, an ELCA pastor for more than 30 years and former interim pastor at Incarnation, founded Friends of Huruma, an affiliate of Bega Kwa Bega, in 2016. An affiliate of Bega Kwa Bega, it works to raise awareness and funding in the Saint Paul Area Synod and beyond to support the ministry of the Huruma Centre. Smith travels to Iringa, Tanzania each year to grow and strengthen partnership with the Huruma Centre and the Iringa Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania.



National Faith + Climate Forum 2024

Join us in the Fireside Room on Tuesday, April 16, for an enriching day of faith, creation care, and community at the National Faith + Climate Forum! Learn more and register for free here - <https://nationalfaithandclimateforum.org/>.



**BLESSED
TOMORROW.**
Caring for Creation Today

Greetings from the Music department!

By the time you read this, Holy Week will have come and gone. I want to acknowledge all of the preparation and hard work that our staff and volunteer musicians put in to create wonderfully impactful worship services in this season!



I also want to give a heartfelt “Thank You!” To our wonderful Tech crew. This group works incredibly hard to make sure our in-person and livestream worship go on without a hitch. Each member of this team plays a vital role every Sunday - especially providing a significant ongoing connection for those not able to attend in person. Live-streaming and in-person worship production is something that we can easily take for granted. To give us a bit of perspective as to how far our tech team has brought us since the pandemic, I have asked Emily Turner to give us a recap.

March 7 marks the anniversary of three years of live-streaming at Incarnation and I’m so proud of the progress that the Media Arts team has made! In February 2021, the Media Arts Department did a lot of research and purchased equipment to create two livestream systems (one for the Sanctuary, and one for Incarnation Hall) with the goal of live-streaming by Palm Sunday. On March 7, 2021, the inaugural livestream in Incarnation Hall was launched with great success and the next week on March 14, we streamed in the Sanctuary, all well before Palm Sunday.

The first versions of the livestream were made up of three laptops that travelled between the Sanctuary and

Incarnation Hall with a lot of other equipment. One computer was for live-streaming the services, one did the PowerPoints for In-Person worship, and the other did the slides for the live-streamed worship. There were two sets of PowerPoints as well: one looked like your average worship presentation while the other was adapted with a green/orange/pink background (depending on the least used color for announcement slides that week) that would be chroma keyed out (like a green screen) to present lower thirds graphics during each service. Today, the live-stream is run by two computers. The live-stream laptop is now the ProPresenter slides laptop that sends slides both to in-person worship and to the live-stream by using a series of macros programmed by Emily Turner.

When we started live-streaming three years ago, we didn’t realize all of the livestream accommodations we’d need to make for our sound system. The difference between what we were sending out on our first day vs. our most recent streams is light-years apart! Instead of using one soundboard, we use two, one for in-person and one for the livestream. We’ve added many mics to pick up the room, congregation, and instruments that are usually able to be heard without amplification if you’re attending the in-person service. These mics are sent to the livestream soundboard so that online viewers can have a fuller, more immersive audio experience.

Stay tuned for next month’s “part two” recap!

Thank you Emily, Jack, Trygve, Andy, Tommy, Ian, Paul, Isaac, Charlie, and Michael!



Known MPLS is a youth choir that uses performance-based music education to galvanize youth between the ages of 12-25 as agents of change by promoting self-esteem, leadership skills, cultural awareness, discipline and a commitment to excellence.

KNOWN MPLS **APRIL 14, 2024, 4 PM**

Freewill offering will be taken



INCARNATION
MUSIC SERIES

April 24-28, 2024 at Incarnation

In less than a month, Incarnation will be hosting our 17th Feed My Starving Children MobilePack™ from April 24-28, 2024. **We need over 2,000 volunteers to pack 614,304 meals which will feed 1,683 kids for one year and raise \$180,000 to pay for those meals.** At Incarnation, we are encouraged to think about ways we can imagine and co-create a better and more loving world. The All Hands on Hope MobilePack™ is just one way to accomplish this to make a difference in a child's life and there are several different opportunities to help.

Donate. New this year! The All Hands On Hope MobilePack has been blessed by an anonymous donor that will give everyone who feeds a child a meal for a day for one year a t-shirt! A donation of \$106 will feed one child for a year. You will then receive this unique 2024 t-shirt designed by two youth in our faith community. Thank you for considering and feeding God's children! Donations can be made [here](#). You can also drop off a check at the Incarnation office or pay using [REALM](#). Once you have made your donation, email [Katrina McCarthy](#) to request your t-shirt size (choose from small to 6XL). If you donate before April 7, your t-shirt will be delivered in time to wear at the MobilePack. **We have a goal to raise \$180,000 to pay for the meals we will pack, and to date, we have raised approximately 50% of this goal.** We need to kick the donations into high gear so when the time comes, we can focus on packing meals!



Volunteer for one or more packing shifts. Registration is easy and fast and just one, two-hour shift is impactful. Shifts are beginning to fill up, so act soon. Simply visit our [registration site](#) and choose the shift(s) that work the best for you. We have different days and times to fit your schedule and many jobs for all ages and abilities.

Feed My Starving Children just published the following updates.



Become a Specialized Volunteer. If you want to do something other than fill MannaPacks during a shift, we have two opportunities:



- Welcome Ambassadors** are responsible for greeting volunteers as they arrive, guiding and seating for orientation and distributing name tags, hairnets and jewelry bags when needed. All ages and abilities are encouraged to sign up for these 1.25 hour shifts.
- Floor Monitors** will oversee 3-4 packing stations. Responsibilities include organizing volunteers into roles to ensure Manna Packs get filled and boxed efficiently, as well as ensuring that packing stations have all necessary supplies. This role requires volunteers to be on their feet for the entire three-hour shift and be able to hear and communicate effectively in a noisy environment.

Visit our Specialized Volunteer sign up page [here](#) to review the opportunities available.

Pray. We trust that our God will provide for us to reach our 2024 goals and we ask for His guidance as we do this important work. We also ask for prayers of thanksgiving for the opportunity to come together for this event, for protection and safety of those delivering these meals, and for the children who will receive these meals to strengthen their bodies and spirits.

For detailed information about the MobilePack, visit our event [web page](#) or contact Mike Vant at mjvant@gmail.com.

Did You Know?



All Hands on Hope MobilePack™ Soup Supper a Success!

On March 20, the Feed My Starving Children Action Group hosted the All Hands on Hope Soup Supper fundraiser with all proceeds going towards the upcoming MobilePack™ at Incarnation. By all accounts, the evening was a smashing success with more than 200 people coming together in community to enjoy a delicious soup supper. The donations from that night are still being counted, but to date we raised over \$2,000 which pays for 6,896 meals to feed 19 of God's children for one year. What a night!

In addition to the attendees who generously donated, there are many people to thank: volunteers who grocery shopped, prepped the meal, served soup, cleared and set tables, washed dishes, cleaned up, took tickets, and greeted attendees along with the always supportive Incarnation staff. An extra special thank you goes out to Marilee Giere, on behalf of the FMSC MobilePack™, she volunteered all her time for planning and purchasing the meal ingredients, directing the prep, cooking and serving the four delicious soups.

We are still accepting donations to help us reach our goal of \$180,000 to pay for the MannaPack ingredients for the MobilePack. To date, we have raised approximately 50% of our goal. To donate or volunteer to pack meals, please [visit](#) our donation and registration page,



Memorials

We honor the memory of loved ones in the memorial gifts given below:

Date Range: 2/24/24 to 3/19/24

Donor	Fund Name	In Memory of
Ken & Rosalie Grosch	Memorial – Undesignated	Jim Crawford
Dale & Vernita Kennen	Memorial – ELCA – World Hunger	Jim Crawford
Marlys J. Nelson	Memorial – Endowment	Jim Crawford
Dale & Vernita Kennen	Memorial – ELCA – World Hunger	Bob Espelien

This list reflects donations that were made payable to Incarnation Lutheran Church in memory of someone. Memorials are applied to whatever fund the donor designates. If not designated, sometimes the family requests what fund they would like the memorials designated to.

Note: If a memorial gift is received and the check isn't written out to Incarnation Lutheran Church, it will be forwarded directly to the organization that the check was made payable to. Those memorials are typically acknowledged by the organization that receives the donation.

Financial Report - February 2024

Actual February Operating Giving	\$183,110	YTD Operating Giving	\$447,018	YTD Operating Giving Budget	\$525,234
Actual February Operating Expense	\$176,453	YTD Operating Expense	\$395,607	YTD Operating Expense Budget	\$465,931
TOTALS	\$6,657		\$51,412		\$59,303
Actual February Mortgage Giving	\$19,737	YTD Mortgage Giving	\$67,269	YTD Mortgage Giving Budget	\$82,000
Actual February Mortgage Expense	\$20,675	YTD Mortgage Expense	\$41,350	YTD Mortgage Expense Budget	\$41,350
TOTALS	-\$938		\$25,919		\$40,650

Incarnation Lutheran Church, 4880 Hodgson Road, Shoreview, MN 55126
incarnationmn.org 651-484-7213