



# Lifetimes

February 2024

## From the Pastor



Pastor Kai Nilsen

Fr. Richard Rohr, in one of his recent daily devotions, said,

I'm inspired by the word "engaged". What Jesus talks about is not attending or belonging but doing. He focuses on the way we do life and do life with and for the neighbor. If going to service on Sunday morning keeps us from volunteer work on Monday, service work on Thursday, and pro bono work on Friday, I don't think it's what Jesus had in mind. The soul is refined in engagement, in relationship, in doing, in connecting.

Our Lenten theme for the season, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 14 (services at noon and 7:00 p.m.), is "Engage". We understand that our life in Jesus begins with his gracious invitation. The generative energy for our lives does not come from our own initiative and/or great wisdom. But, in response, we are invited to engage in both reflecting (the Inward Journey) and acting (the Outward Journey), contemplating and engaging.

Throughout the season, we will give you opportunities to engage the story of Jesus and spiritual practices that have given the Jesus community life and hope throughout the centuries.

- **Sunday Worship:** The focus will primarily be on the story of Jesus and how he engaged the world he encountered and what that kind of life means for us.
- **Wednesday Worship:** We will gather from 7:00-7:30 p.m. and focus on one classic spiritual practice per week. Dallas Willard calls these practices of engagement: study, celebration, service, worship and community.

- **Wednesday Lunch Beginning February 21, with Pastor Joel:** From 12:00-1:00 p.m., Pastor Joel will take you on a deeper dive into each of the practices of engagement. Bring your lunch with you and/or bring a friend to join you. No need to sign up. Just come.
- **Engage Small Groups:** Intentional small groups will be developed using a material I co-wrote a few years ago as a guide. Contact Denise Floe [dfloe@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dfloe@incarnationmn.org).

In the words of Fr. Rohr, "The soul is refined in engagement, in relationship, in doing, in connecting."

Look forward to your engagement in our Lenten Season.  
Peace, Kai





Tracy Strantz  
President

2024 is going to be an exciting year! I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your Council President this year and partner with Council members, Incarnation staff, our various Committees, and most importantly, all of you, to continue progress on the goals we set for ourselves in 2023.

I want to thank our 2023 Council President, Jim Meinen, for his year of leadership and all the support he provided as we developed our Three-Year Plan. Jim will continue to serve on Council and will be part of the Task Force committed to implementing the first-year initiatives in our Three-Year Plan.

I would also like to thank Denise Fleming, Heather Yost, and Wyatt Stahl for their service on Council the past several years. Their terms completed in December, and we are grateful for their many contributions. Our congregation approved three new Council members; Mike Vant, Kevin Roloff, and Bev Ogren. We welcome them to our Council and appreciate their immediate engagement in serving in various roles.

In our January meeting, we approved our Council Officer roles for 2024:

Tracy Strantz – President  
Greta Grosch – Vice President  
Mike Vant – Treasurer  
Kevin Roloff – Secretary

Along with our other Council members: Jim Meinen, Katy Gibbs, Amy Johnson, Gil Hartley, and Bev Ogren, we are dedicated to supporting the goals for the year ahead. To learn more about all the members of your Congregation Council, please visit our Incarnation website page at <https://www.incarnationmn.org/about/council/>

(There is also a link to email the Council directly with any feedback or questions).

The Council is looking forward to sharing updates on what we achieved last year and the priorities we're focusing on in 2024. Please join us for our Congregation Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 18, following our 10:30 a.m. worship service. More details will be shared soon for those of you who wish to join through a virtual option.

We also embraced the feedback we received after last year's Annual meeting on providing preview sessions to help answer questions from congregation members ahead of the annual meeting. The Congregation Council will host two discussion forums to provide updates on the annual meeting content, answer questions, and solicit feedback:

**In-person discussion forum: Sunday, February 11 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.** in the Fireside Room.

(As a reminder, we also have a February concert series event that Sunday that begins at 4:00 p.m.)

**Virtual discussion forum: Monday, February 12 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** The online link and meeting information is provided below:

Topic: Pre-Annual Meeting Discussion Forum

Time: Feb 12, 2024 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83963653821?pwd=UUJXVnk14ZVEvcCtWdDhydDdQbExEdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 6365 3821

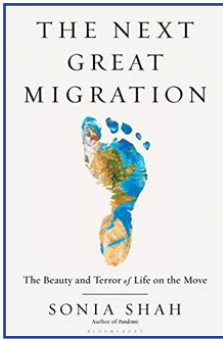
Passcode: 360670

We welcome your input and questions as we partner together to move our goals forward. Your Council is energized and dedicated to supporting these efforts.

Annual Congregation Meeting  
February 18, 11:30 a.m.  
In-person & on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84849815263?pwd=NHBoM1VHK2RseURrN3FJK2ZiW/WlIUT0g>  
Meeting ID: 848 4981 5263  
Passcode: 023712

## Apostles Library Book Review



*The Next Great Migration: The Beauty and Terror of Life on the Move* by Sonia Shah

This book is a well-researched and fascinating look at migration movements on our planet, not only by humans but also by wild species. Rather than looking at migration as a disruption, Shah shows how the history of migration in animals, plants, and humans is an ancient and lifesaving

response to environmental change. She says the migration is not the crisis but rather the solution.

By tracking the history of misinformation from the 18th century through today's anti-immigration policies, this title makes the case for a future in which migration is not a source of fear, but of hope. This book has a complete index, a large list of references and many pages of notes which you will want to refer as you read.

This may not be the easiest book you read this year but may be the most meaningful and important. Check out this title by an award-winning science journalist and author.

## New Member Class

**February 25**  
**11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Have you found your new church home at Incarnation? Are you interested in becoming a member? Come join us for our New Members Class on Sunday, February 25, after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. A lunch will be served, as together we explore our joined faith in Christ and discover our Mission, Vision and Values as a community of faith. Use the QR Code to the right to register.

Nursery care will be available during that time for children 10 and under, simply indicate if you need nursery care on the registration form.



## 2023 Photo Directory Distribution

For those with pictures in the 2023 Photo Directory, you may pick up your copy of the printed directory in the church office during the week or at the information desk at Door #1 on Sunday morning. Anyone can access the online photo directory by sending a request for the PDF file to Jim Fruehling at jamesw.f@icloud.com. You can also submit a photo for the online directory by sending your photo along with the names in the photo to jamesw.f@icloud.com.



**THURSDAY, February 22, 10:30 a.m. in Grace Hall**  
**Doors Open at 10:00 a.m. - Program at 10:30 a.m.**  
**HATS ON FOR PATI**

Pati Kachel returns by popular request to present one of her story programs, THE GLAD HATTER !

As she dons one of her wonderful collection of vintage hats, she magically becomes the characters who once wore them! You are invited to wear a hat and share a story, too.

Cost is \$10.00 payable at the door.

PLEASE Make a lunch reservation by Monday, February 19, through the church office at 651-484-7213.

## Pizzas for Preschool

A special thank you to everyone who ordered Heggies pizza for our "Pizzas for Preschool" fundraiser! It was a huge success! 250 pizzas were ordered and it raised over \$1,500 for the Preschool! Pizzas will be delivered at the end of the month and available for pick up on Sunday, February 4. In the event that you are not present at worship that day, Kirsten Henry, Director of Incarnation Preschool, will call you to arrange an alternate pick up time.

## First Communion Milestone

**Sunday, March 24**  
**1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

The First Communion Milestone at Incarnation is one of the ways we strive to help families live out their baptismal promises to their child(ren). During this Milestone, there will be a time of learning, scavenger hunt, and an opportunity to make a First Communion stole. We ask that one parent attend with their child. On Thursday, March 28 we will celebrate all who participated in this Milestone.

Visit to <https://onrealm.org/IncarnationLuth/PublicRegistrations/> to register for the First Communion Milestone.

**Sunday, February 11, 9:30 a.m.-Noon**

You are invited to a very special breakfast. Waffles are an exciting food. They are also a part of the culture of exciting places. On February 11, help us raise funds to send our high school youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2024. While there, we will learn, serve, worship, and play alongside 30,000 others. Ticket cost is \$8 in advance (selling on 1/28 and 2/4) and \$10 at the door, (\$40 per family). GF and veggie options available. Here's what you need to know:

- Cash or check ticket payments can be made in advance on 1/28 and 2/4 or \$10 per by check or cash at the door. Online electronic payments can also be made via Realm.
- Generous giving above and beyond the ticket cost is encouraged and much appreciated. Opportunities to give in every form will be available during the event. Online giving can be done here.
- We have 14 youth and 3 adults attending this incredible trip.
- There is room for more! Watch these videos, then fill-out the Youth Participation Registration form (print and return to us). Regular Registration deadline is February 14, 2024. Then increases by \$50. A \$150 deposit is due at registration and can be paid via Realm or by check. Talk to Mike or Nate for more info.
- Time is running out! The earlier one commits to this trip, the easier it will be to plan flights, lodging, and excursions while down in the Big Easy, Nawlins, NOLA.



## CARE OF CREATION CORNER.



Remember learning the ABC's? How about the 3 R's of reduce, reuse and recycle? Did you know there are more than just those three R's that relate to how we can work together to help make our environment better today and into the future?

Here are more R words to consider - - Refuse, Repair, Repurpose, and even Rot. Maybe you can think of others. But my favorite is the best and most important word of all. If we pay attention and REMEMBER, all the other words will become part of our lives and lifestyle.

## Leaving a Legacy

Most of us want to make the world a better place. This often means supporting causes we believe will help make that happen.

The Incarnation Endowment Fund may be a cause you'll find appealing. Its overarching goal is to support initiatives that make the world a better place. Contributions are invested and remain in the fund, and the earnings on these contributions are used to support initiatives that complement Incarnation's "church without walls" emphasis.

A new brochure describes the fund's purpose and the types of causes it supports, as well as options for giving—including now, as well as how to make plans to give later. Go to the Endowment Fund webpage ([incarnationmn.org/give/endowment-fund/](http://incarnationmn.org/give/endowment-fund/)) to access an electronic copy of the brochure, or pick up a paper copy at the Welcome Kiosk.

Incarnation Lutheran Church seeks a visionary **Communication Director** to join our leadership team. You'll be more than just a communicator; you'll be a strategic architect, crafting narratives that resonate with diverse audiences and amplify our mission of love and service. As the Communications Director, you will collaborate with the church leadership team and church staff to plan and implement communication of the Three-Year Plan and the on-going mission of the church. This full-time position offers a competitive salary and comprehensive medical and retirements benefits as well as a generous vacation and sick policy. If you have two to four years of experience in internal and/or external communications in a church or non-profit setting and you are competent with graphic design, including Adobe Create Suite, please send a letter of application, an example of your work, and your resume to Danette Griffith at [dgriffith@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dgriffith@incarnationmn.org). Deadline for application is February 16, 2024.

Incarnation Preschool is seeking a qualified and experienced candidate to fill an **assistant teaching** role on MWF from 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Additional hours are required throughout the school year for meetings, training, prep work, orientation, and school events. Substituting hours are also available if interested. For more information and a complete job description, contact Kirsten Henry at [khenry@incarnationmn.org](mailto:khenry@incarnationmn.org) or 651-766-0723.

### 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](mailto:dgriffith@incarnationmn.org).



**Kairos meets Sunday Mornings at 10:15 a.m.  
in the Fireside Room Mondays, Zoom, 7-8:30 p.m.  
Link to meeting on [incarnationmn.org/ministries/](https://incarnationmn.org/ministries/)**

**February 4, 10:15 a.m.**

**Seeing Eyes**

**Gary Anderson, Retired Incarnation Senior Pastor**

Eyes and sight, (not always physical!) is a consistent theme in the Bible. In these sessions we will explore the many references to eyes and the gift of seeing not just the world around us but seeing the presence of God. Gary Anderson, retired Incarnation senior pastor, will lead us to dig into both the Old and New Testaments and perhaps see scripture with new eyes.

A graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College, he received his M.Div. from Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago (LSTC). Following his 2004 retirement from Incarnation, he became interim seminary pastor at Luther Seminary for two years, then worked part-time for the Saint Paul Area Synod ELCA as director of “Crossing Bridges,” a three-year, \$2 million mission appeal and later completed a six week interim pastorate at the English-speaking international congregation in Vilnius, Lithuania.

**February 11 – 10:15 a.m.**

**The Violence Project: Reducing Violence through Research**

**James Densley, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, MetroState University**

Densley will lead examination of the phenomenon of mass shootings in the United States and an urgent call to implement evidence-based strategies to stop these tragedies, this presentation examines themes of connection and community. Densley and psychologist Dr. Jillian Peterson of Hamline University, co-founded The Violence Project, a nonprofit center located at Hamline, which has cultivated a comprehensive, interdisciplinary grasp of violence and a well-rounded strategy to combat it.

Densley is the author or editor of 11 books, including the award-winning, *The Violence Project: How to Stop a Mass Shooting Epidemic*, over 50 peer-reviewed articles in top scientific journals, more than 100 other works in various outlets such as The New York Times, TIME, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, and The Washington Post. He earned his doctorate in sociology from the University of Oxford.

**February 12 – 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Trauma and Race: A Path to Well Being**

**Micah McCreary, President**

**New Brunswick Theological Seminary**

McCreary will lead a robust discussion of racism’s impact on Black/African American, Latino, Native/Indigenous, and Asian American (ALANAs), the focus of his book, recently published by Fortress Press. His presentation will consider

the complexities and provide strategies to offer effective trauma-informed counseling, support, and healing.

McCreary, a member of the New Brunswick Classis of the Reformed Church in America (RCA), began his term as the 12th president of New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 2017. He holds a B.S. in Engineering from the University of Michigan; an M.Div. from Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University; and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University. Topics of his publications include: Church Hurt and Suicidal Ideation and What the Church Should and Shouldn’t Say and Do.

**February 18 – 10:15 a.m.**

**Health Care, Faith and Politics – Through the Lens of both Faith & Politics**

**John Marty, Minnesota State Senator**

As Christians who are called to care for ourselves and our neighbors, how do we ensure that people who are struggling with mental health get the care they need? What about people needing medical attention who cannot afford care or are turned away because of medical debt? We can find a better way to care for the health of our community.

Senator Marty represents all of Shoreview, Mounds View, Arden Hills, and most of Roseville and New Brighton. Throughout his career, John, a graduate of St. Olaf College with a B.A. in ethics, has worked to promote government ethics, environmental protection, and affordable health care for everyone. He strongly believes in the value of prevention – addressing challenges up front, to build a better future and prevent problems before they start. He is author of the proposed Minnesota Health Plan, a single statewide plan that would cover everyone for all their medical needs, while saving money through prevention, efficiency, and eliminating bureaucracy.

**February 25 10:15 a.m.**

**Partnership with Twin Cities Habitat for Affordable Housing**

**Shane Ellanson, Senior Engagement Associate,  
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity**

Ellanson will focus on Habitat’s recent work in the Twin Cities while highlighting the Roseville partnership and the home that the Holy Hammers will be working on in 2024. He will also give an overview of who Twin Cities Habitat is, what we do, and the reason that our work is so important.

His responsibilities with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity include building and maintaining relationships with community, faith, and corporate partners to encourage financial giving and volunteerism. He also manages Habitat’s a force of 400+ volunteers that are on a Habitat Volunteer site anywhere from once a month to twice a week. Shane graduated with a B.A. in political science from Gustavus Adolphus College.

Greetings from the Music Department! What an amazing year we had in 2023! We saw our music ministry grow by leaps and bounds with two new bell choirs, a new children's choir, new people joining Senior Choir, and many congregational members taking part in other musical offerings!



I'd like to give a huge heartfelt "Thank You" to all those who took part in the musical offerings on Christmas Eve. Our tech crew headed by Emily Turner, Senior Choir, Brass ensemble, Joyful Noise Children's Choir (Kathleen Johnson, director), Pianist Paul Tillquist, Amy Maakestad, and our stellar Contemporary Ensemble all came together to present diverse and highly impactful music to support to the Christmas story. I'm so grateful to have the privilege of working with musicians who care so deeply about our role in Incarnation's music ministry!

The Incarnation Music Series has taken off with great success thanks to the hard work and expert leadership of Amy Maakestad and her team! On February 11 at 4:00 p.m.,

Amy will be the featured artist on the third of four concerts offered this season. Amy will perform a thrilling program spanning 300 years of pipe organ repertoire on our beautiful organ! Mark your calendars and bring friends!

This month, members of the Senior Choir attended the National Lutheran Choir's annual "Choral TuneUp".

We had the opportunity to learn four pieces of varied repertoire under the masterful direction of Dr. Jennaya Robison who is the NLC's newly appointed artistic director. What an amazing experience! There were nearly 50 congregations represented and about 450 singers in attendance. Inspiring and informative - a great way to start our new year!

We are excited for 2024 with plans to expand our musical offerings and create even more engagement within our community, as well as the greater community at large. If you or anyone you know would like to become involved in music at Incarnation, please contact me at [sturner@incarnationmn.org](mailto:sturner@incarnationmn.org). See you in worship! Sean



**AMY MAAKESTAD**  
**FEBRUARY 11, 2024, 4 PM**

*Freewill offering will be taken*



Celebrating 25 years of Incarnation's Cassavant organ, Amy Maakestad pulls out all the stops to perform a program spanning 300 years of pipe organ repertoire. Amy loves showing people the amazing things that only the pipe organ can do.

## Scheduled for April 24-28, 2024

In early January, some of Incarnation's Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) Action Group traveled to Fargo, North Dakota, to participate in the record-setting FargoPack. This MobilePack™ took place over ten days at the FARGODOME, where shifts had as many as 2,000 volunteers at a time. When the soy dust settled, **9,712,224 meals were packed by over 27,000 volunteers**. Most importantly, these meals will **feed 26,608 kids daily for one year!** Needless to say, our team was amazed by the undertaking and inspired to return home and get ready to launch our own All Hands on Hope MobilePack™.

Held at Incarnation from April 24-28, 2024, over 2,000 volunteers will pack 614,304 meals to feed 1,683 kids a daily meal for one year. In order to pay for these meals, we are committed to raise at least \$180,000. We will be launching the volunteer registration site in February, including the need for volunteers to help with set up, tear down, and specialized volunteers on the packing floor. Please watch our social media sites or our web page (<https://www.incarnationmn.org/ministries/ministry-partners/feed-my-starving-children-fmhc/2023-all-hands-on-hope-mobilepacktm/>) for details and registration links. For now, save the dates and consider who you will invite to join you during one or more packing shifts. All are welcome to join and make a difference in a child's life in as little as two hours.

The 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:

February - *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America* by Erik Larson. The combination of the birth of Chicago, the magic of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, and a serial killer is a compelling read by a prolific author.

### PRAYER LIST:

Kate Tollefson & family; Fred Knox; Dale Anderson; Jim Crawford; Joe Doncits; Roger & Dede Mattison; Marian Johnson; 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; Bill Fitzsimmons' brother; Al and Carolyn Ek's son; Doug & Stacey Swanson's friend, Jason; Pat Fitzsimmons' friend, Rose; Kim Wielenberg's friend, Cindy; Roger & Dede Mattison's friends, Linda and Yvonne

### SYMPATHY TO:

the family of Kay Peterson on her death; Gordy Rosine and family on the death of his brother; Leah Gustafson and family on the death of her mother; the family of Audrey Friedman on her death

### RECENTLY BAPTIZED:

Haven Lorraine Saarion, daughter of Kimberly & Ben Saarion

In the meantime, we are currently accepting financial donations to help us pay for the meals we pack. Meeting the fundraising goal before the pack gives us peace of mind and the ability to focus on the logistics of the event. You can easily donate to the MobilePack™ today by visiting <https://give.fmhc.org/campaign/2404-016ea-shoreview-mn-all-hands-on-hope/c519973/>. Think about these amounts as you prayerfully consider your donation:

- \$106 feeds a child for a year
- \$424 feeds a family for a year
- \$2,255 feeds a classroom of 21 kids for a year
- \$12,000 feeds a village

Finally, we ask for you to join us in prayer for this event, for our long-time ministry partner FMSC, the partner agencies who deliver these meals in-country and our FMSC Action Group as we plan and execute the All Hands on Hope MobilePack™.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.”  
Matthew 25:35



## Men's History Book Group

March - *The Millionaires Unit: The Aristocratic Flyboys Who Fought the Great War and Invented American Air Power* by Marc Wortman. This is a tale of a group of remarkable men who were moved by the love of adventure, patriotism and a deep sense of responsibility to justify their own advantages and good fortune by risking their lives in defense of American values.

## Among the Congregation



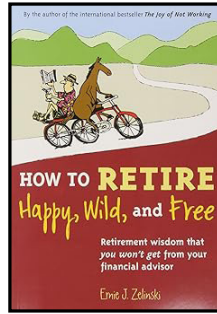
### Living With Purpose in the Life Stage of Retirement

If you're recently retired, considering retirement or want to reflect on your existing retirement, this is the small group for you. We will focus on many of the non-financial aspects that will make your retirement successful and purpose-driven. We will not discuss financial planning for retirement.

We will meet on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Incarnation, starting on February 29. The group will meet for five sessions, about twice a month, through April. We will be using the book, *How to Retire Happy, Wild and Free* and supplement with other resources.

Retirement is certainly not one-size-fits-all but come and learn from the questions and considerations of others in the group. Facilitators: Nancy Stutzman and Grant Rykken. Register: [nancystutzman@comcast.net](mailto:nancystutzman@comcast.net).

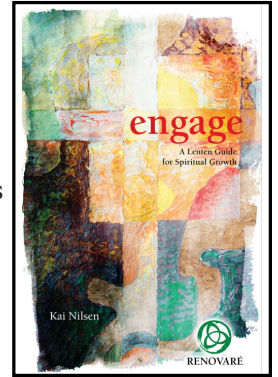
When/Where: Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at Incarnation  
Dates: 2/29, 3/14, 3/21, 4/11, 4/18



### Engage: Lent Small Groups

Lent at Incarnation is an opportunity to engage in a meaningful walk with Jesus by exploring classic spiritual disciplines used for centuries in the Christian tradition. New small groups give you a chance to talk about each practice with others and, together as a group, figure out how to apply this practice in your life. You can even try out a few new practices and hear from others about their experiences.

The groups will use a faith study based on *Engage*, a Lent devotional written by Pastor Kai Nilsen and others. The groups will be easy to do, meeting just 4-5 times during Lent. Schedule options include Sunday morning, Monday afternoon (on Zoom), Monday evening, and Wednesday evening before worship. Small groups are a great way to connect with other people, while diving deeper into the Lent theme, *Engage*, and talking about spiritual practices. Find out more: [New & Upcoming Small Groups - Incarnation Lutheran \(incarnationmn.org\)](#). Register by emailing [dfloe@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dfloe@incarnationmn.org).



### “Building a Healthy, Equitable, and Sustainable Food System via the Farm Bill”

Work on finalizing the Farm Bill continues as Congress reconvened since the current bill was extended for another year. (The bill regularly covers five years and expired in 2023.) It is anticipated that action on the bill will come within the first few months of this year, even as Congress is busy with a multitude of other issues.

We again join Bread for the World's priority emphasis on the Farm Bill, our country's most important food system legislation. The Farm Bill is important and impacts every one of us and it is critical in working to end hunger in the U.S. as well as internationally.

Hunger is NOT a partisan issue, but it is a moral issue. Please join in asking our elected officials (Senators and Representative) for their support in "Building a Healthy, Equitable, and Sustainable Food System via the Farm Bill". The Hunger Awareness and Advocacy group will staff a table on February 11 with background information and sample letters. You can write a real snail mail letter, send an e-mail, send a text, or a tweet. Phone calls work, too. Speak up as God calls you to help end hunger - - on February 11th or in the weeks before or after.

## Bread for the World Offering Letters



Sample letters and a link for email are available at:

<https://www.bread.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/OL-Sample-Letter-12-20-2023.docx>

[https://go.bread.org/page/48001/action/1?ea\\_tracking.id=2023%20Farm%20Bill&\\_ga=2.232630876.2144615982.1674483747-1450223342.1625669142&\\_gl=1\\*erojjx\\*\\_gcl\\_au\\*MjE0NDI1MDczLjE3MDEyOTMyODM](https://go.bread.org/page/48001/action/1?ea_tracking.id=2023%20Farm%20Bill&_ga=2.232630876.2144615982.1674483747-1450223342.1625669142&_gl=1*erojjx*_gcl_au*MjE0NDI1MDczLjE3MDEyOTMyODM)

# Memorials

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

Date Range: 12/21/23 to 1/16/24

Donor	Fund Name	In Memory of
Friend of Carl's	Memorial – Undesignated	Carl Kuhrmeyer
Pamela Schultz	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Trapnell Charitable Fund	Memorial – Operating	Freda Munson
Dale & Vernita Kennen	Memorial – Ralph Reeder Food Shelf	Tom Crawford
Marlys J. Nelson	Memorial – Endowment	Tom Crawford
Anna Thorstad	Memorial – Undesignated	Tom Crawford

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 - December 2023

Actual December Operating Giving	\$290,800	YTD Operating Giving	\$1,995,272	YTD Operating Giving Budget	\$2,043,760
Actual December Operating Expense	\$172,427	YTD Operating Expense	\$2,001,999	YTD Operating Expense Budget	\$2,043,764
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$118,373</b>		<b>-\$6,727</b>		<b>-\$4</b>

Actual December Mortgage Giving	\$46,215	YTD Mortgage Giving	\$341,072	YTD Mortgage Giving Budget	\$298,104
Actual December Mortgage Expense	\$33,175	YTD Mortgage Expense	\$298,100	YTD Mortgage Expense Budget	\$298,100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$13,040</b>		<b>\$42,972</b>		<b>\$4</b>



*Ash Wednesday Worship*  
*February 14*  
*Noon*  
*7:00 p.m. (Livestreamed)*

*Lent Worship 7:00 p.m.*  
*February 21, 28*  
*March 6, 13, 20*