

THE MESSENGER

The monthly newsletter for members of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Forest City, Iowa — July - August 2017



Missionaries visiting Immanuel July 9!

ELCA Global Missionaries Rev. Colin & Jeni Grangaard and their children Josephine & Amos, will be visiting and sharing their message at Immanuel on Sunday, July 9 at 9:45am worship. Follow the worship all are welcome to continue the sharing with a Potluck Brunch in the fellowship hall.

The Grangaard's work as Young Adult in Global Mission (YAGM) Coordinators, and walk with these young people and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

You won't want to miss this. The morning will be a great opportunity to meet and hear how they work to share the gospel in the Holy Land. Thank you for your weekly prayer and financial support!

Picnic by the Pond

All are invited to stay for a picnic lunch following 9:45am OUTDOOR worship by the Waldorf Pond on Sunday, July 16. Grilling up hamburgers and hot dogs. We invite you to share a bag of chips and/or bars & cookies if you can.

This picnic is hosted by the Parish Life Board.

Bring along your lawn chair or blanket for OUTDOOR worship by the Pond that we are doing the 3rd Sunday of the month, weather permitting. In case the weather doesn't cooperate, we will be in the church building.

***Building Community
at Immanuel!***

Art Show & Sale



June Anderson

A Life's Mission for A Mission of Life!



Wednesday, July 12, 2017

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, July 14, 2017

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

246 S Clark St, Forest City, IA

Proceeds benefit the mission of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Immanuel Lutheran Church Youth

Invite you to enjoy this annual tradition!

SALAD LUNCHEON



JULY

14

Friday, 11 am – 1 pm \$7/person

246 S Clark St, Forest City

CARRYOUT AVAILABLE – PLEASE CALL AHEAD 585-3152

All proceeds support Children's Education & VBS Programs



Immanuel Yard Sale July 14

We are seeking donations of just about anything to sell in good condition (and of course we'd still love for you to shop). Your items would be a donation to Immanuel and the proceeds will support our general fund.

Bring donations to the church Monday-Thursday and leave in the narthex that week, or also that morning. Yard Sale will be from 9:00am – 4:00pm. If you need to drop your items off sooner than the week of the yard sale, please contact Quincey Benson via Facebook message or the church office (585-3152), jaci@immanuelfamily.com. And if you are interested in helping with the sale, contact Kathy McEnelly at cattykathy@wctatel.net or the church office.



STOP HUNGER Ice Cream Social – July 14

Stop by the Winnebago County Courthouse Square on Friday evening during Puckerbrush on Friday, July 14 from 5-7 p.m. for an ice cream treat dished up for you by members of the STOP HUNGER committee. Free will donations.

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A Life's Mission for a Mission of Life!

ART SHOW & SALE

Wednesday, July 12 - 4-7pm

& Friday, July 14 - 10am-4pm

Proceeds benefit the mission of

Immanuel Lutheran Church

June (Roberson) Anderson was born May 10, 1926. As a farm wife, married to Dean Anderson for 71 years, June was a busy wife, and mother. She raised 5 children, planted and tended many gardens, worked side-by-side with her husband, and is grandmother to 10 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren.



In 1960, June's brother, Leonard Roberson was living and working in Hawaii making a living as an artist. Upon one of his return trips to Iowa, as a gift to his sister June he brought her a number of art supplies. It was then June began painting and she hasn't stopped after nearly 60 years.

Not only did June paint, she also taught others to paint. She has taught students in her home, she's taught students in Arizona and Texas where she and her husband wintered for a number of years. June paints animals with a special fondness for birds. She paints landscapes, scenery, barns, stills, and flowers. At one point June took a class to learn the Norwegian art of rosemaling. Throughout the years June's award-winning painting have been entered in art shows, county fairs and displayed at Winnebago Industry's rally. "It was all for fun," June said.

June loves her family, her heritage, her church, and her community. She has decided to disperse of her collection of paintings while she is still able to find enjoyment in other's enjoyment of them. While June lacks no vision for painting, her eyesight has declined to a point that her ability to paint is very limited. She has generously donated her paintings to Immanuel Lutheran in Forest City for liquidation. She wants the proceeds to bless the mission work of her church family. This truly is a life's mission given for a mission of life.

June's favorite Bible verse that she lives by, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13.

June's favorite Bible verse that she lives by, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13.

Waldorf Block Party

Join in on the fun welcoming Waldorf University students to campus for the new school year on Thursday, August 24, 5:30-7pm. Parish Life Board hosts a BBQ out on the 6th Street side of the church building. It takes many hands and plenty of food to feed all the college students. Come help; volunteer to furnish some baked goods (cookies & bars) or buy a bag of chips.

Thanks to Dana Yost for the Thrivent Financial funding to help support this fun event!

LETTER FROM PASTOR ROD

For Everything There is a Season 

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven... This is the beginning of a poem from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Ecclesiastes is one of my favorite First Testament books and this is one of my favorite passages from that reading. It is one of my favorites, in part, because it is an earthy and poetic word to peoples of every time and place.



Pastor Rod

One doesn't have to live very long before one realizes there are many seasons in life. Seasons come and seasons go. This is both good news and bad news. If the season of life we are in is good and abundant and fulfilling then we see it as bad news that that season will come to an end. If the current season we're in is full of hardship and struggle, then this is good news and we trust that "this too shall pass."

This is true also in the church. There are seasons that blow through this and every church family. As those seasons pass we are called to evaluate and to ask if the ministry we are doing still makes and has an impact on the people of the church and on the world around us. And it's clear in this, our time, that while the voice of the church continues to nourish and sustain those who are connected to the church, that same voice is struggling to impact the world.

This can be seen for cause for despair as we fear the church may collapse, or it can be seen as an opportunity to become prayerful, playful and creative in our rolls as pastors, as congregational leaders, and as entire congregations. We must remember always who is in charge of, who is the head of the church, and that one is Jesus. He is beyond death and therefore his church too is beyond death. The structures of the church may collapse and fall, but the church (God's people) never will.

With this in mind I take up one of the many pieces of my job description: the ongoing work and process of evaluation. I am currently engaging your staff members in an evaluation process of their work here in your midst. Together we will, along with others evaluate the work of "us" this congregation, and of the church council; our programs and classes, ministry efforts, our leadership and our faithfulness. As part of this I have asked the Congregational Council to evaluate me; to give me feedback, encouragement in areas of strength and in areas that need strengthening.

With evaluation comes change. I am anticipating that I may be in a new season of ministry among you after 9 years of serving as pastor to Immanuel Lutheran. I am searching for continuing education opportunities that will equip and sustain me for my next season of ministry among you. I anticipate that each of your staff members have grown and

matured year-by-year and may be looking for new challenges, educational opportunities, and growth. I also anticipate there may be some tweaking of programing and some new dreams and visions that surface through this process. All-in-all I feel our current mission, to "build community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ" is sound and gives great opportunity of faithfulness, creativity, and joyful work among us.

Please pray for your church staff and council always and especially as we travel this road of evaluation for the up-building of God's people and God's church. I invite your feedback and engagement with myself and your staff and council members as we do this work together. And I invite you to ask your Christ-like friends to offer their loving evaluation of you ministry. It may lead to change, but I promise, it will also lead to life. There is a time and a season for every matter under heaven!"

God's Peace, Pastor Rod

IMMANUEL KIDS

WHAT DO WITE OUT AND THE DELETE BUTTON HAVE IN COMMON?

Many of you have never heard of a product call Wite Out. It was most popular in the days of typewrites because it allowed the typist to correct a mistake and avoid retyping an entire document. It still has some uses in the office, but for the most part, today we simply hit the delete button and erase all of our mistakes.

Wite Out and the delete button both serve to erase mistakes. In the same way the love of God erases our mistakes and sins. God loves us, even while we are sinners, and so by his grace (his unearned love) God, in Jesus, pours out his forgiveness upon us. Jesus deletes / wites out all our sins, failures, and mistakes, and makes us brand new.

In the Old Testament book of Isaiah, God says to his people, "I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins," Isaiah 43:25. God blots out our sins. Wite Out blots out anything that stains or tarnishes my type written paper; the delete button blots out my mistakes on the computer; Jesus' blood blots out all my sins, mistakes and failures. Jesus makes each day, a brand new start for you and me. Therefore each new day is an opportunity to give God glory with our lives as we live in new ways each new day by his grace.

***Crossed in Christ,
Pastor Rod***

What A Freeing Gift

During these two months I invite you to use this story by James Nestingen in your devotions. You also heard it in a sermon by Travis last month. I pray this is a freeing message on the amazing love, grace and forgiveness we have received through Jesus.

J. A. Aasgaard was the head of what was once the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America. One day a young woman came to him; Aasgaard had performed her wedding some weeks earlier. She said, "Pastor, I have to talk to you." He could see that something was deeply troubling her. He said, "In the hymnal there is a service for somebody like you. It's the service of private confession." So she knelt beside his desk, and he knelt beside her and she told him her story. She had been a nurse at the hospital and one of the doctors had taken an interest in her. One thing led to another and she became pregnant. She went to the doctor about her pregnancy and he arranged for her to have an abortion in the operating room at night. So the pregnancy was terminated, the relationship ended, and she was left alone. Then a young man in the congregation took an interest in her. When he called her, she thought she ought to tell him about herself, but she couldn't. They began

dating, and she thought she should tell him, but she couldn't. Soon the relationship was getting more serious, and she thought she should tell him, but she couldn't. He proposed to her, and she thought she should tell him, but she couldn't. They were married, and she thought she should tell him, but she couldn't. "And now," she said, "whenever he touches me, all I can think about is how I've betrayed him." She said, "I want to die."

Aasgaard stood up, put his hand on her head, and said, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sin." And he made the sign of the cross on her forehead. She stood up and said, "Now, I suppose I should tell my husband this story." Aasgaard said, "What story?" She went back to her husband rejoicing, and the marriage was long and fruitful.

Dear God, thank you for the grace and forgiveness of our sin that we have received through Jesus. Let us hear the words, "I forgive you" and feel free in our lives daily thanks to you. Amen.

See you in worship!
Pastor Zech Anderson

Vital Agers Annual Picnic

Mary Rodberg

The Vital Agers will host their Annual Indoor Picnic on Tuesday, August 8 at 11:30am. After a picnic lunch Anne Bakke will present a program on motivational moments. We will once again have our pie judging contest. So we ask our bakers to bring a pie for the contest. After judging we will be able to taste the pies with a cup of coffee.

There is no charge for this event, but we ask you to sign up so we know how much food to prepare. Watch the bulletin board for the sign up sheet as the date draws nearer.

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

June 25

Parker James Hill, son of Kelli Thompson & Tommie Hill

Hayden Michael Porter, son of Phil & Megan (Smith) Porter

WEDDING

June 3 Brady (Askeland) &
Michaela (Kessler) Book

PRAYERS

Carmen Hauge, Leona Orvick, family and friends, in the loss of husband/son-in-law, Kent Hauge of Forest City

Rev. Ole Winter (former Immanuel pastor), family and friends, in the loss of wife Naomi Winter of Decorah

Darin Kofron, Bernie & Karen Kofron, Christy & Chuck Smoley, Hannah & Hailey Kofron, and family in the loss of husband/son-in-law/brother-in-law/step-father, Johnathan Kofron of Mason City

Tim & Kristene Petersen, Marissa & Matt, and family in the loss of Tim's mother, Rachel Petersen of Humboldt



Pool Party

Join us on Thursday, August 10th at the Forest City Aquatic Center for Immanuel Lutheran's summer pool party! Everyone (all ages) is invited from 8-10 pm on August 10th for a fun night in the water. Mark your calendar for the pool party and for the Promiseland year that will begin on September 6th.

Freedom For

Travis Beck - based on my June 18 sermon

On July 4 we celebrate our independence day, the day we declared ourselves free from British rule. Since then, freedom has been a sacred word for us in the United States. We send our sons and daughters to die for it. We sing songs in praise of it. We fly our flag in support of it. But what does freedom mean? When we talk about freedom in the US we often talk about freedom from something, like Britain, or obligations, or expectations, or being told by our government how we should live. As Lutherans, however, we talk about freedom for something.

One of my seminary professors Jim Nestingen tells the story of his Canadian grandfather. He said, "Grandpa used to say if you want to frustrate an American, always ask him what he's free for. He'll say 'Free to set someone else free.' And then you ask him, 'Well, what are you setting them free for?' And then he'll just look at you quizzically and not be able to understand the question." To be sure, we confess that Christ has set us free from sin, death, and the devil. But in freeing us from these things, we are placed in a new captivity to Christ and to the neighbor. This is one of the great paradoxes of our faith: God liberates us by holding us captive. If God simply liberated us and then left us free-floating out there in the wilderness, some other force would come along and capture us. And so, if God in Christ is truly gracious, he must make us slaves to him. Freedom is bondage and bondage is freedom.

And in making us slaves to himself, Christ makes us slaves to our neighbor. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." The neighbor is where Christ says he is found. And so in setting us free, Christ binds us to the neighbor. We are set free for the sake of the world. We are free to be—free to be a better spouse, a better parent, a better employee, a better friend, because we are no longer bound by forces that keep us enslaved to our own selves. We are

set free not so that we can prattle on about how free we are but so that we can live lives of loving service to others. We are free to see the neighbor not as people to be used and abused as means to our own selfish ends, or people to help for the sake of boosting our own ego. We are set free to see them as Christ sees them: lost sheep, harassed and helpless, people who walk in darkness. We are free to serve them because they need it, not because we want our obituaries to say how great we were at helping people. We are free not to be ourselves but to be Christ for others.

What will this life of Christian freedom look like for you? How will you be Christ for others? Think about your passions, your gifts, your strengths—the things you do so well that your neighbor depends on you for them. Think about your relationships, your job, your career—the places in life where you can be Christ for your neighbor. Frederick Buechner says, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." Figure out where that intersection is in your own world, and go there.

Live Christ, love Christ, share Christ, be Christ—for the sake of the world.

Jacquelyn Imsande is currently pursuing degrees in Music Education (K-12: vocal/instrumental) and Church Music at Waldorf University. She is thankful to be surrounded by the family of Immanuel Lutheran Church this summer as she completes a church music internship with Travis Beck.



I am Charles Ryder, currently finishing my Business Degree with concentrations in Management, Finance, and Banking at Waldorf University. I am interning at Immanuel both to learn how the church operates in the background, but also because I am considering seminary.



Treasurer's Report | Immanuel Lutheran Church

FY MAY 2017

	MAY ACTUAL 2017	MONTHLY BUDGET	YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	PERCENT OF YTD BUDGET 41.67%	MAY ACTUAL 2016	YTD ACTUAL 2016
INCOME							
Regular Offerings & Envelopes	38,452.91	43,375.00	195,332.21	520,500.00	37.5%	35,975.87	185,213.76
Other Income	1,557.82	4,540.00	27,035.01	54,480.00	49.6%	1,487.57	35,529.44
Total Income	40,010.73	47,915.00	222,367.22	574,980.00	38.7%	37,463.44	220,743.20
EXPENSE							
Staff Support	30,266.66	30,602.92	152,345.90	367,235.00	41.5%	26,895.43	131,197.37
Administration	10,613.37	9,416.25	48,010.92	112,995.00	42.5%	8,616.24	59,062.88
Ministry Areas	9,054.39	7,894.75	36,682.14	94,737.00	38.7%	6,417.31	36,888.64
Loan re-payment/contingency	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	49,934.42	47,913.92	237,038.96	574,967.00	41.2%	41,928.98	227,148.89
INCOME LESS EXPENSE	(\$9,923.69)	1.08	(\$14,671.74)	13.00		(\$4,465.54)	(\$6,405.69)

YOUTH MINISTRY

By MATT POLSDOFER

Our youth and leaders had the opportunity to volunteer on Saturday, June 17th at the Humane Society of North Iowa and Mason City Stray Shelter. It was an amazing opportunity to show love and attention to animals that may not otherwise have received it. Before we left for the shelter we read Genesis 1:26, "Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'" When we were eating lunch, we discussed this verse and how our time volunteering may have impacted it. We realized that there are a lot of animals out there and a lot that need to see that care that we are called to by God.



We also discussed how caring for the animals of the world can impact us throughout our lives in various ways. This can be what we wear, maybe we do not buy clothing made from animals or buy products that are tested on. It could also be seen in the spaces we live, where we need to be conscious of the impact of our decisions on the environment and animals in the area. Another thing that came up is that animals and humans are similar. We noticed that the animals (and humans) that tend to get the most attention are the ones that are the loudest, where the ones that are quiet and may need our attention don't receive it because they are overlooked. I pray that you find your position and opportunity to serve God through taking care of His creation.

In Christ, Matt Polsdofer



*Pictured: Back row-Brian Golwitzer, Brittany Howd, GT Howd, Matt Polsdofer, Jaxon Jones, Anna Lehmann, Zach Lehmann, Tangkwa Auttapracha, & Thone Golwitzer
Front row: Cindi Lehmann, Aimee Howd, Maddie Benson, Carena Lechuga & Brice Golwitzer*

HS Youth Ministry: We continue to meet Wednesday nights through the summer at Matt's house at 7:30pm. This is open for those who just completed 8th grade through those who just graduated high school.

2018 Houston National Youth Gathering: If you are still thinking about going to the Youth Gathering please let Matt know ASAP! We still have room for you. If you have any questions or would like to talk with someone about the trip we can arrange that too. Thanks! Matt

Upcoming fundraisers: Bake Sale at Bill's Family Foods on Saturday, July 8th from 8-noon; and we are raffling off a quilt on Friday, July 14. Raffle tickets will be available June 30th thru raffle time.

MAKER FUN FACTORY VBS

By: Tori Eastvold

Vacation Bible School was held at Immanuel June 5-June 9. The theme of this year's VBS was 'Maker Fun Factory' where the kids learned they were built by God for a purpose. Over 90 pre-school - 5th grade students attended VBS with 45 volunteers assisting with the week. 30 High School and Middle School students volunteered during the week as crew leaders. The children greatly enjoy having the middle/high school youth help lead their groups.

The Sanctuary was turned into a fun factory which included a robot, tin man and lego blocks. Students gathered twice a day in the Sanctuary to sing, dance and watch skits. A different Bible verse, point and story reinforced the theme of following Jesus.

Students traveled to different stations each day with their crew leader. These stations included; Bible Discovery (story), Imagination Station (crafts), KidVid Cinema (video), Snack Factory and Game Makers. Students took home science-fun gizmos each day. They also each received a Watch for God wristband to encourage students to always look for God sightings.

The VBS students brought pennies on Monday, nickels on Tuesday, dimes on Wednesday, quarters on Thursday and dollars on Friday as offering. The kids enjoyed putting their money into the robot daily. \$465.83 was collected during the week, great job kids! The offering will help fund medical equipment and supplies to be shipped to those in need who are living in Tanzania.

VBS is only \$5 for each child to attend, thanks to the salad luncheon. This year the salad luncheon will be held on July 14th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. I hope you will attend! Also, if you are available to bring a salad or volunteer your time, please contact the church office or sign up online at www.mealtrain.com/pot-lucks/3l2d0l.

Thank you to everyone who attended or volunteered to make Vacation Bible School successful! I hope everyone has a great summer! Look for details of Promiseland beginning on September 6 in the September Messenger.



Library July-Aug 2017



ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW

By what we read or watch

Book Reviews

Until the Harvest

By Sarah Loudin

Leah Boyd says that this novel reminds her of her own dad because Henry Phillips has to leave college to help at home. An unusual young girl, Mayfair Hoffman, becomes his friend and the family farm and his fiddle also soothe him. But his grandmother's caretaker and Mayfair's older sister, Margaret, is not soothing! This is a warm story of family bonds and surprises.

War Room

By Chris Fabry

This book is a reversal; it's a book based on the movie of the same name (which can be found in the church library) and from the creators of Fireproof and Courageous. Tony and Elizabeth Jordan are in marital crisis until Elizabeth meets a new client, Miss Clara, who challenges her to fight for her marriage rather than against her husband. This book is funny, poignant, gripping, and gritty with a core message: "Prayer Is A Powerful Weapon".

A Story of God and All of Us

By Roma Downey and Mark Burnett

This novel is another reversal as it is based on the epic TV miniseries THE BIBLE (also in the church library on 5 DVDs). This book will make you reread your Bible. You will not have to imagine the featured Bible stories in your mind;

they are given to you clearly. They are not retelling the story of the Bible but rather dramatizing some of its beautiful stories. You are invited to read this book and then check out one DVD at a time of the movie.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY



Something new for children of ALL ages is now in the church library. Although it is located in the children's section, it is for all of us. Come and see the new picture of Jesus with children of the world, now hanging in the library.

JULY MEANS STORY HOUR IS HERE

All children ages 3 through entering 6th grade this fall are invited to participate in Story Hour with activities of Singing, Stories, Snacks, lots of Books & DVDs to check out and prizes each week too.

Where: Immanuel Church-South Door

When: Fridays – July 7, 14, 21, and 28th

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 am **Who:** All Children



'Like' Immanuel Lutheran Church on facebook for all the latest news and updates!

Thank you for the financial gifts that come in from worship offerings, automatics, or through the mail.

Try this convenient way to give your offerings to Immanuel – could be a one-time gift, or a recurring electronic gift.

Just scan this QR code with your mobile device and follow the simple steps.



Boardnotes

Parish Council

Kathy McEnelly

The ILC council met on June 19, 2017 with the following members present: Kathy McEnelly, Chad Benson, Ken Hansen, Brody Hopp, Joan Beebe, Heather Johnson, Melanie Slater, Alice Lewellen, Stacy Miller, Cynthia Ryder, Steve Olmstead, Pastor Anderson and Pastor Hopp. Charles Ryder attended as a guest (Immanuel's summer intern).

Ken Hansen and Pastor Rod gave a report on the Synod Assembly weekend. Immanuel was recognized for our level of financial support to the Synod.

Council discussed a vacancy on the Council as Jen Conrad has stepped down. Potential candidates were reviewed with the top 3 to be contacted to determine their interest. Per our Constitution, Council may appoint someone to fill a vacancy until the next election cycle.

Same gender marriage forums will resume this fall.

Board of Education

Emily Beenken

The Board of Education met Tuesday, June 13th. The board finished taking down Vacation Bible School materials and sorting out the items that will be going back to the curriculum company Group. The 2017-2018 calendar was discussed and initial dates were set. Wednesday, September 6th will be the first day of Promiseland. The annual Salad Luncheon will be held Friday, July 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sign up sheets were sent around during the Vacation Bible School program and will be sent around again during church on Sunday. The board worked on planning and organizing the luncheon. A mealtrain.com event was set up and can be found at: <https://mealtrain.com/3l2d0l>

Board of Trustees

Kathy McEnelly

The Board of Trustees met on June 19. The May financials noted a loss for the month of -\$9,923.69. Year-to-date, after five months of 2017, we are at a loss of -\$14,671.74. We have not had to take out a loan yet. Notable expenses in May included a quarterly insurance expense of \$4,000; VBS expense of \$2,500; and Synod Assembly registration fees of \$1,500.

Consideration is being given to updating the side doors now that the front doors have been replaced. Flooring will be updated at the Hanson Family Life Center soon.

A change to the staff Funeral Leave Policy was approved to include brother-in-law and sister-in-law as "immediate family".

Parish Life

Melanie Westerberg

Board of Parish Life met June 5 for the purpose of planning the upcoming congregational picnic on Sunday, July 16.

All are invited to 9:45am OUTDOOR worship by the Waldorf Pond and then stay for lunch and fellowship. The Board will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs. Drinks provided. We ask that congregation folks could help out by furnishing bags of chips and/

or bars & cookies to share. These items may be left in the church kitchen beforehand, or brought to worship that day.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 17, 5pm.

Mission and Outreach

Sharen Rieffer

M & O Board met on June 14 with the following present: Mary Reisetter, Becky Stumme, Larry Rieffer, Ken Korth, Brody Hopp, Steve Olmstead and Sharen Rieffer.

The board discussed the Health Care Initiatives that were sent to the ELCA Synod Assembly. Some of the items were donated by the Forest City Family Dentistry and Forest City Medical Clinic. Vacation Bible School offerings went towards this also and was \$481.70. Nineteen Hospice Kits were assembled along with various other items such as pillow cases & sheets, towels & washcloths, soap, walkers, canes, crutches and medical supplies. A big THANK YOU to all who helped in this endeavor.

A Noisy Offering and special envelope offering was taken June 25 for our ELCA Global Missionaries serving in the Holy Land, Revs. Colin & Jeni Grangaard. We are excited that they will be visiting here on July 8 and 9 and will be hosted by the Lehmann's. They will be speaking on Sunday, July 9 and we will be having a congregational potluck brunch afterwards.

We discussed the Chair-ity Auction on July 15 during Puckerbrush. So far, we have two chairs that will be painted and donated. If anyone knows someone who likes to do this type of project, please encourage them to help out in this way. The board discussed where to use the earnings from this effort.

Brody will bring to the Council for new business where would they suggest our final quarter offerings should go to. Should it remain the Hanson Family Life Center or another cause.

Mission emphasis for July-September will be our Bible Camps – Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp and Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp.

FLOWERS & BROADCASTS

Altar flowers available these Sundays (\$44)

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	September 10, 17, 24
August 13, 20, 27	October 1, 8, 15, 22

Radio broadcasts available these Sundays (\$100)

July 9, 16, 30	September 3, 10, 17, 24
August 13	October 1, 8, 15, 22

Thank you for helping me celebrate my
90th birthday on June 24.
Thanks so much for all the
pretty cards and gifts.

Elaine Nerdig

WHAT IS GOING ON AT IMMANUEL?

Marge Solberg

I am interested in touring places of interest and I invite you to join me for a special tour of Immanuel. Unlike other tours, you won't wear an orange vest to distinguish you from the "regulars". You won't need special shoes to walk through hazardous places. The tour is open to all ages, men and women, babies to age 100.

When you were a toddler you probably learned the little finger game, "this is a church; this is a steeple. Open the door and see all the people". Immanuel has a door, a steeple, and people. Come inside for a closer look.

First floor rooms: Pastors' offices, for counseling or greeting. I can't remember the last time I stopped to talk to the pastors here. I'd like to ask, "How are you doing; are complaints and discord getting you down; how can we help with the stress?" Staff offices have one person for each position. How can a business operate with only one person for the job (or "jobs"). Education office and classrooms: This staff person must get volunteers for all teaching, winter and summer, lead part of the music, and organize fundraising for supplies.

Downstairs down the hall, tucked amidst the kids' rooms is a little room full of lists, instructions, and parts to maintain this large building—Mike's room (he washes and polishes all floors; Marie does the lighter cleaning). This is a lot of space for 2 people to clean and maintain, set up and clean up for each event held here. He must be superman. A buzz of women cooking, planning, and laughing tells me the next room is the kitchen. Have you heard this room is off limits to anyone who hasn't been a member for 40 years? That's a myth! Everyone is welcome to work in this room where meals are prepared and served to everyone, without cost, once a week. Lunches and snacks are served for Bible studies, showers, receptions, and just to get together. Special care is given in preparation of food and comfort for grieving families after a funeral; food is made ready for a chance to feed people giving money to Hospice. Other meals buy free educational supplies for all kids. People share a meal here when they have Bible study and when they have fun. All youth programs use the kitchen whenever they are hungry (and that is often!). This is the reason you see a dishwasher, large stove, big coffee pots, freezers, big refrigerator. They are all well-used. The large Fellowship Hall seats the eaters of all this food. In this room WELCA makes quilts (about 200 per year) and life-giving kits to send around the world. Meals put together here are taken to people who are sick, grieving, having problems and are hurting.

Visits are made to homebound to listen, spend time, serve communion, and pray with them. In the Sanctuary altar cloths, baptismal font, communion items are kept clean ready for worship. All this is done by volunteers. You could search for bigger or smaller churches, faster, modern music, exciting messages, older or younger members. I was recently housebound with illness for 5 months. Immanuel people called, sent cards, brought lots of food, flowers, and books. They lifted my moral, hugged me, made me laugh, and prayed with me. That's what Immanuel people do. An Immanuel gal stops by often with, "I want to do something, put me to work." Next time I'll meet her at the door with sweeper, mop and iron because I know she means it! Amidst all this, is the Word of and presence of Jesus—in the serving, fellowship, caring, praying, and forgiving.




Whether you've been at Immanuel two weeks or 50 years you will truly meet God's people ready to love and care for you. The tour is over. We have a lot more to show you another time. You're invited to visit any of these rooms and get involved because now you know... **WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON AT IMMANUEL!**



August Circles		
		Hostess
Circle	Date/Time	Lesson Leader
(NO CIRCLES MEETING IN JULY)		
Dorcas	Wed./Aug. 16, 1:30pm	Shalom, TBD
Martha	Thurs./Aug. 17, 9:30am	Shalom- Sherri Sesker, Liz Wilson, TBD
Sarah	Thurs./Aug. 17, 1:30pm	Lounge, TBD
Rachel	Thurs., Aug. 17, 7pm	Shalom, Cherrice Ehrich, Mary Schaefer

Dates to Remember

Monday, July 17, 2-4pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom
Tuesday, July 25, 1pm	LWR Quilting Do Day, Fellowship Hall
July Coffee Hours.....	Kitchen Service Group
July Laundry	Betty Soderling
Thursday, August 10, 10am	Circle Bible Study Leaders, Lounge
Monday, Aug. 21, 2-4pm.....	Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom
Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1pm.....	LWR Quilting Do Day, Fellowship Hall
August Coffee Hours	Fellowship Service Group
August Laundry	Judy Levad



Summer Wednesday Meals

Served each week 4:45-6:45pm

All are welcome to come join others for supper each Wednesday in the fellowship hall.

Thanks to those of you who volunteered to host a night in June! And the July schedule is planned ~ thanks to those faithful servants in advance!

Dates open are the 5 Wednesdays in August (2, 9, 16, 23, 30). Gather some friends and/or family members to prepare a meal for around 50-70. A variety of groceries are already stocked to give menu ideas, or someone could help with that process. Contact the church office (585-3152) with your interest and date.

Volunteers July/August 2017

JULY-AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

Altar Guild

July 2 Mary Lund
 July 9 Connie Thompson
 July 16 Julie Damm
 July 23 Joanne Bartleson
 July 30 Kathy Leuwerke
 Aug. 6 Dorothy Olson
 Aug. 13 Cathy Stensland
 Aug. 20 Joan Beebe
 Aug. 27 Sonja Johnson

Assisting Ministers

July 2 Kathy McEnelly
 July 9 Cynthia Ryder
 July 16 Cynthia Ryder
 July 23 Carolyn Price
 July 30 Jim Cherry

Readers

July 2 Kay Sorensen
 July 9 Carolynn Korth
 July 16 Brenda Kirschbaum
 July 23 Julie Damm
 July 30 Brandon Leber
 Aug. 6 Steve Olmstead
 Aug. 13 Cynthia Ryder
 Aug. 20 Brad Jones
 Aug. 27 Joy Newcom

Communion Servers

July 2 Kathy McEnelly, Harlan Rodberg
 July 9 Jim & Barb Braun
 July 16 Marlene Faircloth, Cynthia Ryder (OUTDOORS)
 July 23 Joan Hansen, Carolyn Price
 July 30 Judy Utech, Judy Cherry
 Aug. 6 Joy Newcom, Joan Langerud
 Aug. 13 Kim Mollenhauer, Harlan Rodberg (OUTDOORS)
 Aug. 20 Liz Wilson, Kathy McEnelly
 Aug. 27 Marlene Faircloth, Melanie Westerberg

Communion Set Up

July 2 Shirley Rollefson
 July 9 Joyce Kasper
 July 16 Kathy Leuwerke (OUTDOORS)
 July 23 Alice Jones
 July 30 Dona Paulson
 Aug. 6 Marge Solberg
 Aug. 13 Ellen Olson
 Aug. 20 Alice Jones (OUTDOORS)
 Aug. 27 Barb Lovick

Song Leaders

July 2 Jaci Thorson, Kathy Jerome
 July 9 Cindi Lehmann, Audrey Olmstead
 July 16 Mark & Joy Newcom

July 23 Amanda Take, Sam Beck
 July 30 Kathy Jerome, TBD
 Aug. 6 Cindi Lehmann, Audrey Olmstead
 Aug. 13 Mark & Joy Newcom
 Aug. 20 Kathy Jerome, Amanda Take
 Aug. 27 Liz May, Sam Beck

Offering Counters Kathy Olson, Betty Olson,
 Betty Soderling, Betty Nelson, Marj Anderson

Ushers

July Wayne Johns, Jim Lund, Jim Bowman, Paul Jensen
 August Gary McCarthy, Matt Bronson,
 Bill Stensland, Loren Ehrich

Sound Techs

July TBD
 August Eric Rust

Bible Camps July-Sept. Mission Emphasis

Mission Support to two Bible Camps will be lifted up thru awareness, financial support, and prayer for this current quarterly emphasis:

Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp www.RiversideLBC.org, located outside of Story City;
 Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps www.okoboji.org, with two locations—Milford (west side of West Okoboji Lake) and Wallingford (at Ingham Lake)

All locations lift up the same theme for the summer of 2017: ROOTED – “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” Colossians 2:6-7

Attending Bible camp can be a life-changing experience for young people, but these camps offer much more to all people:

- Sunday Worship & Brunch
- Quilt Auctions
- 5K run/walks
- Golf Tournaments
- Camp for your family
- Women's weekend retreats & crafting retreats
- Group trips (like Mackinac Island!)

And you can still sign up and attend most of these events yet this summer! Interested? Check out their websites, or ask for flyers or brochures in the church office.

JULY / AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:45am - Worship 10:45am - Coffee, Fellowship Hall	3	4 CHURCH CLOSED 	5 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	6 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge	7 9:30-11am - Story Hour	8 8-noon - Bake Sale @ Bill's, HS Youth Trip Group 6pm - Staff, Mission & Outreach, Council Potluck Supper w/Missionaries
9 9:45am - Worship w/ Missionaries Colin & Jeni 10:45am - Potluck Brunch w/Missionaries	10	11 9:30am - Vital Agers 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 5pm - Education Board, Kitchenette	12 4-7pm - Art Show & Sale, FH 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 5pm - Mission & Outreach Board, Lounge 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	13 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge	14 9-4 - Yard Sale 9:30-11am - Story Hour 10-4 - Art Show 11-1pm - Salad Luncheon, 5-7:30pm - Ice Cream Social for Stop Hunger, Courthouse Sq	15 10am - Puckerbrush Parade
16 9:45am - OUTDOOR Worship by Waldorf Pond 10:45am - OUTDOOR Picnic by Waldorf Pond	17 2-4pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom 5pm - Parish Life Board, Lounge 5:45pm - Trustees, Kitchenette 6:45pm - Council, Refor- mation	18 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Shalom 2:30pm - Forest Plaza Communion Service	19 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	20 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 10:30am - Good Samari- tan Communion Service	21 9:30-11am - Story Hour	22
23 9:45am - Worship 10:45am - Coffee, FH	24	25 1pm - LWR Quilting Do Day, FH	26 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	27 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge	28 9:30-11am - Story Hour	29
30 9:45am - Worship 10:45am - Coffee, FH	31	1 August 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room	2 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	3 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge	4	5
6 9:45am - Worship 10:45am - Coffee, FH	7	8 11:30am - Vital Agers' Indoor Picnic, FH 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 5pm - Education Board, Kitchenette	9 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 5pm - Mission & Out- reach Board, Lounge 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	10 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge 8-10pm - Pool Party, FC Aquatic Center	11	12
13 9:45am - Worship 10:45am - Coffee, FH	14	15 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 2:30pm - Forest Plaza Communion Service	16 1:30pm - Dorcas Circle, Shalom 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry	17 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 9:30am - Martha Circle, Shalom 10:30am - Good Samaritan Communion Service 1:30pm - Sarah Circle, Lounge 7pm - Rachel Circle, Shalom	18 SEPTEMBER MESSENGER DEADLINE	19
20 9:45am - OUTDOOR Worship by Waldorf Pond	21 2-4pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom 5:45pm - Trustees, Kitchenette 6:45pm - Council, Refor- mation	22 1pm - LWR Quilting Do Day, FH	23 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry 1ST DAY OF FOREST CITY SCHOOL	24 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 5:30-7pm - Waldorf Block Party, 6th St 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge	25	26
27 9:45am - Worship 10:45am - Coffee, FH	28	29 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room	30 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, 7:30pm - HS Youth Ministry 6:30pm - Promiseland Teachers' Training, Shalom	31 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge		



246 South Clark Street, Forest City, IA 50436
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST



MISSION STATEMENT

Building community in the
name and likeness of
Jesus Christ.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays @ 9:45 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS

M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
641-585-3152

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

246 S. Clark Street • Forest City, IA 50436

Main phone number:

641-585-3152

Website:

www.immanuelfamily.com

Facebook pages:

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Immanuel Lutheran Church Library

Staff:

Rev. Rod Hopp - Senior Pastor

pastorrod@immanuelfamily.com

Home: 641-581-2150

Rev. Zech Anderson – Associate Pastor,

zanderson001@immanuelfamily.com

Parsonage home: 641-585-3501

Mike Oleson - Property Manager

mike@immanuelfamily.com

Cindi Lehmann - Finance

cindi@immanuelfamily.com

Travis Beck - Music & Worship Director

travis@immanuelfamily.com

Jaci Thorson - Administrative Assistant

jaci@immanuelfamily.com

Tori Eastvold - Children's Education

ChildrensEd@immanuelfamily.com

Matt Polsdofer - Youth Ministry

mpolsdofer001@immanuelfamily.com

Marie Oleson - Housekeeping

Deb Fardal – Wednesday meal coordinator

dfardal@yahoo.com

Church Council

President: **Kathy McEnelly**

Vice-President: **Chad Benson**

Treasurer: **Cynthia Ryder**

Secretary: **Melanie Slater**

Representatives: **Joan Beebe, Kathy Leuwerke,**

Ken Hansen, Brody Hopp, Heather Johnson,

Alice Lewellen, Stacy Miller, Steve Olmstead