

THE MESSENGER

The monthly newsletter for members of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Forest City, Iowa — July/August, 2018

Immanuel Lutheran Church Youth
Invite you to enjoy this annual tradition!

SALAD LUNCHEON



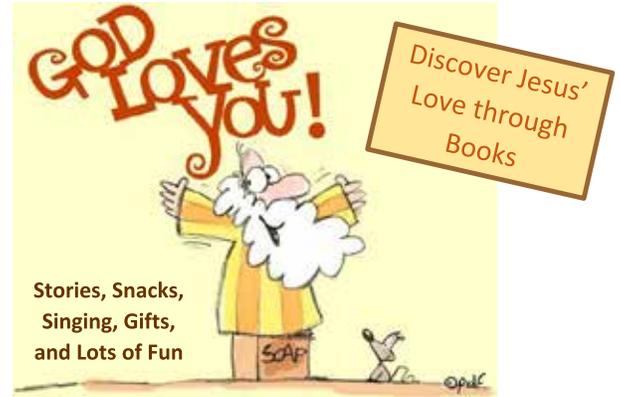
July 20th

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

STORY HOUR

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church in Forest City
Who: All children ages 3 - 6th grade this fall
When: Fridays – July 13, 20, 27, and Aug 3rd
Time: 9:30 - 11:00 am
Cost: FREE - FREE - FREE



Join us every Friday or only one,
just be sure to come.
All are Welcome!!!!



SUNDAY SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:15 a.m. Worship, Coffee fellowship following
the indoor services.

OUTDOOR Worship by Waldorf Pond,
weather permitting,

Will be the 1st Sunday of July & August – July 1 & Aug. 5.
Plenty of shade; bring along your lawn chair.

TAKE NOTE OF THIS SPECIAL SUNDAY:

July 15 ~ Immanuel's Youth that attended the National
Youth Gathering will be leading worship

Wednesdays Outside

6:00pm Fellowship

6:30pm Worship

July 11 ~

Pilot Knob Amphitheater

August 8 ~

Pastor Rod - Renae's acreage



Bring your own lawn chair and
a picnic sack lunch, or takeout
a meal from church.



BACK TO SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY AUGUST 30TH



It's seems like the semester just concluded but we are already gearing up for the start of a new year here on campus! Keeping with tradition, Immanuel will be hosting the annual back to school block party for Waldorf students in August. From my time as a student, I remember how exciting it was to finally relax and have fun as I transitioned from life in Brooklyn to small town Forest City.

As you can imagine, the first week of school can be overwhelming for a lot of our students; moving into dorms, sorting out class schedules and meeting new people. Especially when compounded with the reality that most of our students are traveling long distance from states where people really confuse Iowa with Ohio and Idaho.

The block party offers an opportunity to slow down, fellowship and remind ourselves that although athletics and academics are very important things, they definitely are not everything. With the strong support from those who have helped to make the block party a success each year, Waldorf students are made aware of how powerful faith and community can be. And although the event itself only last a couple hours the experience not only adds momentum

to our ministry going into the semester but the memories that are created stick with our students long after. Whether it is the dancing or the burgers or the endless homemade treats (or that fact that everything is free) students often remember the block party during their exit interviews that they take before graduation four years later!

So I would like to thank you all, on behalf of those who have been positively impacted by the hospitality that Immanuel shares with our campus each year. As we work on planning for this year's block party I encourage you to let us know of ways that you would like to contribute or any new ideas that you may have that will keep this experience fresh and exciting.

Peace, Antoine Cummins

Ice Cream Social - July 20

Stop by the Winnebago County Courthouse Square on Friday evening during Puckerbrush from 5-7 p.m. for an ice cream treat. This is a fundraiser for 50 Days of Service that will be held from January 21-March 11, 2019 (from Martin Luther King Jr. Day thru the conclusion of Waldorf's Mission Trip). The free-will money raised from the ice cream social will help fund some of the events during the 50 Days of Service.



2018 WESTERN IOWA SYNOD FESTIVAL ASSEMBLY

Cynthia Ryder

The theme for the 2018 Festival Assembly for the Western Iowa Synod of ELCA was "We are Church . . . for the Sake of the World." The Assembly was held on June 8-10th at the Convention Center in Sioux City, Iowa. Immanuel Lutheran Church was well represented with six voting delegates. Representing our church this year were Pastor Rod Hopp, Renae Hopp, Pastor Zech Anderson, Gary Gernetzke, Kathy McEnelly, and Cynthia Ryder. Sebastian "Seba" Oyarzo, a teenager from our companion church in Chile, also participated in the youth activities and was a Scripture reader during worship services. Cynthia Ryder was one of 18 people who were announced as having entranced into candidacy.

The 2018 synod assembly program included worship services, devotions, forums, exhibits, and four plenary sessions. Pastor Rod was elected as a Western Iowa Synod clergy representative to the 2019 ELCA Church-wide Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Kathy McEnelly was elected to the Western Iowa Synod Council. Ordination anniversaries were celebrated in five year increments. One pastor obtained her ordination during one of the Synod worship services. Many pastors celebrated their five-year ordination anniversary. Two pastors celebrated their 60-year anniversary since ordination.

The 2018 Synod Assembly was thought provoking as many domestic and global issues were discussed. A highlight of the Synod Assembly was Pastor Rod Hopp's presentation on "Peace without Walls." Pastor Rod spoke about his trips to the Holy Land. Israeli military and politicians are treating Palestinians who live in Israel in a humiliating and ungodly manner. The American press is ignoring

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"God's work. Our hands." Sunday Sept. 9, 2018

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully.

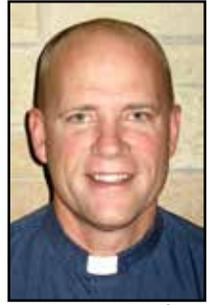
Mark your calendar today and join your Immanuel family in celebrating the life Christ has given by serving our community on Sunday, September 9th, the date for the 2018 "God's work. Our hands." If you are interested in helping to plan our worship and or service projects for the day please contact Chad Benson or Cindi Lehmann. Remember, "All of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life—flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace."

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Letter From Pastor Rod

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION



Pastor Rod

Three congregations; One mission; One Lord!

We've been blessed to have Sabastian Munoz with us at Immanuel for much of the month of June. You were introduced to Sabastian in last month's Messenger. Sabastian is from our companion congregation, Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Magallanes located in Punta Arenas, Chile and he is here representing his church attending our Western Iowa Synod Assembly, Bible Camp, and the Youth Gathering in Houston.

On Sunday June 17th my home congregation, Trinity Lutheran Church in Moville, Iowa celebrated their 125 anniversary of their founding. While I could not be with them personally, as I was on vacation, I had the opportunity to write a letter to that congregation, affirming the many ways they as children of God had been inspirational in my faith journey.

Upon my return home from our Florida vacation I have begun to re-engage with you in our work together as the Immanuel Lutheran Church family here in Forest City. There are conversations happening already about our Fall programming and we are engaging conversations about our long term and future missional directions.

These three congregations are tethered by the mission of the Western Iowa Synod and the national church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America based in Chicago, and united in mission by our Lord Jesus Christ. We are three congregations united in the one mission of proclaiming the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over sin, death, and the devil. Through His victory we are called into life in Him for the purpose of redeeming and restoring all of creation into a relationship with God.

As this month has unfolded I've found myself remembering the great hymn: The Church's One Foundation. The first verse proclaims:

*The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy Bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.*

Jesus has and continues to call, gather, enlighten, and send His Church for ministry. The work of the Spirit has never been simply to gather God's people for the sake of praising God, although that seems to be the starting place. In Acts 2 we're told that those in Jerusalem heard the sound of a mighty rushing wind and it gathered them to hear the word of God in their own languages so that they might be scattered into the world as proclaimers of God's good news for all people.

That is the work of the church and how it unfolds we don't know. That is up to the Spirit and that is the work of the Spirit; our job is to faithfully be the church. We are called to gather, to praise, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick and imprisoned, teach one another and the children. And

that is what we do. The fruit of our effort is up to Jesus and we never know the impact our lives have on others, but we can trust that it does impact and inspire in ways that help others to bear fruit.

We are three congregations, in one mission, serving and sharing our Lord Jesus Christ. Our common foundation is Jesus, the crucified, risen, and victorious Lord. We are his new creation. At Immanuel we strive to build community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ so that the world will know Christ's love, forgiveness, and grace, and come to know that there is a place for all in God's family, and that work doesn't stop in the summertime, but continues until Jesus reveals Himself to make all things new. Come and worship this summer and be renewed for your mission in daily life.

Peace, Pastor Rod

IMMANUEL KIDS

WATER, SHADE, AND BREEZE

When it's hot outside like it has been lately there is nothing better to help cool us down than water, shade and a little breeze. In fact, our bodies perspire, which puts sweat on our skin so that when the breeze blows it cools our bodies. God has created us in these ways knowing that if we get too hot it is not good for our health.

Water, shade and breeze reminds me of our faith and our relationship with God. When we sin it is not good for us or for our neighbors. Therefore, through the water of Baptism God washes our sins away and gives us a brand new life. In Psalm 121:5 we read, "The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand." In other words, God is protecting us from the power of sin and death. The Holy Spirit we're told was breathed upon those who believed in Jesus. The Holy spirit is like the breath or the breeze of God that blows into our lives to empower us to follow and do God's will. God does this to give us life and to save us from sin. God is the water, the shade and the breeze of our life. Remember that this summer when you are sweating, swimming and feeling the breeze blow through your hair. God loves you and longs to be in relationship with you.

Peace, Pastor Rod

It's Summer! How can I find time for God?

It's Summer! How can I find time for God? Well here we are. The end of my second year here at Immanuel and the midway point of summer. And if there's one thing I notice each summer as I get older, it's how busy our lives seem to get on the Summer weekends. In Minnesota it was always time to go to the lake on the weekend. That may still be true for some, but for others it's vacation time, camp time, visitor time, work time, sports time, and maybe even simply rest time away from everyone and everything. All these things keep us busy, busy, busy. And unfortunately, in the crazy busy times of life sometimes a few things fall through the cracks. Sometimes we do not take a sabbath rest and sometimes we forget to make time for God because we are always on the go, and if not on the go resting. So, how can I welcome God on this journey, back into my life when it's so busy?



Pastor Zech

I have a couple of tips for you that I invite you to use in July and August when you feel life is to busy. First, the Faith Five. Five minutes, Five steps, Share what's going on in your life, Read a passage of scripture, Talk about how the scripture applies to what is going on in your life, Pray for anyone and anything that comes to your heart, Bless one another or make the sign of the cross on your own head to remember God's blessings upon you. Second, maybe the Faith Five is not your thing, find another devotion that you can use or read scripture as you wake up or before you go to bed, or if you're traveling take time in the car to read scripture as you travel. Again this doesn't need to take much of your time but can give you a few moments of sabbath and time communing with God.

Third, maybe you don't feel like reading and would rather listen. Find somewhere to worship. If you're not here in Forest City find a local congregation for the weekend and join them for an hour Sunday morning, or another time if offered. The Body of Christ is HUGE, so find another place to join in when out of town. Fourth, maybe that is scary or you really like listening to Pastor Rod or myself. Tune into the radio at 11am KLOW 107.3FM, or if you have a smart phone stream it online where ever you are and join in from afar. And if 11am doesn't work don't forget on our website,

immanuelfamily.com, you can find old sermons and services that you can use whole on the go or at home.

Fifth, maybe listening or reading are not your thing and you prefer peace and quiet. It's a big world out there use it. Go for a walk, go for a ride, maybe you can sit on the lake, what ever you find to do take some time to commune with God. Besides sitting in nature and listening, also include some prayers or think about your favorite Bible verse.

There are many way to commune with God as our summers continue to consume us an pull us in many different directions. So, my point and prayer for these two months is this, even if you are not at Immanuel for worship a few Sundays or most, find a way to welcome God into your heart, into your life. There are so many different ways you can go about this, and I pray that you don't forget about God this summer, because God will never forget about you even in the busy times of your life. Take and use any of these ideas and know Jesus walks with you where ever you go, where ever you are. Have a blessed Summer and enjoy what God has made all around you!

See you in worship. Pastor Zech Anderson

Blessings & Prayers

BAPTISM

June 17**Keegan Kelly Wankey**, daughter of Kristen McCarthy & Colton Sankey

June 24Ellie Faye Bisping, daughter of Scott & Elizabeth Bisping

PRAYERS

Marjorie Anderson and family in the loss of son, Billy Anderson of Forest City

FLOWERS & BROADCASTS

Flowers available (\$44)

Radio broadcasts available (\$100)...

July 1, 8, 22
August 12, 19, 26
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

July 1, 8
August 12, 19
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Treasurer's Report | Immanuel Lutheran Church FY May 2018

	MAY ACTUAL 2018	MONTHLY BUDGET	YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	PERCENT OF YTD BUDGET 42.67%	MAY ACTUAL 2017	YTD ACTUAL 2017
INCOME							
Regular Offerings & Envelopes	37,397.02	41,671.00	184,306.44	500,052.00	36.9%	38,452.91	195,332.21
Other Income	23,409.69	5,781.50	45,076.09	69,378.00	65.0%	1,557.82	27,035.01
Total Income	60,806.71	47,452.50	229,382.53	569,430.00	40.3%	40,010.73	222,367.22
EXPENSE							
Staff Support	28,419.32	28,985.50	143,204.21	347,826.00	41.2%	30,266.66	152,345.90
Administration	25,085.08	9,708.25	62,458.66	116,499.00	53.6%	10,613.37	48,010.92
Ministry Areas	12,684.47	9,079.58	45,034.91	108,955.00	41.3%	9,054.39	36,682.14
Loan re-payment/contingency	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	66,188.87	47,773.33	250,697.78	573,280.00	43.7%	49,934.42	237,038.96
INCOME LESS EXPENSE	(\$5,382.16)	-320.83	(\$21,315.25)	-3,850.00		(\$9,923.69)	(\$14,671.74)



These Immanuel Youth attended Confirmation Camp at Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp June 10-15. Pictured in front (l-r): Kellen Moore, Brayden Swearingen, Melia Golwitzer, Ellie Jenkins, Katelyn Beenken, Nicholas Gambell, Adrian Paulsen, Sebastian Munoz (from Chile) served as junior counselor, and Randy Grunzke. If you see any of the upcoming 8th graders, ask them about their time at Camp!

Any college students attending an ELCA college?

For any Immanuel college students who might be attending an ELCA college in the 2018-19 school year, you are eligible to receive matching funds from your church.

Through Immanuel's Endowment Fund, the church will pay \$100 per year attending college as a full-time student and then the college will match that gift. All you need to do is let Jaci know in the church office (585-3152, jaci@immanuelfamily.com) where you will be attending. And this notification is to be done each year the student is attending the ELCA college.

Deadline is July 31st so these colleges may be given these names of this upcoming gift.



Wednesday July & August Menus Served 4:45-6:45pm in the Fellowship Hall (free or freewill)

- NO meal on July 4 (church is closed for the holiday)
- July 11 ----- hot dog bar, potato salad, ice cream
- July 18 ----- maidrites, baked beans, cole slaw, bars
- July 25 --- goulash, green bean casserole, mandarin oranges, cookies
- August 1----- pork loin sandwich, sweetcorn, fruit salad, cherry red velvet cake
- August 8----- Casey's pizza night **Dawn & Kathy are gone to IA Food Bank **looking for volunteers for this night
- August 15----- upside-down pizza, corn, banana dessert
- August 22----- hot turkey sandwich, Italian pasta salad, apple crisp
- August 29 ----- Cook's choice

Dawn Craig began her position as Immanuel's Hospitality Specialist on June 1st. This new position covers the Wednesday evening cook position as well as the housekeeping duties around the church building. All are welcome each Wednesday for a tasty, homecooked meal as well as fellowship time with others. Introduce yourself to Dawn!



Dawn Craig

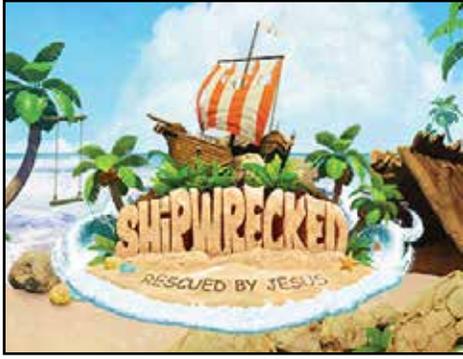
Leaving a Legacy: Immanuel's Endowment Fund

New front doors on the church, a new roof over the Fire-side room & kitchenette, Lutheran college scholarships, Bible Camp improvements, multiple seminary tuition grants, Waldorf peer ministers & campus ministry, Wednesday Night Meals, Stop Hunger food packaging, staff continuing education, high school youth trips and National Youth Gathering, confirmation and Bible Camp scholarships, internship support, ADA bathrooms and hallway carpeting, sanctuary and education wing boilers even a new elevator! These are a few of the many projects that were made possible thru Immanuel's Endowment Fund over the last several years.

What is the "Endowment Fund" at Immanuel? In 1985, Immanuel was gifted with a couple larger and several small-

er gifts. At that time an Endowment & Memorial Fund was established with the Endowment Fund to be used as a "living memorial" for the service of God. The Endowment Fund can only be used for 1) capital improvements and/or building expansion of the church, 2) religious, educational and charitable work of Immanuel Lutheran or 3) programs or missions of the church.

What does all this mean? It means that Immanuel has and is able to receive and utilize responsibly gifts received from members and non-members alike to further God's kingdom here on earth. If you have any questions about Immanuel's Endowment Fund, please feel free to contact David Damm, Mark Johnson or Pastor Rod Hopp.



Krista Hopp and
Tasha Banta

Children's Education

Krista Hopp

Summer started off with a bang for the children of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Every morning for the first week in June, children and adults marched into church for a week of Vacation Bible School. The theme this year was Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus. There was a Bible point learned each day that related to a Bible story the children would learn. Throughout the week, kids learned that when you're lonely, when you worry, when you struggle, when you do wrong, and when you're powerless...Jesus rescues!! It was a wonderful experience to see the kids learn the Bible point each day and repeat loudly, "JESUS RESCUES!" We were overjoyed to have over 60 preschool and elementary kids and over 30 volunteers here during the week! We were also blessed with many donations from members of our congregation for our snacks each day. It was awesome to see the people of Immanuel coming together to help present the gospel.

Along with many other Station Leaders, I had the privilege of teaching the Bible lesson to kids each day of VBS. Each day featured a different story, but they all related to the Bible point that "Jesus rescues!" The first day they learned about the parable of the lost sheep and the lost coin, and we reminded them that when you're lonely, Jesus rescues. Tuesday we learned about when Jesus came to visit Mary and Martha, and we learned that when we worry, Jesus rescues. The Bible story on Wednesday was about Jesus and the disciples praying in the garden of Gethsemane, and Jesus



was captured. We were reminded that when you struggle, Jesus rescues. On Thursday, we were able to present the gospel to kids. We told the story of Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. It was a somber lesson at first, but it is such a joy to be able to share the good news with kids that Jesus died for us, but He defeated death! In our preschool room, we put thumbprints on a cross to remember what happened, and also to be thankful for what Jesus did for us because when we do wrong, Jesus rescues! What awesome news! On Friday, the lesson was about Peter and John healing a lame man in Jesus' name because when we're powerless, Jesus rescues. Each story was an awesome reminder of what Jesus does for us, and it was a blessing to see each child and crew leader learning the stories and taking them to heart. Thank you for supporting VBS in whatever way you did. It was a wonderful week!

Coming up this summer, the Board of Education will be hosting a salad luncheon to raise funds for VBS. The salad luncheon will take place during Puckerbrush week on Friday, July 20, from 11:00-1:00. The price per plate is \$7. We are looking for volunteers to make salads, provide fruit or veggies, or to help work. You may visit our Meal Train link (<https://mealtrain.com/m86lg6>) or sign up on clipboards located outside of the church office or found on Sundays. Thanks for all your help!

YOUTH MINISTRY By Matt Polsdofer



Houston Youth Gathering:

We are leaving in a week as of this writing!!!! I am excited to see what God has in store for our youth and adult leaders. It will be an exciting and amazing experience for us and help strengthen our faith! We will

be posting pictures throughout our journey on Immanuel's Facebook page and on Sunday, July 15th our youth will lead our church service. It will be an awesome service and a great time for us to share our experience. Please continue to pray for safe travels, open and listening hearts, and energy to make sure we are making the most of our full schedules! I am excited that Sebastian Munoz will be joining us for The Gathering and hopefully you heard about his faith and story on June 24th during our potluck to honor him. It

has been a blessing to have him visit us, he's a great young man and our family really loves having him around.

Confirmation:

Important date for those that will be in 8th, 9th and 10th grade this fall. We will be having an event for confirmation on Saturday, October 20th at Majopa. It will be an awesome experience to help us grow in our faith and serve others. 11th and 12th graders are invited to join us as well!



Matt Polsdofer



Summer is here and we are hi-lighting CDs and Audio s for your summer listening. What, you didn't know you could find these in the church library? Now you know. They are on the display on the east wall next to the fiction section. (Descriptions below are taken from Amazon)

CDs and Audio BOOKS

Piercing the Darkness

By Frank Peretti

In the tiny farming community of Bacon's Corner, an attempted murder, a case of mistaken identity, and a lawsuit against a struggling Christian school all lead Sally Beth Roe to flee for her life. Through this story, the author emphasized the importance and power of prayer which greatly effects the lives of people all around. The story portrays the unseen, heavenly actions of God and His angels, as well as the deceitful and conniving works of the devil, who only works to destroy the saints of God. Read by Kevin Foley in CD format.

At Home in Mitford

By Jan Karon

It's easy to feel at home in Mitford. In these high, green hills, the air is pure, the village is charming, and the people are generally lovable. Yet, Father Tim, the bachelor rector, wants something more. Enter a dog the size of a sofa who moves in and won't go away. Add an attractive neighbor who begins wearing a path through the hedge. Now, stir in a lovable but unloved boy, a mystifying jewel theft, and a secret that's sixty years old. Suddenly, Father Tim gets more than he bargained for. And readers get a rich comedy about ordinary people and their ordinary lives. Read by the author in cassette format.

The Library Committee-Working to bring you more on the shelves every month. Enjoy your summer!!!

Leah Boyd, Suzi Falck-Yi,Carolynn Korth, Diane Lovick, Joyce Kasper, Sonja Johnson, Kari Wooldridge, Beth Hovd, and Bev Retland

STORY HOUR IS COMING!

Invite all the children in your life to come to Immanuel for an hour and a half of singing, stories, and snacks, and to check out books and DVDs for summer reading/watching.

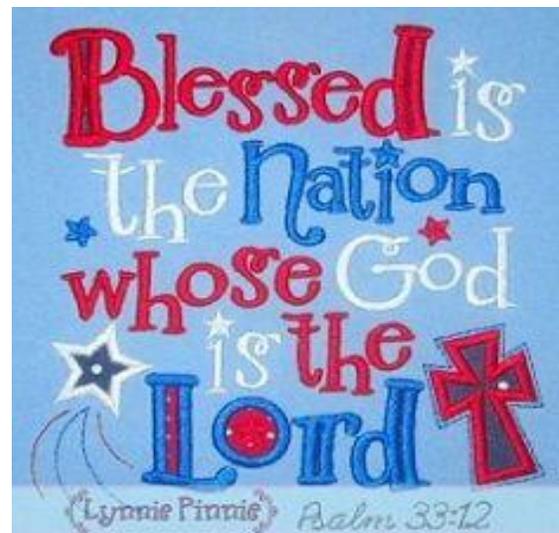
Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church

Who: All children ages 3 - 6th grade this fall

When: Fridays – July 13, 20, 27, and Aug 3rd

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 am

Cost: FREE - FREE – FREE



New on the Shelves

DVD – War Room. Tony and Elizabeth Jordan have it all—great jobs, a beautiful daughter, and their dream house. But appearances can be deceiving. Their world is actually crumbling under the strain of a failing marriage. While Tony basks in his professional success and flirts with temptation, Elizabeth resigns herself to increasing bitterness. But their lives take an unexpected turn when Elizabeth meets her newest client, Miss Clara, and is challenged to establish a 'war room' and a battle plan of prayer for her family. As Elizabeth tries to fight for her family, Tony's hidden struggles come to light. Tony must decide if he will make amends with his family and prove Miss Clara's wisdom that victories don't come by accident. **The Book is also on our shelves.**



Thank You

To the members of Immanuel I want to say a BIG THANK YOU for all your support of hugs, phone calls, cards, prayers, and the gift of money. My years of serving you in the kitchen has been a blessing to me. I'll miss seeing you very much.

Sincerely, Deb Fardal

Board **notes**

Parish Council

Kathy McEnelly

The ILC council met on June 11, 2018 with the following members present: Kathy McEnelly, Quincey Benson, Ellen Olson, Alice Lewellen, Cynthia Ryder, Kathy Leuwerke, Amy Thorson, Zoey Steffensen, Steve Olmstead, Heather Johnson, Joan Beebe and Pastor Hopp and Pastor Anderson.

Council received a recommendation from the Board of Trustees to use 2018 Endowment Funding for peer ministry training for high school students and this was approved. Council also received notification from the Board of Trustees that Immanuel's articles of incorporation need to be renewed and application will be made for permanent status.

Pastor Hopp, Pastor Anderson, Kathy McEnelly and Cynthia Ryder gave a report on the recent Synod Assembly weekend they experienced.

Council authorized the business manager to access contingency funds as needed in the upcoming months, not to exceed the balance of the fund, which is \$15,000.

Council authorized the hiring of Krista Hopp and Tasha Banta as Children's Education Coordinators at a total salary of \$9,280 per year. (Pastor Hopp excused himself from this discussion.)

Board of Trustees

Kathy McEnelly

The Board of Trustees met on June 7, 2018. In May, we ended the month with a loss of -\$5,382.16. The year-to-date loss after five months is -\$21,325.25. In property news, we got a snow blower donated instead of purchasing a used one; the parsonage will be power-washed and painted this summer.

The Board approved the concept of peer ministry training for high school students to be paid for with 2018 Endowment Funds. This will be presented to Council on June 11 for final approval.

Our 501(c)3 designation is expiring after 100 years. Paperwork will be completed to apply for permanent status.

Mission and Outreach

Jaci Thorson

Mission & Outreach Board met on Wednesday, June 13. Members present: Ken Korth, Steve Olmstead, Becky Stumme, Pøtt VanAuken, Amy Thorson, and Jaci Thorson. Steve shared a devotion and prayer.

Discussion was on the details of the June 24th Potluck Brunch that we are hosting. This is a special meal for our Chilean guest, Sebastian, who is from Immanuel's companion congregation, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallenes in Chile. Sebastian will be giving his presentation at the brunch fellowship time.

Also discussed a suggestion to include the mission of Gideon's International as a quarterly mission emphasis for the 2019 year. No definite decision was made for the new year.

June will finish up the three months emphasis of the missionaries, Colin & Jeni Grangaard. We have not reached our yearly commitment of \$5,000 yet, so gifts towards their ministry are welcome at any time.

Next meeting is July 11, 5pm.

JULY-AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS: BIBLE CAMPS

We lift up in prayer and donations our member camps: Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp at Story City, and Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp.

The gifts we send on to the camps are used for their needs of programming, upkeep, staffing, supplies, etc. Immanuel has had many youth attending both of the camps this summer, including eight 7th grade Confirmation youth that spent a week at Okoboji. (See their photo in this newsletter and ask them how they liked camp!) Half of their registration was paid thru Immanuel's Endowment Fund. All other Immanuel campers receive \$100 off their registration, also from Endowment.

These camps also have their big fund raisers in August with Quilt Auctions, BBQ's, 5K's, also retreats throughout the season for adults. Information is available in the office, brochures around the church, or on their websites.

Board of Education

Krista Hopp

June meeting for the Board of Education

Tuesday, June 12, 4:30 p.m.

VBS 2018 went very smoothly. We had a great group of kids and adults! There was a lot of fun had, and there was a lot of learning about and praising Jesus. We were energized and encouraged by the awesome week here at Immanuel! Because of our partnership with a church in Woden, we have kept many supplies and decorations in hopes that we may be able to share them with that church for their VBS.

The board then discussed the salad luncheon we will host in July. The salad luncheon will be on Friday, July 20 from 11:00-1:00. Members can sign up to bring salads, breads, etc. outside the church office. We will also have sign-up sheets in church on Sundays before the day arrives. There is a lot more to be done and we will meet again before the luncheon occurs.

Lastly, we discussed a Promiseland classroom clean-up for the summer. On July 1 after the worship service, we will meet at the church to clean out the classrooms and clean them up. The next step will be stocking the classrooms with supplies for the fall. We will also take down and prepare bulletin boards. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for an hour or two to help "beautify" our education wing and make it a more welcoming place!

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 10.

Special Music for Sundays in July

July 1 – Dave Melby & Elizabeth May

July 15 – Mark & Joy Newcom

July 22 – Melanie Harms-Espeland

We thank, and look forward to these musicians sharing a special song during worship.

If you would like to share a musical number either vocal or instrument, don't be shy. Please contact the church office (585-3152).

****SPECIAL NOTE:** Adult Choir will begin fall rehearsals on Wednesday evening, Sept. 5th at 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Anyone that enjoys singing 4-part music is welcome to join in!



At Immanuel MISSION IS POSSIBLE.

This month's feature MISSION is the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

At Immanuel, MISSION IS POSSIBLE as proven by the work of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

A Prayer Shawl is a hug from God! The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the third Monday of each month at 2:00. The group is now meeting at Forest Plaza and residents are invited to join the ladies as they knit or crochet and then they have fellowship with the residents over coffee.



At the end of the meeting, the shawls are prayed over for those who will be receiving them.

These prayer shawls are then given to comfort those who are grieving, to encourage those dealing with medical conditions, to help those struggling with personal difficulties and to let them know that God loves and cares about them.

Red Hats Raise Awareness! Prayer Shawl members joined other volunteers from around the country to celebrate American Heart Month by knitting or crocheting red hats for babies born in February at participating hospitals. The giving of these red hats is to raise awareness about Congenital Heart Defects. Over 90 hats were boxed and sent from Immanuel to the American Heart Association.



Pocket Prayer Squares Provide Portable Comfort! This past month Prayer Shawl members knit over 125 pocket prayer squares that were given to the youth who attended the National Youth Gathering in Houston.

It has been a custom at these gatherings that the youth exchange items, so the Immanuel youth will share these prayer squares with other youth. Attached to each prayer shawl is a note that says "Please slip it in your pocket or backpack, keep it by your bedside, or use it anyway you wish that might bring you comfort and peace. When your fingers touch it, remember, you are never alone, for God is always with you."



**At Immanuel, MISSION IS POSSIBLE
as proven by the work of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.**

Dates to Remember July/August

Monday, July 16, 2-4 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Forest Plaza
Tuesday, July 24, 1 p.m.....LWR Quilting Do Day, FH
July Laundry.....Betty Soderling
July Coffee Fellowship..... Kitchen Service Group
(July 1 NO COFFEE, OUTDOOR WORSHIP)

Thursday Aug. 9 10 a.m..... Circle Bible Study Leaders w/Barb
Johnson, Lounge

Monday, Aug. 20, 2-4 p.m.Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom

Tuesday, Aug. 28, 1 p.m.....LWR Quilting Do Day, FH

August Laundry Judy Levad

August Coffee Fellowship VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

(Aug. 5 NO COFFEE, OUTDOOR WORSHIP)



July/August Circle Schedule

Date/ Time	Location/Hostess Lesson Leader
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NO JULY CIRCLES

AUGUST CIRCLE SCHEDULE

Martha	Thursday, Aug. 16 9:30 a.m.	Shalom/Liz Wilson, Sharon Sesker Vera Hynes
Dorcas		NOT MEETING
Sarah	Thursday, Aug. 16 1:30 p.m.	Lounge/Joyce Kasper Joan Hansen
Rachel	Thursday, Aug. 16 1:30 p.m.	FH/Joann Bartleson Cherrice Ehrich



Zach Lehmann, Sebastian from Chile, and Jaci Thorson attended the International Companion Program Orientation in Chicago at the ELCA Churchwide Headquarters June 16-19. They were part of a group of 12 international youth from eight synods around the world, and 12 American youth hosts, along with a team of Global Musician Educators and facilitators from the ELCA Global Mission team. From worship, singing, sharing stories & talents, building skills leading up the National Youth Gathering, to exploring a little of downtown Chicago.

Jaci had the honor of a quick visit and photo in ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's office.

Volunteer July/August 2018

Altar Guild

July 1	Julie Damm
July 8	Sonja Johnson
July 15	Julie Damm
July 22	Sonja Johnson
July 29	Kathy Leuwerke
Aug. 5	Judy Utech
Aug. 12	Sara Uetz
Aug. 19	Judy Utech
Aug. 26	Sara Uetz

Assisting Ministers

July 1	Dave Readinger
July 8	Carolyn Price
July 15	Houston Youth
July 22	Cynthia Ryder
July 29	Joy Newcom
Aug. 5	Kathy McEnelly
Aug. 12	Carolyn Price
Aug. 19	Jim Cherry
Aug. 26	Cynthia Ryder

Scripture Readers

July 1	Pam Keller
July 8	John Chisholm
July 15	Houston Youth
July 22	Kay Sorensen
July 29	John Tibodeau
Aug. 5	Mark Johnson
Aug. 12	Carolynn Korth
Aug. 19	TBA
Aug. 26	David Readinger

Communion Servers

July 1	Liz Wilson, Melanie Westerberg OUTDOOR
July 8	Carolyn Price, Joy Newcom

July 15	Kathy McEnelly, Judy Utech
July 22	Cynthia Ryder, Harlan Rodberg
July 29	Joan Langerud, Joyce Kasper
Aug. 5	Kathy McEnelly, Joy Newcom OUTDOOR
Aug. 12	Jim & Barb Braun
Aug. 19	Jim Cherry, Judy Utech
Aug. 26	Dick & Vera Hynes

Communion Set Up

July 1	Joyce Kasper OUTDOOR
July 8	Ellen Olson
July 15	Shirley Rollefson
July 22	Kathy Leuwerke
July 29	Ellen Olson
Aug 5	Kathy Leuwerke OUTDOOR
Aug 12	Susan Moklestad
Aug 19	Alice Jones
Aug 26	Barb Lovick

Song Leaders

July 1	Dave Melby, Elizabeth May
July 8	Brenda Rust, Linda Ferjak
July 15	Houston Youth
July 22	Audrey Olmstead, Jaci Thorson
July 29	Mark & Joy Newcom
Aug. 5	Audrey Olmstead, Dave Melby
Aug. 12	Linda Ferjak, Cindi Lehmann
Aug. 19	Kathy Jerome, Jaci Thorson
Aug. 26	Elizabeth May, Brenda Rust

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

Ushers July – Jim Lund, Jim Bowman, Paul Jensen
 August – Gary McCarthy, Matt & Dominic Bronson, Loren Ehrich

Continued from page 2

and in some cases deliberately lying about the conditions in Israel. A two-state solution might be the best solution for long lasting peace in the region.

Global missions, the draft resolution for women and justice, the prevention of malaria, the elimination of polio, and world hunger program efforts are major Western Iowa Synod and ELCA church-wide initiatives. These programs have been highly successful but continuing work is still necessary.

The Western Iowa Synod is one of 65 synods within nine geographical regions of the ELCA. The ELCA has over 55,000 baptized members. The Western Iowa Synod consists of 131 congregations which are organized into six conferences. Immanuel Lutheran Church is the largest church in the Seeds of Faith conference. ELCA LAY WESTERN IOWA SYNOD'S DISCIPLESHIP ACADEMY

For many years, the Western Iowa Synod of ELCA has sponsored the Discipleship Academy (formerly known as the Lay School of Theology) which is a six semester or three-year program. The first, second, and third year students start the year with a two-day retreat in August 2018 at the Lutheran Lakeside Camp. After the retreat, the students meet one Saturday a month from approx-

imately 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for four consecutive months for the fall semester of enrollment. The Saturday instructional locations are centralized and based on the geographical homes of the students who enroll in Discipleship Academy. In January 2019, the students will attend another two-day retreat and then meet one Saturday a month from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for four consecutive months for the spring semester of enrollment.

The first year curriculum is Lutheran Confessions and the Bible. The second year curriculum is Missional Leadership & Spiritual Gifts. The third year curriculum includes Preaching, Worship: Planning and Leading, and Congregational Care. The Discipleship Academy instructors this year include two Wartburg Seminary professors (Rev. Dr. Troy Troftgruben and Rev. Dr. Nate Frambach) and six other ordained Lutheran pastors from the Western Iowa Synod.

The cost is \$495 per semester which includes the Retreats and monthly Saturday luncheons. Textbooks are required but are not included in the cost. For additional information, please visit: <http://www.wisynod.org>.

JULY/AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15am - OUTDOOR Worship, by Waldorf Pond	2	3	4 CHURCH CLOSED	5 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge	6	7
8 9:15am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee, Fellowship Hall	9 6:45pm - Council, Reformation Room	10 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 4:30pm - Education Board, Kitchenette	11 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 5pm - Mission & Outreach, Lounge 6pm - Wednesday Outside Fellowship, Pilot Knob Amphitheater 6:30pm - Wednesday Out- side Worship, Pilot Knob	12 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge 5pm - Executive Com- mittee 5:45 - pm Trustees	13 9:30-11am - Children's Story Hour	14
15 9:15am - Worship ~ Houston Trip Group leading 10:15am - Coffee, FH	16 2-4pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom 5:45pm - God's Work Meeting 6:45pm - Council	17 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 2:30pm - Forest Plaza Communion Service	18 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH	19 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 9:30am - Martha Circle, Shalom 10:30am - Good Samaritan Communion Service	20 9:30-11am - Children's Story Hour 11-1pm - Salad Lun- cheon, FH	21
22 9:15am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee, FH	23	24 1pm - LWR Quilting Do Day, FH	25 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH	26 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge	27 9:30-11am - Children's Story Hour	28
29 9:15am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee, FH	30	31 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room	1 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH	2 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge	3 9:30-11am - Children's Story Hour	4
5 9:15am - OUTDOOR Worship by Waldorf Pond	6 5pm - Parish Life Board, Lounge	7 9:30am - Vital Agers' Task Team, Shalom 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room	8 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH 5pm - Mission & Outreach, Lounge 6pm - Wednesday Outside Fellowship, Pastor Rod's acreage 6:30pm - Wednesday Out- side Worship, Pastor Rod's	9 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 5:45pm - Trustees, Kitchenette 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge	10	11
12 9:15am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee, FH	13 6:45pm - Council, Reformation Room	14 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 4:30pm - Education Board, Kitchenette	15 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH	16 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 9:30am - Martha Circle, Shalom 10:30am - Good Samaritan Communion Service 1:30pm - Sarah Circle, Lounge 1:30pm - Rachel Circle, FH	17	18
19 9:15am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee, FH	20 SEPTEMBER MESSENGER DEADLINE 2-4pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom	21 2pm - Intercessor Prayer Group, Prayer Room 2:30pm - Forest Plaza Communion Service	22 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH	23 6:30pm - Good Grief Group, Lounge	24	25
26 9:15am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee, FH	27	28 1pm - LWR Quilting Do Day, FH	29 4:45-6:45pm - Supper, FH CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION	30 8:30am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 5:30-7pm - Waldorf Block Party, 6th St	31	



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 - 9:15am

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

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Main phone number:

641-585-3152

Website:

www.immanuelfamily.com

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Immanuel Lutheran Church Library

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Ben Allaway - Worship & Music

worshipandmusic@immanuelfamily.com

Dawn Craig - Hospitality Specialist

Church Council

President: **Kathy McEnelly**

Vice-President: **Quincey Benson**

Treasurer: **Cynthia Ryder**

Secretary: **Alice Lewellen**

Representatives: **Joan Beebe, Ken Hansen,**

Heather Johnson, Kathy Leuwerke,

Steve Olmstead, Ellen Olson, Zoey Steffensen,

Amy Thorson



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