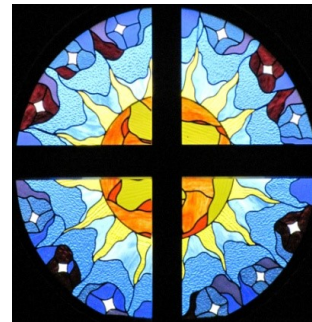


# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Children of God, called to proclaim the mighty acts of Jesus  
through lives of love and servanthood.

## January 2018 Newsletter



### Weekly Services and Communion

Sunday ~ 8am &  
10:30 am

Faith Formation ~  
9:15 am

Wednesday ~ 6pm

### Office Hours

Weekdays

9am ~ 1pm

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“The Voice of the LORD Is Powerful;  
the Voice of the LORD Is Full of Majesty”  
by Peter J. Weller

One of the psalms for the month of January is Psalm 29, which describes God's power, as well as God's voice. To our minds, God's power and God's voice may often appear to be one and the same. Or, perhaps more likely, it may appear as though God's voice is an expression of God's power.

In Psalm 29, David writes: “Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.

“The voice of the LORD is over the waters. . . . The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

“The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

“The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say ‘Glory!’

“The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!” (Psalm 29:1-11)

Matthew Stith, pastor of Round Hill Presbyterian Church in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania wrote of this psalm, “By dint of sheer repetition (not to say brute rhetorical force), the Psalmist focuses the attention of the reader squarely on what matters most here: the voice of the Lord. Six times in the eleven verses of the Psalm, the divine voice and its effects are the center of attention. So it seems that faithful exposition of this text ought to focus there as well.

“The Psalm, with its repetition of ‘The voice of the Lord...the voice of the Lord...the voice of the Lord,’ is relentless in driving home the awesome power and terrible majesty of that voice and of its owner. There is nothing else that compares.

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Find us on Facebook at Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa or online at [luthwash.org](http://luthwash.org).

**Come visit us** at 1226 East Washington Street, Washington, Iowa 52353

Church ~ 319.653.3950

Pastor Howard ~ 319.333.7758

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! Psalm 133:1

**Monthly Updates** (Month to date)

General Funds- \$11,452

Benevolence-gifts outside of church \$738

Monthly expenses- \$12,000-\$15,000

Building Fund Gifts- \$421

Monthly payment- \$810

Debt reduction- \$615 (Nov pymt.)

**Attendance**

Wednesday, November 22 ~ 5  
Sunday, November 26 ~ 8 am ~ 22  
10:30 ~ 59

Wednesday, November 29 ~ 12  
Sunday, December 3 ~ 105

Wednesday, December 6 ~ 14  
Sunday, December 10 ~ 118

Wednesday, December 13 ~ 18  
Sunday, December 17 ~ 142

Wednesday, December 20 ~ 18  
Sunday, December 24 ~ 51

Christmas Eve 5:30 pm ~ 91

Christmas Eve 10:30 pm ~ 47

Wednesday, December 27 ~ 7

**Christian Sympathy**

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to these families:

+Bob Gerot ~ Laurie Pemberton's Dad

+Ona Conrad ~ Amy Statler's Grandma

+David Pickering ~ Susan & Ken Baker's nephew/  
Rich Baker's cousin

+Tod Cosby ~ Susan & Ken Baker's nephew/  
Rich Baker's cousin

May these families find comfort and peace in the promise of  
the resurrection of Christ.

**Wandering Worshipers**

Richard Schmidt worshipped with our brothers and  
sisters in Christ at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in North  
Liberty, Iowa on November 19, 2017.

Also, at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines,  
Iowa on December 3, 2017.

Yaro & Mary Chmelar worshipped with our brothers and  
sisters in Christ at Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church in  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa on December 24, 2017.

**Sunday Worship times to CHANGE**

Beginning **Sunday, January 7, 2018** we will resume to  
**8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** worship times. **Faith Formation**  
(education) will resume between worship at **9:15 a.m.**

Wednesday worship will remain at 6 p.m.

**Faith Formation  
TEACHERS NEEDED!!**

Winter/Spring FF teachers needed: If you can  
read & follow simple instructions YOU can be a  
Faith Formation teacher. The lessons are all pre-  
printed and on the hallway table. All you have to  
do is sign up under a date that works for you and  
take the coordinating lesson with that date. You  
have your choice of choosing from one of these  
three categories: Arts & Crafts, Bible Skills &  
Games, or Cooking. Also within each lesson  
there are three lessons provided to you, all you  
have to do is simply pick the ONE that works  
best for you. We need YOU, please sign up  
today!!! Please seek Education Committee or  
Pastor with any questions!!!

Your Education Committee--

Carrie Lueck, Amy Statler, Katie McWhirter,  
Linda Brown

**Volunteer of the Month**

I volunteer because it gives my life greater purpose, helps  
me grow in my faith and strengthens my relationship  
with God and my church family. I am currently serving  
on the alter guild and fellowship committee. I'm also  
involved with the youth and some of their activities and  
fundraising efforts (Kinnick clean-up, parents' night out,  
etc.). We have so many wonderful members doing God's  
work, blessed to be a part of it.

Thanks,  
Tricia Kroll



Faith Formation will return from winter break  
with regular classes on January 7th  
at 9:15 am

## **Birthdays for January**

1- Elizabeth Terrones  
6- Janola Rueckert  
7- Naomi Erickson  
7- Don McAvoy  
7- Sherry Ives  
8- Jim Six  
10- Karen Heineman  
11- Marty Westen  
13- Peter Weller  
14- Lauren McWhirter  
14- Tricia Kroll  
18- Ray Poe  
18- Mary Gail Lyons  
24- Ainsley Six  
25- Callie Brink  
28- Rodney Hill  
28- Angela Taylor  
30- Brynlee Statler  
31- Ron Andersen

## **Anniversaries for January**

22- Ray & Alta Poe



## **Upcoming Meetings**

Council– Sunday, January 7– 12pm



## *It's PROTEIN month at Immanuel!!*

Please consider donating proteins to send to HACAP this month. Other items will be accepted and appreciated but this month's focus will be proteins.

*Thank you, truly, for your generosity!!*

**Ladies Night Out will be meet  
Tuesday, January 16th  
at 6:00 pm at Panda Palace.**



**LUTHER LEAGUE  
(Youth Group)  
6th – 12th Graders**

Luther League

Will NOT meet in January due to attending the Quake in Des Moines; January 26th – 28th.

## **Welcome to the Family**

Congratulations to **Emilee Grace Statler** who will be baptized in the name of our Triune God during worship on Sunday, December 31st. Emilee, we welcome you into the body of Christ and into your new family known as Immanuel Lutheran!

Welcome into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



There will be a reception to celebrate the retirement of Ron & Linda Brown on Sunday, January 7th, between services. Please stop for a piece of cake and to thank them for all they do for Immanuel!!

## January 2018, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Raising our Voice for Iowa Children and Families – Lutheran Day on the Hill Families living in poverty. Iowa children in need of a forever family. Former refugees building new lives. These kinds of issues are rarely the center of attention at the Iowa State Capitol. Let's change that! Please consider joining Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA for Lutheran Day on the Hill, an annual day of advocacy in Des Moines to uplift the needs of our neighbors. The event will be held on Thursday, February 8. Visit [www.LSIowa.org/advocacy](http://www.LSIowa.org/advocacy) next month for event details, online registration, and an online toolkit for your congregation. If you are new to advocacy, come learn more about the legislative process and your role as a citizen. If you've attended before, join us again. We hope this year's schedule will also allow you more opportunities to connect with legislators. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org). Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

### Friendly Competition

When the time came to take their U.S. Citizenship Exam, Bhakti and Chhali felt overwhelmed. Originally from Bhutan, the couple moved to Des Moines from a refugee camp in Nepal. Since then, they have been busy improving their English and settling into their new home. They both worked seven days a week and struggled to find time to study for their exam. LSI's Refugee Community Services were there to help. LSI provides English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and Bhakti and Chhali studied hard in class to prepare for the writing and reading component of their exam. They supported and competed with each other, pushing themselves to succeed. Their work paid off, and Bhakti and Chhali recently passed their exam and are now U.S. Citizens. "We appreciate the help our LSI volunteers gave us on the Citizenship Exam," Bhakti says. "They are so committed to seeing us meet our goals." Thank you for empowering your Iowa neighbors. We couldn't do this important work without you!

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Continued from page 1

"The voice that strips the cedars and the forests also strips away all human pretensions of power, control, and agency. The voice that flashes fire and lightning erases any notion of our own insight and understanding. The voice that shakes Lebanon, Sirion, and Kadesh shakes all human sureties, assumptions, and plans. Before this revelation of even a tiny fraction of the full reality of the Lord, we are undone.

"We are left with no possible defense, no possible rejoinder, and no possible response, except one. All we can do is say 'Glory.' And mean it. This is not an empty cheer, not an antiphon or rote liturgical response. Our doxology, our saying 'glory' after hearing the voice of the Lord, is simply a fact; the only fact left standing."

During the past months, we have witnessed abundant illustrations of God's power on earth. Hurricanes on the Gulf Coast and the Caribbean, earthquakes in Mexico, and wildfires in California have left behind massive destruction and monumental damage costs and reconstruction needs and much human suffering. They have also revealed, once again, how fragile human infrastructure really is, how life and normalcy can change dramatically, and how assumptions can be tossed aside in a moment. Under those circumstances, we realize that we are not in charge, we cannot control nature or our own destiny, we are along for the ride, and we hope that we can come through it okay.

To survive catastrophe, to be alive, to discover that those closest to us have survived and are alive, indeed is truly a gift. One quickly realizes that things can be replaced. Perhaps, they were not all that important to begin with, or they no longer possess the same meaningfulness in the aftermath of disaster that they did beforehand. Frequently, those who survive express gratitude to God for their survival and that of their loved ones.

While it is not easy to come back from catastrophic events, neither is it impossible. Often, there will emerge a greater spirit of community and a willingness to work together to help neighbors and restore physical and social infrastructure. God remains present in the aftermath. God's love still abounds. God remains faithful and provides comfort to us. Along with David, we say, "Glory!" and say, also, "The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!"



# Thank you!

I would like to give a BIG thank you to everyone who helped make the Immanuel's children's Christmas program THE GREATEST GIFT possible. Thank you to Jon and Margie, Jason and Angela and their FF class, Bonnie, Tina, Deb, Carrie and the Education team and Pastor Maureen. Thank you to the parents/ grandparents for getting your children to the rehearsals especially the early one!! Finally a HUGE thank you to the children. You are all amazing!! You were attentive and courteous to me and each other. The program went well and I believe you all had a good time in proclaiming our Savior's birth, The Greatest Gift.  
Your sister in Christ, Linda Brown, director

**THANK YOU** to Audrey Wubbena, Quinn Wubbena, Claire Wubbena, Lee Buchholz, John Harris, Grant Hill, and the Jewell family for blessing our Christmas Eve worship services with your special gift of song and music. You joined with the celestial choir of angels singing and playing praises to God on the holy night of our Savior's birth.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who brought their unwrapped Christmas presents to church on Sunday, December 17th. The following adults and youth elves who carefully wrapped all the gifts were: Taylor Bartholomew, Anna Holz, Samantha Holz, Mariah Howard, Caitlin Kroll, Emma Lueck, Mikaila Matheson, Avery Six, Ajay Six, Aden Six, Audrey Wubbena, Quinn Wubbena, Mike Howard, Tricia Kroll, Katie McWhirter, William McWhirter, Lauren McWhirter, Angela Taylor, and Pastor Howard. \$420 was raised toward assisting the youth in attending faith deepening events in 2018. To see more wrapping photos, go to the church's Facebook page: Immanuel Lutheran Washington.



Dear Immanuel,  
Thank you for my care package. It made my finals week a little easier. I really appreciate it.  
Thanks again, Mariah

Dear Immanuel,  
Thank you so much for thinking of me. I love the care package. It brightened up my week. I have graduated from Indian Hills with an Associates of Arts Degree. I plan to go to UNI in the fall of 2018 and major in Business. Thanks again, Megan Hill

**THANK YOU** to all the Immanuel Salvation Army Bell Ringers at Wal-Mart who enjoyed the sunny, 52-degree day on Saturday, December 16th: Ray Poe, Kelly Smith and her Girl Scout troop, McWhirter Family, Andy and Danielle Six, Steve and Kathy Vetter, Deb Simmering and Linda Brown, Stan Kroll, Ron Andersen, and the Taylor Family (and anyone who joined in, but didn't sign up). 70% of the money placed in Washington County kettles remains in Washington County.



**THANK YOU** to Sara Bartlett who played the sacred music for the Blue Christmas / Service of Healing. Your music set the tone for a holy experience with God.

**THANK YOU** to Nancy Baker, Mike Howard, and Kelly Smith for providing treats for the Conference 7 meeting of Lutheran pastors here at Immanuel on December 14th. It was wonderful to fellowship around such delicious treats and hospitality you extended to the pastors. All the pastors enjoyed their stay at Immanuel.

**THANK YOU** to Kelly Smith for shining your delightful personality in the church office. It is with great skill and ease you managed the various liturgical bulletins throughout the Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany seasons.

# THANKS

**THANK YOU** to all the youth of Immanuel Lutheran for your presentation of the birth of Jesus on Sunday, December 17th. Your energy, innocence, and love of Jesus are a true blessing to the people of Immanuel. Thank you to Linda Brown for directing the pageant "The Greatest Gift" adapted from the poem Merry Christmas by Teresa Olive. Your hard work and dedication are so appreciated. The love you have for the children is seen in the love the children have for you! The cast was: Narrator Clair Wubbena; Mary: Emma Taylor; Joseph: Ajay Six; Mary's Donkey: Thomas Lueck; Inn Keepers: Makaila Matheson, Rob Taylor, Issac Giesmann, Nathan Giesmann; Main Angel: Kylee Statler; Jesus: Emilee Statler; The Bethlehem Star: Grace Taylor; Angel Choir: Emma Lueck, Taylor Bartholomew, Vivi Kroll, Sophie Wittmayer, Ashlee Statler; Shepherds: Aden Six, Ryan Jones, Clayton Bartholomew, Axel Six; Shepherdess: Ainsley Six; Mama Sheep: Caitlin Kroll; Lambs: Kenzie Quigley, Callie Brink, Lauren McWhirter; Stable Donkeys: Lason Montz, William McWhirter; Bull: Avery Six "Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'" Matthew 19:14. To see more photos from "The Greatest Gift" go to Immanuel's Facebook page: Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa.

Putting on the children's program would not be possible without a lot of effort from many hands! So a big thank you goes to the following: Jon and Margie Runaas for their musical talents; Deb Simmering for publicity; Jason Taylor, Quinn Wubbena, and Lucas Kroll for set; Angela Taylor, Bonnie Taylor, Deb Simmering, Tina Montz, and Avery Six for costumes; Education committee and Pastor Maureen for their guidance and help.

**Thank you** so much Immanuel Congregation and Council. Your gift was such a wonderful surprise!! I am just so happy to be here at Immanuel that everything else you do for me is the icing and the cherry on top all rolled into one!! You made my Christmas even more merry!! Love, Kelly



Dear Anonymous,

Your generosity is overwhelming, you made me cry. Thank you for this wonderful Christmas gift.

Pastor Howard

My memories of a beautiful Christmas Eve candlelight service are now blessed with a new "Glorious concert" of joyful love. From the boys who handed out candles to the lovely music, decorations of beauty, the new programs that seemed easy to follow, the children warmly welcomed, as always, from pastor, a sermon to connect with our minds, as well as sense of smell in our memories, a thoughtful usher ready with a candle for me when needed, and a faithfully clean church to brighten our gathering. It is a thousand little gestures of giving that made worshipping together joyful. Blessings to each one. Love Laurie Wittmayer-O'Neill

**THANK YOU** Mikaila Matheson, Audrey Wubbena, Quinn Wubbena, and Claire Wubbena for playing special music for worship on Sunday, December 17th. God has blessed you with musical talent and we are grateful that you use your talent to give God glory and bless the congregation of Immanuel. "It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High" Psalm 92:1

**THANK YOU** to the Adult and Children Choirs for leading worship through sacred music on Sunday, December 10th. Your message of Christ's birth to all humankind through the Cantata "And The Angels Sang!" was a true blessing to the congregation and God was glorified. Thank you for your faithful ministry: Sara Bartlett, Choir Director; Children's Choir: Caitlin Kroll, Viv Kroll, Emma Lueck, Thomas Lueck, Kenzie Quigley, and Ainsley Six; Adult Choir: Mike Jewell (voice and piano), Margie Runaas (voice and piano), Lee Buchholz, John Harris, Mike Howard, Debbie Jewell, Virginia Jorgensen, Carrie Lueck, Lynette Sievers, Diane Tweeton, Peter Weller, and Sandy Weller. "But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you." Psalm 5:11

**THANK YOU to EVERYONE** who contributed to the Luther League's Thrivent Action project of purchasing winter clothes for children in need. On Sunday, December 17th we spent **\$1070.34** on snow boots, snow pants, and warm clothes. Thrivent gave us a \$250 VISA gift card, as seed money, for



this project. Your generous response to this project is a testimony that the people of Immanuel "Live Generously". The clothes were given to HACAP for distribution. The Luther League shoppers were: Taylor Bartholomew, Anna Holz, Samantha Holz, Caitlin Kroll, Emma Lueck, Mikaila Matheson, Avery Six, Ajay Six, Aden Six, Mike Howard, Angela Taylor, Katie McWhirter, William McWhirter, Lauren McWhirter, and Pastor Howard.



To see more shopping photos, go to the church's Facebook page: Immanuel Lutheran Washington.

**THANK YOU to EVERYONE** who purchased ELCA Good Gift ornaments. Through this program which provides gifts that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives, we bought **\$1256** worth of unexpected Christmas



gifts. Examples of ornaments purchased are: uniform and schooling for a girl, chicks, goats, bees, pigs, stock a backpack, and water jugs. Way to go!



**THANK YOU** to Deidra Baker, DeAnn Hakert, Katie McWhirter, Angela Taylor, and Steve Vetter for your assistance during the laying-on-of-hands at the Blue Christmas / Healing service held on Wednesday, December 20th. The laying-on-of-hands is a holy and precious time, God's power working through you. Thank you for being an instrument of God's powerful and effective work.

**THANK YOU** for the Christmas cards and gifts and even birthday wishes! It is an honor and humbling to be your pastor and partner in proclaiming the life we have through our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

My prayer for 2018 is that we deepen our faith and walk in joy with God.

~ Pastor Howard

### Installation of 2018 Council Members

During worship on Wednesday, December 13th Pastor Howard installed the following persons elected to council by the congregation at Immanuel's Annual Meeting (executive board was elected during the December council meeting): Angela Taylor, President; Katie McWhirter, Vice President; Kelsey Striegel, Secretary; Travis Brink, DeAnn Hakert, Linda Six, Deb Tisor, and Steve Vetter. Deidra Baker will be installed at the January 7th council meeting. God bless you with God's Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.



### New Sunday Worship Liturgy

The Worship and Music Committee has purchased a new liturgy for us to begin worshiping with on Sunday, January 14th. It is an uplifting and joy filled liturgy which will assist in drawing us into a deeper relationship with God while giving God glory. We will learn a new piece of the liturgical music each Sunday with the assistance of the Adult Choir. By Sunday, February 4th all of our liturgical music will be from Mass for a New World. Go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=LghFhltmhj0&list=RDLghFhltmhj0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LghFhltmhj0&list=RDLghFhltmhj0) to listen to our new liturgy: Mass for a New World by David Haas.



## Christmas Caroling Good for All

On Friday, December 15th, 10 carolers bundled up and traveled throughout the dark, “warm” Washington night singing Christmas carols. We visited 15 households/nursing home and we delighted everyone as we sang a selection: *Away in the Manger*, *Jingle Bells*, *Silent Night*, *Deck the Halls*, and *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. We returned to the church and enjoyed hot chocolate and desserts. It was a great evening proclaiming the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, through caroling to our Immanuel Lutheran family. More pictures may be viewed on Immanuel’s Facebook page: Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa.



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## Service of Lessons and Carols

Join us as we continue to celebrate the Christmas season with a service of Lessons and Carols adapted from the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols that has been celebrated annually at King’s College, Cambridge, for almost a century. The Scripture lessons are those traditionally used at the festival, while the carols that accompany each passage have been selected from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book. Join us as we worship together, on **Wednesday, January 3rd, 6 p.m.** to hear and sing the promises of Christ’s birth. Welcome in the new year through welcoming our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

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## The Epiphany Season

January brings us out of the Christmas season and into the season of Epiphany. “Epiphany” means “to show” or “to make known” or “to reveal”. During the 2nd century “Epiphany” was used, by the church, to express the manifestations of the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ. During the Epiphany Season, manifestations of God incarnate are commemorated: **Jesus, Lord and King, of both Jews and Gentiles** – when the Wise Men visited child Jesus in Bethlehem. The Wise Men were the first to reveal Jesus, to the world, as the incarnate Christ. This is called the Epiphany of Our Lord and is always celebrated on January 6th. The color of the paraments for Epiphany is white: purity, holiness, and joy. **Jesus’ Divinity** – Jesus’ baptism by John the Baptist, with the speaking of God the Father and the appearance of God the Holy Spirit revealed Jesus to be God’s Son (celebrated Sunday, January 7th). The color of the paraments is also white. **Jesus revealing God’s power through love for the world** – made known through Jesus’ ministry of preaching, miracles, and healings. The color of the paraments is green: representing the new life that Jesus gives us and our spiritual growth. The Epiphany season concludes with the Transfiguration of our Lord, which will be celebrated on Sunday, February 11th. The church year moves from the season of Epiphany into the season of Lent beginning, Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

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## Epiphany Party ~ Celebrate the Arrival of the Magi!

Join us on Saturday, January 6th, 6 p.m., as we begin the Epiphany season with a PARTY! We’ll begin the celebration with a baked potato bar supper; bring your favorite potato topping or dessert to share. After we enjoy fellowship over a delicious supper we will go into the sanctuary to hear the journey of the wise men to the child Jesus (Matthew 2:1-15). The children will then place the wise men and camel figurines with Jesus. The Epiphany party will conclude with the undecorating from Christmas and preparing the sanctuary for the season of Epiphany. A sign-up sheet for the potato bar supper is on the hallway table.

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## Valentine Gifts

The Confirmation youth will be selling homemade, heart shaped, Valentine cookies for Valentine’s Day. The youth will be receiving pre-orders for individual large cookies, boxes of a half-dozen cookies, or boxes of a dozen cookies on **Sundays January 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th**. For your gluten-free or “healthy”



option boxed homemade, dried apple slices will also be offered. It’s not too early to begin planning on treating your loved ones (or yourself) for Valentine’s Day. This is a fundraiser for the confirmands to attend confirmation camp at Camp Ewalu. The cost to send one confirmand to Ewalu’s 2017 confirmation camp was \$410 (that’s the early registration discount!). We thank you for your generous support of the confirmation youth: Ryan Jones, Lucas Kroll, Avery Six., Ajay Six, Aden Six, Rob Taylor, and Quinn Wubben.



## Confirmand and Mentor Dinner ~ January 21st

Our 8th grade confirmation students: Ryan Jones, Lucas Kroll, Rob Taylor, and Quinn Wubbena will be asking four men, between January 1st and January 16th, to be their potential confirmation mentor. To kick off this new relationship a Confirmand and Mentor dinner will be held on **Sunday, January 21st at 6 p.m.**, Pastor Howard will host this dinner. The mentor will meet with their confirmand once a week in February/March to journey together on faith topics: talking faith together; worship; learning; witness; and service (discussion sheets provided by Pastor Maureen). The confirmands will write a faith review with the help from their mentor (due in March) and complete a service project with their mentor (completed by April). During the months of March and April, the confirmand and mentor will only meet at their discretion to complete their servant project (worship together during Lent). The confirmand and mentor will explain their servant project to the congregation on Sunday, April 22nd. The mentor will be present with the confirmand at their confirmation on Sunday, April 29th, 10:30 a.m. worship. What a great opportunity to enrich the life of a teen!

## Youth to Quake in Des Moines

Jason Taylor, Barb Matheson, and Pastor Howard will be taking Taylor Bartholomew, Ryan Jones, Emma Lueck, Lucas Kroll, Caitlin Kroll, Mikaila Matheson, Ajay Six, Avery Six, Aden Six, and Rob Taylor to the Quake in Cedar Rapids **Friday, January 26th – Sunday, January 28th.**

The theme for the Quake is “Overcome”: “But take heart! I have overcome the world!”. Quake says participants will have the opportunity to: Praise and worship God, experience a caring community, develop healthy relationships with other youth, grow deeper in faith through focused workshops, discuss issues of interest, and learn about global hunger. The participants will sing and dance to the music of The Junker Georges and will be moved and inspired by the presentations of Wes Halula. We look forward to an exciting weekend as we each deepen our faith in Jesus Christ. We ask that you surround this group in prayer for safe travel and that the weekend is a blessing to all whom attend.



## Night to Shine

The Washington United Methodist Church, with support from area churches, is proud to be an official host church for the 2018 Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God’s love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. The event will take place at more than 500 churches around the world simultaneously on Friday, February 9th, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m., KC Hall. For more information, please contact Ann C. Williams, at (319) 461-2511 or email [Ann.C.Williams@fbfs.com](mailto:Ann.C.Williams@fbfs.com); to refer a guest contact: The staff at Advanced Employment



Service/WCDC (319) 653-7568; to volunteer contact: Kara Williams (319) 458-9427 or [KKWilliams2006@hotmail.com](mailto:KKWilliams2006@hotmail.com)

Immanuel’s Luther League will be volunteering the night of the Night to Shine prom. This will be a night no one will forget as we celebrate people with special needs!

## Save the Date: Lutheran Day on the Hill

Thursday, February 8th, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Training session at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church

with Keynote Speaker, Rev. Amy Reumann,

Director ELCA Advocacy. This free event, sponsored by LSI and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA, is open to anyone who wants to learn more about citizen advocacy. Free chartered bus transportation, to and from Des Moines, at the Synod Office in Iowa City. See Pastor Howard if you would like more information about attending this important statewide event.



## 2018 Offering Envelopes

2018 envelopes, for your Tithes and offerings of Thanksgiving, are on the table in the hallway. These envelopes are for your monetary offerings to God and are used to support the ministries of Immanuel Lutheran through the church budget. If there aren’t envelopes with your name on it, please contact Kelly in the church office at 653-3950.

Immanuel Lutheran is NOW an AmazonSmile Charitable Choice!

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<b>Service Date</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Communion Setup/ Clean up</b>
January 7	8 am Ken & Susan Baker 10:30 Mike & Virginia Jorgensen	8 am Stan, Kristin, & Cody Jones 10:30 Bob Coker and John & Peg Harris	8 am Tom Gaughan 10:30 Peter Weller	8 am Ryan Jones 10:30 Issac Giesmann	<b>Set up</b> – Bev Bailey <b>Clean up/Set up</b> – Mary Gail Lyons <b>Clean up</b> – Corrine Martin
January 14	8 am Matt & Katie McWhirter family 10:30 Alan, Vicki and Allison Rebling	8 am Gary Fischer, Brad Kroll, and Steve Vetter 10:30 Stephen Bay and Brian & Carrie Lueck	8 am Gary Fischer 10:30 John Harris	8 am Lucas Kroll 10:30 Emma Lueck	<b>Set up</b> – Brad & Tricia Kroll <b>Clean up/Set up</b> – Naomi Erickson and Mary Gail Lyons <b>Clean up</b> – Doris Moore
January 21	8 am Michael Howard and Don McAvoy 10:30 Phyllis Hagensick and Vi Kruse	8 am Rich, Deidra and Marty Baker 10:30 Richard Schmidt, Ben Striegel, and Dale Venzke	8 am Deidra Baker 10:30 Mary Gail Lyons	8 am Emma Taylor 10:30 Mikaila Matheson	<b>Set up</b> – Mary Gail Lyons <b>Clean up/Set up</b> – Kristin & Cody Jones <b>Clean up</b> – Judy Venzke
January 28	8 am Craig & Tina Montz family 10:30 Andy & Danielle Six family	8 am Ton Gaughan , Katie McWhirter, and Ray Poe 10:30 Aaron & April Six family	8 am Ray Poe 10:30 Margie Runaas	8 am Claire Wubbena 10:30 Ajay Six	<b>Set up</b> – Mary Gail Lyons <b>Clean up/Set up</b> – Ray & Alta Poe <b>Clean up</b> – Naomi Erickson



*Poinsettias in the sanctuary from the following people*

**Ron & Linda Brown**- In memory of our granddaughter, Paula KeDawn Brown and her great grandparents, and her uncle Gary Bray.

**Bev Bailey**- In memory of parents Roy & Irene Backstrom

**Stephen Bay**- Birth of Jesus

**Jon & Margie Runaas**

**Ray & Alta Poe**

**Tom & Mary Gail Lyons**- Dankof families

**Tom & Mary Gail Lyons**- Lyons families

**Peg & John Harris**- In memory of Jack Moore

**Corrine Martin**- In memory of Marion Martin, Josh Wood, and grandparents

**Kathleen & Gary Fischer**- In memory of Verland & Lucille Fischer and James Buren

**Vi Kruse**- In memory of Ted Kruse

**Lynette Sievers**- In memory of Jim Sievers

**Lois & Lee Buchholz**- In memory of our parents, Buchholz and Bremer

**John Harris**- In memory of Jim Harris

**Phyllis Hagensick**- In memory of Duane Hagensick

**Pastor Maureen & Mike Howard**- In loving memory of our parents, Al Howard, Clara Mulcox, and Ken Mulcox.

**Pastor Maureen & Mike Howard**- In celebration of the birth of Christ

**Naomi Erickson**- In memory of Ken Erickson

**Marilyn Bennett**- In memory of Dorothy & Vernon Bennett and Beulah & Orval Gerot

**Donna Siegrist**- In memory of Don and Yvonne Buster