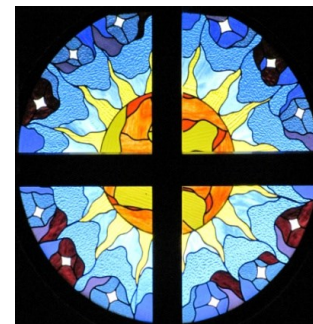


Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

June 2019 Newsletter



Weekly Services and Communion

Sunday ~ 9 am

Wednesday ~ 6pm

Office Hours

Weekdays

9am ~ 1pm

Inside this issue:

Monthly updates p. 2

Birthday & Anniversaries p. 3

Thank yous p. 4

Church Happenings p. 6-9

Calendar p. 10

“I Was Ready To Be Sought Out By Those Who Did Not Ask,
To Be Found By Those Who Did Not Seek Me”
by Peter J. Weller

One of the Old Testament readings for this month is from Isaiah 65, nearly at the end of the book and written by the third Isaiah: “I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, ‘Here I am, here I am,’ to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine’s flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, ‘Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.’ These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me; I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors’ iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, ‘Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,’ so I will do for my servants’ sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.” (Isaiah 65:1-9)

As I have written before, Chapters 55-66 were written by the Third Isaiah, after the Israelites returned from the Babylonian Captivity. The Persians under King Cyrus had conquered the Babylonians, and Cyrus then set free those in captivity and allowed them to return to their native homelands. The Israelites were one such group of captive peoples. They did not return home en masse, however, but rather in small groups over time. It probably took more than a century for many of them to return home to Israel and Judah. Very probably, they found the rebuilding process to be a far more ambitious and arduous undertaking and less glorious than they imagined it to be.

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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

FAITH
Over
fear

Monthly Updates (Month to date)

Total Income

(Oct 2018-April 2019)- \$100,402.67

Total Expenses

(Oct 2018-April 2019)- \$106,269.05

Account balances as of May 20, 2019

General Fund- \$343.00

Building/Visions ~ \$2,587.22

Endowment ~ \$3,142.36

Community Assistance ~ \$4,944.03

Savings ~ \$396.79

Hills Bank ~ \$102,214.43

Mortgage (WSB) ~ \$28,509.03

Line of Credit (WSB) ~ \$24,164.80

For June, estimated expenses will be \$15,000.

Attendance

Sunday, April 28 ~ 8 am ~ 47
10:30 ~ 42

Wednesday, May 1 ~ 20

Sunday, May 5 ~ 8 am ~ 31
10:30 ~ 80

Wednesday, May 8 ~ 5

Sunday, May 12 ~ 8 am ~ 35
10:30 ~ 33

Wednesday, May 15 ~ 12

Sunday, May 19 ~ 8 am ~ 37
10:30 ~ 31

Wednesday, May 22 ~ 10



May Milestones

- 1) I made mothers day cards with Ainsley & Vivi in choir!! Kenzie Quigley
- 2) My cousins came for Easter! Vivi Kroll

Christian Sympathy

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the families of

+Elizabeth Terrones (mother of Kathy Fischer)

+Tom Hutchison (father of Danielle Six)

may their families find comfort and peace in the promise of the resurrection of Christ.

My Father Is A Christian

*My father is a Christian;
He leads our household well;
With instruction from the Bible,
Right behavior he'll compel.*

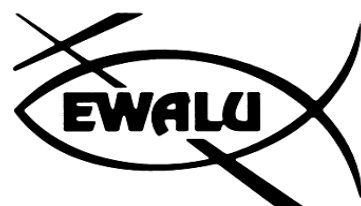
*Yet he steers us with compassion;
His gentle love is true;
He conforms to our Lord Jesus,
So we know just what to do.
He teaches us with purpose,
Guides us in all Godly ways,
So we will take the right path,
And serve our Lord with praise.*

*I'm glad you're a Christian, Dad;
You help me see things clearly.
I'll always look up to you,
And love you very dearly.*

2019 Immanuel Lutheran Church's EWALU Day Camp Registration open now!!

June 24-28 for children K-5 in 2018/2019 school year
M-TH 9am-3pm Fri 9am-12pm

\$50 per camper for early registration by May 31st
\$75 per camper if registered June 1st or after



Registration forms available online at luthwash.org or in the church office.

Birthdays for June

2- Ron Heineman
6- Emma Taylor
6- Erin Almelen
8- Grant Wubbena
13- Wilma McKinstry
15- Barb Matheson
16- Kathleen Almelen
16- Sophie Wittmayer
17- Alex Six
17- Andy Six
17- Anders Almelen
19- Rich Baker
20- Gary Brown
22- Anker Six
28- Armor Six



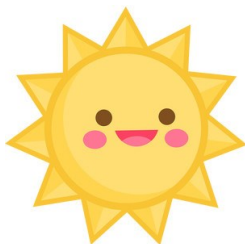
Anniversaries for June

3- Craig & Tina Montz
5- Lee & Lois Buchholz
8- Jon & Margie Runaas
12- Sid & Donna Manfull
23- Dale & Judy Venzke
25- Sara & Larry Bartlett
28- David & Jane Ann Croft



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 when you are busy with summer activities on Sunday mornings.



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.



Contact DeAnn for patterns to make bedding items for HACAP.

Thank you, truly, for your generosity!!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Council- Sunday, June 2 at 10:15 am

Ladies Night Out for June will be on Tuesday, June 18th at Lebowski's. We will meet at 6 pm.



LUTHER LEAGUE
(Youth Group)
6th - 12th Graders

When: Friday, June 21st- Saturday, June 22nd

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church

Why: Lock-In Faith, Fellowship, and Fun

Who: 6th - 12th Graders Invite your friends!!

Time: Friday, 8 p.m.- Saturday 6 a.m.

Leadership: Steve Vetter and Pastor Howard

Parents stay and assist in this fun, sleepless night! Let Steve or Pastor Howard know you will be joining us.

God's Blessing upon All Men

In celebration of the faithful men of Immanuel Lutheran, we will bestow upon them the blessings of God. Join us on Sunday, June 16th (Father's Day) and bless the men of Immanuel who have been formed by God's grace.

A **BIG** thank you to everyone who helps with the Saturday Kitchen ministry! From setting tables to serving food to making desserts, we could not do it without your help and support. Our SK dates for the rest of the year are: June 29, September 7, November 30, and December 28. Thank you! April, Diane, and Loree

Thank you for the kind May Day treat that was left at our front door.

We truly appreciated your thoughtfulness, what a sweet surprise!

Ron & Karen Heineman

Dear church family,
Thank you for making our confirmation weekend a special event. Thank you Stephan for a delicious meal Saturday night. Thank you Mike for being his assistant. We are very thankful to Steve, Ike, and John for being our mentors. Thank you Pastor for teaching us the past two years. We appreciate all the support and prayers from our church family. We felt the love!
Avery, Ajay, and Aden Six

Thank you for your generous donation to HACAP.

Date: April 30, 2019

Donation: In-Kind Donation

Value: 50 pounds

Program: Food Pantry

Sincerely,

Kristy Harker, HACAP

Dear Faithful People of God at Immanuel Lutheran,
Thank you for your recent gift of \$98 to the Free Indeed Congregation. We are grateful for your support. Pastor Collell recently shared that several men were baptized and affirmed their faith in Jesus Christ. Praise be to God for his ministry, for the faithful men of this congregation, for all volunteers who worship with and come alongside these men, and for the many financial gifts that make this ministry possible.

Thank you again for your financial gift and all you do in the name of Jesus.

Blessings,

Pastor Chad Whaley

Bethany Lutheran Church

West Branch, Free Indeed Outside Council

(The \$98 was from the youth's tube money offering)



Wandering Worshipers

Richard Schmidt worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in North Liberty, Iowa on Sundays, April 21 and May 12, 2019.

Yaro & Mary Chmelar worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Simons Community Church in St. Simons Island, GA on Sunday, April 28, 2019

June 2019, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Happy Father's Day! At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day. Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families. Many of the boys and young men that LSI serves in our Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers have never had a positive male role model in their lives. But our caring volunteers and staff members are there to help guide them. You are making all of this possible through your support of LSI. Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

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 LSIowa.org and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

A New Life A year and a half ago, Kevin was homeless. He struggled with substance use. He didn't have a car. Or a driver's license. Or a job. Then, his world turned upside down and all at once, his priorities shifted. He found out he was a father to a beautiful baby girl, Willow. Kevin immediately began rehab and fought hard to build a healthy lifestyle. After months of hard work and efforts to get clean, Willow was placed in Kevin's care while her mother received treatment for her substance use disorder. Kevin turned to LSI's Early Childhood Services for support and a community to help him create the best home for his daughter. After starting services last year, Kevin can't imagine life without LSI. Through regular in-home visits from Lindsay, his LSI worker, Kevin is helping Willow develop her language and speaking, as well as her motor skills. Now one and a half, Willow is learning to use pens and markers, and loves writing and coloring. Her favorite book is a present from her dad – a picture book of the ABCs. Kevin now has sole custody of Willow, and he works closely with her mother to ensure she gets regular visits. His life has changed for the better, and he credits Lindsay and LSI for walking alongside him on his journey. "LSI teaches you to think about all the little things we often overlook as parents. And we learn to appreciate those little things more because of it," Kevin says. "LSI is teaching me to be the best father I can be."

Continued from page 1

Amy Erickson, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Illiff School of Theology in

Denver, Colorado, wrote in *The Working Preacher*, "Particularly in the early post-exilic period, there was economic hardship, famine, and in-fighting. The literature from this period reveals not only that the people were questioning YHWH's [Yahweh's] commitment to them, but that they were also engaging in extensive debate about what it meant to be a follower of YHWH [Yahweh]."

"Like many of the prophets, Third Isaiah (Isaiah 56-66) here asserts that it is not God's fault that the people are suffering. God has tried to reach the people over and over again to no avail. They have not seen God at work or experienced God's comfort and compassion because they have not looked for it. God is anxiously waiting for them, with outstretched hands (65:2a), but the people never call."

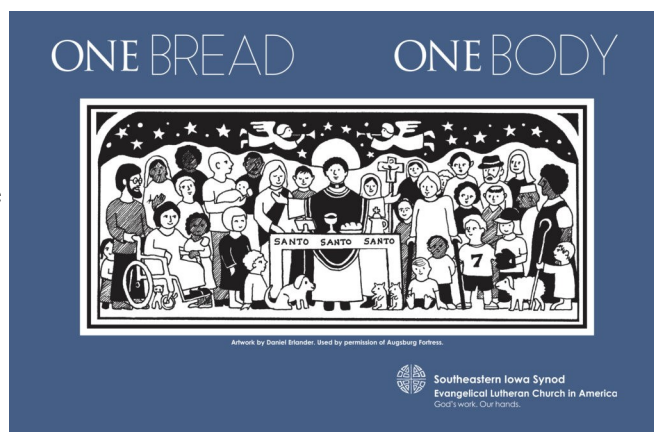
This is what is behind God's exasperation and great disappointment, as described in the opening verses of Isaiah 65, "I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually. . ." (Isaiah 65:1-3) There follows then, an extensive list of their shortcomings, how they have defied God and did not follow his statutes and ordinances, and how God plans to punish them. "I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions." (Isaiah 65:7)

Yet, Isaiah writes later in the chapter, "For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. . ." (Isaiah 65:17-19) In Revelation 21:1-4, John expresses many of the same sentiments as does Isaiah.

God is very patient and very loving. Yet, he will not be scorned. God has a great sense of forbearance, he is willing to forgive, and he does not hold grudges forever. He designed us. He knows how we are built, and he knows what makes us "tick." He knows many will repent and turn away from evil and wickedness, and he knows that there will be faithful servants who hear his voice and heed his calling. And, God will uphold and bless those faithful servants, for God is always faithful.

Synod Assembly

The 32nd Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod was held May 10 and 11, 2019, at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines. Nearly 400 voting members and visitors gathered around the theme “One Bread. One Body.” Rachel Alley, from Youth Ministry, Domestic Mission Unit, served as the churchwide representative providing updates and stories of the work we do together as the ELCA. Wendy Davidson, president of specialty channels at Kellogg North America was a special guest speaker. Additionally, there were many video greetings from ecumenical and ministry partners of the Southeastern Iowa Synod. Forums allowed assembly participants to learn about partner ministries; our shared ministries in Southeastern Iowa and around the world. Some of their topics included; bible study, youth ministry, environmental stewardship, refugees and immigration, and ecumenical relations. The Assembly also took time to discuss the upcoming bishop’s election in 2020. Additionally, congregational representatives brought “One Bread. One Body” reusable shopping bags filled with items representing their outreach that were blessed during worship on Friday night. The Friday night worship offering, totaled more than \$4,200 and is designated for ministry partners of the Southeastern Iowa Synod. On Saturday, the Assembly was charged to give to ELCA World Hunger as a gift of thanksgiving and commitment as an “antihunger synod” more than \$5,500 was given. Bishop Michael Burk served as chair of the assembly, including the Friday evening service of Holy Communion. In his report, Bishop Burk provided highlights of our shared ministry since the synod was last gathered in assembly, providing his assessment of ways we are united in Christ as the “One Bread. One Body.” Resolutions adopted included: 1) Peace Not Walls: a resolution encouraging ministers of the synod learn more about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to advocate for humanitarian issues related to the conflict. 2) Peace Not Walls: a resolution encouraging ministers of the synod to learn more about cuts in funding levels in the Near East and to advocate for fiscal issues related to the conflict 3) Public witness: a resolution to stand against recent attacks on faith communities as agents of reconciliation and grace. 4) A courtesy resolution of thanksgiving for the assembly and various ministries of the Southeastern Iowa Synod. Other business included the approval of the 2020 synod budget and minimum compensation guidelines. Congregations and rostered leaders celebrating anniversaries were celebrated. Death of ministers were memorialized. Visit seiasynod.org/assembly for more details about the assembly and to access videos, photos, and full text of documents. The 2020 Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, will take place May 1-3, 2020 in Coralville, Iowa, at which time the election of a new Bishop will be held.



Council Highlights

Council Highlights for May

The Prayer Chain Link celebration was well attended. We were excited to discover who had been praying for us. We anticipate doing this again. But do keep praying for our members.

Katie McWhirter and Steve Vetter represented Immanuel Lutheran at KidzFest. They report being kept very busy.

Volunteer opportunities in the community abound. Among them:

- rides to the doctor appointments for our own members, if you are able to provide rides please put your name and phone number on the bulletin board across from the bathrooms in the fellowship area.

- Next year at the elementary schools: someone to read or friend a young one. Be a VIP to them. Stop in at the school and let them know you would like to volunteer. They'll guide you through the background check.
- The middle school and high school have clothes closets and hygiene closets. Donate some products to them.



Congratulations to the Confirmed

The following youth from our congregation have been instructed in the Christian faith, as confessed in the teachings of the Lutheran Church, and on Sunday, May 5th made a public affirmation of their Baptism: **Ajay Six, Aden Six, and Avery Six** (order pictured). A cake reception was held in their honor following the service. We welcome you as full members of the body of Christ and we rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.



Don't Forget Immanuel Lutheran

The 2018-19 school year is coming to a close. The summer schedules will soon be in full swing with: ball games, swim lessons, picnics, fishing, and vacations. As we leave Washington and our normal routines for summer get a-ways, Immanuel Lutheran continues to do God's ministry. The work of Christ does not stop even though church attendance is low. While you are not worshipping with us, the ministry of the church continues to rely on your financial support. God continues to bless us daily; our response to God's abundant blessings does not go on vacation. When you're packing the sunscreen, fishing poles, and suitcases don't forget Immanuel Lutheran; write your offering check and mail it to the church OR make your contribution through Immanuel's website (www.luthwash.org)! God's mission, God's church, and our response of thanksgiving.



Luther League at HACAP boxing food for June

Ascension of Our Lord; Thursday, May 30th

We often cast our eyes upward to look for God. When we are feeling lonely or misunderstood, we raise our hands to ask why, or shake our fists in gestures of prayer, anguish, or praise. While the scriptures promise that God is king of all the earth, sitting on his holy throne (Psalm 47), we need not only look up for God's action in our lives. Our ascended Lord lives in the heavens, but Jesus does not leave his disciples—or us—to fumble while he naps in the clouds. Before he ascends, Jesus promises that we are clothed with the Holy Spirit's power, witnesses "to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). We look up to the skies for help, then return our gaze to those among us in need of our care, to the body of Christ and the wind of the Spirit among the baptized, preparing for the time when Jesus comes again to gather us in. (From Sunday and Seasons)

WEAR RED Pentecost; Sunday, June 9th

Pentecost is a very important day in the church year. The name "Pentecost" comes from a Greek word meaning "fifty." It's fifty days after Easter and commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the early Christians. It's the birthday of the church! The color of the day is red, to remind us of the flames of fire that rested on each of them as they gathered together; "They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:3-4a). We thank God for giving us His Holy Spirit at our Baptism. "The Holy Spirit calls us through the Gospel, enlightens us with God's gifts, and sanctifies us and keeps us in true faith. In the same way the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith" (The Small Catechism by Martin Luther; the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed). Let's celebrate the birth of the church through the Holy Spirit at Pentecost by wearing red to worship!

Holy Trinity; Sunday, June 16th

The doctrine of the Trinity invites us to consider how a God constituted by relationship—the Father with the Son, the Son with the Spirit, the Spirit with the Father—draws us into that relationship with God and one another. Gradually or suddenly, through the work of the Spirit, we come to know our belonging to the Father and to Christ's body.

In such loving relationships, truth is discovered. But people cannot bear the truth all at once, so discipleship and faith formation are gradual processes of listening for the Spirit's voice. Christian practices such as worship, learning, and service are occasions for people of all ages to be "guided into truth." Such practices are rooted in baptism, in which God draws us into a lifelong relationship in which we grow into truth and love over time—guided by the Spirit, accompanied by Jesus, and having peace with the Father.

In Romans, we hear the truth of how love originates and grows in us: Poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, God's love gives us a hope that will never disappoint. Christian community offers the delightful opportunity to experience one's own growth in hope, faith, and love, and to witness others' growth as they too are drawn more deeply into relationship with the triune God. (from Sundays and Seasons)

The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Q	Z	N	A	I	D	K	E	X	C	W	H	B	Y	J	U	M	V	T	L	O	R	S	F	P	G

- 24-5-20-20 _____
- 12-21-20-14 _____
- 23-25-5-22-5-19 _____
- 23-25-8-4-7 _____
- 11-5-3-6 _____
- 24-5-22-8 _____
- 20-4-3-26-16-4-26-8 _____
- 12-21-16-23-8 _____
- 23-21-16-3-6 _____
- 12-8-4-18-8-3 _____



SPIRIT	SPEAK	FIRE	FILL	HEAVEN
WIND	LANGUAGE	SOUND	HOLY	HOUSE

The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21

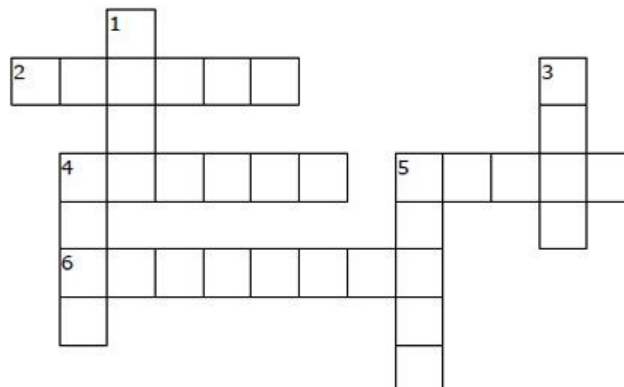


ACROSS

- A being that cannot be seen, like a ghost
- The place where God lives
- Something that can be heard
- Means of communication used by the people of a particular country

DOWN

- A destructive burning
- Blowing air, especially that which would move the leaves on a tree
- Something that is pure and good, such as God's Word
- To say words, to use the voice



LANGUAGE	FIRE	HOLY	WIND
SPIRIT	HEAVEN	SOUND	SPEAK



Service Date	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Acolyte	Communion Set up/Clean up
<i>June 2</i>	Ken & Susan Baker	Rich & Deidra Baker and Gary Fischer	Deidra Baker	Mikaila Matheson	Set up- Bev Bailey Clean up- Naomi Erickson
<i>June 9</i>	DeAnn Hakert and Carol Woodruff	Tom Gaughan, Brad Kroll, and Katie McWhirter	Linda Brown	Caitlin Kroll	Set up- Tricia Kroll Clean up- Corrine Martin
<i>June 16</i>	Craig & Tina Montz and family	Aaron & April Six and family	Bev Bailey	Emma Taylor	Set up- Bev Bailey Clean up- Stan & Sharol Kroll
<i>June 23</i>	Stan & Kristin Jones and family	John & Peg Harris and Ray Poe	Peg Harris	Issac Giesmann	Set up- Kristin Jones Clean up- Ray & Alta Poe
<i>June 30</i>	Sherry Ives and Doris Moore	Bob Coker and Ron & Char Andersen	Peter Weller	Emma Lueck	Set up- Bev Bailey Clean up- Marilyn Bennett



I love Immanuel because people are nice to each other and Sunday School.
Lason Montz



Lee Buchholz has been a long time volunteer at Immanuel. He has been involved with the service of communion, reading scripture, teaching Sunday school and Bible school, helping with funeral meals, making apple slices for the confirmand's fundraiser and is a choir member. He volunteers because God invested in us and it is our job to use our talents to help others. His advice is to not be afraid to volunteer. If it's something new to you, try it. The Holy Spirit will get you through it. We all have more good than bad to share with others. God is good.



Congratulations to Our High School Senior

On Sunday, May 26th we will honor our 2019 High School senior, Cody Jones, during worship service. Cody will process into church wearing his cap and gown, sent with a special graduation liturgy, and will receive a prayer shawl from his church family. Congratulations Cody!