

# THE MESSENGER

The monthly newsletter for members of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Forest City, Iowa - September 2022

## MY LIGHTHOUSE

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS,  
AND THE DARKNESS  
HAS NOT OVERCOME IT.  
(JOHN 1:5)

## RALLY DAY 2022

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH

4:00-6:00 — SUPPER(WALKING TACOS, CORN, ICE CREAM)

4:45-5:30 — BOUNCE HOUSES, GAMES &  
SMORE'S 'N' STORIES OPEN

5:40-6:00 — KIDS MEET AND GREET WITH TEACHERS

5:40-6:00 — PARENT'S MEETING IN SANCTUARY

6:00-6:45 — WORSHIP

6:45-7:30 — BOUNCE HOUSES OPEN

## "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday

Sept. 11  
2022



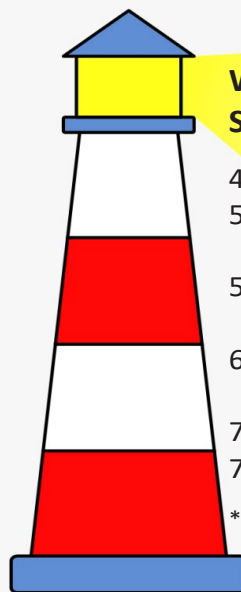
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

On this dedicated day of service for our community, we are asking for donations of:

PAPER PRODUCTS, DIAPERS, TOILETRIES,  
& OTHER NON-FOOD ITEMS.

These are the items that often get overlooked as basic necessities for those in need. All these items brought to church on Sept. 11 will be given to the local Forest City Neighborhood Food Bank.

Let's overflow our grocery carts that day (find them in the narthex or out front on Sept. 11). We want to help and answer this call of love to our neighbors along with all the other congregations in the Western Iowa Synod also participating in this collection drive. Thank you for caring & sharing!



### WEEKLY WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

4-6pm Meal for All

5:30-6:25pm Promiseland &  
Middle School Youth

5:30-5:55pm Adult Learning Time,  
Lounge

6:00pm WORSHIP

(kids joining in after class time)

7:00pm Choir

7:30pm High School Youth

\*1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of the month all worship @ 6

## Henri Nouwen Book Study

### FOLLOWING JESUS, Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety.

This Study will be led by Pastor Rod in 3-parts – Tuesday, Sept. 13, 20, and Oct. 4. 7:00pm in person at church in the Lounge/Zoom/recorded.

Henri Nouwen writes this newest published work of inspiration and timeless wisdom of why Christianity is still relevant, beautiful, intelligent and necessary in the modern world. He writes eloquently about calling and purpose, fear and hope and explains why, with so many choices available to the 21st century seeker including atheism and secularism, the greatest reward for those looking for fulfillment is to choose belief in God.

Anyone is welcome to join in the discussion. Books/or Kindle version are available to order online.

# Letter from Pastor Rod

## Winds of Change

Once again, the winds of change seem to be blowing. Change is in the air. Children have returned to school, and families are submersed in the busy and demanding schedules that come with that. The shoes and clothes that outfitted your children last year have been replaced with cool new clothes and shoes that reflect the contemporary styles, while the old have been tucked away for a sibling, or placed on the garage sale, or given to the thrift store for resale. Change has come.



Here in the church the winds of change blow through as well. As you have likely heard by now, Ann Hunhoff has resigned her Youth Ministry position to move and serve in a church in Wyzetta, Minnesota. That means we no longer have a worship and music director, a youth minister, and our Children's Education coordinator wants to step down to pursue new ministries and personal interests. The winds of change are blowing through Immanuel.

I'm thankful we have been able to hire Geno Lopes to manage the Wednesday Evening band and to be our Sunday morning worship personnel coordinator. He will be reaching out to many of you to invite you to use your musical talents, instrumental or vocal, to help lead worship. He will be recruiting and scheduling song leaders, organ and piano accompaniment, sound and video techs, as well as organizing a band to lead worship on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. I'm grateful to God for Geno and his gifts. The winds of change blow through Immanuel. Thankfully also, Tasha has agreed to stay on as Children's ministry coordinator through December 2022, to help us manage the transition in youth ministry. Linda Ferjak will lead and manage the choir, and Ruth Melby will handle the bell choir.

Our fall programming begins in early September. I'm grateful to those who take leadership roles in areas of organizing and implementing our ministries. While change is constant there are two things that will never change: first, the wind that blows through the church is of the Holy Spirit of God to bless and sustain us; second is our mission from God to proclaim and live the gospel of Jesus. Martin Luther taught in the meaning of the third article of the Apostle's Creed, saying, I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church, He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day, He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

Sustaining and blessing the church for mission is the work of the wind that blows through our lives, even when it brings change that we may not like. I invite you to let the Holy Spirit enlighten you, sanctify and keep you in the faith, keeping you in Jesus and in his church. Will you renew your commitment to Jesus and to His church this fall? It's as good a time as any, don't you think? God has given you your gifts to share; your church

needs you and would be glad to have you share your gifts in any way. Come and join in the discipleship here at Immanuel!

God's Peace and Blessing,

Pastor Rod

## Immanuel Kids

### The Olden Days

When I was a kid my families house didn't have air conditioning. In our car, we had to crank a lever to make the window roll down. We didn't have cell phones or even cordless phones, but instead the receiver of the phone was attached to the body by a cord which meant you had to stay close to talk. My mom popped popcorn on the stove top using oil in a pan, microwaves hadn't been invented yet. In school we had a pencil sharpener on the wall that you stuck your pencil in, turned the handle and it sharpened your pencil. There was no electric pencil sharpener and no mechanical pencils. When I was about seven years old, a family friend had a five year old daughter who asked her mom, "were you alive when Dinosaurs lived on the earth?" You, our Immanuel kids probably wonder that about me sometimes. The answer is "no!" I'm not that old. But to you, I did live in the olden days. Believe it or not, if you are blessed to have children and grandchildren of your own someday, they will think the same things about you.

Sometimes people are tempted to think that everything old is outdated, and worthless. Some people think that about God, and Jesus, and even the church, and her teachings. I'm writing to tell you, that just isn't so.

It's not true that old things are worthless or even outdated, and it sure isn't true about our God and our faith. The author of Hebrews writes in chapter 4:15ff, "Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our faith. 15For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Jesus is so old that he was with God in the beginning of creation, and yet, because of his experiences of passing through the heavens, and his experiences on earth, he knows exactly what we struggle with. Just because technology has come along, and we have more comforts in life than our ancestors did, doesn't mean that you won't and don't struggle with the same things your ancestors did. Jesus knows how we feel; he knows our struggles; he knows our pain and our sorrow, and so he came to give us hope that those things can never steal us from God or defeat us and steal our faith and our joy.

The author of Hebrews goes on to say, 16Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Jesus is old; older than me, and he wants you to come to him for help every day, in every trouble or worry. Trust in him. As your pastor, I too want to help you with your faith. I want to help connect you with God and God's word of truth that says you are loved and treasured in God's eyes. Don't give up on us old ones. We still have things to say that you young ones need to hear!

Crossed in Christ,

Pastor Rod



## High School Wisconsin Retreat



We made it back safe and sound from our trip to Necedah, Wisconsin! Unfortunately, our week was off to a rough start when one of our youth tested positive for COVID-19. As an extra bump in the road, that student's parent was also one of our adult leaders/drivers! With some quick problem-solving, we were able to get the rest of the group up to the cabin safe and healthy. (Special thanks to Renae Hopp for trading vehicles with me for the week so we could pile in more students and luggage and to Trelawny Grunhord for braving the week as an adult leader.) We had a blast playing volleyball, kayaking, going to the beach, hiking, and playing lots of card and board games. The students paired up and took turns preparing the meals, and that turned out to be an awesome gift to both the adults and their peers! Our theme for the week was "Boundless: God Beyond Measure," and we had some awesome speakers join us virtually as well as some helpful podcasts to help us dig into our theme. Students talked about the things that bind us, how our boundless curiosity and questions can help us grow closer to God, God's boundless forgiveness, and how God invites all of us into the boundless work of the kingdom: bringing love, justice, and peace to all people. Above all, I hope and pray students took away how boundless God's love for them and all of creation truly is. We cannot understand or measure the greatness of God's love. As Paul hopes in Ephesians 3:18-19, so I hope for the students and all of us that we "may have the strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

### ELCA Churchwide Assembly

The 2022 Churchwide Assembly was held in Columbus, Ohio, and it was an experience I am very grateful to have been selected for. It was a week filled with important business, powerful worship and communion, great fellowship, passionate discussion, and, of course, daily COVID-19 testing. There were lots of action items taken that really reflected the ELCA's commitment to addressing and dismantling racism, making the church more inclusive to the LGBTQ+ community and differently-abled people, commitment to equality in genders and pay, and many more. A lot of items would set up committees or studies to address these many issues. Amendments to the constitution were approved, the majority being for clarification and update purposes. We also passed a variety of memorials addressing a myriad of different things. If you would like to read a more comprehensive list of the different items addressed, please read about the actions at <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8172>. We also elected a new Vice President of the ELCA, Imran Siddiqui. The ELCA Vice President is the highest position a lay leader may have in the ELCA. I am thrilled to have helped elect Mr. Siddiqui and am highly impressed by his commitment to the people of this church body and his desire to include all voices in the conversation. Possibly the highlight and key memory of the Assembly for me was when we worshiped using a liturgy of different Indigenous traditions. It was really eye-opening to experience new expressions of spirituality and relating to God. The Western Iowa Synod rounded out our week with a meal together at a German restaurant before heading home on Friday. I consider it a blessing to be a part of this church and the work it does to make God's love known.

Ann Hunhoff

Youth Missionary and Ministry Coordinator Immanuel Lutheran Church Bethany Lutheran Church



## Promiseland

### Welcome back Promiseland families!

Maybe you are wondering why I am welcoming you back when I last said goodbye to you all last spring? Well, it seems God is calling me to continue my work at Immanuel for the time being! I am excited to begin a new year here with the kiddos and hope to facilitate a place of love and growth for them that is an extension of all you provide at home. I pray that the changes ahead are welcome and fitting for all of our families and that you feel God's presence and a sense of welcome and invitation in all our church has to offer!

We will be continuing our Sunday morning and Wednesday night programming this year with a new curriculum for Sunday and the second year of Whirl on Wednesdays.

#### For the kids:

Sunday kids will all meet in the music room after worship and will have music and class for 1 hour, with time being dependent on start time.

Wednesday nights will begin at 5:30 with kids meeting in their assigned classrooms. We will have music, video and Bible lesson time for each grade level and we will conclude at 6:25pm.

#### For parents:

Sunday parents are welcome to coffee and treats after worship in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour and/or join Bible studies that may be offered throughout the year.

Wednesday nights will look a little different this year with worship beginning at 6pm, during the Promiseland hour. From 5:30 to 6:00, the Board of Education will be offering a coffee, and

gathering time with short video-based Bible Studies. These Bible studies will be 4-6 weeks long with breaks between studies and include topics like parenting and other real-life topics important and relevant to today! We will meet in the Lounge beginning September 15 for refreshments and an introduction for the first day!

We hope this will provide a place to listen, learn and enjoy time with others in our church community.

#### For families:

Parents can gather for worship at 6pm in the Sanctuary for the first part of worship, and at 6:25 your kiddos can join you for music and Holy Communion for the last 15 minutes!

The first Wednesday of the month, kids will have a fun night during Promiseland from 5:30-6:00. At 6:00 they will sing in worship and be able to attend the full worship service.

#### For Promiseland Teachers:

We realize that with worship beginning at 6, you will not be able to join in the full worship service 3 of the 4 weeks if you are a Wednesday night worshipper. The first week of the month will be a night off of teaching for you and we hope that teaching God's word, joining in song and praise and attending the full worship once a month will fill you up! We appreciate your willingness to bring the good news to our children!

This seems like a lot, right? A lot of change, a lot to keep track of? On paper, I agree...but we have worked hard to make the programming easy to follow and more manageable for families with later activities and young children. We hope this gives everyone an opportunity to be involved however you want to be involved!! Watch for a calendar in your email in the near future with all dates and times for this coming year!

Peace and blessings to all!!

Tasha Banta

# Board notes

## Mission & Outreach

Becky Stumme

Mission & Outreach gathered by Zoom on Wednesday, Aug. 10 at 4:45pm. Those in attendance: Ken, Chad, Ben, Jaci, and Becky; absent: Ruth.

Jaci read the devotional from Pastor Zech's summer Facebook devotion group titled Experience the Fulfillment of God's Promise. Relating a power line that looks plain and boring until electricity runs through it like the Holy Spirit flowing through the lines of the Bible. Ben will have devotions next month.

Current 3rd quarter mission emphasis is Bible Camps. Account balance to date of the meeting: \$439.80. Noisy offerings for Camps will be Wednesday, Sept. 14 and Sunday, Sept. 18. Immanuel kids that did attend camp summer will be emailed and asked to participate with the noisy offering and possibly share some highlights.

Fall planning for a possible 'No Bake Bake Sale' were briefly discussed. We are researching ideas for this fundraiser towards Missionary Karen's 2022 covenant.

Funds yet needed towards Karen's 5,000 is \$1,051.81. We had conversation about how fun it was to have Karen visit and share her mission and stories from Santiago, Chile. Check out the updated bulletin board in the hallway with new photos from the day. Brunch donations totaled \$638. Karen's traveling expenses paid to her were \$200.

Becky will be checking future with Megan at Waldorf University concerning the needs of international students that we might be able to help collect.

## Trustees

Bink Keller

June financials were presented July 5 and approved via email vote. There was no meeting. Income was \$43,845.33 and expenses were \$45,525.55 for a negative \$1,680.22 for the month of July. The Board of Trustees met on August 8, 2022 at the church. July income was \$40,336.94 and expenses were \$48,181.24 with a negative (\$7,844.30) for the month. YTD is a negative (\$28,024.58) compared to a negative (\$24,502.15) for 2021.

**Endowment:** Endowment Fund balance has gone from 1.3 Mil at 2022 start to 1.0 Mil with market decreases.

**Property Committee:** nothing new to report.

**Personnel Committee:** Reviewing Staff Policy Handbook.

**New Business:** Discussed the \$20,000 food grant over three-year program. Looking for follow up.

**Old Business: a.)** Bethany Lutheran Staff sharing and Quarterly vitality group update: Vitality group is in place.

## Parish Council

Linda Ferjak

Council met on August 8, with an In Person/Hybrid Format. Ten

members and both pastors were present. Meeting was called to order by President Daryl Krieger and July minutes were approved.

Board reports were presented and approved.

Music and Worship committee will meet with Pastor Rod this week to begin planning for September and October.

Health and Vitality committee had a positive meeting with Bethany.

They will continue to meet quarterly.

The Grant for Wednesday night meals was discussed. There is need for volunteer to move the Grant forward.

God's Work Our Hands is Sunday, September 11. Immanuel will ask for collections for the Local Food Bank, as suggested by the Western Iowa Synod (paper products, diapers, toiletries, and other non-food items).

Business Financials were presented and can be found elsewhere in the Messenger.

## Board of Education

Tasha Banta

The Board of Education met August 9 at 4:45pm. Meeting began with opening prayer.

Tasha reintroduced herself as the continued Education Director and the timeline and outlook for that was discussed. Emily Beenken was introduced as the new Board Chairperson. She will set up meetings and devotions calendar as well as meeting agendas.

Pastor Zech laid out the plans for Wednesday evening programming and worship and a Q&A followed for clarifications.

Tasha discussed Promiseland curriculums and changes moving forward. Sundays will begin a new curriculum while Wednesdays will continue with Whirl in a new format.

The Board discussed a coffee hour/Bible study to host from 5:30-6:00 on Wednesdays to facilitate an option for parents between drop-off and worship. Tammy and Zech will find a Bible Study to begin this time, a facilitator will be found.

Tasha to get Promiseland and Teacher registrations online for 2022-2023.

Next Meeting scheduled for September 7.

## Parish Life

Karen Keller

The Board of Parish Life met on Thursday August 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

The scheduling of Communion Servers was discussed. Pastor Rod would like to add another Sunday where communion is served. He talked of using the packets for that additional Sunday. Melanie has agreed to continue the scheduling until the end of the year, but by that time we will need to find another person to do the scheduling.

The main topic of conversation was the Waldorf Fall Block Party was scheduled for August 25th. (Note that this event was later cancelled.)



## My Lighthouse

### My Lighthouse

Have you ever been to a lighthouse? Have you ever seen a lighthouse at work? I've been to a couple different lighthouses and have seen enough movies to know that lighthouses play and played a big role in sea travel. They would shine the light so you knew

where rocks were, or low water areas, or even where your final destination as. It shines a light into the darkness and is a beacon of home and trust for those sailing. It's pretty cool to know that even in an age of GPS light is important to help you navigate.

Why bring up lighthouses? Well not only was a favorite song from VBS this year called "My Lighthouse" it's also the rally theme for this year as we head out to sea and another new program year on Wednesday nights. John 1:5 says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." The light is indeed shining in the darkness of our world and our lives, reminding us that we are not alone, and Christ is never far from us, no matter how crazy the world gets. This light pointing us in the right direction, leading us, charging us, giving us hope, giving peace, and never going out is what we will rally behind not only on Wednesday September 7th, but everyday. So come and rally around the light through music, stories about light being read, leading us to the light, a campfire and a black light message that can only be seen with light. After the meal and activities we will gather together in the light of Christ, worshiping the one true light that shines in the darkness and can never be overcome by darkness. Come and check it out, or check out stories of light throughout scripture in September to remind us there is light ahead, behind, and with us always.

Not only do we start the year with light, but we will also get charged up from the light Jesus Christ in many ways weekly. This year on Wednesdays we have a small schedule change to give

everyone an opportunity to grow in the light and come together to worship and be charged up by the light. Promiseland time remains the same 5:30-6:25PM, Middle School youth group will also meet during this time. There will also be a time for Parents or other adults to get together and get charged up in Christ from 5:30-5:55PM. This will be a social time some days, and a time to learn through video series and scriptures at other times. You may ask why is the window so small? That's because we will gather together at 6PM to worship. It's a slightly earlier time slot to help everyone get home at an earlier time. You may also ask well will Middle School or Promiseland even have a chance to worship? Yes. Most weeks when they are done with learning time they will come into the sanctuary at around 6:25 and sing some worship songs, have a short lesson, and gather around the table to partake in Communion. Here's where the big change is on Wednesdays. The first Wednesday of the month, each month, we will gather all together for worship at 6PM. That night will focus on what the youth have been learning the past month and be intergenerationally led. The youth will lead a song, some will read and help with the message for the day. We will sing, pray and praise God together as a whole group. Dancing in the light of God together and getting charged up by Christ. I pray you will come check it out this year and get charged up.

There's a lot going on, and it can seem very busy or scary with these new changes. But I pray you keep your sights on the light of Christ, and remember that the light from this lighthouse is worth following, growing in, learning from, and believing in because it's lightbulb will never burn out and this light cannot be overcome. Thanks be to God for that, the light of the world. I pray this has shined some light on what Wednesdays will be like, and as always if you have questions don't be afraid to ask. Let's travel in His light together today and always.

See you in worship one way or another interlinked in Christ.

Pastor Zech Anderson

## Waldorf's 'closet' needs for International Students

Doing some cleaning out at home, check out this list to see if you have items to pass along:

Kitchen items-bowls, plates, silverware, cooking utensils, fry pans, saucepans, pizza pans, cutting boards, strainers, measuring cups/spoons, kitchen towels/hot pads. (Not needed-mugs, cups, cake/pie pans.)

Bedding-throw blankets, twin sheets/blankets, pillows. Hangers.

Items (clean and in good condition) may be left at the church office.

## Treasury's Report | Immanuel Lutheran Church FY July 2022

|                               | July<br>Actual 2022 | Monthly<br>Budget | Year-to-date<br>Actual | Annual<br>Budget  | Percent of<br>YTD Budget<br>58.33% | July<br>Actual 2021 | YTD<br>Actual 2021   |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                 |                     |                   |                        |                   |                                    |                     |                      |
| Regular Offerings & Envelopes | 30,713.21           | 40,712.50         | 253,849.19             | 488,550.00        | 51.96%                             | 29,763.51           | 251,452.97           |
| Other Income                  | 9,623.73            | 10,490.50         | 71,955.12              | 125,886.00        | 57.16%                             | 16,926.54           | 59,904.39            |
| <b>Total Income</b>           | <b>40,336.94</b>    | <b>51,203.00</b>  | <b>325,804.31</b>      | <b>614,436.00</b> | <b>53.02%</b>                      | <b>46,690.05</b>    | <b>311,357.36</b>    |
| <b>Expense</b>                |                     |                   |                        |                   |                                    |                     |                      |
| Staff Support                 | 35,638.53           | 32,867.58         | 232,377.00             | 394,411.00        | 58.92%                             | 32,827.91           | 229,599.38           |
| Administration                | 6,658.67            | 11,152.67         | 71,396.23              | 133,832.00        | 53.35%                             | 8,737.98            | 55,963.37            |
| Ministry Areas                | 5,884.04            | 7,182.75          | 50,055.66              | 86,193.00         | 58.07%                             | 2,845.62            | 50,296.76            |
| Loan re-payment/contingency   | 0.00                | 0.00              | 0.00                   | 0.00              | 0.00%                              | 0.00                | 0.00                 |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>         | <b>48,181.24</b>    | <b>51,203.00</b>  | <b>353,828.89</b>      | <b>614,436.00</b> | <b>57.59%</b>                      | <b>44,411.51</b>    | <b>335,859.51</b>    |
| <b>Income Less Expense</b>    | <b>(\$7,844.30)</b> | <b>\$0.00</b>     | <b>(\$28,024.58)</b>   | <b>0.00</b>       |                                    | <b>\$2,278.54</b>   | <b>(\$24,502.15)</b> |



## Missionary Karen's July Visit

Pictured with Missionary Karen is a group of church folks still lingering at the conclusion of the morning

**JULY 24:** A special Sunday morning with our ELCA Global Missionary Karen Anderson, her first time to Immanuel. Karen highlighted about her 40 years in Santiago, Chile where she founded EPES (Popular Education for Health) that promotes the health, dignity, and rights of poor people in Chile and throughout the region through education, empowerment, and collective action.

Karen's words:

Mil gracias (1000 thanks) for the wonderful, warm welcome, delicious brunch and supportive organization you did for everything last Sunday (July 24). What a joy it was to visit and meet the congregation in person. I am very grateful for your ongoing love and support for me and our ministry in Chile. My blessings and best wishes to the congregation for your support for the Global Mission of the ELCA!

Abrazos,

Karen

P.S. I love the prayer shawl – it is beautiful.



## Choir Invite

Anyone who enjoys singing with others is invited to join in Immanuel's adult choir (high school age and up).

Beginning Sept. 7, rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings, 7-8pm in the Fireside Room. Choir will be singing an anthem during the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month, as well as special/holiday services.

Directed by Linda Ferjak. Give it a try ~ the more voices, the more joyful noise!



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

### LWR school kits

We are collecting items at church for School Backpack Kits for Lutheran World Relief throughout September.

When you are out shopping, considering purchasing for the Kits. Items included in the backpack:

Four 70 ct. spiral notebooks (wide or college-ruled), 15-24 ct. crayons, rulers (must have metric & English), blunt tip scissors, five unsharpened #2 pencils w/erasers, pencil sharpener, 2 1/2" eraser, five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink).

And if you enjoy sewing projects, instructions for making backpacks are available at church or online.

Thank you from the School Kit Committee!



## Library News September 2022



### The library is Teaming up with Promiseland again

The Promiseland Superstar Reading Contest will again be held for the 2022-2023 school year. Starting Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, we will begin tracking the books & DVDs checked for each student. The contest will end April 19, 2023. The rules are the same as prior years:

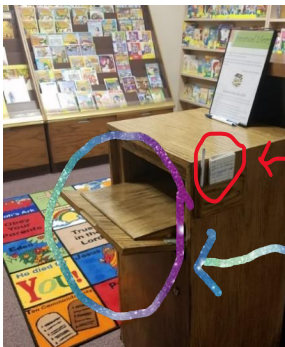
- \* One point for each book or DVD checked out and **RETURNED**.
- \* Points are only earned when checked out material is **RETURNED**.
- \* The library committee will keep track of each child's points.
- \* We recommend that 2 books or 1 book & 1 DVD checked out at a time.
- \* We encourage the children to return the books & DVDs in two weeks.
- \* Children with 3 or more points will receive a prize on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- \* On April 26<sup>th</sup> all children with 7 or more points will receive a prize.
- \* The four grand prizes will be awarded at that time also for the most points earn in each age group:
  - 3 and 4 years olds
  - K and 1<sup>st</sup> graders
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders
  - 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders



Be a Super Star  
READ!!

Remember that everyone can check out material from the library whenever the church is open, not just our children and not just members of Immanuel. **EVERYONE!!!!**

### How to check out Material



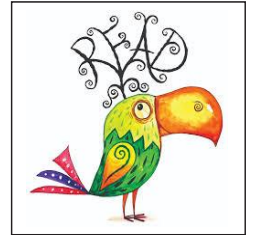
Ever wonder how to check out items from the Immanuel Library? Each item has a library card that you fill out with your full name, date, and phone number. This card can then be placed on the side of the book return box located at the entrance to the children's section. (See picture to the left).

To return your item, just pull the book return box open and drop it in. The Library Committee will take care of the rest.

## Library's Adult Section

What is the importance of the adult section of Immanuel's library? We know why the children section is promoted—so our children can learn about Jesus' love and form a base knowledge to take with them into adulthood. But what about once they reach adulthood? What can the library offer them or you?

The Immanuel library's adult section offers mysteries, romance, historical fiction, biographies, Bible studies, and resources all of which creates opportunities for learning and growing closer to Jesus. There is material to help you get through hard times, to celebrate happy times, and to just read for your enjoyment. There is also DVDs to watch alone or with family, you just need to add a bowl of popcorn. Check the library out. It is YOUR library!!!



## New DVD Review Corner

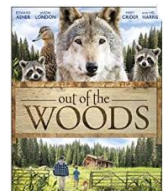


### Miracle of the CARDS

Craig is an 8-year-old boy with a brain tumor and less than a year to live. Looking for hope, his mother pushes to break the Guinness World Record for receiving the most get-well cards. With love, indomitable will, and prayers from around the world, Craig and his family never stop hoping for a miracle.

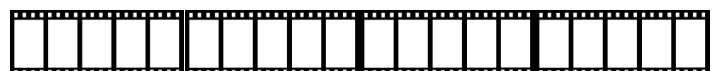
### Out of the WOODS

When hotshot L.A. lawyer Matt Fleming (**Jason London**) agrees to head upstate to check on his grandfather, Jack Green (**Edward Asner**), it's not for a friendly visit, but rather to help the old man secure his fortune. Little does Matt know; Jack has other plans for his ungrateful grandson—it's time for some bonding...in the wilderness.



### What the Deaf Man Heard

Arriving in a new town, a child pretends to be deaf-mute to protect himself – a ruse which works so well that for twenty years he is custodian to all the town's secrets. He is treated as a disabled citizen of the town, some even unkind. This story line is not predictable and has a surprise ending.





# Volunteer

## September 2022

### Assisting Ministers

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Sept. 4.....  | Ken Korth      |
| Sept. 11..... | Olivia Banta   |
| Sept. 18..... | Kathy McEnelly |
| Sept. 25..... | Cindi Lehmann  |

### Scripture Readers

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Sept. 4.....  | Mark Johnson  |
| Sept. 11..... | John Tibodeau |
| Sept. 18..... | Deb Guarin    |
| Sept. 25..... | Shelby Korth  |

### Altar Care

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Sept. 4.....  | Jean Yeager     |
| Sept. 11..... | Jeanette Neuman |
| Sept. 18..... | Joan Beebe      |
| Sept. 25..... | Julie Damm      |

### Sunday Communion Servers

*(Communion 1st & 5th Sundays of the month will be pouring by the servers; Communion 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month will be with pre-packaged kits from the pews.)*

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Sept. 4..... | Dick & Vera Hynes, Liz Wilson |
|--------------|-------------------------------|

### Offering Counters

Betty Olson, Mary Farland, Marj Anderson, Ellen Olson

### Laundry

Carolynn Korth

### Ushers

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Sept. 4.....  | Tina Berg, Mary Kingland                                   |
| Sept. 11..... | Ben & Nikki Arentson family, Josh & Silas Banta, Tina Berg |
| Sept. 18..... | Chad, Marcy & Keaton Hanson                                |
| Sept. 25..... | Josh & Silas Banta, Denny Jerome, Tina Berg                |

### Sunday Coffee Fellowship

Sept. TBD

## Worship on the Radio

Sunday morning worship over KLOW 107.3 FM airs at 11am. We have many open dates in the next four months. Consider sponsoring a broadcast for \$100 of this important radio ministry.

#### Available dates:

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| September 18, 25 | October 2, 9, 23    |
| November 6, 20   | December 11, 24, 25 |

Call or email the office to reserve a date (585-3152, [jaci@immanuelfamily.com](mailto:jaci@immanuelfamily.com)).

## VBS 2022



VBS 2022, Anchored in Hope was a huge success and a really awesome week! We had a record (since I've been at Immanuel) 96 kids in attendance! What a gift to have so many kids from our church, our community, and even some from far away! The week was filled with songs, dance, games, Bible time, skits, snacks, art project and lots of laughter and learning how we can put our hope in God!! Thanks to every volunteer who helped make this week possible. There are too many to name individually, so know that if you helped plan, execute, set up, tear down, cook, clean, teach, lead, comfort, guide, direct, or pray for any part of this week, you are appreciated and a blessing to me and all 96 children in attendance!

- Tasha

### NOISY OFFERINGS FOR BIBLE CAMPS

Wednesday, Sept. 14 & Sunday, Sept. 18

If you or your children attended Camp this past summer, come help us with the noisy offering and/or share a highlight!





# SEPTEMBER 2022

| Sunday  | Monday                                     | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|---|--------|----------|
| 28  | 29   | 30   | 31  | 1<br>9am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge  | 2      | 3        |
| 4<br>9:15am- Worship, Communion<br>10:15am- Coffee, FH  | 5<br>Church closed ~ Labor Day             | 6<br>3:30pm- Intercessor Prayer Group<br>5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside  | 7 RALLY DAY<br>4-6pm- Meal, FH<br>4:45-5:30pm- Bounce house & games<br>5:40-6pm- Kids meet teachers<br>5:40-6pm- Parents meeting<br>6pm- Worship<br>7pm- Choir<br>7:30pm - HS Youth | 8<br>9am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge<br>2:30pm - Forest Plaza Communion w/pastor<br>6:30pm- Good Grief Group, Shalom<br>6:30pm- Parish Life board, Lounge | 9      | 10       |
| 11<br>9:15am- Worship, Communion, GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. Collection for Food Bank<br>10:15am- Coffee, FH / Promiseland      | 12<br>5pm- Trustees<br>6:30pm- Council     | 13<br>3:30pm- Intercessor Prayer Group<br>4:30pm- Board of Ed<br>5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside<br>7pm- Nouwen Book Study        | 14<br>4-6pm- Meal, FH<br>4:45pm- M&O Board<br>5:30pm- Promiseland / Parent Bible Study / MS Youth<br>6pm- Worship, NOISY OFFERING FOR CAMPS<br>7pm- Choir<br>7:30pm - HS Youth      | 15<br>9am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge<br>10am - Martha Circle, Shalom<br>10:30am- Good Sam Comm.<br>1:30pm- Rachel/Sarah Circle, Lounge                   | 16     | 17       |
| 18<br>9:15am- Worship, Communion, NOISY OFFERING FOR CAMPS<br>10:15am- Coffee, FH / Promiseland                             | 19<br>2-4pm- Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom | 20<br>3:30pm- Intercessor Prayer Group<br>5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside<br>7pm- Nouwen Book Study<br>OCTOBER MESSENGER DEADLINE | 21<br>4-6pm- Meal, FH<br>5:30pm- Promiseland / Parent Bible Study / MS Youth<br>6pm- Worship<br>7pm- Choir<br>7:30pm - HS Youth   | 22<br>9am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge<br>6:30pm- Good Grief Group, Shalom   | 23     | 24       |
| 25<br>9:15am- Worship<br>10:15am- Coffee, FH / Promiseland<br>WIS Fall Convo for pastors, Lutheran Lakeside Camp, thru 27th | 26   | 27<br>1pm- LWR Quilting Do Day, FH<br>3:30pm- Intercessor Prayer Group<br>5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside                         | 28<br>4-6pm- Meal, FH<br>5:30pm- Promiseland / Parent Bible Study / MS Youth<br>6pm- Worship<br>7pm- Choir<br>7:30pm - HS Youth   | 29<br>9am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge   | 30     | 1        |



Hello everyone! Hope you had a fun-filled summer. I'm looking forward to having families back eating with us and have a great fall. Looking for additional volunteers to help serve and if you have freezer containers for leftovers and square meals, please leave in the kitchen. - Dawn Craig, Hospitality Specialist

ALL ARE WELCOME to this FREE Community Meal served each Wednesday from 4-6pm in the fellowship hall. Eat in or take out. Enjoy fellowship time with others before heading to evening programming and worship. Always room for more at the Table. Invite a friend, neighbor, or a stranger about our meals and to join you.

Thanks to the generosity of Iowa Select Farms and the Deb & Jeff Foundation out of Iowa Falls, Immanuel was gifted again in August 2 cases of pork loins to serve at our meals!

## September Menu:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 7  | Walking tacos, corn, ice cream                             |
| Sept. 14 | Baked pork loin, cheesy potatoes, green beans, rolls       |
| Sept. 21 | Hot ham sandwiches, lettuce salad, chips, pudding          |
| Sept 28  | Soup night: chili & chicken noodle, bread, peaches & pears |

## Blessings & Prayers

### Baptism

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| July 10 | Roya Jean, daughter of Scott & Stacey Leber |
| July 10 | Magnus Markus, son of Nicolas & Morgan Hopp |
| July 10 | Morgan Hopp                                 |

### Prayers

Sam & Jan Hernes and family in the loss of brother, Arvin Hernes of Blair, Nebraska

Gail & Gary McCarthy, Bruce & Linda Nelson and families on the loss of Gail & Bruce's dad, Roger Nelson of Forest City

Carolyn Price, Doug & Julie Price, Tim Price, Kathy Leuwerke and families on the loss of daughter-in-law/sister-in-law, Kathy Price of Forest City

Serena & Brian Golwitzer and family on the loss of grandma, Viva Carpentier of Forest City

Ken & Joan Hansen and family on the loss of Ken's sister & brother-in-law, Verla & Ron Kamykowski of Chicago, Illinois

Sheila Greenwood, Tom Greenwood, Christine Cantu, Heather Welch and families in the loss of husband/dad, John Greenwood of Forest City



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  
Wednesdays – 6:00pm  
In Person & Livestream

#### Office Hours

M-F 8am - 5pm

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

246 South Clark Street, Forest City, IA 50436

#### **TELEPHONE**

641-585-3152

#### **Website:**

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

Facebook pages:

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Immanuel Lutheran Church Library

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home: 641-581-2150

**Rev. Zech Anderson**-Associate Pastor

[zanderson001@immanuelfamily.com](mailto:zanderson001@immanuelfamily.com)

parsonage home: 641-585-3501

**Mike Oleson**-Property Manager

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**Jaci Thorson**-Administrative Assistant

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**Tasha Banta**-Children's Ed

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**Dawn Craig**-Hospitality Specialist

[dawncraig1211@gmail.com](mailto:dawncraig1211@gmail.com)

**Ann Hunhuff**-Youth Ministry

[ann@immanuelfamily.com](mailto:ann@immanuelfamily.com)

**Gene Lopes**- Worship Personnel

[lopes.gene@gmail.com](mailto:lopes.gene@gmail.com)

President: **Daryl Krieger**

Vice-President: **Dave Melby**

Treasurer: **Jen Jenkins**

Secretary: **Linda Ferjak**

Representatives: **Ben Arentson, Lisa Chisholm, Marcy Hanson, Joyce Kasper, Chad Kozitza, Danielle Niess, Laura Winter**