

THE MESSENGER

The monthly newsletter for members of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Forest City, Iowa - September 2023



"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



September 10, 2023

**Join us for 9:15 Worship,
10:15 Potluck Brunch followed by
local Service Projects & Activities.
A morning of meaningful fun with
your church family!**

**The weekend to bring your 5¢ cans
bottles. (Look for trailer in yard.)
(See Intern Elizabeth's article on pg. 3.)**

Churchwide YARD SALE



Saturday, Sept. 16, 8am-4pm

Outside on church grounds (weather location, fellowship hall)

The congregation is invited to donate items that we
can sell with proceeds going to the general fund.

Excepting donations of anything in good condition

(NO clothing). Items may be brought to narthex, north side,
or larger items may be brought directly to Ruth Melby's garage.
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED in advance for sorting, pricing, boxing...

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED the day of the sale...

CINNAMON ROLLS available to purchase.

SHOPPERS ARE NEEDED the day of the sale so spread the word!

Contact Kathy McEnelly, Ruth Melby, or Jaci in the church office.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO BE
the table

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering is a GO!

July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans

9-12th graders interested are encouraged to attend a meeting Wednesday,
Sept. 6th @ 7:30pm to sign up for the Gathering. Letters were sent last
month with an overview of the event. Immanuel's deadline for sign up is
September 27.



JUMP FOR JOY! RALLY WEDNESDAY – Sept. 6

4:15-6:15pm

PIZZA donated from Shooterz, lettuce salad & ice cream

5:25-6:25pm

Games & Inflatable

6:30-7:10pm

OUTSIDE Worship out front (bring your chairs)

7:15pm

Adult Choir begins – All ages: middle school on up!

7:30pm

Trip Meeting for 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering to New Orleans

WEDNESDAYS @ IMMANUEL

Our typical Wednesday Schedule will look like this in the following weeks:

4:15-6:15pm FREE Community Meal, FH

5:25-6:25pm Promiseland

5:25-6:25pm Middle School Youth (6-8 Confirmation), Shalom

6:30-7:10pm Worship

7:15pm Choir, Fireside Room

7:30pm 9th Confirmation, Shalom

7:30pm High School Youth Group, Youth Room

We are deeply grateful for all the expressions of concern shown to us
since Mike's accident – prayers, cards,
phone calls, and food were all greatly
appreciated. Mike continues to heal, and
we know we are blessed.

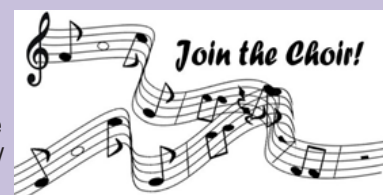
Blessings to each of you!

Mike & Carolynn Korth

Thank
You

Make A Joyful Noise!

Senior Choir is looking for
new voices to join their ranks!
All are welcome - Junior High
thru Adults of all Ages! - All
voice ranges. We meet in the
Fireside Room on Wednesday
evenings from 7:15 to 8:15
following Wednesday Worship,
and sing on the first, third and fifth Sundays of the month.



Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 6. We will be
starting to learn our music for the upcoming seasons. This will include
Advent and Christmas - always a great time to join a choir! Come and
join us for the Season! All ARE WELCOME to share their gift of music
with the Immanuel Family!

Linda Ferjak, director

Letter from Pastor Rod

Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on.....!

In the hymn, Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me, we invite the Spirit of God, praying "melt me, mold me, fill me, use me." This is a prayer that invites God to change us and to transform us as individuals and community. Someone once warned, be careful what you pray for, God may just give it.

The Body of Christ that I am familiar with really doesn't like change. Yes, we may tweak something here or there with a technical change, but we are not often willing to risk adaptive change; change that means attempting ministry in ways radically different from the past of our collective memory. And yet, in spite of our resistance to change, change has come, and I can guarantee you will come, whether we embrace it or not; anticipate it or not; plan a response or not.

If we believe that God is leading the church, what then do you think, should we let change fall upon us, catching us in its current to carry us downstream to an unknown and unplanned future, or should we struggle to anticipate that coming future, and proactively work and pray our way into it willing to change and make change that builds a church that honors God and serves her people and the world around us?

Don't misunderstand me, I am not speaking of technical changes. I'm not speaking of changes in music style, or worship times, or about whether we sit on pews or chairs. I am talking about rethinking everything from how we structure and staff for ministry. I'm talking about reevaluating how we do or don't empower the laity to carry out ministry. I am talking about reevaluating what Sunday morning looks like and where worship happens. These are big questions that the church will be forced to ask as change comes upon us, whether we want it or not.

There are two dimensions of change that can no longer be denied in the church: the certainty of a clergy shortage that is already upon us that will only get worse, and a steep decline in actively involved members supporting the church's ministry. These two dimensions of change raise questions about the sustainability of current practices and challenge us as church to rethink everything.

These are questions and ideas that I will be wrestling with during my upcoming December 2023 through February 2024 sabbatical. In preparation for that time, I am currently reading *Rooted and Renewing* by Wartburg Theological Seminary professor Troy Troftgruben. I invite you to read it if you can muster the courage to do so.

The apostle Paul writes, *The gifts God gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ....*

This passage reminds me that God made us the church together for the work of ministry. This gives me confidence and hope that God will sustain the church for the work of ministry even in the face of dramatic change. It also gives me peace as change comes, anticipated or not, welcomed or not, difficult, and hard to bear, that God will reform the church even in this age.

I encourage you to pray for the whole church, and for your congregation. Ask that God will stir each of us to use the gifts we've been given to build up the church, and that we will all be open to change that propel us to renewal, all to the glory of God and for faithfulness to Christ's ministry.

Crossed in Christ

Pastor Rod



Immanuel Kids

Are you ready for some?

How would you finish this sentence: Are you ready for some _____? Most people, I think, would finish it with the word, "football" because of a commercial that was out probably before you were born. Honestly, you could put anything in the blank and it would make sense: toast and jam; music, fun in the sun.

Here is what I want to know: Are you ready for some Jesus? Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the way, the truth, and the light." In other words, Jesus is what gives us life. I know that you are ready for some football, and you're ready for some volleyball, and you are ready for some learning at school, but are you ready for some Jesus? Are you ready to let Jesus shape your life, to coach you, and to bless you so you can bless others? That is what it means to be on Jesus' team.

In Matthew 7:6-8 Jesus says, 'Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.' Jesus knows pigs do not need or want pearls, but they do need food and he wants them to have it. Jesus also knows that what you need most in your life is he, himself, Jesus. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus then says, 7 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Jesus tells us that when we seek out what matters, what God wants us to seek, we will find it.

Football and volleyball and sports and learning are all great things, but they are not the greatest thing. A solid, life-giving relationship with God and our neighbor is the greatest thing. This is what worship, Promiseland, and all of our church activity is about, to help us grow closer to God and help us serve a needy world. And Jesus says that when we seek his ways, we'll find them and we will grow in faith, love, and obedience to God, and this is the most important thing. So, I'll ask again: are you ready for some Jesus? I hope to see you soon in worship and Promiseland.

Crossed in Christ,
Pastor Rod



NOISY OFFERING

Sunday, Sept. 24 & Wednesday, Sept. 27

For mission emphasis – BIBLE CAMPS

Ingham-Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp

Lutheran Lakeside Camp

Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp

*Thank you for your 3rd quarter mission gifts!
(Paper money accepted too!)*



God's Work. Our Hands & Cans.

Elizabeth Carr

Dear Immanuel Family,
Summer has flown by and students of all

ages, faculty and staff, are all back in school, and Sunday, September 10th is rapidly approaching. This is the day we will join with ELCA churches across the nation to celebrate the 10th anniversary of God's

Work. Our Hands. Sunday, a day of worship, fellowship, and dedicated service to our community. While you have already heard about some of the service opportunities available that day and in the future, such as collecting redeemable cans and bottles for recycling and the garage sale, here are some other activities we will take part in that day.



- School Kits – We have been collecting supplies for school kits which we will assemble that day
- School Lunches – We will begin collecting donations which will be given to our Forest City schools to assist students who fall behind in their school lunch accounts (this will be an ongoing ministry)
- Treats for Essential Workers – We will have the opportunity to either bring treats or bake treats that day, divide them up, and deliver them, with thank you notes, to essential workers around our community, such as police, 911 operators, firefighters, paramedics, staff at Forest Plaza and Good Samaritan, and any others we can come up with
- Operation Gratitude – We will make paracord lanyards and thank you cards/coloring pages which will go in care packages for our Military and First Responders across the nation and around the world

Other activities may be available that day as we continue to look for ways to "Build community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ." Sign-up sheets will be available and don't forget, this will also be our first Brunch Potluck Sunday. I hope you have marked your calendar for this time of fellowship and service as together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.

Blessings, Intern Elizabeth



The Great Minnesota Get Together

Oh, come on now, I know you know this phrase, even though we live in Iowa. It's a phrase that I heard many times in August, specifically when watching or listening to the Twins. The State Fair in Minnesota always promoted itself as the great get together.

People from all over Minnesota, and I'm sure from the neighboring states, come together around food, animals, and fun. I know this happens in Iowa too, but I'm from Minnesota so please forgive me. I've gone a couple times and it's packed. Yet the most fun I have there is running into people I know but haven't seen in a while. It's sort of like Homecoming, which here in Forest City I believe is this month.

So why talk about this great get together today? Well, it's September, which means for a lot of us we are coming back together in worship, education, around the table and more importantly in Christ at Immanuel. Now that's not to say we haven't been connected for the past months even when we don't see each other, because we were and are. But there's something about coming together and seeing old friends and reconnecting. I'm reminded of the prodigal son as I write this and the big open arms for when the son came home. Or the other parables where a party is thrown for finding the lost coin, or lost sheep. There is something worth celebrating, not only in September, but each Sunday, that we are connected together in Christ. And anytime we see someone we haven't in a while, whether at Church or even in the grocery store, we want to reach out and say hi, how ya doing. I won't ask you to hug, I'm not a big hugger so I can't ask others to do it, but maybe metaphorically.

So, my challenge for you this month is to check in with those you know well, and even those you don't know as well. Maybe you see them in person at the grocery store, at the gas pump, at Immanuel, on a walk but check in. And don't forget we are interlinked in other ways too, so check in with those on the phone, text, social media, email, message, I mean be creative. And don't forget to check in with me, I always like to say hi. Check in with the youth, they love to hear from you. Check in with the middle aged, they love to hear from you. Check in with the upper aged they love to hear from you. Check in with a stranger, they'd love to hear from you. This time of year and every day is so much bigger than a great Minnesota get together, we are interlinked in Christ and every moment is a great get together in Christ. Have a great start to the Fall!

I look forward to seeing you soon, Interlinked in Christ.
Pastor Zech Anderson



The theme for Promiseland and Sunday School this year is JOY!

Joy is easily mistaken as a synonym for happiness. Joy isn't an emotion that comes and goes from our feelings; it is a constant we have because of the gift of salvation from Jesus. We will be discussing how we can find joy while also experiencing different emotions. This will lead us to recognize and feel that Jesus is always with us and always loves us!

Board notes

Mission & Outreach

Becky Stumme

The Mission & Outreach Board met via Zoom on Wednesday, August 9. Five members, including new member Elizabeth Carr, were present. Opening devotions were given by Ruth Melby.

To date, \$459.75 has been received for the third quarter mission emphasis (Bible Camps). Noisy offerings for the third quarter mission emphasis (Bible Camps) will be held on Sunday, September 24, and on Wednesday, September 27.

The Mission & Outreach Board hosted the coffee hour on Sunday, August 20, with the donations from the coffee hour going toward the fulfillment of our 2023 covenant commitment to Missionary Karen. In recognition of Karen's work to promote health through gardening, members of the congregation also brought excess garden produce to share. \$1,057.78 is needed to meet our \$5,000 covenant commitment to Missionary Karen.

A decision on the fourth quarter mission emphasis will be made at the September meeting.

Trustees

Bink Keller

The Board of Trustees met on August 14th at the church. June Income was \$43,796.51 and expenses were \$42,395.77 with a positive (\$1,400.74) for the month of July. YTD is a negative (\$23,232.97) compared to a negative (\$28,024.58) for 2022.

Endowment: Nothing presented.

Property Committee: A larger breaker is needed in the large room for Four Oaks and Mike Oleson will see about that. The boilers are in Des Moines and will be installed in this fall.

Personnel Committee: Plan to meet in September.

New Business: a) Dawn who has been part time Wednesday cook and housekeeper for about 5 years will resign the end of August for another job. Kathy McEnelly volunteered to take over the part time cook in the interim. October will be a stewardship series entitled "You have heard it said" Pastor Rod is planning a Sabbatical December 2023-February 2024.

b) Board of Trustees are hosting the Brunch on Sunday September 10th.

Old Business: a.) Grants for the Wednesday night meals: Angie Thompson has accepted the Grant Manager position for Wednesday night meals.

b.) Four Oaks update: The one-year contract has been signed with automatic renewal.

Parish Council

Linda Ferjak

Council met on August 14, 2023 with an in Person format. Eleven members, both pastors and Intern were present. Meeting was called to order by President Kathy McEnelly and July minutes were approved. Board reports, Pastors reports and the Intern report were presented and approved.

Scheduling of Christmas Eve services was discussed with suggestions for times. Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, which would affect the scheduling of service times.

Zech will work on a Tech alert system for the congregation in the event

of change of service due to weather or other reasons.

Four Oaks contracts have been signed and they will begin using the rooms when the school years starts.

Immanuel Garage Sale is set for Sept. 16. Volunteers will be encouraged to sign up to help for a couple of hours.

The date for the Annual Congregational Meeting has been moved to Nov. 12.

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

Now Exiting the Elevator

In July Immanuel was approached by Four Oaks Family and Children's Services located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa wondering if we may have classroom space we might be interested in renting out. In previous years, Four Oaks had administered a program for school age children with some behavioral struggles. The program was previously located in the former Ventura school building that recently sold.

After learning more about the mission of Four Oaks, it was clear that Immanuel's values align with Four Oaks values and so we were interested in working with them. The needs of Four Oaks to run the program matched well with the space we had available. We have signed a one-year contract with them renting them the large group room and two large classrooms on the lower level of the education wing and a small room just North of the restrooms.

There will be a maximum of fourteen students from Kindergarten to High School, and six to nine teachers involved in the program. The students will be transported to Forest City by various school systems in North Iowa. The students will be dropped off at the alley door on the northwest corner of the church building.

If you are one who uses the west elevator when you come to the church during daytime hours, please keep doing so, just be aware as you exit the elevator on the lower level that you may be met by students or teachers from the Four Oaks program. Just smile, and be friendly, and proceed to wherever in the church you are headed and know that your church is once again working to bless children.

Pastor Rod on behalf of your Church Council

Worship on the Radio

Sunday morning worship over KIOU 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:

Sept. 3, 10 Oct. 8, 22
Nov. 5, 19, 26 Dec. 10, 24 (Christmas Eve), 31

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

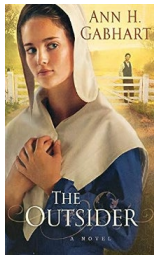


Library News Sept 2023

New Adult Fiction Books

The Outsider

By Ann H. Gabhart



Set during the Civil War. For as long as she can remember, Gabrielle Hope has had the gift of knowing--visions that warn of things to come. When she and her mother joined the Pleasant Hill Shaker community in 1807, the community embraced her gift. But Gabrielle fears this gift, for the visions are often ones of sorrow and tragedy. When one of these visions comes to pass, a local doctor must be brought in to save the life of a young man, setting into motion a chain of events that will challenge Gabrielle's loyalty to the Shakers. As she falls deeper into a forbidden

love for this man of the world, Gabrielle must make a choice. Can she experience true happiness in this simple and chaste community? Or will she abandon her brothers and sisters for a life of the unknown?

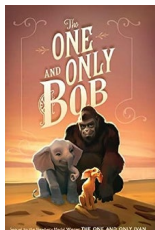
Soulful and filled with romance, *The Outsider* lets readers live within a bygone time among a unique and peculiar people. This tender and thought-provoking story will leave readers wanting more from this writer. This is the first novel from Gabhart's Shaker Series which can be found along with the other novels in the series in the Fiction section of the library's adult area.

New Youth Books

Now located on the East Wall of the Adult Section

The One and Only Bob

By Katherine Applegate



Return to the unforgettable world of the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 *New York Times* bestselling novel *The One and Only Ivan* in this incredible sequel, starring Ivan's friend Bob! Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in search of his long-lost sister with the help of his two best friends, Ivan, and Ruby. As a hurricane approaches and time is running out, Bob finds courage he never knew he had and learns the true meaning of friendship and family.

The Prince Warriors and the Swords of Rhema

By Priscilla Shirer



In this third book of The Prince Warriors trilogy, written by a well-known Christian speaker, the warriors finally receive their last piece of armor—the swords they were promised when they began their adventure in the unseen realm of Ahoratos. And none too soon, for they must face the ultimate enemy, one who is gathering his Forgers and creating unthinkable new evil to stop the Prince Warriors from winning any battle ever again.

Promiseland News

Immanuel's Library/Promiseland Reading contest is starting soon. But with a new addition called Reading Pals. Every student age 3 years through 4th grade will be assigned their own Reading Pal. The Reading Pal will be students in 5th grade through 12th grade and adult committee members at Immanuel. As the Reading Pals check out and return books and DVDs from the library their student will receive the points for each material.

Each Promiseland class will visit the library this fall and again in January as a group. Students are allowed to check out two books at a time or one book and one DVD and do not have to wait for their class visit to start accumulating points. Any items checked out starting Sept 13th will be a point once returned to the library. Students are encouraged to return these items within two weeks and check out new material. Students are invited to continue coming to the library regularly as are their families and their Reading Pals.

SUPERSTAR READING CONTEST

1. Contest dates: **Sept 13th 2023 - April 24th 2024**
2. Earn one point for each book or DVD checked out and returned
3. Points are only earned when the checked-out material is **RETURNED**.
4. The library committee will keep track of each child's points
5. Students can visit with the library committee any time they want to know their point totals.
6. A prize will be awarded on **Dec. 13th** for each child who has 5 or more points (combined points from student & their Reading Pal)
7. A prize will be awarded on **May 1st** for each child who has a total of 12 or more points (combined points from student & their Reading Pal)

As in years past, there will be four grand prizes awarded on **May 1st** - one in each age group.

Age Groups:

- 3- & 4-year-olds
- K & 1st graders
- 2nd & 3rd graders
- 4th graders

All Reviews taken from Amazon

Treasury's Report | Immanuel Lutheran Church FY July 2023

	July Actual 2023	Monthly Budget	Year-to-date Actual	Annual Budget	Percent of YTD Budget 58.33%	July Actual 2022	YTD Actual 2022
Income							
Regular Offerings & Envelopes	34,898.62	41,249.75	246,607.64	494,997.00	49.82%	30,713.21	253,849.19
Other Income	8,897.89	9,746.92	55,042.96	116,963.00	47.06%	9,623.73	71,955.12
Total Income	43,796.51	50,996.67	301,650.60	611,960.00	49.29%	40,336.94	325,804.31
Expense							
Staff Support	31,707.49	31,629.67	222,932.62	379,556.00	58.74%	35,638.53	232,377.00
Administration	5,957.90	11,733.92	69,453.47	140,807.00	49.33%	6,658.67	71,396.23
Ministry Areas	4,730.38	7,633.08	42,497.48	91,597.00	46.40%	5,884.04	50,055.66
Loan re-payment/contingency	0.00	0.00	(10,000.00)	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	42,395.77	50,996.67	324,883.57	611,960.00	53.09%	48,181.24	353,828.89
Income Less Expense	\$1,400.74	(\$0.00)	(\$23,232.97)	0.00		(\$7,844.30)	(\$28,024.58)

Volunteer

September 2023

Assisting Ministers

Sept. 3.....	Ken Korth
Sept. 10.....	Olivia Banta
Sept. 17.....	Patti Strukel
Sept. 24.....	Kathy McEnelly

Scripture Readers

Sept. 3.....	Ellen Olson
Sept. 10.....	Marla Betz
Sept. 17.....	Mark Johnson
Sept. 24.....	Leah Boyd

Altar Care

Sept. 3.....	Jean Yeager
Sept. 10.....	Jeanette Neuman
Sept. 17.....	Joan Beebe
Sept. 24.....	Julie Damm

Song Leaders/Pianist

Sept. 3.....	Kathy Jerome, Scott Bertelsen, Steve Olmstead / Riley Walton
Sept. 10.....	Mark & Joy Newcom, Zech Anderson /
Sept. 17.....	Scott Bertelsen, Jaci Thorson / Riley Walton
Sept. 24.....	Steve Olmstead, Renae Hopp, Cindi Lehmann / Karen Post

Sunday Communion Servers

Sept. 3.....	Dick & Vera Hynes
Sept. 10.....	Marlene Faircloth, Sandy Lillquist
Sept. 17.....	Dick & Vera Hynes
Sept. 24.....	Tasha Banta, Bink Keller

Offering Counters

Ellen Olson, Jan Buffington, Betty Olson, Mary Farland, Mary Paulsen

Laundry

Carolynn Korth

Ushers

Sept. 3.....	Keith, Emily, Hannah Walker
Sept. 10.....	Chad, Marcy, Keaton Hanson
Sept. 17.....	Tina Berg, Mary Kingland
Sept. 24.....	Beenken family

Sound/Video Techs

Sept. 3.....	TBD
Sept. 10.....	TBD
Sept. 17.....	TBD

Sept. 24.....TBD

Sunday Coffee Fellowship

LWR Quilting Do Day Group

Sept. 10 Potluck Brunch, Trustees hosting

Farewell and Godspeed!



Farewell to our sister and friend: Dawn Craig has been Immanuel's Wednesday evening cook for over five years. She has prepared over 250 weekly community meals during that time, which adds up to around 25,000 individual meals. Leftovers have been frozen to support our "square meal" ministry. These meals are given to people who stop by the church from time to time in need of a hand-up. This ministry has fed hundreds more.

Dawn has been with us through the thick and thin of the Covid 19 pandemic which forced her to re-think and respond to

the needs in creative ways as we navigated in the uncharted waters to feed people. For a season she and her helpers would stand in the northeast airlock with roaster plugged in and hand out meals to people in our drive-through.

Dawn has also been a part-time housekeeper, washing windows, dusting, cleaning restrooms, and so much more. More than likely you never saw Dawn clean, but only enjoyed the benefit of her labor as she tended to clean very early in the morning or after dark at night.

Thank you, Dawn for your faithful service; for your team spirit; and the smiles and hugs you've shared with so many along this journey. Our prayers and gratitude go with you as you take on your new Assistant Manager position at Family Dollar. May you be blessed as you have been a blessing.

The Immanuel Congregation

Not the End, but a New Beginning!

Dawn's resignation doesn't mean the end of the feeding program, but it does mean transition. In fact, I see this as a springboard to even bigger things for our Wednesday evening meal. We will soon launch our effort around the Connections Through Food grant we received over a year ago, with Angie Thompson of Fertile coming on board to push that forward (watch for her introduction in October's issue of the Messenger). Throughout the fall/winter months, Kathy McEnelly has graciously agreed to fill in as the interim cook. This will give Council time to consider new possibilities for restructuring support staffing positions. Currently we have a great team in place to support the Wednesday evening meal program, but as they say, many hands make lighter work. If you are interested in getting involved, helping to serve meals, or providing clean up assistance after the meal, or serving on one of the Connections Through Food teams, please reach out Kathy, Jaci or myself. Together we are connecting people in God's beloved community through the ministry of feeding all who come.

Pastor Hopp

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:15am- Worship, communion 10:15am- Coffee, FH	4 Labor Day – church closed	5 3:30pm- Intercessor Prayer Group, zoom 4:30pm- Parish Life, Lounge	6 JUMP FOR JOY 4:15-6:15pm- Meal, FH 5:30pm- Family games & inflatable 6:30-7:10pm- OUTDOOR Worship, communion (out front) 7:15- Choir 7:30pm – 2024 Youth Gathering mtg	7 9am -Women's Bible Study, Lounge	8	9
10 GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS! 9:15am- Worship, communion 10:15am- POTLUCK BRUNCH, FH Followed by mission activities 10:30am- Promiseland	11 5pm- Trustees, Shalom 6:30pm- Council, Shalom	12 3:30pm- Intercessor Prayer Group 4:30pm- Ed Board, Kitchenette 5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside	13 4:15-6:15pm- Meal, FH 4:45pm- M&O, Zoom 5:25pm- Promiseland/MS & Parents Orientation, Shalom 6:30pm- Worship 7:15pm- Choir 7:30pm- 9 th & Parents Orientation, Shalom	14 9am -Women's Bible Study 6:30pm- Good Grief Group, Shalom	15	16 8am-4pm- CHURCHWIDE "GARAGE" YARD SALE
17 9:15am- Worship, communion 10:15am- Coffee, FH 10:30am- Promiseland Fall Convo for pastors thru 19th	18 2-4pm- Prayer Shawl Ministry, Shalom	19 3:30pm - Intercessor Prayer Group 5:30pm- Bell Choir 6:30pm- Cub Scouts Pack mtg, FH 5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside	20 4:15-6:15pm- Meal, FH 5:25pm- Promiseland/MS Youth 6:30pm- Worship 7:15pm- Choir 7:30pm- 9 th Confirmation/HS Youth Group OCTOBER MESSENGER DEADLINE	21 9am -Women's Bible Study, lounge 10am – Martha Circle, Shalom 10:30am- Good Sam Comm 1:30pm- Rachel/Sarah, Lounge	22	23
24 9:15am- Worship, communion, NOISY OFFERING FOR BIBLE CAMPS 10:15am- Coffee, FH 10:30am- Promiseland	25	26 1pm- LWR Quilting Do Day, FH 3:30pm - Intercessor Prayer Group 5:30pm- Bell Choir, Fireside	27 4:15-6:15pm- Meal, FH 5:25pm- Promiseland/MS Youth 6:30pm- Worship, communion, NOISY OFFERING FOR BIBLE CAMPS 7:15pm- Choir 7:30pm- 9 th Confirmation/HS Youth Group	28 9am -Women's Bible Study 6:30pm- Good Grief Group, Shalom	29	30



New time: 4:15-6:15pm.
New cook: Kathy McEnelly will be our interim cook replacing Dawn.
Same invitation to ALL for this FREE community meal!
Spread the word, bring your family and/or neighbor, join others for fellowship and a meal.
Take outs available.
Kitchen help is always appreciated if you are interested in volunteering any time.

September Menu:

- Sept. 6 Pizza – donated by Shooterz, Brian & Pam Wilson
Lettuce salad, ice cream – Thrivent Grant Card from Kathy McEnelly
- Sept. 13 Pancakes, sausage patty, fruit
- Sept. 20 Soup and sandwich, German chocolate cake for Tina Berg's birthday
- Sept. 27 Taco night, corn, cookies – homemade and donated by Mary Paulsen

Special Note from Dawn:

I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer that always seems to go by so fast. Just like the past 5 years working at the church. It's time for me to move on to a new adventure. I want to thank everyone who has attended Wednesday night meals and a special thank you to the volunteer helpers. Thank you to Tina, Phyllis, Kathy, Mary, Jan, Maddy, Jim, and Barb! You were all much appreciated!
I will miss you all!! Please call or text anytime.
God bless, Dawn

Blessings & Prayers

Baptism

- Aug. 6 Kinsley Lynn Book, Braelynn Lee Book, & Oaklynn Lou Book, daughters of Hailey Book
Stiles Steven Book-Bolen & K.J. River Book-Bolen, sons of Mikaela Book & Jody Bolen
- Aug. 13 Anastasia Mae McCormick, Genevieve Lorena McCormick, & Elias Frederick McCormick, children of William & Danielle McCormick
- Aug. 27 Samuel Cade Christensen, son of Cade & Jessica (Wencl) Christensen

Prayers

- Sandy Jenkins, Richard & Joni Miller, family and friends, in the loss of sister/Richard's step-mom, Susal Miller of Lake Mills, formerly Forest City
- Donna Johnson, Craig & Dawn Johnson, family and friends, in the loss of husband/dad, DeWayne Johnson of Forest City
- Jim & Nancy Bowman, family and friends, in the loss of Jim's sister, Patricia Johnson of Britt
- Family and friends in the loss of former member, Orlyn Stoll of McAllen, TX
- Family and friends in the loss of former associate pastor, Michelle (Simonson) Gawienowski of Apple Valley, MN
- Family and friends in the loss of Mary Harland of Forest City
- JoAnn Bartleson, Matt Bartleson, Alice Lewison, family and friends in the loss of husband/dad/brother, George 'Gus' Bartleson 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 – 6:30pm

In Person & Livestream

Office Hours

M-F : 8am – 5pm

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Pastoral Intern Elizabeth Carr

elizabethcarr630@gmail.com

President: **Kathy McEnelly**

Vice-President:

Treasurer: **Jen Jenkins**

Secretary: **Linda Ferjak**

Representatives: **Ben Arentson, Jan Buffington, Lisa Chisholm, Danielle Niess, Ellen Olson, Keith Walker, Matt Welp, Steve Westerberg, Laura Winter**