



# INCARNATION

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP



### April 19, 2026 | Worship at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

All live-streamed worship will be on Vimeo, but you don't need a Vimeo account to view the live stream. The live stream will begin about ten minutes before the start of the service, so you can ensure you are connected.

Connect to Worship at [9:00 AM](#) and [10:30 AM](#)

[PDF Bulletin & Announcements](#)

[Watch later on Facebook](#)

[Watch later on the Web](#)

### Prayer Concerns

Tom Kosobayashi; Dede Mattison; Karen Ruff; Ronald Anderson; Dottie House; Carlos Rodriguez; Erin Holmen; Deb Rykken; Karen Stauder; Kara Genia & family; Jon Nelson; Kate Tollefson & family; Carol Beckerleg; Marian Ness; Lowell Odland; Linda Hudepohl; Linda Brynjulfson's sister; Waylon Hennen's uncle & godmother; Kara & Mike Johnson's son & daughter-in-law; Kristin Davis' father; Katie Gray's daughter, Erin; Nicole & Troy Heller's brother-in-law; Kay Leerssen's daughter; Tom Henk's brother; Deb Rykken's brother; Sue Bernlohr's mother; Mike Wielenberg's mother; Al and Carolyn Ek's son; Judy Nelson's friend, Leona; Nancy Haugen's friends David, Michelle & family and Colette & family; Kim Wielenberg's friend, Cindy; Dede Mattison's friends, Allan and Yvonne; caregivers

*To be added to the public prayer concerns list, please get in touch with [Julie Durbin](#). If you would like to add someone else to the public prayer concerns list, please obtain their consent first.*

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### Altar Flowers

If you would like to have altar flowers given in honor or memory of someone, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Incarnation Office at 651-484-7213 to sign up (cost: \$25). Donations help offset the cost of the beautiful flowers the Worship Arts team provides. Altar flowers express our love for God, enhance our gathering around the Word and Sacrament, and represent changing seasons both in the church year and in nature.



Click on the image above to link to our giving page.

## Giving a Gift

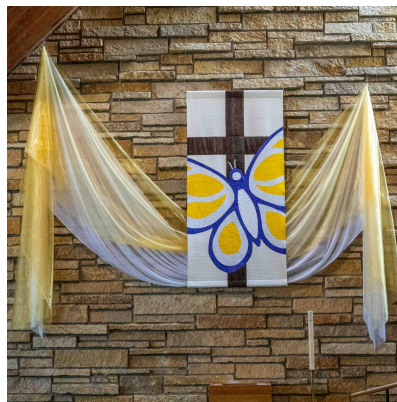
We are grateful for your continued support of the ministries at Incarnation. Your generosity is not only vital to our church's worship but helps us have an impact on people in the surrounding communities and beyond. We invite you to continue with us on this journey! If you have questions about setting up an electronic recurring donation or making a gift through stocks, an IRA, or a donor-advised fund, please reach out to [Amy Faymoville](#), our gifts manager.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### Easter Worship Banner

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

The Easter banner features two symbols of the Resurrection—an empty cross and a butterfly. The empty cross represents a risen and living Christ. The butterfly signifies bursting from the grave and being raised to a new life. Parallels have been drawn between the stages of the life of a butterfly and the life of a Christian. The plain looking chrysalis, wrapped in what reminds one of burial shrouds, parallels the grave. The chrysalis emerges as a beautiful butterfly. White and gold, the liturgical colors for Easter season, symbolize purity, light, glory and joy.



### New Member Class on April 19

Join our New Member Class on **Sunday, April 19, 11:30 am–1:30 pm**, after 10:30 am worship. Lunch will be provided as we explore our faith, mission, vision, and values.

We will receive our New Members during the **9:00 am worship on May 3, 2026.**



New Member Class  
Sunday, April 19  
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM



# MINNESOTA MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA

**APRIL 19, 2026, 4 PM**

*Freewill offerings gratefully accepted*

Experience the music of this old-world string instrument from a community group founded to preserve and foster the enjoyment of mandolin music. With 30 musicians playing mandolin, mandola, mandocello, guitar, and bass, their repertoire includes everything from pops to classical.

Incarnation Lutheran Church  
4880 Hodgson Rd, Shoreview, MN 55126  
[www.IncarnationMN.org](http://www.IncarnationMN.org)

**INCARNATION  
MUSIC SERIES**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Quick Links:

[AHOH  
MobilePack™](#)

[Pickleball](#)

[Small Groups](#)

[Serve](#)

[Giving](#)

### Council President Notes

As shared in the April 4 update, the council is moving forward with a short-term contract role for a staff pastor rather than filling a permanent position right now. Why? Pastor Janet Karvonen-Montgomery's retirement is stretching the staff to fulfill pastoral care, day-to-day support, and visiting that pastors provide to congregation members. Pastor Kai and Pastor Joy, along with other faith formation staff, have remarkably risen to the occasion. We

would like to increase support in the area of pastoral care and allow Pastor Kai and Pastor Joy to give more time and energy to other ministry responsibilities.

There is another benefit to bringing someone in on a contract basis. The staff pastor will be able to get to know our congregation, and the congregation can get to know the staff pastor. If the relationship turns out to be a great fit for our community, it may smooth a future call process for a permanent position.



This kind of short-term role does not require a congregational call. The call process outlined by the synod is designed for permanent positions, such as an interim lead pastor or a new rostered minister. It does not apply to a short-term role like this one.

I am pleased to share that the process of clarifying our current pastoral needs and identifying potential candidates has reached a milestone.

A candidate has been identified and approved by the Congregation Council. The contract role will include preaching, pastoral care, ministry support for funerals, and making connections with our senior living communities. Once involved parties are notified and contractual details are finalized, we look forward to making introductions and sharing next steps with the congregation.

Ted Trahan, Council President

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## Volunteer. Donate. Pray.

Incarnation's All Hands on Hope MobilePack™ begins this week on Wednesday, April 22! Join over 2,000 volunteers as we pack more than 600,000 meals, which will feed 1,683 kids one meal a day for a year. Supporting this event is easy.

Visit our team in the atrium during the morning worship services at Incarnation on April 19. We can provide more information, help you register for a shift, or make a donation. Don't forget to enter our raffle for some wonderfully handcrafted gifts. Drawing will be held at 10:15 am on Sunday!

We need **All Hands on Hope** to make this event successful:

### Volunteer:

- Gather family, friends, co-workers, and anyone who has two hours to donate to help feed God's kids. [Register to Volunteer here.](#)
- We are looking for Specialized Volunteers to help welcome volunteers to the MobilePack and assist on the packing floor. Register to volunteer as a [Specialized Volunteer here.](#)

### Donate:

- Incarnation has committed to raising \$180,000 to pay for the meals we will pack. One meal costs \$.29, and it only costs \$106 to feed a child for an entire year. **Through March, we are at 57% of our goal.** To donate, [visit the FMSC Donation Page.](#) Each donation of \$106 or more will receive their choice of a free gift donated by the ILC Men's Wood Working Group or a knitted prayer square.

### Pray:

- Please join us in prayer for this event; for Incarnation's Action Group, volunteers, FMSC staff, FMSC partners distributing meals around the world, and for the recipients of the meals.

**VOLUNTEER.  
DONATE.  
PRAY.**



## March MN Foodshare Campaign a Huge Success!

On behalf of the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf Action Group, I want to extend a HUGE THANKS for making this year's March MN FoodShare campaign a HUGE success. Through your generosity, we donated 837 pounds of non-perishable items and \$41,250! Thank you for your giving to help our neighbors who struggle with food insecurity. Blessings to you all this Easter season.

Claudia Wiebold



### Plan Ahead — May 3 Is the Offering of Letters

Incarnation will this year on May 3 have the opportunity to learn more and contact our federal representative and senators about efforts to end hunger. The Hunger Awareness and Advocacy group will provide information and ways to contact those whose votes make a difference in policy and in funding to “Nourish Our Future” — protect and strengthen nutrition programs that help children reach their full potential” here and around the world.

Let these words in prayer prepare and guide us in this work:

*God of love, We gather this day to worship you; to hear your word proclaimed,  
to pray for our neighbors, near and far, and to offer the gift of our voices  
and our words so that children around the world have enough nourishing  
food that they will thrive. Amen.*



## You're Invited to Solid Ground's "Every Family Needs a Home" Breakfast on May 6

Please Register by Friday, April 24

Our ministry partner, Solid Ground, invites you to attend their Every Family Needs a Home Breakfast—a meaningful and inspiring gathering focused on preventing and ending homelessness.

Solid Ground works to ensure families have a safe place to call home by providing housing, resources, and holistic support that empowers families to build stability and thrive. At this breakfast, you will hear powerful, firsthand stories from families whose lives have been transformed through this work and learn more about the impact Solid Ground is making in our community. You will also have the opportunity to support Solid Ground's work of preventing and ending homelessness.

To join others from our community, please contact Diane Betterley at [dianebetterley@gmail.com](mailto:dianebetterley@gmail.com) or register using the link below and indicate "Incarnation" in your seating preference. This invitation is open to all, so feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors. We hope you'll consider being part of this meaningful event!

Solid Ground's

EVERY FAMILY  
NEEDS A *Home* 

BREAKFAST

**May 6, 2026**

**TIME:**

7:30 AM Coffee/Registration  
8 AM Program

**NEW LOCATION:**

Jimmy's Event Center  
3565 Labore Avenue  
Vadnais Heights, MN 55110

Register Now!



## Next American Red Cross Blood Drive

The Incarnation community continues to provide life-giving blood to people in need in our region and across the country. We'd love to have you as one of those vital blood donors at our next blood drive on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026, from 10 am–4 pm.**

If you'd like to make an appointment to donate blood, please follow this link:

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

The Red Cross is always eager to maximize the impact of your donation. One way to do that is to do a Power Red donation. This is a donation in which you donate 2 units of red blood cells and receive the plasma and platelet fractions back. If you'd like more information about Power Red donation, please follow this link:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/types-of-blood-donations/power-red-donation.html>



## Welcome to Summer Celebration! Sunday, May 31, 10 am – 1 pm

All are welcome to join us as we welcome and celebrate the start of a new season with bouncy houses, a rock wall, a food truck, and fun! We hope to see you there! Don't forget to bring a friend 😊

## Kairos

**Kairos educational forums will be held at 10:15 am in the Fireside Room unless otherwise noted.**

### April 19

#### **Regenerative Agriculture and Climate Change: Can Farming Save the Planet and Equitably Feed the World?**

Presenter: Tim Reese, Manager of Gale Woods Farm, Educational facility of Three Rivers Park District

As stewards of the land, farmers play a crucial role in environmental issues. The choices farmers make are part of the larger food system in which we all play a part as consumers. The Lutheran ethic of environmental stewardship advocates our responsibility to the earth and care for each other. Learn how regenerative agriculture is attempting to address these crucial challenges.



Reese has a master's degree in Agriculture Education from the University of MN and an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies from St. Olaf College. He believes in the power of experiential education and the ability of natural spaces to inspire people toward solutions to our social and environmental challenges.

## April 26

### **Food, Farming, and Faith: Regenerative Agriculture as Christian Practice**

Presenter: Rev. Christian Muellerleile, Farmer-Pastor at Good Courage Farm

Before becoming a pastor, Christian worked at several food co-ops and Community Supported Agriculture farms in the Twin Cities and surrounding areas. He is an alumnus of Gustavus Adolphus College, the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Luther Seminary, and the Collegeville Institute Rural Minnesota Fellows Program. He also served as the Vice Chair of Meeker Area Ministries, a ministry that has housed homeless people in Meeker County since its founding in 2010.



Christian lives in Litchfield, MN, with his spouse, Kateri, and kids, Antonia and Augustin, where they enjoy outdoor adventures, music, and good food. In particular, Christian loves to sing the faith and dig in the dirt. His interests include mountain biking, canoeing, skiing, archery, neo-monasticism, outdoor ministry, fishing, guitar playing, and contemplative spirituality. In his role as Farmer-Pastor, Christian oversees the intersection of fieldwork, faith formation, and hospitality. Volunteers who come to the farm to help grow the food that we give away will find Christian a welcoming, skilled guide to the ministry's fruitful community space.

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## Safety & Security Update

Incarnation continues to take steps to protect members, children, staff and property! The Safety and Security Committee recommendation which was approved by the Congregation Council, is to install cameras inside and outside on the Incarnation property. Changes you will start seeing on April 7th and targeted to be completed by the end of April are:

- The installation of outside cameras focused on the Incarnation entrances, parking lots, play areas, and in particular, the solar panels.
- The continued installation of inside cameras in the public and common areas of the building.
- Signage being put up indicating that cameras are in use.
- Parking Lot lights will be left on from dusk to dawn.



These changes will allow staff to identify activity after an incident occurs and assist law enforcement. Thanks for your help and patience as we continue to make Incarnation a welcoming but safe place to be!

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## Incarnation Discovery Center Is Open for Enrollment

Preschool tours and enrollment are happening now! Click the button below for more information, to schedule a tour, and to register.

[Learn More About Incarnation Discovery Center](#)



## Vacation Bible School 2026: Snowball Mountain Challenge!

Monday, June 15-Thursday, June 18 | 9am – Noon | 4-year-olds – 4th grade

You're invited to join us on an unforgettable adventure with Snowball Mountain Challenge! We will have an exciting week of winter sports events where we become challengers, gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith teaching kids "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

Register at [www.incarnationmn.org/summer](http://www.incarnationmn.org/summer)

A promotional banner for the Snowball Mountain Challenge. The background is a winter scene with snow-covered trees and a skier. On the left, a purple shield-shaped graphic contains the text "VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026", "SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE", and "Find Your Strength in God!" with a mountain icon. To the right, a purple box says "June 15-18 | 9am-Noon" and "PreK - 4th Grade". Below that is a QR code. At the bottom right, it says "Sign-up at [incarnationmn.org/summer](http://incarnationmn.org/summer)".

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

# SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

Find Your Strength in God!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

June 15-18 | 9am-Noon

- Adult Guides
- Game Leaders & Support
- Bible Time Leaders & Support
- Check-in & Welcome Crew
- Craft Leaders & Support
- Decorating & Clean up Crew
- Snack Support
- Youth Small Group Leaders

Youth & Adults Sign-up at [incarnationmn.org/summer](http://incarnationmn.org/summer)

# Youth & Family Ministry

## The Weekly Update



### MSM Update

We're wrapping up our school-year programming. On Wednesday, 4/15, younger middle schoolers played dodgeball and reviewed the year of New Testament learning they've experienced. Then, they chose their favorite story of the year and created a skit to act it out. We're in our fourth year of this, and this is the first year without any repeats—all of

the stories were different. 8th graders sat with their caring adult and learned about the structure on which to hang our grief and pain (Lament) and explored the “4-legged stool” of understanding God: Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience. Pastor Kai, Melanie Ahlstrom, Pastor Joy McDonald Coltvet, and Mike Sell discussed how their faith as a lens through which they view how to respond to life’s hard issues & big questions. On Thursday morning, 4/16, we went to Kingdom Baking in Blaine (near Centennial High School) to do Third Thursday. This is just like the free small drink we do at Caribou in North Oaks for First Thursday, but for those youth in our community who attend those schools. Next week, 4/22, we’ll be serving at the MobilePack. Then we’re done on 4/29.

### A Few Updates

1. **Serve cookies and coffee** on Sunday (2 hrs) – [sign up here](#)
2. **Serve pizza on Wednesday** (last one: 4/29) – [sign up here](#)
3. **Save the Date** – Sunday, May 31, 10:00 am–1:00 pm – Welcome to Summer Celebration (bouncies, climbing wall, food truck, fun & games for all!)
4. **FMSC MobilePack, April 22-26** – [more info here](#)  
Wednesday, April 22, 6:00-8:00 pm – confirmation small groups serve together

To view our schedules and loads of other stuff, head to our [MSM](#) or [HSM](#) webpages.



**Submissions for the May issue** of the Lifetimes newsletter are **due by Monday morning, April 20**. Please email your submissions to [Marina Nyberg](#), communications director. Thank you!

## Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing, and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and worldwide. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

[Learn More About Lutheran Disaster Response](#)

- If you are new to Incarnation or you want to learn more about Incarnation ministries, [please complete this online form](#) we'll use to connect you to a ministry leader according to your interests.
- Please consider [giving giving online](#), allowing Incarnation to receive the funds quickly. You will be able to donate to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf, Feed My Starving Children, the Operating Budget and more through the same link. [Click here](#) to learn about all the ways to give.
- [You can find the online worship web page here.](#)
- [To email the council directly, click here.](#)

- To request council minutes, please email [Julie Durbin](#).
- To be added to the public prayer concerns list, contact [Julie Durbin](#). If you would like to add someone else to the public prayer concerns list, please obtain their consent first.
- If you are ill, someone is hospitalized, or there is a death, call the Incarnation Office at 651-484-7213. If it is outside of Office Hours, contact the on-call Pastor at 651-484-7213 ext. 204.
- [The Staff Directory, with email addresses, can be found here.](#)
- Questions? [Contact Julie Durbin](#).

## Incarnation Lutheran Church

[incarnationmn.org](http://incarnationmn.org)

651.484.7213

### UNSUBSCRIBE — UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If your contact information has changed or if you would no longer like to receive Online Worship Emails from Incarnation, please contact [Marina Nyberg](#) to take you off the list.

Please note that when you choose to unsubscribe using the link below, you will no longer receive ANY Incarnation email communications through Constant Contact. For this reason, you're asked to email [Marina Nyberg](#) if you wish to be removed from specific Incarnation email communications.



Incarnation Lutheran | 4880 Hodgson Road | Shoreview, MN 55126 US

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