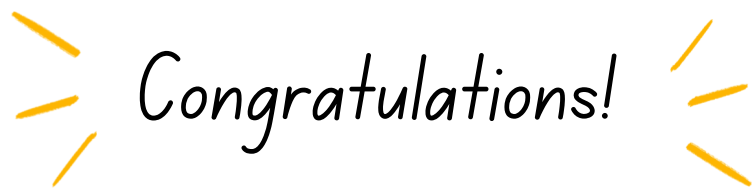




*The official publication of Incarnation Lutheran Church*

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**Graduates**

- Porter Boepple
- Heidt Cramer
- Alexander Meyer
- Emmett Sowell

**Confirmands**

- Sydney Cramer
- Bennett Shaw



# PASTOR EMILY

I'm not sure how it got to be May already, but here we are! It will be a busy month here at Incarnation. On May 5th we'll have some fun with our Derby Hat/Crazy Hat Sunday. On May 7th we will participate in Midland's Gives, a day to give generously to the many, many charities here in the Midlands. On May 9th, we recognize and celebrate our 4's class as they graduate from our CDC program and prepare to head off to kindergarten. On May 19th we will celebrate the Festival of Pentecost, our graduating seniors, and our two new confirmands. What a day of celebration that will be!



In addition, we will again be hosting the Beloved ministry here at the church this month, and we will host a playdate at Owen's Field Playpark on May 11th. We will also get together for fellowship and dinner during May's Holy Guacamole. Of course, there will also be committee and board meetings, Wednesday Bible Study, Sunday School, and various choir and handbell practices. We are a busy church.

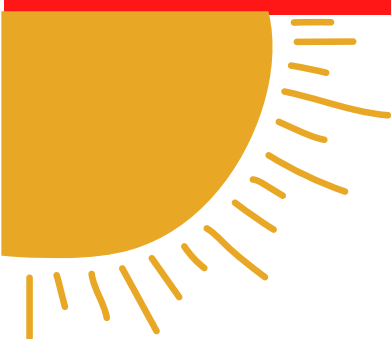
It's appropriate then that this is the month when we will move from Easter into the Season after Pentecost, often called the Time of the Church. We will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, and we will begin the shift in our lectionary to stories and parables that give insight in how to live as a disciple of Christ.

Recently our confirmation class was given an assignment to describe their faith life in terms of Jesus' command that we should "Love One Another". They were given chalk and invited to depict their faith through that lens on the sidewalk in front of the church. Certain words kept popping up in those



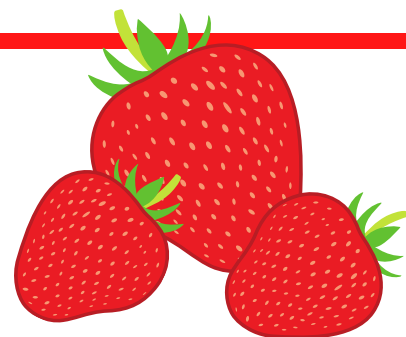
drawings: service, care, acceptance, prayer, stewardship. We talked about the ways in which we live out those ideals, both as a community of faith and as individuals. As we enter into the Time of the Church, where do you see yourself living into the call to Love One Another, both as a part of Incarnation and as an individual walking in Jesus' way? How can your church family support you and how can you offer support to your church family? May God bless your reflection on those questions, and may God continue to bless the world through you and this church!

*Pastor Emily*



# CDC

## Strawberry Fun at Cottle Farms!



# FAITH FORMATION CORNER

## Faith Formation Happenings:

May is here, and it is hard to believe! The calendar is full of celebrations and the closing out of the school year. On Sunday, May 19th, we will gather to celebrate the confirmation of our two confirmands, Sydney Cramer, and Bennett Shaw, as well as the graduation of our four high school graduates.

We had a fantastic turnout for our April "Holy Guacamole!" Please make sure you RSVP to the Evite that you receive through email by Monday-May 20th so that we can tell Casa Linda how many to expect.

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it! To make VBS the event of the summer we need volunteers. If you are able to help with VBS please let Kimi (youth@incarnationlutheran.com) know.



## Incarnation Lutheran Church

VBS 2024

**JUNE 24-27**

from 9 am to 12 pm

Scan the QR Code  
to register your  
child or to sign up  
to volunteer!



# MUSIC CORNER

Learn more about our Baritone section leader,  
Tyler Morgan.



Tyler is a native of North Carolina and graduated from Junius H. Rose High School in Greenville, NC in 2022. While there, he was a member of the National Honor Society and was active in the school's choral and marching band programs. Currently, Tyler has just completed his second year of undergraduate studies as a double major in Finance and Risk Management at the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. He is a Capstone Scholar, has been a member of the Carolina Investment Foundation as well as the SC Student Legislature and Epsilon Tau Pi. When Tyler isn't studying or singing at Incarnation, you might find him competing in the Gamecock Table Tennis Club.

## Oktoberfest Request -- New Volunteer Shift Format

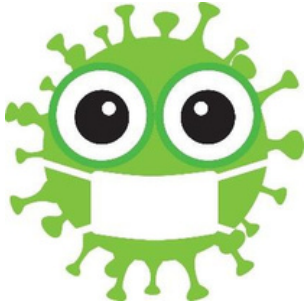
Our Oktoberfest team has had some turnover in our leadership. As a result, we will be contracting out the overall food management -- ordering, planning, set up, supervision. This means we need our members to volunteer differently at the festival this year.

Please prayerfully consider serving as a Shift Captain in the Pretzel Tent, Cook Tent and the Serving Tent. What does this mean?

- Be the shift leader -- manage the overall work. You'll receive detailed instructions.
- Recruit 5-10 people to help you from OUTSIDE the church. Friends, family, neighbors, book club, etc.
- Volunteer at other times as needed.

This will mean that no one person carries the heavy load of managing the entirety of the festival. Beer has done this for a while, and it can work in our other areas, too!

If you have questions, talk to Sarah Sawicki. Danke!



# Stewardship

May 2024

## Can COVID help us become better stewards?

Toilet paper. Seriously? Will we ever take lowly “TP” for granted again after all we went through at the beginning of this virus? Just because this virus is being somewhat controlled today, it had and will continue to have all kinds of influence on many aspects of our life, just as many things in our past continue to affect our lives today.

Toilet paper is just one of the countless everyday blessings that the pain of COVID taught us to savor – along with worshiping beside loved ones, going to work, getting paid, shopping, going to the movies, and on and on. (What’s on your list?)

Pain teaches us, focuses us, molds us. Pain strips away pretensions and defenses. Pain shows us what’s real, what’s true, what’s valuable. Pain cleanses our spirit and draws us closer to God. Easter reminded us that our faith journey is all about death and rebirth. Explaining baptism in *The Small Catechism*, Martin Luther taught that baptism’s waters must *daily* drown our old sinful self, so that *daily* we may be born anew. As we walk in God’s sanctifying light, parts of us should be dying *daily* and being reborn. Pain? It serves as midwife in our death and rebirth.

And COVID gave us pain aplenty, far beyond the shortage of bathroom supplies. Many lost loved ones, jobs, security, healthcare, homes, retirement, wellbeing and relationships.

Pain came along even as we returned to normalcy. But “normal” looks different than what we’ve known before. A “new normal” has emerged. Do you sense it? That the pandemic changed you? Us? Forever?

With the Holy Spirit’s help, may life’s pain prune from our lives what needs to die in order for us to be reborn as God’s people each new day.

**May the “new normal” find us better stewards of our lives -- less greedy, less self-focused, less preoccupied with silly things, and more centered in Christ, more loving to our neighbor, more generous, more hopeful and more tolerant.**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation	29 6pm - Troop 8	30 9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8	1 11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 4pm - CPR/AED Training 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	2	3	4
5 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11am - W&M Meeting 11:30am - Confirmation	6 6pm - Troop 8	7 9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8	8 11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9 11am - CDC 4's 6pm - Mary Martha	10 9am - Playdate @ Owens	11
12 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation	13 9am - Tiny Dancers 6pm - Troop 8	14 9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8 6:30pm - Council Meeting	15 11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	16	17	18
19 9am - Sunday School 10am - Pentecost 11:30am - Recognition of 4pm - Beloved	20 6pm - Troop 8	21 9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 6pm - Pack 8 6:30pm - CDC Meeting	22 11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	23 6pm - Holy Guacamole	24 8:30am - CPR/AED	25
26 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation	27 6pm - Troop 8	28 9am - Staff Meeting 10am - Quilting Group 3:45pm - Kid's Chapel in 5:30pm - Foundation 6pm - Pack 8	29 11am - Kids Chapel in 11am - Wednesday Bible 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	30	31	1

# LITTLE FREE PANTRY

As warmer weather approaches, please remember the Little Free Pantry. We refill the pantry twice a week. Our community seems to depend on our help to feed them. Please remember to bring some of the items listed below or donate specifically to the Little Free Pantry online or in your usual donation.

Items needed: Tuna Fish, Canned Meals like Chili, Beef Stew, Mac and Cheese, and Ravioli, Cereal - hot and cold, Fruit cups, Soup, Granola Bars, Fruit bars Crackers - plain and filled, Pasta, Spaghetti sauce, Water, Toiletry items - toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo (NO mouthwash,) Hand Wipes, Hand Sanitizers - small size.

## GET IN TOUCH

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

Rev. Emily Willhide.....pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com  
Dr. Patrick Hawkins; Dir. of Music & Organist.....music@incarnationlutheran.com  
Kimi Dail; Faith Formation Coordinator.....youth@incarnationlutheran.com  
Amy Kehl; Bookkeeper.....amy.kehl@incarnationlutheran.com  
Teresa Boykin; CDC Director.....cdc@incarnationlutheran.com  
Cherry Samuel; CDC-Byron Rd.....cdcbyron@incarnationlutheran.com  
Bonnie McDaniel; Parish Administrator.....office@incarnationlutheran.com

**Sunday School** for all ages at 9 a.m.

**Worship:** Sundays at 10 a.m.

(10 a.m. Worship is also live streamed on Facebook.)

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office: 803-256-2381

CDC: 803-661-6378

[www.incarnationlutheran.com](http://www.incarnationlutheran.com)

[www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch)