Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Hear Love. Eat Love. Share Christ's Love.

August 2018 Newsletter



Weekly Services and

Communion

Sunday ~ 9 am

Wednesday ~ 6pm

Office Hours

Weekdays

9am ~ 1pm

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"I Am the Bread Come Down From Heaven" by Peter J. Weller

In the 6th chapter of John's gospel, Jesus proclaims to his listeners that he is the "bread of life," that he has "come down from heaven," and whoever believes in him will never be hungry and whoever comes to him will never be thirsty. He continues, "I have come down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me." Jesus meant that "him who sent me" was his Heavenly Father, and he, Jesus, was the Son. And he said further that "all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life." (John 6:35-40) Jesus had said much in this chapter that is difficult to comprehend, particularly eating his flesh and drinking his blood. (John 6:51-59) In fact, Jews of that day (as well as most people of our day) would find that offensive. Equally difficult would be for many people of that day, particularly people who knew Jesus and his family, to accept him as the Son of God. John wrote, "Then the Jews began to complain about him because he

particularly people who knew Jesus and his family, to accept him as the Son of God. John wrote, "Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' " (John 6:41-42) Indeed, what if someone that we knew in Washington, who grew up here, graduated from Washington High School, played football and basketball, worked with his father in construction, and then in his late twenties began holding religious rallies and claim to be of divine origin. How many would believe him? Even if he graduated from a Seminary, would he be more believable? How many followers would he pick up locally? It is doubtful that we would find it any easier to accept such a one as the son of God than did those first century listeners in Capernaum. For many, that would require a giant leap of faith, as much today as it did in the first century. John places this event late in Jesus' ministry. He writes that Jesus had already identified Judas Iscariot as the one who would betray him, (John 6:70-71) and he was beginning to feel that he will soon be threatened with death. In Chapter 7, John writes that Jesus "did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jews were looking for an opportunity to kill him." (John 7:1) But, his own brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing; for no one who wants to be widely known acts in secret." Yet, even Jesus' brothers did not believe in him and went to the Festival of the Booths without him. (John 7:3-10)

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Find us on Facebook at Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa or online at luthwash.org.

Email us at luthwash@hotmail.com

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)	Christian Sympathy		
General Funds \sim \$7,704	We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the families of		
Benevolence, gifts outside of church ~\$	+Keith Eddington, Karen and Ron Heineman's nephew		
Monthly expenses ~ \$12,000-\$15,000	+Wilbur Patience, Kelsey Striegel's Grandfather		
Building Fund Gifts ~ \$518	+Eddie Jones		
Monthly payment ~ \$810 Debt reduction ~ \$666 (June pymt)	may their families find comfort and peace in the promise of the resurrection of Christ.		
<u>Attendance</u> Sunday, June 24 ~ 85	Wandering Worshipers		
Wednesday, July 1~54 Wednesday, July 1~54 Wednesday, July 4~5 Sunday, July 8~83 Wednesday, July 11~8 Sunday, July 15~61 Wednesday, July 18~15 Sunday, July 22~75 Wednesday, July 25~9	 Richard Schmidt worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines, Iowa on June 24, 2018, at Grace United Methodist Church in Hastings, Nebraska on July 1, 2018, and at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in North Liberty, Iowa on Sunday, July 8, 2018. Mike and Pastor Howard worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Trinity Lutheran Church & School in Kissimmee, Florida on July 15, 2018. 		

Don't Forget Immanuel Lutheran

Summer schedules are in full swing. Don't forget to support the work of Christ while you are on vacation. God continues to bless us daily; our response to God's abundant blessings does not go on vacation. Don't forget to write your offering check and mail it to the church. God's mission, God's church, and our response of thanksgiving.

Wednesday Worship 6 p.m.

If you are away for the weekend, enjoying the summer sunshine, don't forget we offer worship on Wednesday evenings. Make time in your very hectic schedules to give God thanks and praise. We worship God using Marty Haugen's "Now the Feast and Celebration" liturgy. The service is very relaxed with an intimate gathering. Depending upon attendance, we receive Holy Communion around the Altar or Baptismal font. Join us for worship on Wednesdays, 6 p.m., when you are busy with summer activities on Sunday mornings.



Why do I volunteer? I do it as a service to God in thanks for the many blessings he has given me. My time and my talents are all gifts from God that he has given me by grace. When I had to take early retirement, I wondered what I would do with all my time. That question was answered by God in the following ways:

- More time to spend with my four precious grandchildren.
- Ability to help out my family more often.
- Time to volunteer at Church with funeral meals, Mutual Ministry, and other tasks as needed.
- 4. Time to volunteer for a friend who needed assistance in his business.

Family helps family, whether it is your biological family, Church family or your family of friends. Kathy Vetter



Birthdays for August

- Phyllis Hagensick 3- Rose Lloyd 3- Tom Lyons 8- Kristin Jones 9- Rachel Quigley 12- Judy Venzke 12- Claire
- 15- Mary Chmelar 15- Joyce Westen 17- Rachel Peterson 18- David Croft 19- Alan Rebling
 - 19- Thomas Lueck
 - 21- Bev Crandall
- Wubbena 15- Mikaila Matheson
- 29- Maggie Baker 31- Mike Jewell



June 25 - Sara and Larry Bartlett

- 1- Jack & Margaret Quigley
- 5- Jim & Linda Six
- 7- Rod & Julie Hill
- 7- Scott & Michelle Bartholomew
- 9- Peter & Sandy Weller
- 10- Grant & Diana Wubbena
- 12- Erin & Tracy Almelien
- 18- Brad & Tricia Kroll
- 28- Neil & Julie Giesmann
- 30- Dennis & Sherry Ives

New Arrivals



God's blessings upon Anker Andrew Six born on Friday, June 22nd and Amaya Rose Gutierrez born on Sunday, July 15th. Anker's proud parents are Danielle and Andy Six and excited siblings Ainsley, Axel, and Armor. Anker's beaming grandparents are Jim and Linda Six and Aunt April, Uncle Aaron, and cousins Addison, Avery, Ajay, and Aden Six.

Amaya's proud parents are Anna Gaughan and Miguel Gutierrez and excited big sister, Nora. Beaming grandparents are Tom and Cris Gaughan.

May Anker and Amaya always walk in the light of God's guidance and know the joy of a relationship with God though Jesus Christ.

There is a DIRE need for peanut butter!! It's protein month at Immanuel!!

Please consider donating proteins to send to HACAP this month. Other items will be accepted and appreciated as always. Tuna and Peanut Butter will be our focus items. HACAP sends out 150 jars of peanut butter each month.

Thank you, truly, for your generosity!!



July Milestones

1) Ewalu comes tomorrow! 7-24 Thomas Lueck 2) My 1st time helping with Ewalu bible camp. What a great week! Wonderful weather and great kids! Linda Brown

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Council- Sunday, August 26th at 10:30 am Property– Wednesday, August 15th at 7 pm

Ladies Night Out is **Thursday**, August 16th. (Please note the change in day)

The ladies will meet at the church at 5:30 pm to carpool to Kalona Brewery.



Rally Sunday

September 9th, we will resume our Fall, twoworship services schedule; 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

with Faith Formation Education held at 9:15 a.m.

Until September 9th, continue to enjoy our summer schedule of one Sunday worship service at 9 a.m.!



God's Blessings upon a New Academic Year

As we begin the new academic year, we turn to God to ask for God's blessings of wisdom and knowledge upon all people involved in education: administrators, faculty, staff, and students. On Sunday, August 26th Pastor Howard will



hold a blessing for all those beginning a new academic year. Regardless of your role in education and whether you are a preschooler or Ph.D. student come and receive God's blessings upon your new academic year.



THANK YOU to **Linda Brown** for assisting Pastor Howard with the children's sermon on Sunday, July 8th. Your suitcase filled with silly traveling items was a fun lesson for the youth. We don't need a suitcase to go and do God's work. Thank you again, Linda!

Thank you for everything you guys have done. We all are having a blast. I am so happy I have you all to keep me going everyday. Thanks for raising money for us to come to camp. I really am looking toward the leap of faith and the walk wall. Thanks again From: Ajay Six

Immanuel Congregation,

I enjoyed the National Youth Gathering in Houston. I enjoyed listening to the speakers talk about how they found Christ. We were four of 1,000 people who helped with Thursday's mass gathering. It left a big impression on me. Thank you for supporting my journey to the National Youth Gathering. Sincerely, Rob Taylor

THANK YOU to **Linda Six** for leading worship on Wednesday, June 27th while Pastor Howard was in Houston at The Gathering. Also thank you to **Lee Buchholz** leading worship on Wednesday, July 11th while Pastor Howard was at Camp EWALU. God was given honor and praise through your leadership. Thank you for helping us come here. Thanks for giving us money to come. I am most excited for the leap of faith and the rock wall. We had a great and fun cabin. It was a great time. Thank you. From, Aden Six

Dear Immanuel -

Thank you for all the support that allowed us to attend the 2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston. I really enjoyed the speakers and their inspirational stories and one night, we got to be involved in one of the Mass Gatherings. My favorite memory was when everyone had their flashlights out during one of the songs at the gathering. It was good to share the experience with Pastor, Mike and Rob. Sincerely, Lucas Kroll

Dear: Church

Thank you for raising money for my brothers and I to come to camp. I really enjoyed camp my favorite part is the camping outside. We had a lot of fun with everyone in our cabin. I am really looking forward to the rock wall and leap of faith. Everyone at camp gets along well. From: Avery Six

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Thank you for the honor and privilege of attending the 2018 National Lutheran Youth Gathering. Your financial and prayer support is and was greatly appreciated. It was a fantastic opportunity to be uplifted by the messages and actions of people living out their faith in different ways. I hope you join us on Sunday July 29, to hear more about how we experienced God's call, love, grace, hope, and Son changing everything. Blessings, Mike

THANK YOU to everyone who prayed for and/or participated in the fundraisers to financially assist our confirmands **Avery Six, Ajay Six, and Aden Six** in going to Camp Ewalu's confirmation camp July 8th – July 13th. During the week Christian community was formed and lived as the youth learned about how Jesus Changes Everything. Don't hesitate to ask the confirmands what they learned and/ or what their favorite activity was. The week at Ewalu was GREAT! Photos of the week's activities are posted on the church's Facebook page; Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa. You may also go to Camp Ewalu's Facebook page to see more photos of the week; EWALU Bible Camp & Retreat Center.

Church volunteers completed 5 weeks delivering Meals of Wheels from May 21 thru June 22. I wish to belatedly thank the people who did the driving and the delivering.

Everyone did a fine job and enjoyed meeting the people they served. The following volunteers are listed in alphabetical order: **Steve Bay, Marilyn Bennett, Naomi Erickson, DeAnn Hakert, Deb Simmering and Dave Simmering.** Thank you so much. Judy Venzke, chair. Note-One of the days I delivered, it was raining very hard. The last delivery was to a house that had gutters above the door that were full of leaves. If you've ever been in the boat passing close to Niagara Falls, that's how it felt when I got soaked. Judy

August 2018, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Back to School Month School is right around the corner! But imagine being a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder. This time of year can be extremely stressful. They are afraid they won't be able to concentrate or fit in at their school. They worry about adjusting to a new classroom routine or making new friends. Did you know Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) partners with schools across the state to provide mental health services? Our therapists work one-on-one with children while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team collaborates with families in their own homes to help them develop skills like anger management and healthy decision-making. LSI also provides 24-hour mental health care at the Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers in Waverly and Ames to empower Iowa's most vulnerable children and teens. We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or 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 and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

A Loving Bond for Landon

Seven years ago, Ashley was eager to welcome her first child, Landon. While Landon was a perfectly behaved newborn, Ashley began feeling overwhelmed when his behavior changed as he grew. Landon stopped napping. He began throwing tantrums and lashed out when Ashley tried to help him. Ashley was desperate for a relationship with her toddler, but Landon always pushed her away. She turned to LSI's Behavioral Health Intervention Services. Peggy, Landon's LSI worker, began visiting their home to help Landon develop the coping skills he needed to control his anger and guide him back to being the happy child he once was. Peggy and Landon began taking walks together, visiting the library, and playing games. When the family moved to a new home, Peggy made sure Landon was comfortable in his room and encouraged him to use it as a safe space when he needed to be alone. Peggy and Landon have been working together for years and Landon, now 7, knows he has a support system to turn to on the rough days. "We would truly be lost without Peggy," Ashley says. "Now Landon gives hugs, lets me know when he's angry and – the biggest gift of all – I occasionally hear, 'I love you, Mom'."

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After first deciding not to go to the Festival, Jesus then changed his mind and secretly went there anyway and chose to reveal himself while there. The argument over who Jesus was and where was he from and whether he is the Messiah continues throughout chapter 7. And, Jesus emphatically makes his case: "My teaching is not mine but his who sent me. Anyone who resolves to do the will of God will know whether I am speaking on my own. Those who speak on their own seek their own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and there is nothing false in him." And further: "You know me, and you know where I am from. I have not come on my own. But the one who sent me is true, and you do not know him. I know him because I am from him, and he sent me." (John 7:16-18, 28-30)

John certainly captures the essence of who Jesus was. He had no doubt that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah. Throughout his gospel, he makes the case again and again that Jesus is from God, the Father, that Jesus has seen the Father, that Jesus will return to the Father, that the Father sent Jesus to give eternal life to those who believe, that Jesus and the Father are one.

John also uses metaphors to describe Jesus' impact on those whose lives he touched or would touch both in his lifetime on earth and in all future generations. In the texts cited here, Jesus said that he was the bread that came down from heaven, and those who ate this bread would live forever. When he said that this bread was his flesh and those who ate his flesh and drank his blood would have eternal life, very likely, he was using "flesh" and "blood" as metaphors to address the spiritual hunger and thirst that his listeners felt and to draw a spiritual connection between himself and those who would follow him.

John passionately believed that Jesus was the Messiah. And, he testified that what he had written about Jesus is true. His gospel clearly shows how close John felt to Jesus, how intensely he believed that Jesus was the Son of God, and how such a belief in Jesus as God's son and as the Savior who takes away the sin of the world, would grant eternal life to the believer. John worked hard to convey that passionate belief in Jesus as Savior. And, he conveys that passionate belief in the opening sentence of his first letter. He writes, "We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands . . . and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." (I John 1:1-3)

Here's a look at what we've been up to.....

















Day Camp





"God's work. Our hands." Sunday September 9th



Immanuel is participating again celebrating whom we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. On **Sunday, Sept. 9th** nearly 10,000 congregations of this church gather to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people.

Last year for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday, Immanuel helped do odd jobs around our members' homes, packaged food boxes for HACAP distribution, and cleaned windows at the Sherriff's Department, Police/Fire department, and yardwork at the ambulance barn. Details about the job(s) we will be doing will be published soon.

People of Immanuel Lutheran have purchased these cool ELCA t-shirts for the Day of Service. If you have not ordered a shirt and would like to purchase one for September 9th's Day of Service, please go to <u>https://oldlutheran.com/products/gods-work-our-hands-t-shirt (or pay Kelly and she will order it for you). Don't wait, the deadline to order is August 14th for the September 9th Day of Service.</u>

Third Graders to Receive Bibles

The church has purchased new Bibles for the youth of our congregation to have and learn about the deep love and forgiveness of God. On Sunday, **September** 9^{th} all the third graders will receive a Bible during worship. There will be a special blessing liturgy as the parents give a Bible to their child. Don't miss this milestone in the lives of the youth in our congregational family.

Confirmation Classes Resume September 12th

Confirmation is the journey into adult faith formation for all students in the 7th and 8th grades. Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings, beginning Wednesday, September 12th at 7 pm. Another exciting year is planned for: learning about the Lutheran faith, servant projects, fellowship opportunities, Sunday Faith Formation classes, and confirmation camp in 2019. The requirements to be confirmed are to faithfully attend: Wednesday classes with Pastor Howard, Sunday Faith Formation classes, Sunday worship, and complete a servant project with a mentor (8th grade). Contact Pastor Howard if you have any questions. A parent meeting will follow the first confirmation class on September 12th at 8:15pm.

It is school kit time again. You may have noticed in the narthex boxes for donated items for our annual school kit drive. In the past, members of Immanuel have been very supportive of this project for children in third-world countries who have no learning materials. PLEASE CONTINUE THIS SUPPORT. This is a list of items you are asked to donate (the asterisk shows what we usually run short of):

This is a list of items you are asked to donate (the asterisk shows what we usually run short of): * Spiral notebooks, 70 count* * 12" rulers (one side metric) * Pencil sharpeners * Children's scissors* * Boxes of 24 crayons* * Ball point pens * Non-sharpened pencils * 2" erasers

Pastor Maureen's confirmation students will be collating and filling school kit bags this fall before they are delivered in October. This is a big job, but it helps make clear to them of the needs of other children who do not have these "luxuries." To buy items to fill a kit(s), you will find the list of supplies on the hallway table or on the school kit donation table. This is particularly meaningful to our young members

who go "shopping" with their parents for other needy children. What a more "hands on" lesson of generosity could there be? Thank you, members of Immanuel for your continued support of this project, through

Thank you, members of Immanuel for your continued support of this project, through the Lutheran World Relief. If shopping is difficult for you, we can always use cash donations to fill in when we are short of items. Items for the school kits need to be at the church by the end of September.





The HOPE workers (Helping Other People Everywhere)

Vouteer

Camp Reece Volunteers NEEDED

Immanuel Lutheran will be serving as relief counselors on **Tuesday, August 7th** for a large group sing-a-along and Bible time with the campers. Sit next to a camper and sing and enjoy the evening's festivities. We need to arrive about 6:00 p.m. for a brief orientation and we will be there until around 8 p.m. We need between 10 - 12 relief volunteers from Immanuel. We also need to supply 12 dozen cookies. Sign up on the sheets in the hallway to volunteer and/or bring cookies. God's Work. Our Hands.

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Worship Matters: An Introduction to Worship

worship matters



This five-session introductory course has been developed to help participants grow into a richer understanding of the foundations of Lutheran worship. With a focus on the principal gathering around word and sacrament, this course explores the foundational questions about why we gather, how we encounter God in worship, and how that encounter shapes our response in both our communities and our world. Topics include the

encounter shapes our response in both our communities and our world. Topics include t church year, the lectionary, holy baptism, holy communion, corporate prayer, worship and culture, and more.

Approachable and accessible, *Worship Matters: An Introduction to Worship* will stimulate meaningful discussion about worship practices. An excellent resource for new member classes, adult forums, or seasonal and Lenten studies, this course promises to deepen the worship life of each participant.

While Lutherans don't all worship in exactly the same way, they do hold central things in common. This course invites exploration of those central things by considering the purpose and pattern of worship as practiced by Lutherans—the why and the how. Pastor Howard will be teaching this class on the Lutheran way of worship in the Fall on Sunday mornings. If you would like to purchase a participant book, \$6.99, please let Kelly know. The Adult Faith Formation classes are filled with stimulating conversation, open discussion, and fellowship (bring in your coffee). Plan to join us, there's always room for you!



Immanuel's new directory is COMING!!

Make plans to have you and your family's picture taken to add to our 2018 directory on November 1st, 2nd, or 3rd.



- 1. The Bible is our biggest ____ in helping us know how to live.
- Some of the books of the Bible are ____ written to help and encourage others. 2.
- The Bible is full of these just for you. 4

8.

9

- 5 Each chapter has a number of these in it.
- In some Bibles Jesus' words are printed in this color. 6.
- 7. Jesus' favorite way to teach and tell stories was by telling these.



THANK YOU to the GENEROUS people of Immanuel Lutheran! Through your participation, financial, and/ or prayerful support of the Luther League activities you made it possible for Lucas Kroll, Rob Taylor, Mike Howard, and myself to attend The 2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston. There is nothing like the experience of worshiping God, dancing to music, and listening to engaging speakers with 31,000 of your closest friends. Through your generosity our lives have been changed because we participated in the gathering.... God's Call, Love, Grace, Hope... JESUS Changes Everything! Thank you again for your continuous encouragement to the youth of Immanuel Lutheran. Peace, Pastor Howard

aroun



Service Date	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Acolyte	Communion Set up/Clean up	Nursery Attendant
August 5	Craig & Tina Montz and family	Tom Gaughan Ray Poe Steve Vetter	Tom Gaughan	Issac Giesmann	Set up- Ray & Alta Poe Clean up- Judy Venzke	
August 12	Matt & Katie McWhirter and family	Stephen Bay Bob Coker Brad Kroll	Mikaila Matheson	Lucas Kroll	Set up- Tricia Kroll Clean up- Corrine Martin	Allison Rebling
August 19	Sherry Ives and Doris Moore	Gary Fischer and Brian & Carrie Lueck	Gary Fischer	Emma Lueck	Set up- Kristin Jones Clean up- Naomi Erickson	Allison Rebling
August 26	Alan & Vicki Rebling	Rich & Deidra Baker	John Harris	Avery Six	Set up- Bev Bailey Clean up- Bev Bailey	Allison Rebling



Kinnick Clean-up: The confirmation and older youth, parents, and anyone willing to assist with this fundraising project will be doing Kinnick clean-up on the

Sunday mornings of home games: 9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 10/21, 11/11, and 11/24 (Saturday).

The money earned from cleaning up Kinnick Stadium goes towards the Luther League activities.

University of Iowa's 2018 HOME Football Schedule

SEP 1 (SAT) VS NORTHERN ILLINOIS SEP 8 (SAT) VS IOWA STATE SEP 15 (SAT) VS NORTHERN IOWA SEP 22 (SAT) VS WISCONSIN OCT 20 (SAT) VS MARYLAND HOMECOMING NOV 10 (SAT) VS NORTHWESTERN NOV 23 (FRI) VS NEBRASKA