



# Lifetimes

November 2023

## From the Pastor



Pastor Kai Nilsen

I've loved reading your responses to the sermons this fall. It's apparent that the Spirit is working in and through you—opening your mind and heart where needed, encouraging what is essential, and challenging what could potentially be a roadblock to a deeper immersion in Jesus' call to compassion, justice, service, sacrifice, and love. Continue to be open, friends. It's good and essential work!

The next month is going to invite us further into the heart of the faith and the heart of our life together in community.

You will want to be present whenever you are able. And, as we've been saying at the end of worship, bring a friend.

**Reformation Sunday:** We had the St.

Olaf Brass to lead us in worship. At the 9:00 service, we welcomed around 30 new members to our community. At 10:30, we confirmed 30 students after their journey through catechism.

**All Saint's Sunday: November 5.** Both services will be the same that day as violin, cello, and harp invite us to experience the pain and promise of resurrection. We will light candles for our Incarnation community members who died in this past year and invite you to light an individual candle for a loved one. As a community, we can be people who rejoice with one another and weep with one another. That's what a Jesus community does!

**Commitment Sunday: November 12.** We will use this Sunday to celebrate the kind of community that Incarnation is becoming. If you haven't turned in your commitment card for 2024 ministry prior to the 12th you can bring it that day. As you come through the communion line you will receive a blessing from one of our leaders reminding you that we are on this journey together and any investment we make in time, energy, and money, IS WORTH IT!

It's apparent that the Spirit is working in and through you...

**Thanksgiving Sunday: November 19.** We celebrate Thanksgiving together on the Sunday before many travel for their holiday gatherings. Throughout the hallways we will be celebrating our Church Without Walls Ministry Fair. Our core ministry partners will be present to share what they do and for you to make connection with them.

Think about this: At that point in the month, we will have had so much to celebrate together: New members in our community, students claiming their faith, the promise of Christ's presence in death and life, our ministry beyond the walls of the church, and our common commitment to one another and this ministry we get to do together.

And, there's more!

**Sunday, November 26.** Our worship theme for the Advent/Christmas Season launches: *Love Worth Experiencing!*

As we close out the year, remember that these are the core ministries that we support through the operating budget. We will need you to be generous as we close this year so we can be generative as we begin our common ministry in 2024.

Peace, Kai




**It's Worth It!**  
Stewardship 2024  
Incarnation Lutheran Church



Jim Meinen  
President

As we enter the final two months of the year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the work that our congregation and your 2023 council have accomplished over the past 10 months.

**Capital Plan**

The council and I are so grateful for the work of the Capital Plan Task Force, which delivered a thorough and well laid-out three-year plan at the October council meeting. The plan includes a variety of important projects, such as a new roof, HVAC and window replacements, solar panels, parking lot improvements, and even repairs to the organ. The task force has also prioritized these projects. We will now begin to develop a strategy to raise the funds required to implement the plan. In addition, the task force has recommended (and the council has approved) the formation of a Facilities Committee to work with staff to proactively manage and plan future capital projects. The overall goal is to have a five-year rolling plan that is well-managed. If you have an interest in volunteering for the Facilities Committee, please contact Danette Griffith by calling the church or email her at [dgriffith@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dgriffith@incarnationmn.org).

**Internal Financial Review**

We would also like to thank the team that volunteered to conduct an internal financial review. Their work is underway and will be completed before year-end with recommendations for areas of improvement and striving for best financial practices.

**Three-Year Plan**

Work continues in the development of the three-year plan. After a series of workshops, the framework has been completed and now staff is working on adding the “meat” to the plan. The plan is creating positive energy and will provide an exciting roadmap on how we can continue to grow and innovate new ways to transform more lives and in different ways.

**Communication Committee**

The Communication Committee continues to meet and listen. Our commitment is to continually find ways to increase transparent communications among staff, council, and the congregation. Some of our recent wins include the many requests for Bibles in the pews.

**Giving**

Unfortunately, our giving to the operating budget is down. In September, we fell short of our budgeted amount by \$98,600. As of September 30, our year-to-date giving is \$85,400 below our budget. In September’s *Lifetimes*, I wrote an article about the importance of our operating budget. Bottom line: our operating budget provides the necessary resources to deepen faith, grow with Christ, create relationships, and touch many lives. Incarnation is a wonderful community and we have so much potential to continue to strengthen and grow as a church without walls. However, now is the time to give to our operating budget so that we can continue to grow our worship and music and serve all the ministries for our congregation.

**Final Thoughts**

First, I want to thank all the volunteers who are working so hard on the Capital Plan Task Force, the Internal Financial Review Task Force, the Communication Committee, and all our other committees and ministries. We could not do this work without your time and talent.

Second, I want to encourage everyone to give generously to our operating budget. Your gifts make a real difference in the lives of our

congregation and the greater community.

Finally, I want to invite everyone to come to Kairos on Sunday, November 26. The council will provide an update on our 2023 Five Priorities. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas about how we can continue to grow and strengthen our church community.

I am grateful for the many ways we have worked together as a congregation over the past ten months. I look forward to our continued growth and renewal in the coming years.

Thank you for your time and support.

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Nov. 26, 10:15 a.m., Fireside Room  
What Has Your 2023 Incarnation  
Council Been Working On?

Your Council started the year  
with five priorities. An update will  
be provided on these priorities,  
including a look at the Three-Year  
Plan. Time will be allowed for  
suggestions and questions.

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**2023 Council Priorities**

1. Create a 3-Year Plan
  2. Increase Transparent Communications
  3. Conduct an Internal Financial Audit
  4. Create Budgets with Positive Net Contributions
  5. Rethink Giving
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Once again, tables will line the hallways at Incarnation highlighting the ways in which we are able to extend God's love into our immediate community and around the world. You will have the opportunity to learn more, perhaps volunteer with, and financially support the ministries that our congregation supports beyond our physical building.

November 19, the Sunday preceding Thanksgiving, has again been set aside to help you visit with members of Incarnation who are involved with a variety of outreach opportunities. Displays and conversation will be available before the traditional worship hour (9:00 a.m.) and continue throughout the morning. This means

everyone will have the opportunity to connect, volunteer, and contribute.

Join in ministry during this special season of gratitude and outreach as we live out the message of the incarnation through the many ministries supported by Incarnation and our members. Opportunities abound to connect in areas of hunger, family shelter, housing, dementia/memory care, global partnerships and assistance, and more. Come and learn how you can extend the love you have received from God. We are called to be part of the sharing of that great love. The ways to connect and serve are many - small and large, quietly and visibly, alone and with others. "Come and see".



Two Sundays in December, in addition to the Church Without Walls Ministry Fair on November 19, will provide you with the opportunity to make a gift which is truly "good". The Hunger Awareness and Advocacy group will staff a table on December 3 and 17. By gifting through the ELCA World Hunger Program, the gift you purchase will benefit your recipient as they see the help it provides others AND by providing something important to someone in need.

The gift choices are many - from livestock of all kinds (bees, llamas, sheep, chickens, pigs), to education and supplies, to gifts which support health and safety. There are opportunities to gift seminary education or provide Bibles. Some gifts benefit individuals/families while others are designed for entire communities. Gift prices range from \$10 into the thousands.

Stop by and make your "purchase" with cash or check through Incarnation. Or you can pick up a catalog from ELCA World Hunger and shop online from home later. Either way you can "gift" twice, a really good way to give a gift during the upcoming holiday season.



While donations to the ELCA World Hunger program are welcome through Incarnation or directly, year-round, this special way of gifting during the Advent season brings extra meaning to preparing for the arrival of the Christ Child.

Incarnation's first Red Cross blood drive was a success! Our next blood drive is scheduled for

**Thursday, November 9, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

As Barb Davis says below, "Blood is the gift of life." Please, follow this link if you are moved to schedule an appointment to donate:

[https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Incarnation Lutheran](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Incarnation+Lutheran)

A number of generous blood donors have already signed up.

This summer, Megan Salisbury, RN, (with her sons, Calvin and Jonah) spoke to the congregation about her experience as a pediatric ICU nurse and the vital role blood transfusion plays in the care of the babies she works with. Barb Davis would also like to encourage as many people as possible to donate and writes:

## Red Cross Blood Drive - Set for November

"I've been living with multiple myeloma, a blood cancer, for 16 years. I've had two stem cell transplants, and both required lots and lots of whole blood, packed red blood cells, platelets and four infusions of



a component of plasma called IVIG which is derived from 3,000 to 10,000 donors for each dose! Without all of these blood products I would not have survived the stem cell transplants, and so would not be here today to help other myeloma patients, or see my daughter get married and give birth to our precious granddaughter.

I am eternally grateful to all donors who help me and other cancer patients. Blood is the gift of life."



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

**November 5 and 6,  
Practicing Hope in a Season of Anxiety  
Marty Stortz, Professor Emerita  
Augsburg University**

Marty Stortz, retired Christensen Chair in Religion and Vocation at Augsburg University, will begin this two-week series with a story and then distinguish between true hope and false hope, hoping for something and hoping in something, having hope and the sense that hope somehow has you, and hope as a kind of DIY matter and hoping with someone or a community.

In the second session, she will present a hope shaped by resurrection and etched on the bodies of believers in three central practices of the faith: mourning, breaking bread together, and baptizing. As they gather in community, Christians literally re-member themselves as people of hope.

Prior to her appointment at Augsburg, she was professor of historical theology and ethics at Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley. She is author of several books, including collaboration on “Hope” with Lutheran and Roman Catholic authors.

**November 12  
Sharing LSS Mission of Healing and Love  
Rev. Amanda Simons, Director of Church Partnerships  
and Volunteerism  
LSS-MN**

Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota (LSS-MN), social ministry arm of the six ELCA synods of Minnesota, provides service in all Minnesota’s 87 counties, reaching one in 65 Minnesotans annually. Rev. Amanda Simons, Director of Church Partnerships and Volunteerism LSS-MN, will focus on our shared mission of healing and love for the sake of our neighbors through Lifehaven, a supportive home for teen moms and their children, and other ministries in your community and across the state. Incarnation is a critical partner supporting this ministry, so together we express the love of Christ for all people through service that inspires hope, changes lives and builds community.

A graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Simons is deeply passionate about local mission, community engagement, and advocacy, particularly for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. Before this specialized ministry call through the St. Paul synod, she was pastor of Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, St. Paul.

**November 13  
Humor in the Bible  
Michael Chan, Executive Director for Faith and Learning  
Concordia College, Moorhead**

When people think about the Bible, they often think about an old, stuffy, and “holy” book. But what they often miss is that the Bible sometimes communicates its holy words in hilarious ways. Michael Chan, Executive Director for Faith and Learning at Concordia College, Moorhead, will explore the Bible’s most humorous texts, not only for the sake of entertainment, but also to demonstrate that humor is an important way in which God can speak to us, not only in the Bible but also today.

Chan is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University (B.A.), Luther Seminary (M.A. in Old Testament), and Emory University (Ph.D.). He has written many articles and books including *Introducing the Old Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey* (with Rolf Jacobson). In addition to being a sought-after speaker and author, he also hosts the Gospel Beautiful podcast.

**November 19 Kairos Opportunity:  
Church without Walls Ministry Fair**

**November 26, 10:15 a.m., Fireside Room  
What Has Your 2023 Incarnation Council  
Been Working On?**

Your Council started the year with five priorities. An update will be provided on these priorities, including a look at the Three-Year Plan. Time will be allowed for suggestions and questions.

2023 Council members are: Jim Meinen (President), Heather Yost (Vice President), Greta Grosch (Secretary), Denise Fleming (Treasurer), Wyatt Stahl, Katy Gibbs, Amy Johnson, Gil Hartley and Tracy Strantz.

## CARE OF CREATION CORNER.



Rake leaves this fall as a family, as a group of friends, or as a church youth group helping someone. Look for ways to **turn the leaves into mulch** so they continue to feed the soil, rather than bagging them and sending them to the landfill. Maybe your group can mow twice and make that mulch. Certainly you will want to take any bagged leaves to the local compost site rather than place them out for the trash hauler. Talk about the process God supplies for continuing to nourish the land, which in turn nourishes all of life.

## Primetimers is Back!

**THURSDAY, November 30, 10:30 a.m.**

**GRACE HALL at INCARNATION**

Come join others and hear about THE ROCKET CLUB! Don't know what that is? Come and find out! Come and enjoy the presentation by Pastor Brian Bergin and club members!

Please make your reservations for the luncheon through the church office at 651-484-7213.

## Positions Available

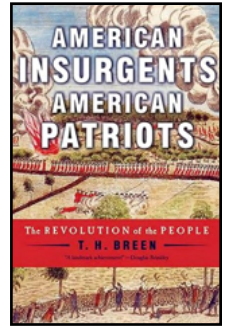
Incarnation Preschool is seeking a qualified and experienced candidate to fill an assistant teaching role on MWF from 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Substituting hours are also available if interested. For more information and a complete job description, contact Kirsten Henry at [khenry@incarnationmn.org](mailto:khenry@incarnationmn.org) or 651-766-0723.

Incarnation is seeking a qualified and experienced candidate to fill the Communications Coordinator position. This position is for 25 hours a week and is a one-year contract. Please send a letter of application and resume to Danette Griffith, Administrator, at [dgriffith@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dgriffith@incarnationmn.org) by November 5.

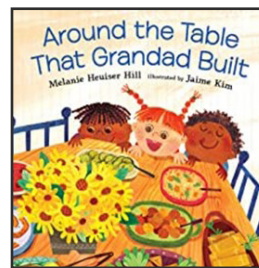
Full descriptions are on [incarnationmn.org/about/employment/](http://incarnationmn.org/about/employment/).

## Men's History Book Group

Our book for December is *American Insurgents, American Patriots: The Revolution of the People* by T.H. Breen, an account of the insurgency that led to our nation's founding. Two years before the Declaration of Independence, American insurgents in all 13 colonies concluded that resistance to British repression required organized violence against the state. They channeled popular rage through elected committees of safety and observation, which before 1776 were the heart of American resistance. The history book group meets the first and third Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. in Bethany Lounge. Even if you have not read the book, you are welcome to attend to participate in the discussion of this somewhat forgotten history of American independence.



## Apostles Library Book Review



*Around the Table That Grandad Built*

By Melanie Heuiser Hill

This book tells the true story of the author and ELCA pastor's family's table. The table was built with lumber from a tree in their yard which had fallen in a windstorm/tornado and was big enough to seat her extended family. The book, with lively illustrations, is a celebration of family, friendship, and food.

The story is a cumulative one—think “This is the House That Jack Built”—so it begins with the table but then there are flowers, then napkins, then plates and more. The table is filled and there are hands held while grace, thanks, and shared love.

This is an obvious story for Thanksgiving but is wonderful for sharing whenever a family gathers for a meal. The vibrant colors and the happy-faced children will appeal to the youngest children and you will want to share this book with them.

Vernita Kennen saw this book used by a congregation for their Thanksgiving Eve service. Items in the adapted story were brought to the altar by young people, including the pies shared after worship! The sharing of the Lord's Supper was served as the congregation gathered around the well-laden table, truly feeling like family.



# Share the Joy of Baking this Holiday Season

## **HOLIDAY BAKING BAG DRIVE**

Join us in spreading warmth and joy this holiday season by creating a Holiday Baking Bag for a family in need. Your simple act of kindness can make someone's holiday season a little sweeter!

### **WHAT TO INCLUDE:**

**FLOUR**

**WHITE SUGAR**

**BROWN SUGAR**

**OIL**

**CHOCOLATE CHIPS**

**VANILLA**

**BAKING POWDER**

**BAKING SODA**

**OPTIONAL – SPRINKLES,**

**COOKIE CUTTER, MEASURING CUPS, ETC.**

- *Add a personal touch by including your favorite cookie recipe*

- **Please return your baking bag to the church no later than December 10, 2023**



The Ralph Reeder Food Shelf (RRFS) has a holiday project underway! We want to help RRFS meet their goal to provide all of their clients with a bag of goodies for holiday baking. You can help to provide this baking opportunity to our neighbors with food insecurities in a number of ways.

First, you can provide any number of complete “Holiday Baking Bags” by collecting each item in the “Holiday Baking Bag Drive” list (see above) into a shopping or gift bag; then drop them off at Incarnation or RRFS.

Second, you can purchase any items from the “Holiday

Baking Bag Drive” list and drop them off at Incarnation or RRFS.

Third, you can make a financial donation that is always welcome. Donate online (link to <https://onrealm.org/IncarnationLuth/-/give/now>) or make checks out to Incarnation—with “Ralph Reeder Food Shelf” in the memo.

Note that non-perishable donations should be dropped off at RRFS or Incarnation no later than December 10. Thank you for making the holidays merry and bright for our neighbors in need!



### Save the Date: April 24 – 28, 2024 at Incarnation

Mark your calendars for the All Hands on Hope Feed My Starving Children MobilePack™ happening at Incarnation Lutheran Church from April 24-28, 2024. Over five days, we will host 2,000 volunteers to pack over 600,000 meals to help feed children all over the world suffering from food insecurity.

This MobilePack™ makes it simple for our community to support our ministry partner, Feed My Starving Children, by showing up and positively impacting world hunger. Every year, millions of children die from preventable causes such as pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and undernutrition. Hunger is still causing nearly half of deaths in children under five years old. From this data, we estimate at least 6,200 children die each day from causes related to undernutrition. (Source: fmsc.org) By participating, you can help reach children who are negatively impacted.

This will be our 17th MobilePack™ held at Incarnation. Since 2007, we have hosted over 29,000 volunteers who have packed more than 9 million meals and raised over \$1.8 million to combat world hunger. We continue to work toward feeding kids, until all are fed.

Plans are being finalized now for daily shifts and times but we will need All Hands on Hope to make this happen. To help us prepare for the MobilePack™, we are seeking volunteers to join our Action Group. The Action Group plans MobilePacks™ and other ongoing efforts supporting

this valued ministry partner. Specifically, help is needed with fundraising, hospitality, volunteer recruitment/registration and logistics coordination. We encourage all with a passion to feed God's hungry kids to join us and be a part of this exciting event. We are especially looking for students who can help promote the MobilePack™ within their school communities.

The Action Group meets on the last Tuesday of each month from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. throughout the year. Attendance depends on the task at hand. Members of a subcommittee may not need to attend the monthly meeting, but are always welcome.

Watch the FMSC at Incarnation social media sites, *Lifetimes* and weekly worship email announcements and our event web page for more details regarding registration and financial support. In the meantime, please pray for all those involved in planning this event, in-country partners who distribute meals and the recipients of these live-saving meals.

For more information, contact Mike Vant at [mjvant@gmail.com](mailto:mjvant@gmail.com).



Greetings from the music department! It has been an exciting fall so far with the growth of our youth ensembles and participation of our community members offering their gifts of music in worship. We are thrilled to see the need to expand the bell choir offerings as well as the overwhelming support of our children's choir "Joyful Noise".

We are so grateful to Kathleen Johnson for the tremendous work she is doing with this group. I am thrilled to tell you that on the 19th of November, Joyful Noise and the Senior choir will join together offering two musical selections during worship. Having the opportunity to bring generations together making music is a thrill that will certainly bless our community.

Also on the 19th of November, in keeping with our mission to open our doors to the community at large, we will be hosting a concert featuring roughly 40 residents of an organization called Wingspan. Wingspan Life Resources is a non-profit organization that offers residential care in



### A Few Notes from Worship & Music

group homes and In-Home programs to adults with developmental disabilities. I have had the great privilege to direct a glee club for this organization for a number of years. In addition to Wingspan residents, this concert will also feature a wonderful African guitarist from the Congo named Siama. His boundless joy and love for people will make this a very special and unique event. You are welcome to join us at 2:00 p.m. for this free event that will last about an hour.

Even though our music programs are underway, please know that if you have an interest in becoming involved you are absolutely welcome to join. Please see the additional ensemble opportunities on page seven and feel free to contact Amy Maakestad or myself for more information.

See you in worship!  
Sean



### Winter Small Group: The Saint John's Bible

Explore the illuminations (artwork) and calligraphy (written text) of The Saint John's Bible. Hear how this illuminated Bible was created and how it is being used at Incarnation and in the community to ignite spiritual imaginations. Experience the faith practice of Visio Divina



to see and hear how the illuminations speak to you and to others. This is an exceptional opportunity – Incarnation has a Heritage Edition of The Saint John's Bible (one of only 300 copies). Past group members have found this small group to be rich with insights and information. Led by Grant Rykken. To register or find out more contact [dfloe@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dfloe@incarnationmn.org).

When/Where: Five sessions, starting in January 2023, at Incarnation

### Sunday Small Group

Connect with others after the 9:00 a.m. worship service and take part in a short faith study. This group will meet for only three Sundays in November. It's an easy way to step into a small group and a great way to meet others. Facilitated by Denise Floe and others. To register or ask questions contact [dfloe@incarnationmn.org](mailto:dfloe@incarnationmn.org).

When/Where: Sundays in November, 10:00-11:15 a.m., at Incarnation

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Find all the latest information by visiting the Incarnation website.

→ [Ministries](#) → [Small Groups](#) → [New Small Groups](#)

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## 2023 Confirmands

Andrew Jay Bangasser  
Jacob Ryan Coddington  
Aleksa Lynn Ebben  
Milla Letnes Erickson  
Ella Ann Friedman  
Hannah Rose Fury  
Jackson Michael Genia  
David James Gibbs  
Emmett John Mischel Haller  
Audrey Nichole Halverson  
Benjamin Jay Handelsman  
Ashlyn Marie Heineman  
Ryan Dean Hill-Malvick  
Alexander William Hovland  
Sarah Anne Johnson  
Luca William Kopacz  
William James McQuay  
Joseph Randall McVean  
Aaron James Morphew  
Barrett James Nelson  
Sierra Ryan O'Connell  
Isabella Grace Passaro  
Emma Grace Pokorny  
Levi William Quast  
Logan Jacob Speckel  
McKenna Kay Stone  
Madeline Kathleen Uelmen  
Delaney Julianne Wald  
Faith Addison Zernicke  
Maya Jo Zunker

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## Among the Congregation

### PRAYER LIST:

Carl & Jan Kuhrmeyer; Maggie Yauk; Jim Mishek; Becky Trancheff; Pastor Donald & Emmy Kiwanga; Jaime Stockton; Maddie St. Martin; June Fischer; Kirsten Blaseck; Wayne Quehl; Carol Beckerleg; Gene Lindholm; Marian Ness; Joe Stepka; Lowell Odland; Linda Hudepohl; Sue Bernlohr's mother; LeAnn Sullivan's daughter, Ruthie; Lana Bergin's brother; Bob & Sue Lange's nephew; Nicole & Troy Heller's brother-in-law; Mike Wielenberg's parents; Bill Fitzsimmons' brother; Al and Carolyn Ek's son; Roger & Dede Mattison's friends, Linda and Yvonne

### SYMPATHY TO:

Katie Johnson & family on the death of her mother

### RECENTLY BAPTIZED:

Harper Leocadia Erding, daughter of Tyler & Kayla Erding

### RECENTLY MARRIED:

Justin Willenbring and Jessica Radmann

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## Thank You from the Schultz Family

The family of Tom Schultz wishes to thank all who gave so generously to his memorials. Your kindness touches our hearts and will benefit the lives of many others through the Tanzania Scholarships and the Rice Street Garden Project.

THANK YOU



## Music Opportunities

It is not too late to join a music ensemble! You are very welcome to come and make music with friends. Contact Amy Maakestad at [amaakestad@incarnationmn.org](mailto:amaakestad@incarnationmn.org) for more information and to join.

### Prime Chimers

**Five weeks, Mondays**

**November 6 – December 4 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**

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.

### Joyful Noise

**Wednesdays, 5:15- 5:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room**

Children in Grades 1-5 who love to sing are invited to join this fun new singing ensemble. We will gather each week in a positive environment to learn the words and music to new songs as a group. Children will make new friends as they sing God's praises together.

### Bells of Praise

**Wednesdays, 5:15 - 5:45 p.m. in the Handbell Room**

Youth in Grades 4 – 12 are invited to join this fun handbell ensemble. Rehearsals are spent developing both handbell and handchime technique while reading music. In addition to forming lasting friendships, important outcomes of belonging to this ensemble are learning the songs of our faith and contributing to worship.

### Grace Notes

**Wednesdays, 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. in the Handbell Room**

Children in Grades 1-5 are invited to join this new handbell ensemble. We focus on learning basic handchime technique, learning music notation, and playing together with others. Children will experience a positive and supportive environment during rehearsals as we learn to make music as an ensemble.

## Incarnation Music Series

The Incarnation Music Series will feed the heart, mind, and spirit of the community through the gift of music. We are striving to fill the world with God's grace and love through locally available, high-quality music. This is an opportunity for us to give generously and inspire hope. We invite you to experience the transforming power of music. Bring a friend!

**December 10, 2023**

**4:00 p.m.**

### **Twin Cities Bronze, handbell ensemble Freewill Offering**

Twin Cities Bronze is an auditioned handbell ensemble of advanced ringers known for its energetic and visually appealing performance style. Distinctive among handbell groups for performing without a conductor, audiences experience the sensitive musical interpretation and technical precision of this excellent ensemble.



## Financial Report - September 2023

Actual September Operating Giving	\$102,072	YTD Operating Giving	\$1,363,868	YTD Operating Giving Budget	\$1,449,330
Actual September Operating Expense	\$164,143	YTD Operating Expense	\$1,498,964	YTD Operating Expense Budget	\$1,535,296
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>-\$62,071</b>		<b>-\$135,096</b>		<b>-\$85,966</b>

Actual September Mortgage Giving	\$16,023	YTD Mortgage Giving	\$249,611	YTD Mortgage Giving Budget	\$223,578
Actual September Mortgage Expense	\$33,175	YTD Mortgage Expense	\$223,575	YTD Mortgage Expense Budget	\$223,575
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>-\$17,152</b>		<b>\$26,036</b>		<b>\$3</b>



# Memorials

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

Date Range: 9/24/23 to 10/19/23

Donor	Fund Name	In Memory of
Bill & Joyce Winefeldt	Memorial – Undesignated	Al Anderson
Camilla Kania	Memorial – American Cancer Society	Lu Durbahn
Marlys J. Nelson	Memorial – Cemetery	Lu Durbahn
Carl & Jan Johnson	Memorial – Endowment	Lu Durbahn
Gene & Mary Lou Lindholm	Memorial – Undesignated	Lu Durbahn
Vincent & Deborah Louwagie	Memorial – Undesignated	Lu Durbahn
Jill Hallenberger	Memorial – Undesignated	Lu Durbahn
Murt Seltz	Memorial – Undesignated	Lu Durbahn
Carl & Jan Johnson	Memorial – Endowment	Martha Husby
Emily Boler	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Leonard & Kathleen Carlson	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Andy & Tami Claybaugh	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Gary & Cheryl Forbord	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Roger Hanson	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Betty Husby	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Debra Husby (Multiple Donors)	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Harry & Marian Johnson	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Robert & Elizabeth Peterson	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Rudy & Pamela Rose	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Bill & Joyce Winefeldt	Memorial – Undesignated	Martha Husby
Ken & Rosalie Grosch	Memorial – Worship & Music	Chris McDermid
Gene & Mary Lou Lindholm	Memorial – Cemetery	Tom Schultz
Jim & Carol Fruehling	Memorial – Endowment	Tom Schultz
Cal & Sharon Wilson	Memorial – Endowment	Tom Schultz
Sue Krabbenhoft	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Dick & Merida Abraham	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Gary & Mary Ann Anderson	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Joyce Anderson	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
George & Connie Aram	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Dave & Anne Cremons	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Barb Davis & Fatih Kinoglu	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Jerry & Sharon Dufeck	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Greta Grosch	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Paula Harris	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
David & Cheryl Hatfield	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Jackie Holmstrom	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
James & Gretchen Kvikstad	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Carol Lacey	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Will & Carolyn Liebenow	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
David & Mary Beth Mutchler	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Marlys J. Nelson	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Gina Nerison	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Gary & Nancy Olson	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Larrie & Lou Ann Reese	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Pamela Schultz (Arthur, Duncan, Keith, Pam)	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Bev Seabloom	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Murt Seltz	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Lynda Thompson	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Anna Thorstad	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Douglas & Charlane Ward	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz
Larry & Donna Wipf	Memorial – Tanzania Education	Tom Schultz

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.



Welcome to the following new members!

Amy & Mike Betty

Dave & Sue Carlson

Jeff, Sherryse, Eleanor, & Isador Corrow

Garrett & Kristie Giese

Amanda & Athena Johnson

Kelly Johnson

Kurt Johnson, Stephanie Garcia & Alanna

Judy Olson

Kathryn & William Pearson

Barb Romstad

Suellen Rundquist

Brad & Sara Solberg

Barb & Marlyce Stennes

Bryce & Patti Williams

Darren, Maggie, Connor, & Tucker Yauk

Bev & Mike Zelinski

Not Pictured:

Sean & Zahia Bartz

Irene & Daniel Brink

Greg, Tara, & Eddie Ferguson

Jeremy Johnson, Leah Gustafson, Noah & Kellen

Dan & Kathy Kvinge

Kathleen Park

Katharine, Daniel, Audrey & Hannah Pritchard

