

Hilltop Happenings

For March, 2026

Our mission is to welcome, accept and encourage all people as we follow Jesus.



303 N. Church Street Silverton, Oregon 97381

Phone: (503) 873-8656

Website: www.immanuelsilverton.org

Email: office@immanuelsilverton.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 am-12 pm, 1 pm-3 pm

Ministry Staff

Pastor: Leah Stolte-Doerfler | 503-302-7712

Director of Visitation Ministry: Patty MacInnes | 503-428-4921

Office Managers: Tria Brockamp & Courtney Goode

Youth & Family Ministry: Kate Bush | 503-580-4964

Social Media Coordinator:

Justine Johnson | jj.ilc.silverton@gmail.com

Worship Production Director: Ethan Frederick

Keyboardist: Deborah Butler

Choir Director: Marta Hazekamp

Custodians: Bill Howell & Andrew Bush

Services

Sundays 8:30 am - Devotional Service 10:30 am - Worship

Service Attendance in person / *online views as of 1/27/2026

	8:30 AM	10:30 AM	7:00 PM
February 1	8	98 / 157*	
February 8	10	10 / 147*	
February 15	9	109 / 174*	
February 18			81/209*
February 22	7	107 / 155*	

Ministry Contacts

Adult Education: Pastor Leah/F&W

Altar Guild: Barb Richter

ARK: Briana Hupp

A/V: Ethan Frederick

Choir: Marta Hazekamp

Coffee Hour: Pat Taylor

Deacons: Theresa Yancey

Faith & Wisdom: Julie Woodward

GHG: Debbie Eder

Hospitality: Kate Bush

Prayer Chain: Earlyn Moore

503-428-1211 (call/text)

President: Lauren Lucht Lovelace

SACA: Briana Hupp

Shower Coordinator: Shirley Murata

Stephen Ministry: Mary Miller

Technician: Ethan Frederick

Trustees: Dixon Bledsoe

Ushers: Jim Brueckner

Van Rides: Jennifer Bielenberg

503-881-5467

Valley View Cemetery: Jill Lounsbury

Vacation Bible School: Brenda Wilson

Weddings: Hospitality Committee

Worship Planning: Mark Dickman

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Just Pondering...

The week we entered into Lent, I had a fairly significant health event. I felt awful enough that instead of taking my daily walks, I was taking daily naps. I scheduled my time at work around the bare essentials and when an offer came from a colleague to step into the Ash Wednesday Service, I seriously considered it. Depending on how well you know me, you will understand how punk I was feeling if I was contemplating stepping away from Ash Wednesday!

It turns out that I was embodying a powerful metaphor for this whole Ash Wednesday business.

Whether you find the language of Ash Wednesday to be brutally honest or ruthlessly uncomfortable, the work of that service is all about removing the masks that we wear. About our brokenness. About our vulnerability. About our fragility. About our humanity. About our mortality.

Lord have mercy, all that that was enacted in my very being this season.

As we move into another Lenten Journey, what masks is Holy Spirit calling to your attention? What needs exposing? Healing? Where does God desire to grow you? Lead you?

What sort of a Lent will you have? How will you mark it?

I have included 10 questions; look them over to see what might add blessing to your wilderness journey.

We go together,

Pastor Leah



As we enter into another season of Lent, I offer these points to ponder.

{What if you cut the list out and kept it close at heart for these 40 days? What if you allow Spirit to lift up one or two items for you to pursue in earnest?}

1. What do the ashes mean to me this year?
2. Is there a habit or sin in my life that repeatedly gets in the way of loving God with my whole heart or loving my neighbor as myself? How do I address that habit over the next 40 days?
3. Is there anyone in my life from whom I need to ask forgiveness or pursue reconciliation?
4. What practical steps can I take to carve out time for daily contemplation?
5. What spiritual discipline do I need to improve upon or want to try?
6. What are some things in my life that I tell myself I need but I don't?
7. Why am I giving up this particular thing? How does giving it up draw me closer to God and prepare me for Easter?
8. What am I going to tell myself when self-denial gets hard?
9. Is it necessary/helpful for me to share the nature my fast with others or should I keep it private?
10. When I wake up on Resurrection Sunday morning, how will I be different?

Still considering February...

Yes, our month of service has drawn to a close but Jesus' call to love our neighbor remains. Therefore, so does the conversation.

This business of serving our neighbor, what are the parameters?

Like how old must I be before it counts?

Must my heart always be in the right place?

How much time must be invested? Like, if it's less than an hour, no go? Less than 30 minutes?

Or how hard must it be? Must I sweat or bleed in order to call the thing service?

Must I plan ahead?

Give up something special?

Must others witness the service-event? Or must the service-event happen in secret?

Am I just utterly ridiculous?

In a recent conversation with an elder, they mentioned what a beautiful gift it was when someone noticed and then took the initiative to hold open the front church door for them to enter.

Which is to say, they were seen.

And then, someone did something on their behalf.

How often do we make things more difficult than they have to be?

Love your God; love your neighbor.

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

On Ash Wednesday, Pastor Leah spoke of Lent as a season of bearing witness—an invitation to unveil and remove the masks we wear.

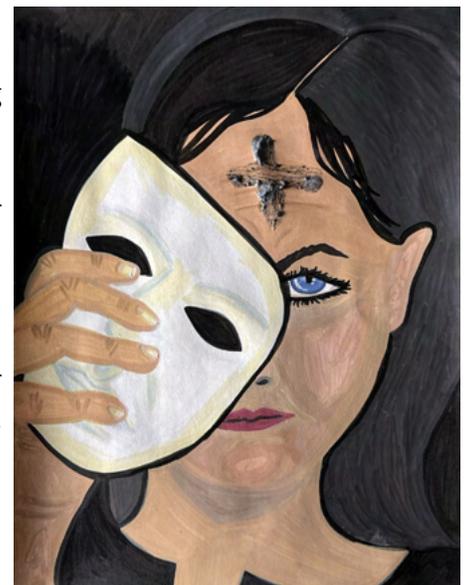
As we turn toward Jerusalem and the cross, it can become easier to hide or armor ourselves against vulnerability.

The deeper invitation is courage.

In this image, the mask is being lowered. The ashes—imposed by Pastor Leah—mark the sacred tension we inhabit: dust and breath, mortality and hope. This is holy ground. We live in the liminal space between life and death.

May this piece remind us who we are—and what we are made of.

~Kris Anne Baker



**See this work of art in the narthex!*

Director of Visitation Ministry by Patty MacInnes

Back on the road with Patty (DoVM) and Max(when he takes a bath)...

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

- * Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- * Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- * Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- * Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- * Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- * Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- * Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- * Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- * Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- * Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- * Fast from words and be silent so that you can listen.

(The words of Pope Francis)

From the Custodians' Closet by Andrew Bush

Hello Immanuel Lutheran family. As we make our way through another month of dark and wet weather, we start to see light. With Easter around the corner we find comfort in knowing that Christ has given us the ultimate gift of cleanliness.

As we go through this time of lent I ask myself 'where can I show this?' Is it in services or can it be in kindness to others? Can I help make a difference in my church? Can I try to honor His sacrifice in a way that is pleasing to Him? So I guess what I'm trying to say is, sometimes it's not what we clean, but where we clean that can make a difference in our life and the lives of others.

Peace be with you.

Prayer Ministry & Requests

The hungry. Foster kids. Those who battle addiction. All who serve our country.

Kenneth Adams, Phyllis Adams, Nettie Donovan Austin, Kris Anne Baker, Kristie Bernabo, Jessica Bradley, Kyler DeVore, Destiny Durbin-Wilson, Jamie Eby, Betty Faanes, Joann Faanes, Dan Funrue, Kevin Griffin, Wayne Gwyn, Tracy Harris, Michelleisa Bradner Hegney, Dan Henderson, Mary Henderson, Rose Marie Howell, Lucy Hupp, Ruby Hupp, Ed Jacoby, Debbie Donovan Jasman, Alta Johnson, Caroline Johnson, Dale Johnson, Dee Dee Johnson, Shana Lansidel, Tanya Lawton, Larry Lincoln, Loretta Luciano, Delores McCoy, Shirley McHorse, Able Meyers, Dave Miller, Shane Moore, Mark Morin, Gayle Budd O'Grady, Gayle O'Neil, Elenore Norman, Emilia Panes, Keri Peck, Marty Ronning, Lynette Rounds, Annette Shilinsky, Heidi Schindler, Gina Shifman, Lisa Smith, Debbie Smuckal, Nola Stark, Linda Stolte, Trevor Stevens, Lucas Taylor, Bonnie Thompson, Becky Tomlin, Linda Valencourt, Iliana Vaquera, Erica Winn, Haley Woods and Nora Woodward.

**If a name on the prayer list should be added or removed, please tell the office.*

Ministry Celebrations & Thank You's

- ☆ The gift of a new electric can opener for the kitchen by Audrey Nickodemus.
- ☆ Barb Richter for mucking out and organizing the costume room.
- ☆ January's Noisy Offering brought in \$278.21 for socks and Theresa Yancey purchased and delivered them to Sheltering Silverton and SACA (see picture).
- ☆ Earlyn Moore for sharing her art in the fireside gallery.
- ☆ The pie auction raised \$2310 for the outdoor playground!
- ☆ Annabel Brueckner, Lilli Johnson & Mira Woodward placed first in the traditional and jazz dance team competitions two weekends in a row (see picture).



Know a reason to celebrate, call 503-873-8656 or email office@immanuelilverton.org to report 'who' and 'what'.

Immanuel Lutheran,

Oh my! A BIG Thank you for your donation to the Tree of Giving. We served 217 kids this year. We love you and pray blessings on your church. Thank you so much for all you do for the Tree of Giving. You are such a loving and caring church. Our prayers are with you.

Blessings, Becky Detherage - Tree of Giving

Upcoming Ministry Events & Opportunities

Lenten Schedule - Wednesdays through March 25

Soup Supper at 6 pm, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7 pm

Sign up in the narthex to set up, clean up, bring bread and/or soup! Many hands are needed.

Noisy Offering - March 1

We will gather a 'noisy offering' (bring your change!) during kids time. March offerings will purchase toilet paper for area food banks

April – chicks from ELCA Good Gifts

Kitchen Cleaning - March 2

Additional dates: April 6, May 4 and June 1. All are welcome, beginning at 9 am.

Dinner for Six – Round 2!



Our Fall/Winter round was a wonderful success, and we're excited to continue this spring! Dinner for Six is a great way to connect with others in our church community. Groups of six(ish) adults (kids welcome!) will gather once a month for three months, beginning in March. **Couples, singles, and families are welcome!** You do not need to have a partner to participate. Don't have a place to host or need help with transportation? That's okay — we'll work together to make participation easy and welcoming for everyone. Continue with your previous group or join a new one. New participants are warmly invited! For more information and/or to sign up, grab a card in the narthex, visit this link <https://tinyurl.com/dinner46> or scan the QR code.

Grief Recovery - Begins March 3

New 8 week program for Grief Recovery Method Grief Support Group starts Tuesday, March 3 from 6 pm to 8 pm. Call Patty at 503-428-4921 for information.

Esther Circle - March 5

All women are invited to attend! We meet in the Fireside room for social time at 9:30, and will have Bible Study from *Gather* magazine at 10 am. Bring a friend and come to meet other friends! Contact is Lynn Gannon at (503) 329-2585 or lpma.gannon@gmail.com

Men's Fellowship Breakfast - March 9

Join us at Immanuel for our next Men's Fellowship Breakfast on Monday, March 9 at 6:30 am.

Palm Sunday - March 29



Blessing of the Palms at First Christian Church at 9:30 am, followed by the procession to Immanuel. **Mushu the burro will be joining us** on our walk - bring your kids! Passion Service begins at Immanuel at 10:30 am, followed by community fellowship time. **We need cookie donations and help serving** during fellowship time!

Easter Breakfast - April 5

Join us for ILC's Annual Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 5, from 9:15-10:15 am! The menu plans include scrambled eggs, sausage, hash browns, fruit and cinnamon rolls. ILC Youth Group will be helping to serve this year and accepting donations for their mission trip. We also welcome any congregation members to

volunteer for clean-up. The Faith and Wisdom Committee looks forward to seeing you on such a blessed occasion!

2026-27 Scholarships - Due April 15

Attention all high school seniors and college students! Pick up an application in the office, or email us at office@immanuelilverton.org. Please return it by April 15 with an official, sealed transcript from your high school or university. No late applications will be accepted.

Women's Retreat - May 14/15-17

This year's retreat will be at the beach! We only have 2 spots left. Text Sue Dickman at 503-209-7924 to sign up.

Bible Study on Matthew - Wednesdays, 10-11 am

Join us Wednesdays with Pastor Patricia Hughes & Pastor Joe Medley. March: Chapters 18-21

Growing Hope Globally Trip Opportunity

There is a trip coming up to visit a project Immanuel has supported, the Nepal Dhanpalthan program, June 12-19, 2026. Visit the GHG website for more information and to find the link for a travel application. Must sign up by April 15.

www.growinghopeglobally.org/trip/nepal-dhanpalthan-learning-visit/

Sunday School Support

Sign up in the narthex to assist with Sunday School. We will let you know how to complete a background check. Thank you for supporting our kids!

Ongoing Ministries, Reminders & Needs

Fireside Art Gallery

Be sure to stop by the Fireside Room to view artwork by Earlyn Moore, on display through March 15. Artwork by Kris Anne Baker will follow.

Guest Sign-Up Sheet

If you are new (or nearly new) to Immanuel, please sign in on the sheet outside the first sanctuary door.

Bibles for Third Graders

Our Faith & Wisdom Committee gives out Bibles to kids in third grade each year. Please let us know if you have a current third grader.

Senior Quilts

Every year a quilt is made for each of our graduating high school seniors to give them at the end of the school year. If you have a senior, please let us know.

Sound System



The Sound System subcommittee is now fundraising. We invite you to prayerfully consider supporting this effort with a donation. If donating a check, please note 'Sound System' in the memo. We are off to a great start and have over 20% of what we will need!

Quilting - March 4 & 18

All are welcome to join the quilters every other Wednesday in the quilting room in the basement beginning at 9 am. This group makes dozens of quilts a year to give away, filling a need in our community.

Fund Raising for Youth Gathering

Our youth group is attending the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minnesota and is beginning to raise funds. Contact Kate Bush if you have odd jobs for them to do, and grab a blue bag from the gym to fill with cans/bottles!

Youth will be selling Willamette Valley Pie Company pies in March!

Choir - Sundays at 11:45 am

Practice after service on Sundays. All are welcome!

Prayer Shawl Group - Tuesdays from 2-4 pm

All skill levels of knitters/crocheters are welcome in the Church Library. Yarn & patterns provided. Completed shawls are given to comfort and support others.

Coffee Hour Help Needed

Cookies, fruit or cheese/meats are welcomed for coffee hour! Sign up in the gym or see Pat Taylor.

Tuesday Crew

Join a team of folks who lend a hand with odd-jobs and basic maintenance to keep our building and grounds tidy and welcoming. Tuesdays at 9:30 am.

Devotional Service

Pastor Leah hosts a devotional service on Sundays at 8:30 am in the Fireside Room.

Van Ministry Leader Wanted

We are looking for someone to coordinate rides to and from worship with our volunteers.

SACA Sunday - Second Sundays

We accept food and monetary donations for our local food bank, **Silverton Area Community Aid** (*Improving lives by providing food, services, and access to community resources.*)

Flowers for Sunday Church Services

Sign up on the chart on the bulletin board in the multi-purpose room to bring flowers.

Candle Lighting

Students interested in candle-lighting {before worship} contact Jim Brueckner at church or call 503-580-8752.

Lost & Found

Will be donated to the rummage sale at the end of each month. Please check it regularly for any missing items.

Thirsty Thursday - Thursdays at 6 pm

Join us at Mac's on Thursday nights!

Frosig Features

The first message to me on Facebook after church this morning was from Dr. Seuss. It said- Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive that is youer than You.

In my uniqueness, when that early morning sunshine comes through the front window and casts shadows on this 125-year-old fir floor, I get up from my coziness and walk barefoot to the sunshine. My mind believes it actually feels the warmth from the sun, yet the thermometer outside says it's 41 degrees.

Through that window, still coated with fall and winter weather marks, I can see new growth and beautiful color coming up from the ground. That new growth is such a wonderful gift. And, as we know - Every good and perfect gift is from above. James 1:17a.

I have always liked the word 'perfect'. Sometimes there is some thing or a place or maybe a moment that just feels greater than great. Like January 25th, when I found red Snapdragons in bloom in front of my porch. They were surrounded by those wet brown leaves from last fall. The night had been below freezing, and the morning sun just lit up their perfect little faces. My heart was so full of joy. Thank you Lord.

Long ago, after a young adult life of many bumps and bruises, I was sitting in an Adult Education Sunday School class in the sanctuary of our church. The guest speaker was a counselor, don't remember her exact title, but she was leading this class about life and family and relationships. She asked this question - How many here think their childhood was perfect? I immediately and boldly raised my hand. As I looked around, I was the only one with my hand up. She looked straight at me and said, "Really??? There is no such thing as a perfect childhood."

I was shocked and for a moment just speechless. She went on with her talk. I had no idea what she said after that, I did not like her anymore. Who was she to tell me my childhood was not perfect, when I was there and she was not?

Our house may have been tiny, and there was always something that needed fixing, but I was loved, I was precious. From the beginning we knew the Lord was always present and Jesus lived in our heart. Maybe my clothes were all made by my mother or hand-me-downs from my cousin, but they were clean and very cute. My brother got boy clothes but my sister got my clothes when they became too small for me. Both my tricycle and bicycle were purchased at a second-hand store, but Dad put a new coat of paint on them before they were given to me. We were taught to love one another, to help where it was needed, and to share what we had with others. Yet, no one knew Dad would put a little water in the ketchup bottle to get all that was left at the very bottom out of the jar. Couldn't just throw that away. I knew we had to pinch our pennies, which didn't make any sense to me. I pinched a lot of pennies but none of them made more money.

So how could someone who did not know me, tell me in front of a lot of people that my childhood was not perfect?

I am by no means a perfectionist, maybe I just see perfection in a different way. I have been told more than a few times that I wear 'Rose-colored glasses'. It's all a matter of opinion, I guess.

But I'm happy and I love my little world. It's perfect for me. I believe it's the Lord's plan for me, full of joy and laughter and gratitude. Sometimes I do have to pray a lot for patience though. But, like Grandma Hanson would always say, "I really have nothing to complain about."

So, in the vast global world that surrounds my little world, I am aware of the headlines and the craziness. How do we know what is real and true anymore? Will my families be okay? Will I have enough income? Is my identity still safe? These things swirl around in my brain when they creep into my head. It consumes my thoughts in the night and I can't sleep. How did this happen. I know what I can do, but most of the craziness I can't control.

Then it's time to go to the Lord, and He leads me right back to my little world that is just perfect for me. Wow, to be so blessed.

Stay oh so strong, be brave, sing and dance and love. The flowers are blooming, more sunshine is coming, and the Lord has a plan. He is perfection.

Happy spring time everyone.



Marilyn Frosig



March, 2026

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>EVERY SUNDAY:</p> <p><i>Devotional Service, 8:30 am</i></p> <p><i>Worship, 10:30 am</i></p> <p><i>Sunday School, 10:45 am</i></p> <p><i>Choir, 11:45 am</i></p> <p><i>Youth Group, 6 pm</i></p>	<p>EVERY MONDAY:</p>  <p><i>Senior Exercise, 9:30-10:30 am</i></p> <p><i>YMCA, 1-4 pm</i></p> <p><i>Youth Basketball, 4-6 pm</i></p> <p><i>Marion County Citizens Band, 6:30-9 pm</i></p>	<p>EVERY TUESDAY:</p> <p><i>Staff Mtg, 9 am</i></p> <p><i>We All Dine In Silverton, 9 am-12 pm</i></p> <p><i>Tuesday Work Crew, 9:30 am</i></p> <p><i>YMCA, 1-4 pm, 5-8 pm</i></p> <p><i>Prayer Shawl, 2-4 pm</i></p>	<p>EVERY WEDNESDAY:</p> <p><i>We All Dine In Silverton, 9 am-12 pm</i></p> <p><i>Senior Exercise, 9:30 - 10:30 am</i></p> <p><i>Matthew Bible Study, 10 am</i></p> <p><i>YMCA, 1-4 pm</i></p> <p><i>Set-up, 5 pm</i> <i>Soup Supper, 6 pm</i> <i>Lent Service, 7 pm</i></p> <p><i>Rue Basketball, 8 pm</i></p>	<p>EVERY THURSDAY:</p> <p><i>YMCA, 1-4 pm, 5-8 pm</i></p> <p><i>Thirsty Thursday @ Mac's, 6 pm</i></p>	<p>EVERY FRIDAY:</p> <p><i>Senior Exercise, 9:30-10:30 am</i></p> <p><i>Sax Quartet, 1-3 pm</i></p> <p><i>YMCA, 1-4 pm, 5-8 pm</i></p> <p><i>Library Use, 4:30-6 pm</i></p>	<p>EVERY SATURDAY:</p> <p><i>Silverton Farmer's Market in Gym, 10 am-12:30 pm</i></p> 
1 Willamette Valley Pie Sale	2 Kitchen Cleaning, 9 am	3 Trustee Meeting, 6 pm Deacon Meeting, 6:30 pm	4 Quilting, 9 am 	5 Esther Circle, 9:30 am Lion's Club Meeting, 7 pm	6	7 Girl Scouts, 10 am-12 pm
8 Daylight Savings Time begins SACA Sunday Willamette Valley Pie Sale Confirmation Glump #4, 12-4 pm	9 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 6:30 am	10 Hospitality Meeting, 6 pm	11	12 	13	14
15 Willamette Valley Pie Sale 	16 Office Closed: Presidents' Day Council Meeting, 7 pm	17	18 Quilting, 9 am	19 Newsletter Articles Due by 3 pm Worship Planning Meeting, 7 pm Lion's Club Meeting, 7 pm	20 	21 Girl Scouts, 10 am-12 pm
22	23	24	25 Newsletter Published	26	27	28
29	30	31 				

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	Jim Brueckner Anita Grimes	12	Theresa Yancey	22	Annabel Brueckner Jessica Wilkerson
3	Janet Murphy		Jane Jones Dan Satern	23	Paul Rupp
4	Robert Terrell	14	Patty MacInnes	24	John Dallum
7	Dan Groah Amber Harris	17	Larry Rivers Amanda Rosansky	25	Scott Pritchard
8	Doug Garrett	18	Bob Knudtson	26	Ryan Sheldon
10	Jackson Rue	20	Kaylie Dunk Betty Kaufman	29	Ed Johnson Tracy Thomas
11	Haley Durbin-Wilson		Keri Peck	31	Luke Harris



HAPPY MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

If you have a birthday or anniversary in March that is unlisted, please let us know!

Sunday Flowers Provided By:

Sunday Readers:

March 1: Renback/Guzman Family in memory
of Allan & Harry
March 8: Available
March 15: Available
March 22: Available
March 29: Available

March 1: Bri Hupp
March 8: Dan Zinkand
March 15: Theresa Yancey
March 22: Marsa Terrell
March 29: Norm English



Watch us Online

Live Stream/View Past Services Links: www.facebook.com/immanuelilverton/videos
-or- www.youtube.com/ImmanuelSilverton/videos

Ways to Support Ministry at Immanuel

1. IN PERSON
Place offerings in the plates on Sunday or drop off in the office.
2. MAIL checks to:
Immanuel Lutheran Church 303 N Church St. Silverton, OR 97381
3. CALL the office to pay over the phone via credit card.
4. ONLINE
Scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit: <https://secure.myvanco.com/yp8k/home>
5. VANCO MOBILE APP
Download the Vanco Mobile app and enter invite code: 4MV6AF

