

# Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA



## Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

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### Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m. Worship Service    March 15, 2026

Welcome! We're glad that you are here, and we hope this service of worship will be a blessing to you. Welcome Packets are available in the entryway

*In the ELCA we welcome all believers to receive the Holy Communion. Communion elements for our service include: Pre-packaged wafers (they are also gluten free), individual cup of wine or grape juice.*

Restrooms are located through the entryway and to the left (signs are posted).



Assisted Listening: The Hearing Loop system in place for the hearing impaired will allow hearing aids equipped with a telecoil to serve as wireless loudspeakers, delivering sound right inside the ear. By activating a switch on your hearing aid, the sound is transmitted directly to your ears.

**MISSION:** To inspire members to grow in loving devotion to Jesus Christ, caring concern for one another, welcoming outreach, and loving service to our neighbors.

**VISION STATEMENT:** Immanuel Lutheran Church will be known for welcoming hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity.

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**Lutheran Book of Worship      Holy Communion Setting 1**  
**March 15, 2026**

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Bells**

**Sharing Time**

**Passing the Peace**

**Candle Lighting**

**Transition Song: “God Is Here!” WOV#719**

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share;  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

*\*(Please stand as you are able)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

A: Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. “I was blind, now I see,” declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God’s beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:  
Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdainning the living water  
Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margins, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope  
in the world: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come  
forth to life: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins  
are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's  
love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**     **"There Is a Balm in Gilead"**   ELW 614   Red Hymnal

**GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy  
Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**KYRIE (Assistant will speak the first lines; congregation will sing the responses)**

The musical score consists of ten systems, each with a vocal line and a corresponding lyric line. The lyrics are:   
1. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.   
2. Lord, have mer - cy.   
3. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.   
4. Lord, have mer - cy.   
5. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,   
6. and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.   
7. Lord, have mer - cy.   
8. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,   
9. let us pray to the Lord.   
10. Lord, have mer - cy.   
11. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.   
12. A - men

**Prayer of Day**

P: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*\*(Please be seated)*

### First Reading: 1Samuel 16:1-13

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” <sup>2</sup> Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” <sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” <sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup> He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. <sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.” <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” <sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” <sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.” <sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.” <sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

A: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: Psalm 23 (We read the Psalm responsively)

<sup>1</sup> The LORD | is my shepherd;

**I shall not | be in want.**

<sup>2</sup> The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures

**and leads me be- | side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my | soul, O LORD,

**and guide me along right pathways | for your name’s sake.**

<sup>4</sup> Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;

**you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.**

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

## Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14


<sup>8</sup> Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup> Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, <sup>13</sup> but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*\*(Please Stand if you are able)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 9th chapter, vss. 1 through 41.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*(Please be seated)*

## Gospel: John 9:1-41

<sup>1</sup> As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a

beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?”<sup>9</sup> Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.”<sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”<sup>11</sup> He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”<sup>12</sup> They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.<sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.”<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided.<sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight<sup>19</sup> and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”<sup>20</sup> His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind,<sup>21</sup> but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.<sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.”<sup>25</sup> He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”<sup>26</sup> They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”<sup>27</sup> He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”<sup>30</sup> The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes.<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.<sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”<sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”<sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”<sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.”<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON:** Lay Pastor Lee Wolken  
Video Sermon “The Blind See” – Father Michael Renninger

*\*(Please stand as you are able)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY :** “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” ELW 779 Red Hymnal

**P:** Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

**C: APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\*(Please be seated)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Response following each petition:*

**A:** Hear us, O God,

**C:** Your mercy is great.

*\*(Please stand if you are able)*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for Offerings**

**LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL**

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**A:** O God, maker of heaven and earth ,

**C:** **Your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.**

**Amen.**

## MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

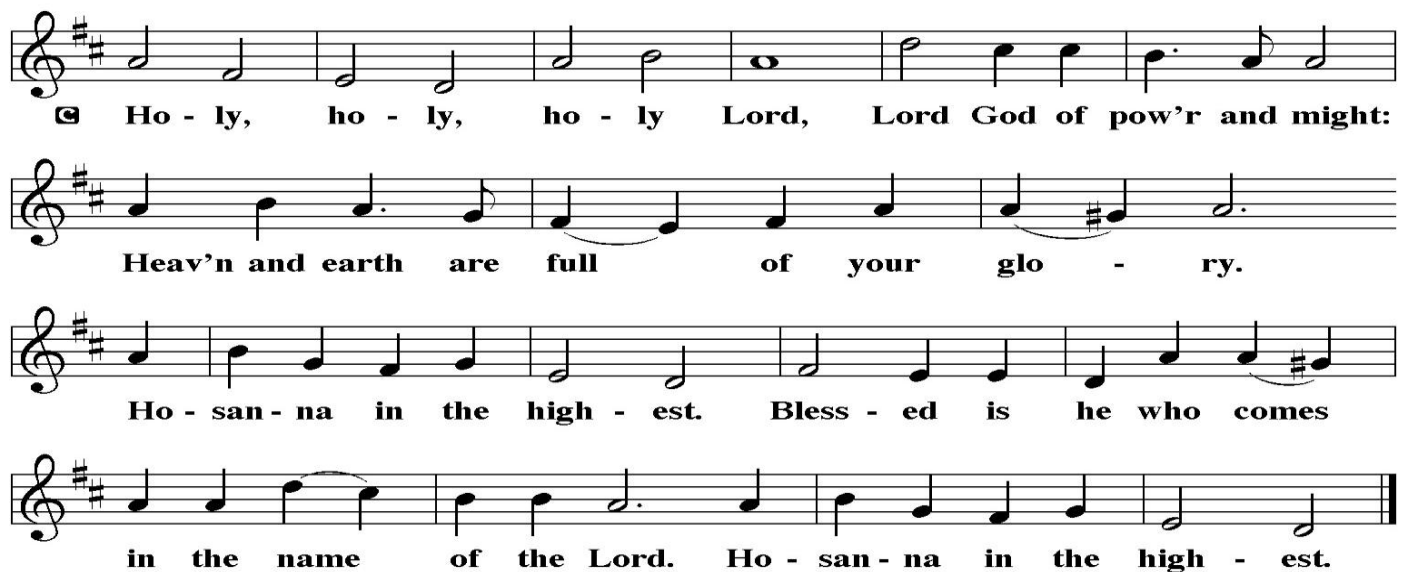
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE:

**P:** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



**Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.**

**Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes**

**in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.**

## CONSECRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**P:** : Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take this and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## COMMUNION

*In the ELCA we welcome all believers to receive the Holy Communion. Communion elements include this morning: Pre packaged wafers (they are also gluten free), individual cup of wine or grape juice.*

## LAMB OF GOD



⑧ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ELW 803 Red Hymnal**

*\*(Pease stand if you are able)*

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE “Lord, now you let your servant go in peace”**

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.  
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the  
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re- veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it,  
as it was in the be- gin - ning, is now, and will be for- ev - er. A - men

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

A: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

**BLESSING**

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

**SENDING HYMN: “Be Thou My Vision” ELW 793 Red Hymnal**

## **PRAYER**

**A:** Let us pray together Immanuel's Opening Doors prayer.

**C:** Dear Lord, we thank and praise you for your everlasting love and enduring mercy. Continue to send your holy spirit: To bless us, to watch over us and to guide us in all that we do so that we grow in: Our love for you, our love for each other and our love for those in our community.

Grant us the courage to be bold in opening doors by inviting and welcoming others in our community to God's church. Give us strength: To trust in you and to have faith and hope in your plans for God's church. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

## **DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## **Postlude**

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The congregation and ministries of this church rely on your weekly offerings and gifts. We encourage you to continue your tithing to Immanuel. If you have a key, you may stop by & leave them in Cindi's mailbox or slip them under her door. You may also mail them to Immanuel at 726 Fuller Ave. Big Rapids, MI. Thank you to everyone who has been sending in your offerings.

*~Stewardship Committee*

**Please join us for fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following Worship today! (on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month, cake will be served for all birthdays celebrated in the month.)**

### **Serving in Sunday Worship Service**

**Musician: Janet Mallett**

**Altar Duty: Carol Zimmerman, Phyllis Cousineau**

**Presiding Minister: Lay Pastor Lee Wolken**

**Worship Assistant: Jim Lindsey**

**Greeter: Phyllis Lindsey**

**Usher: Steve Neumann**

**Reader: Michelle Kauffold**

**Sound Technician: Troy Lindsey**

**A/V Projection Technicians: Troy Lindsey**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Birthdays this week** – Cameron Hayden (3/17)

**Happy Anniversary** – None to report

**Altar Flowers** by Carol Zimmerman, in honor and memory of loved ones.

### **Readings for March 22nd:**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**Psalm 130**

**Romans 8:6-11**

**John 11:1-45**

### **Upcoming In Person meetings**

MLT Meeting **Sun. March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am**

Staff Meeting **Tues. March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**

Knitting Group **Tues. March 17<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

Soup & Bread **Wed. March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**

Lenten Service **Wed. March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

### **Helpful Hints from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey** –

Mar 15: Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month. Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a nervous system disease that affects the brain and spinal cord by damaging the myelin sheath (material covering and protecting nerve cells). This damage can include visual disturbances, muscle weakness, balance and coordination problems, sensations such as numbness or “pins and needles”, and thinking and memory problems. It may be an autoimmune disease, where the immune system mistakenly attacks healthy cells in the body. MS occurs more in women than men. There is no cure, but medication, physical and occupational therapy can help to control some of the symptoms.



### **‘Ball of Fire’ Saturday, April 11th, 2026**

This month’s Movie Matinee is ‘Ball of Fire’ (1941) starring Barbara Stanwyck & Gary Cooper. It is listed as a screwball comedy.



Shepherd’s Hooks & Needles now meet on the third Tuesday of the month. The next session is **Tues. March 17th at Noon.**

## Community Events

### Manna Pantry:

March: Tuna  
April: Macaroni or spaghetti & sauce

### Project Starburst:

Fruit – any kind  
Mac & Cheese

### Grade School

Kleenex, shampoo, toothpaste/brushes, soap, underwear, sweatpants (neutral colors), socks. Sizes for children to fifth grade. Also hats, mittens, scarves, sweatshirts

### Please Note:

The Big Rapids branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is collecting gently used books, CDs, and DVDs for its annual book sale. Donation bins are located at Artworks, Immanuel Lutheran Church, First United Methodist Church, the United Church of Big Rapids, Conley's Bakery, Canadian Lakes Pharmacy, Coldwell Banker Lakes Realty, and the Mecosta County Commission on Aging and Activity Center. Please, no textbooks or encyclopedias. The sale will be held Friday, April 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 304 Elm Street, Big Rapids. Proceeds fund scholarships for nontraditional Ferris students. For more information, call or text 231-287-7022.



# BOOK SALE

**April 17, 9am-5pm**

**April 18, 9am-2pm**

**First United Methodist Church  
304 Elm Street**

Now collecting donations of *gently* used books, CDs, & DVDs  
(no encyclopedias or textbooks) at these locations:

- Artworks
- First United Methodist Church
- The United Church of Big Rapids
- Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Conley's Bakery
- Canadian Lakes Pharmacy
- Coldwell Banker Lakes Realty
- Mecosta County Commission on Aging and Activity Center

**Proceeds fund scholarships for Ferris students.  
For more information, call or text 231-287-7022.**

## DINNER EIGHTS RE-BOOT

The Ministry Leadership Team would like to invite interested members to be part of the Dinner Eights re-boot, beginning in April, 2026. Dinner Eights was designed as a groups of eight people who wanted to get to know one another better outside of Sunday mornings. The groups of eight met at one another's homes, pot luck style, or a restaurant of the coordinator's choice. They met monthly, on a date chosen by the group, for three months, then the groups were scrambled so that for the next three months different people were together in groups of eight, and so on. This is our re-boot proposal:

We will be Dinner Sixes! We have become smaller so the number can be smaller! Nedra Neuman and Carol Wilson will initiate Dinner Sixes, first with a preference survey, and then selection of the first groups of sixes. If we end up with odd numbers, no worries, we will absorb so that at least six will be together. This can be a couple, single, friends, family, etc. that would like to know more about their neighbors in the pew.

So...If you would be interested in being part of such a team, complete the survey that will be available in your bulletin for the next four weeks, and then watch for additional information in the March Messenger. The goal is to begin meeting in April for the months of April, May and June. "Guidelines" will be presented after the survey is completed.

Please complete the survey, even if you aren't interested in participating. It will help our Ministry Leadership Team plan and develop future events as well as Dinner Sixes.

### **Ministry Leadership Team Meeting Schedule**

March 15 <sup>th</sup>	MLT Meeting to finalize
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Congregational Conversation and potluck. Implementation of 2026MGAP.
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Commitment Sunday – member pledges of support for 2026MGAP.

## **TUBA BACH SCHEDULE**

March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Demitri Berlinsky and International Chamber Soloists	4:00pm
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	James Reed Ricotta ( <i>trumpet</i> ) and Katherine Dahn ( <i>Bassoon</i> )	4:00pm
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Concert – 250 Years of American Song	4:00pm
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noah Mallett ( <i>Piano</i> and <i>marimba</i> )	4:00pm
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Summer Concert – Bruce Forman	4:00pm



**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
Sunday, March 15, 2026