



# ImmanuelNews

The newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greeley, Colorado

## March 2025

### The Lenten Season

The season of Lent is observed from Ash Wednesday through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It has traditionally been a time set aside for fasting, prayer and reflection before celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

Lent has been observed since the early days of the Christian church, but many of the practices and traditions have evolved over the years. Some of these traditions involved giving up meat and fats during Lent. The French term “Mardi Gras” is translated as Fat Tuesday (*Tuesday Fat*) and is the day before Ash Wednesday when households used up all the fat in cooking so as to not have any around during Lent.

In recent times, some Christians have opted to “give up” something for Lent. This might be sugar, sweets, or something associated with a bad habit. Lately, others have decided to “Give Something” for Lent. This may mean giving donations to charitable organizations or giving of one’s time to family and friends.

**Please carefully read the article on page 2 of this newsletter** for an explanation of the difference in how our congregation will proceed with the Call process during the next several months. This will be a busy time for many of us and we, as a Council would like to ask of you, the congregation to “Give” of yourselves in many ways.

- Prayer – Please pray for our congregation during this time of transition and pray for the Call process. Pray that we will be guided in the right direction and discernment.
- Worship – Worship in person or on-line. We need to keep gathering as a community of faith. We need to hear the Word together, pray and sing together, and celebrate the Meal together at the table of our Lord.
- Give – of your time and your talents. We still need members to help with a myriad of tasks and duties. This could be something as big as coordinating the Easter breakfast or Vacation Bible School. Or it could be something as simple as volunteering to open and/or lock up the building on Sunday mornings or tidying up the pews after worship.

As St. Paul writes in the book of Romans, Chapter 1, vs 8, “First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world.”

Blessings,  
Immanuel Council

# WORSHIP

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- March 2** — *Transfiguration of Our Lord*  
**March 5** — *Ash Wednesday*  
**March 9** — *First Sunday in Lent*  
**March 12** — *Mid-week Lenten Service*  
**March 16** — *Second Sunday in Lent*  
**March 19** — *Mid-week Lenten Service*  
**March 23** — *Third Sunday in Lent*  
**March 26** — *Mid-week Lenten Service*  
**March 30** — *Fourth Sunday in Lent*  
**April 2** — *Mid-week Lenten Service*  
**April 6** — *Fifth Sunday in Lent*  
**April 9** — *Mid-week Lenten Service*  
**April 13** — *Passion Sunday*  
**April 20** — *Easter Sunday*

## Time of Transition and the Call Process

In 2019, the Synod assigned an Interim Pastor to us who presided over worship, had office hours, and led the congregation through the Transition and Call process.

In 2025, there are many congregations in the Rocky Mountain Synod without a pastor and there are not enough Interim pastors to assist all those congregations.

For a couple of years now, the Synod has tried a different approach – a Transition Consultant. In this scenario, the congregation finds pulpit supply for worship and for member visitation. Often, this might be three to four pastors who fill in on a rotating basis. The Transition Consultant leads the congregation through the Transition and Call process. This is still similar to before in that:

- We form a Transition Team
- We complete the Discovery Process
- The Transition Team reports to the Council
- The Call Committee is selected
- Ministry Site Profile (MSP) is Completed

At the February 11 meeting, the Immanuel Council met with the LECM Board, Pr. Libbie Reinking (our Synod Transition Coach), and Pr. Dominic Palacios, who is a Transition Consultant. Following Pr. Dominic's presentation and a question/answer session, both the Immanuel Council and the LECM Board approved hiring Pr. Dominic Palacios. He will be working with us on separate, but parallel tracks for the process. There are still some unknowns as to the outcome at the end of the process. Perhaps our two ministries will still be considered a joint ministry with one pastor called to serve both. Perhaps LECM will call its own pastor and Immanuel call its own part-time pastor. If you have any questions about the Time of Transition and the Call process, please contact a Council member.

# CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

The Immanuel Family extends its  
best wishes to  
Ryan & Michaela (Crespin) Camacho  
on the birth of Lucas Ryan Camacho  
on February 6, 2025.  
Proud grandparents are Mike & Janet Crespin.



**Please join Tied in Faith for Coffee Fellowship  
Sunday, March 16, at 9:15 am**



Celebrating  
\*\*National Quilt Day — March 15th\*\*  
And  
\*\*Lutheran World Relief — Happy 80th Birthday\*\*

There will be coffee and goodies, quilts to tie and conversation to share.  
See you there!

My Dear Family at Immanuel –



Unfortunately, I will be fulfilling my six-year term limit on the Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry (LECM) board in October, so we are needing one or two people from Immanuel to volunteer to be a part of this amazing ministry. I think it goes without saying that it's vital we take an active and supportive role on this board especially as we collaborate as a shared ministry.

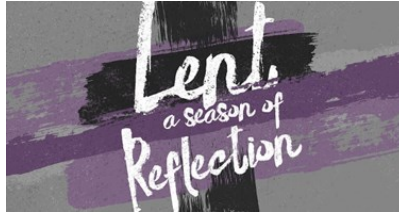
Your board involvement would require monthly meetings during the school year, supporting students in their academic and spiritual journey, attending a few special events, and communicating with Immanuel what is happening at LECM. It's fun. It's worthwhile. It's rewarding. And it will change your life. If you are interested in learning more, if you would like to attend a meeting with me, OR if you are ready to volunteer, please let me know!

I hope you will thoughtfully and prayerfully consider this wonderful opportunity.

With a thankful and grateful heart, Amy Herold  
Phone: 970.978.0870 or Email: herold\_amy@hotmail.com

# CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

(continued)



## **SEASON OF LENT**

The liturgical season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. This year Ash Wednesday is March 5.

The Ash Wednesday service will be March 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.  
with Deacon Korra Looschen presiding.

For the mid-week Lenten services, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Music Room next to the Nave. We will worship with the Holden Evening Prayer and a devotion time.

Following worship, there will be a Soup Supper  
(if someone has volunteered to host that week!).

Mid-week dates for Lenten services are March 12, 19, 26, and April 2 and 9.

### **Journey of Stones A Series for Lent by Pastor Steven Molin**

Midweek Lenten Services – 6:00 pm

March 12 – Rejected Stones

March 19 – Sticks and Stones

March 26 – Hearts of Stone

April 2 – Upon this Rock

April 9 – Crying Stones

## **Lenten Offerings**

This year our Lenten offerings will go to benefit the Rocky Mountain Synod Veteran Servant Corps Project (VSCP). The VSCP partners with ELCA faith communities to recognize and support veterans in numerous ways. VSCP provides no-cost retreats at ELCA camps for veterans and their families, provides training for clergy and support staff to better understand veteran issues, supports homeless veterans, and provides ideas and materials for veteran awareness and celebrations in our ELCA communities.

## **Youth Director Position Status**

The Immanuel Council announces that the position of Youth Director is open for hiring.

In the meantime, there are events coming up in the near future that need immediate attention:

- Coordinator for the Easter Breakfast
- Coordinator for the Easter Egg Candy Hunt — Diane Filipe & Michelle Larson
- Coordinators for Vacation Bible School – Council has approved pay of \$500 for one coordinator or \$250 each for 2 coordinators for VBS

Anyone interested in any part of the above positions, please contact the church office at 970.352.3003 or [office@immanuelgreeley.org](mailto:office@immanuelgreeley.org) or Julie Elmquist at 970.371.2734 or [sjelmquist@msn.com](mailto:sjelmquist@msn.com)

# YOUTH & FAITH FORMATION

## FIRST SUNDAY YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, March 2, 2025

### **SCHEDULE:**

9:00am – Snacks Together in Annex Youth Room

9:15am – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade & Younger (Youth Room)

9:15am – Middle School & High School  
(Annex - Upstairs)

10:00am – Back Together for Fun & Games in Youth Room

*HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!*

### **Sign up to help with Youth Group!**

We need two (2) volunteers each month to sign up to help with the young group for First Sundays Youth Group, February through May. If you are available or have questions, please contact the office (970) 352-3003 or Julie Elmquist (970) 371-2734. Resources are available for lessons!

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study meets at 9:15AM in the library with exploration of Pr. Dan Erlander's *Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God's Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe*.



# GIVING & SERVICE

## **Free Little Red Barn Pantry**

**THANK YOU** to everyone that has donated items for the pantry!



Let's keep up the good work! We are truly helping our neighbors in need because the barn is empty every few days! Just give what you can and donate what you would like to receive. To make it easy, try purchasing two of an item you are already buying for your household - that's one for you and one for the barn.

**A Few Winter Shopping Suggestions:** Peanut Butter, Boxed Cereal, Pancake Mix, Oatmeal Packets, Pretzels, Granola Bars, Breakfast Bars, Pasta, Crackers, Rice, Travel-Size Shampoo/Conditioner, Bars of Soap, Chapstick, Handwarmers, Hats, Gloves, Scarves, Socks, Kleenex, Toothbrush/Toothpaste

**Let's work together to FILL THE BARN!**

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## LUTHERAN EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRY

### **Support Campus Ministry: Bring a Meal to Sunday Dinner Church**

Support campus ministry and students in Greeley for the winter/spring semester by signing up to bring a meal for our Sunday evening Dinner Church gatherings. These meals are a weekly anchor in our community, and students look forward each week to eating together. Your help providing the food for these meals makes this time together possible. Thank you! Find more details and open dates on our Meal Train page:

<https://mealtrain.com/ynk9ey>. If you are able, please plan to eat with us!



# PRAYER & CARE

## *Always Say A Prayer Team*

The ASAP Team (Always Say a Prayer) is keeping you in prayer.

If you have special requests, please contact any Prayer Team member, the church office, or a Council member. Prayer request cards can be found at the back of the church along with a box where you can leave your request.



Roma Arithson    Connie Deines  
Sharrol Bernahl    Diane Filipe  
Janet Willis

# COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## Memory Makers

Pack a lunch, gather your supplies, and let's enjoy quality time together working on scrapbooks, digital books, cards, & other paper projects.



**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2025  
**Hours:** 9:00am – 4:00pm  
**Location:** Immanuel Lutheran Church –  
1865 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Greeley  
**Host:** Amy Herold – A Creative Memories  
Independent Consultant  
[www.creativememories.com/user/amyherold](http://www.creativememories.com/user/amyherold)

Need more details or have questions – call or text me at 970.978.0870.

# CHURCH COUNCIL



| Name            | Phone                              | E-mail   | Committee             |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Budde, Cindy    | C: 970-371-6588                    | <a href="mailto:peteandcindyb@gmail.com">peteandcindyb@gmail.com</a>       | <b>Secretary</b>      |
| Clausen, Cheryl | C: 970-978-9791                    | <a href="mailto:cclausen80@yahoo.com">cclausen80@yahoo.com</a>             |                       |
| Elmquist, Julie | H: 970-330-6679<br>C: 970-371-2734 | <a href="mailto:sjelmquist@msn.com">sjelmquist@msn.com</a>                 | <b>President</b>      |
| Johnson, John   | C: 970-397-7108                    | <a href="mailto:uncmizzou@aol.com">uncmizzou@aol.com</a>                   |                       |
| Larson, John    | C: 970-371-1447                    | <a href="mailto:larson_farms@hotmail.com">larson_farms@hotmail.com</a>     |                       |
| Reimers, Julie  | C: 970-381-1068                    | <a href="mailto:julieannareimers@gmail.com">julieannareimers@gmail.com</a> | <b>Vice President</b> |

## EFTF – Endowment Foundation Trust Fund

The Endowment Foundation Trust Fund (EFTF) uses interest earned on the donations in the trust fund to support special needs and work of the church that is not covered by the church budget. If you have a special need in mind, please submit a request for fund disbursement. The EFTF Committee considers requests quarterly. Please see an EFTF Committee member if you have questions or pick up a request form from the EFTF mailbox in the church office.

Committee members: Cindy Thompson, Jacqui Larson,  
Janet Crespin, Janet Johnson, Elaine Holbrook

## GIA Clothing Bank

Several Greeley-area churches are sponsors for and help operate the Greeley Interfaith Assn. Clothing Bank, located at 228 N. 9th Avenue in Greeley.

**The hours open are 10:00 am—2:00 pm—Mondays, Tuesdays, some Wednesdays & Thursdays.**

The Clothing Bank accepts gently used items of clothing and then sells them to the public at a reasonable cost. Proceeds of the sales cover operating expenses and then go toward community scholarships and grants.

Some Immanuel members have committed to being on duty on the  
2nd and 4th Mondays of every month.

Donations can be dropped off at the Clothing Bank during the hours of operation.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information,  
please contact: Julie Elmquist, Katy Sickles or Cindy Thompson.





## CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

- Council met with the LECM Board, Pr. Libbie Reinking, and Pr. Dominic Palacios for a presentation by Pr. Dominic about his services as a Transition Consultant
- Council approved hiring the services of Pr. Dominic Palacios as a Transition Consultant

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**Join us for our next meeting on  
Tuesday, March 11th @ 6:30 a.m.**

**Tied in Faith...**  
**Will meet on Tuesday, March 4,  
Thursday, March 20, and  
Saturday, March 29 at 9:00 am**



## Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA

Our logo—with the cross, water and a white lily—identifies women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as children of God; baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty, and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptismal water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

### March Birthdays

|    |                            |
|----|----------------------------|
| 1  | Jerry Turnwall             |
| 3  | Austin Hawkins             |
| 9  | Linda Sample               |
| 13 | Melissa Hawkins            |
| 18 | Mike Crespin<br>Max Ulrich |
| 21 | Buster Iverson             |
| 23 | Taran Hawkins              |
| 24 | Sally Stewart              |








### March Anniversaries

|    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 16 | Max & Mary Ulrich      |
| 22 | Janet & Michael Willis |

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office so that we can update the records



# 2025

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue                           | Wed  | Thu                         | Fri | Sat  |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----|--|
| 2<br>9:00 am – Youth Group<br>9:15 am-Bible Study<br>10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship<br>10:30 am-Holy Communion                       | 3<br>Common Sense<br>Kleaning-Annex<br>6:30-9:30 pm –Sue Morse<br>Fellowship Hall    | 4<br>9:00 am—Tied in Faith    | 5<br><br>Worship at 7 pm                                   | 6                           | 7   | 8  |
| 9<br>1st Sunday in Lent<br>9:15 am-Bible Study<br>10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship<br>10:30 am-Holy Communion<br>11:30 am-Prayer Group | 10<br>Common Sense<br>Kleaning—Church<br>9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC<br>at GIA Clothing Bank | 11<br>6:30 pm-Council Meeting | 12<br><br>Worship: at 6 pm with<br>Soup Supper following   | 13                          | 14  | 15<br><br>9:00 am—4:00 pm<br>Memory Makers<br>Fellowship Hall |
| 16<br>2nd Sunday in Lent<br>9:15 am-Bible Study<br>10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship<br>10:30 am-Holy Communion                         | 17<br>Common Sense<br>Kleaning-Annex   | 18                            | 19<br><br>Worship: at 6 pm with<br>Soup Supper following  | 20<br>9:00 am—Tied in Faith | 21  | 22   |
| 23<br>3rd Sunday in Lent<br>9:15 am-Bible Study<br>10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship<br>10:30 am-Holy Communion                         | 24<br>Common Sense<br>Kleaning—Church<br>9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC<br>at GIA Clothing Bank | 25                            | 26<br><br>Worship: at 6 pm with<br>Soup Supper following | 27                          | 28  | 29<br>9:00 am—Tied in Faith  |
| 30<br>4th Sunday in Lent<br>9:15 am-Bible Study<br>10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship<br>10:30 am-Holy Communion                         | 31<br>Common Sense<br>Kleaning-Annex   |                               |  |                             |     |  |

# *Thanks to our Volunteers!*

## *March 2025*

### March 2:

Greeter: Cindy Thompson  
Ushers: Ron & Cindy Thompson  
Assisting Minister: Janet Willis  
Lector: Luke Larson, Jack Larson  
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson  
Communion Ass't: Molly Ward  
Tellers: Marvin & Connie Deines

### March 9:

Greeter: Julie Elmquist  
Ushers: Matt & Molly Ward  
Assisting Minister: Cindy Budde  
Lector: Molly Ward  
Communion Setup: Molly Ward  
Tellers: Vera Sylvester, Brenda Turnwall

### March 16:

Greeter: Vera Sylvester  
Ushers: John Johnson & Sally Stewart  
Assisting Minister: Julie Elmquist  
Lector: Janessa Padilla  
Communion Setup: Sue Morse  
Tellers: Linda Sample

### March 23:

Greeter: Vera Sylvester  
Ushers: Juan Cruz, Katy Sickles  
Assisting Minister: Janet Willis  
Lector: Janet Willis  
Communion Setup: Linda Cruz  
Tellers: Janet Crespin

### March 30:

Greeter: Janet Willis  
Ushers: Katy Sickles, Vera Sylvester  
Assisting Minister: Cindy Budde  
Lector: Luke Larson, Jack Larson  
Communion Setup: Janet Johnson  
Tellers: Bob & Sue Morse

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Pastor: Vacant  
Secretary: Denise Pollard Stricker 970-352-3003  
Office Hours: M—Th 9:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Offices closed on Fridays

### Executive Council:

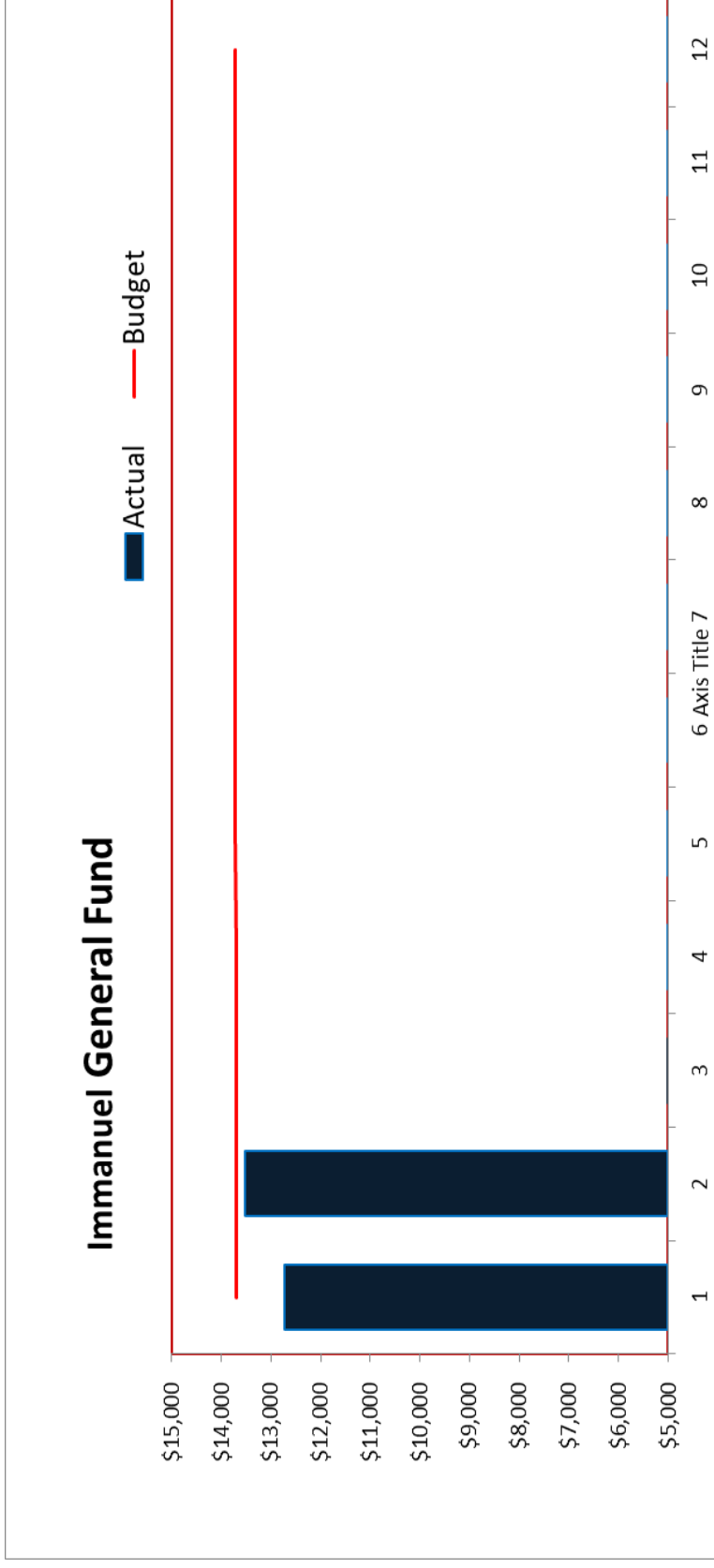
President: Julie Elmquist (h)970-330-6679 or (c)970-371-2734  
Vice President: Julie Reimers (c)970-381-1068  
Secretary: Cindy Budde (c)970-371-6588  
Treasurer: Connie Deines (c)970-378-1475  
Financial Secretary: Bob Morse (c)303-359-5919

# Receipts thru FEB 2025

## GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

| DESCRIPTION   | JAN      | FEB      | MAR    | APR    | MAY    | JUN    | JUL    | AUG    | SEP    | OCT    | NOV    | DEC    | Year to Date |
|---------------|----------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|
| <b>Budget</b> | 13,716   | 13,716   | 13,716 | 13,716 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 27,432       |
| <b>Actual</b> | \$12,735 | \$13,532 | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0    | \$0          |
| Under (Over)  | 981      | 184      | 13,716 | 13,716 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 13,717 | 1,165        |



IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

*PURPOSE STATEMENT*

*IMMANUEL IS CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE  
LIFE, DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF  
CHRIST; TO PROVIDE PLACES AND  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP AND  
FELLOWSHIP; AND TO BE THE SPIRIT OF  
CHRIST IN THE WORLD.*

We welcome and encourage submissions for our newsletter. Please make all submissions in writing. We prefer that the material be submitted in electronic form, if possible. All material is subject to editing for content, clarity and style, as needed. The deadline for the newsletter is the **15th** of every month.

Please forward your submission by mail to 1865 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Greeley, CO 80631, by fax to 970-352-7096, or by email to [office@immanuelgreeley.org](mailto:office@immanuelgreeley.org)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1865 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Greeley, Colorado 80631

Return Service Requested

March 2025