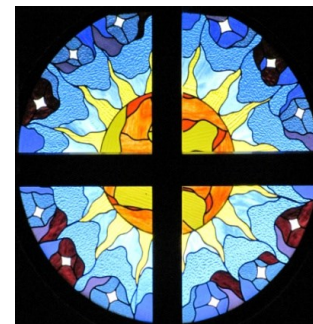


Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

August 2019 Newsletter



Weekly Services and Communion

Sunday ~ 9 am

Wednesday ~
6pm

Office Hours

Weekdays

9am ~ 1pm

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"Truly, No Ransom Avails For One's Life,
There Is No Price One Can Give To God For It"
by Peter J. Weller

One of the Psalms for this month is Psalm 49: "Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together. My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.

"Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me, those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? Truly, no ransom avails for one's life, there is no price one can give to God for it. For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice, that one should live on forever and never see the grave.

"When we look at the wise, they die; fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others. Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though they named lands their own. Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like animals that perish." (Psalm 49:1-12)

James Limburg, Professor Emeritus of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota, writing in the Working Preacher, noted that the four lectionary texts for the first Sunday in August all deal with wealth. In the gospel lesson for this particular Sunday, Jesus tells the parable about the landowner who tore down his barns and built bigger ones, was told by God that he was about to die and was asked who would then get his wealth? (Luke 12:13-21)

In Ecclesiastes 2:18-22, the author laments the fact that the one who toiled mightily with wisdom and skill and knowledge, upon death, must then leave it all to one who did not toil for it. And, in Colossians 3:1-11, Paul advises his readers to "set your minds on the things that are above, not the things that are on earth."

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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)

Account balances as of July 23, 2019

General Fund- \$5,055.65

Building/Visions ~ \$2,790.62

Endowment ~ \$3,173.41

Community Assistance ~ \$4,934.03

Savings ~ \$50,396.79

Mortgage (WSB) ~ \$27,115.27

Line of Credit (WSB) ~ \$335.20



July Milestones

I passed my swimming test!

- Lauren

I lost my tooth during church today!

-William

The eighth-graders will
be presenting

Shakespeare's Hamlet

in the church basement

on Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is
invited to attend this tragedy. :)

Church
Bulletin
Bloopers



Attendance

Sunday, June 30 ~ 62

Wednesday, July 3 ~ 7

Sunday, July 7 ~ 91

Wednesday, July 10 ~ 12

Sunday, July 14 ~ 55

Wednesday, July 17 ~ 12

Sunday, July 21 ~ 57

Wednesday, July 24 ~ 5

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.



Rally Sunday!



Rally Sunday

August 25th, Faith Formation Education
held at 10:15 a.m. Until September 8th,
continue to enjoy our summer schedule of
one Sunday worship service at 9 a.m.!

Birthdays for August

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



Anniversaries for August

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



Sunday, August 25th at noon,

Immanuel Lutheran will be hosting a Congregational/Neighborhood Party BBQ.
 You and neighbors of the church are invited.

In celebration of our
 partnership with our neighbors.
FUN!! FOOD!! FAITH!!

(Eat God's Love, Share God's Love) Ask a council member for more details.

It's **VEGETABLE** month at Immanuel!!

Please consider donating proteins to send to HACAP this month. Other items will be accepted and appreciated as always. Vegetables will be our focus items.

Thank you, truly, for your generosity!!



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Council– Sunday, August 4, 2019

Ladies Night Out for August will be on Tuesday, August 20th. We will meet at the church at 5:30 pm to car pool to 92 Roadhouse in Columbus Junction.

See you there!!



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

Taking a Summer Break!!

When: Sunday, September 15th

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church

Why: Faith, Fun, and Fellowship

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

Time: 6– 7:30 p.m.

Bring: T-shirt for reverse tie-dye

Supper: Making personal pizzas, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Leadership: Steve Vetter and Pastor Howard



a big
thank
you



Thank you **Bev Bailey, Nancy Baker, and Naomi Erickson** for your help covering the office while I was on vacation. We enjoyed a wonderfully relaxing vacation knowing you were holding the fort down. You're the best!!

-Kelly

Dear Immanuel Lutheran,

Thank you so much for your hospitality, your kindness, and grace. Thank you for allowing us to teach the love of the Lord to your youth. It truly has been a blessing working with them!

In Christ,

Ryan, Sarah, and Israel

(Camp EWALU VBS Counselors)

THANK YOU AGAIN TO THE POES, FROM THE HOPE WORKERS. Their support of this group's projects is on going We were again surprised to come into the sew room and find a huge bolt of filling for the quilts we make for our Lutheran World Relief missions. May God bless you, RAY and ALTA

Welcome Margaret Stangohr!

We received **Margaret** on Sunday, July 7th, at the 9 a.m. worship as a Disciple of Christ with us at Immanuel Lutheran Church. We welcome you with joy and excitement into Christ's family known as Immanuel Lutheran! 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.



fareWell
and
Godspeed

Farewell and Godspeed

On Sunday, July 7th, at the 9 a.m. worship **Kelli Gapinski** was sent with God's blessing as she transitions to a new job, community, and community of faith. Kelli was given a prayer shawl as a physical reminder of God's and Immanuel's love for her. May the Holy Spirit be present in Kelli's pilgrimage, that she may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

August 2019, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Back to School Month School is right around the corner! This time of year is exciting and stressful for many of us, but imagine what it would be like to be a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder. You might be afraid of not being able to concentrate or fit in at your school. You might worry about adjusting to a new classroom routine or making new friends. You might feel alone, like no one can relate to you. Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) provides mental health services to children and families across the state. It's our job to relate to children who might feel alone or misunderstood. 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 LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa.

Back to His Usual Self Sixteen-year-old Loki was struggling in school. He'd once been ambitious and conscientious about schoolwork, but now, his grades were slipping. He was becoming detached and disconnected from his family and his friends. He bottled up his emotions and refused to open up. His dad, Troy, felt like his son was slipping away. Troy thought he'd exhausted all his options until he learned about LSI's Mental Health Services. Loki began meeting with his LSI therapist, Renae, regularly. For the first time, Loki had a neutral, unbiased person to share his feelings and frustrations with. But Renae did more than just listen. She helped Loki practice coping skills and learn ways to feel more comfortable opening up and trusting other people with his feelings. Slowly but surely, Troy started noticing Loki being more talkative after his sessions with Renae. Loki told more stories about his friends at school, and Troy saw his son spending more time with his classmates at the end of the day instead of being eager to get home. With Renae in his corner and practical skills to fall back on, Loki feels more confident. He is thriving at school again. His grades are back up. He is more outgoing, and he has a stronger relationship at home with Troy. "I'm a lot happier and Loki is a lot happier. Everything is going in a positive direction," Troy says. "Renae and LSI have been excellent working with my son, and his therapy has gone better than I imagined."

Continued from page 1

As one approaching 80 years in age, I find the finiteness of life becoming very real. We all understand that life does not go on forever, but the elderly readily recognize that it grows increasingly shorter by the day. They, therefore, are concerned about what happens to their assets after they are gone, they are less interested in accumulating possessions, and collecting "things" no longer appeals to them. As has been said, "No one ever saw a hearse arrive at the cemetery pulling a U-Haul." And, one can chuckle at the sardonic wit in the statement, "He who dies with the most toys, still dies."

In our times, individuals of great wealth have given large portions of their fortunes toward great causes for the betterment of humankind. Tom Steyer, Bill and Melinda Gates, Warren Buffet, and others have done so. In America's past, more than 125 years ago, there were many who similarly gave away large sums of money. Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, and Henry Ford come to mind. Many of those individuals came to realize that they were rich beyond measure, they had acquired wealth far beyond what they were able spend on themselves or even invest, and they realized its value to society to give large sums of money to worthy causes. Whatever their motivations for doing so, the lives of more people were benefitted because they had done so.

The psalmist asks, "Why should I fear in times of trouble. . . those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? Truly, . . . there is no price one can give to God [as a ransom] for [one's life]. For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice, that one should live on forever and never see the grave." (Psalm 49:7-8) There is no amount of money or other wealth that one could offer to God to purchase eternal life on this earth. Rich and poor alike realize that.

Yet, in verse 15, the Psalmist writes, "God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol for he will receive me." This, indeed, is a powerful realization. The psalmist recognizes that God alone has the power to pay the ransom to redeem us from death and the grave, and he is confident that God will raise us to eternal life. For believing Christians, Christ is the ransom. Through Christ, we have the promise of the resurrection. Because Jesus lives, his followers will also live. Believers in Christ are the redeemed. Thanks be to God, indeed, for this precious gift.

We're Headed to Confirmation Camp!!

The confirmation students: **Taylor Bartholomew, Caitlin Kroll, and Emma Lueck** along with Pastor Howard will be attending confirmation camp at Camp EWALU on Sunday August 4th and returning Friday, August 9th. Camp



Ewalu's website says Confirmation Camp "Youth and adult leaders will love these new adventures together including epic games, meaningful campfires and worships, our High Ropes Challenge Course, a camping-canoeing trip on the Turkey River, and active Bible studies led by highly devoted, fun-loving counselors. Grow in faith while adventuring with new friends in the great outdoors. You'll experience the grace you've been learning about in new ways, together in this action-packed week of Christian community." The theme is the same as Immanuel's Ewalu Day Camp "Transformed Community God's Agent of CHANGE" *from Romans 12:2a "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God"*. We will meet at the church at 1 p.m. on the 4th to begin our awesome weeklong journey at camp. Camp concludes with a sharing of the week's highlights at 2 pm on the 9th. Thank you again to everyone who has supported these young men either financially and/or through prayer; your support is deeply appreciated. It costs \$479 to send each confirmand to a week at camp ~ a faith deepening experience they will never forget!

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 25th** 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.

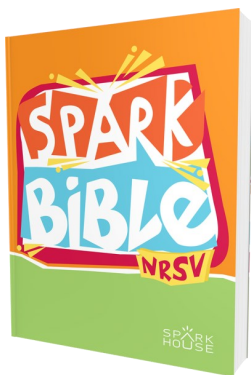
"God's work. Our hands." Sunday September 8th

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. 8th** 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 and packaged food boxes for HACAP distribution. 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 8th's Day of Service, please go to <https://oldlutheran.com/collections/elca/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 13th for the September 8th Day of Service.



Third Graders to Receive Bibles

The church has purchased Bibles for the youth of our congregation to have and learn about the deep love and forgiveness of God. On Sunday, **August 25th** 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 4th

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 4th 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 2020. 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 4th at 8:15pm.**

Confirmation

2020 YOUTH/ADULT MISSION TRIP

When: Sunday, July 26 - Friday, July 31, 2020

Where: It's a SURPRISE!

Reveal Party: Sunday, September 15th, 5 p.m. (just before our next LL meeting)

Deposit: \$100/participant due at Reveal Party

Location Hint: A hint is given each week: PowerPoint at worship and on the sign in the hallway



Jon Runaas Headed to Milwaukee!

At the 2018 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, **Jon Runaas** was elected to be a voting member at the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly; August 5 – 10, 2019 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The assembly will gather under the theme “We are church.”

When the ELCA Churchwide Assembly convenes, its voting members meet with confidence in God’s grace around word and water, wine and bread, to carry on their work on behalf the entire church. Over the course of the assembly, voting members: hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units; the election of the Presiding Bishop and Secretary as well as persons to the Church Council and to churchwide boards and committees; receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies; elect officers, board members and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws; establish ELCA churchwide policy; worship together; adopt a budget; and conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization.

“When members of the assembly participate in and make decisions about the mission and ministry of the ELCA: We are church. We are Lutheran. We are church together. We are church for the sake of the world.” ~ Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.





2020 Bishop Election

The current Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, Michael Burk, has announced he will not be available for reelection at the end of his term in 2020. A new bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod will be elected at the Synod Assembly to be held May 1-3, 2020 in Coralville, IA.

In order to assist the people of the Southeastern Iowa Synod to prepare for the election of a bishop in 2020, the Synod Ministry Profile Committee will strive to set the stage by providing:

- a description of the current status of ministry in and around this synod, noting in particular opportunities, challenges, pressure points, and needs;
- an outline of hoped-for synod priorities as described by members of the synod; and
- a listing of abilities, experience, and personal characteristics expected in a new bishop.

In order to gather this information and create a profile about the ministry setting of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, the committee has opened a survey to all synod members. This survey will be available for your feedback from July 8 until August 9, 2019. It will take about 15 minutes to complete.

To take the survey, please go to [//seiasynod.org/bishopelection/](https://seiasynod.org/bishopelection/)

Quilt squares made by VBS children, made into a quilt by Doris Moore, Bev Crandall, and Mary Chmelar. Check it out on the hall pew!!



Washington School's Clothes Closet

WHY?

When we know more we do more. Counselors, nurses, and teachers need our help with providing basic needs for our children.

August is UNDERWEAR month. All sizes needed, girls and boys.

Why underwear?

- Youth have come to school either without underwear, no clean underwear, or ill-fitting underwear.
- Youth have a multitude of accidents.



Every donation helps!!

We have an immediate need for Washington families to host foreign exchange students who are approved to attend Washington High School. Even looking for temporary placements until a new replacement family can be found. Both students are sponsored by the US Department of State, placed by World Link. These students will be arriving to Iowa in August. I would like to see if anyone has an extra bedroom, and would be willing to host one of the students attached until I can find a back up family. Please send an email to karen@worldlinkinc.org or call 515-491-1551 if you are able to help. Thank you so much!

Karen King-Fitzgerald

Church Council

Have you noticed the new signs on the front entrance and in the fellowship hall?

Do keep track of what is happening... Remember the hygiene donations for the schools, August is underwear month...food for HACAP...the empty prescription bottles and the school kit needs.

Have your hymn requests ready!!



AUGUST

| Service Date | Greeters | Ushers | Reader | Acolyte | Communion Set up/Clean up |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| August 4 | Craig & Tina Montz and family | Brian & Carrie Lueck Katie McWhirter | Mikaila Matheson | Thomas Lueck | Bev Bailey Ray & Alta Poe |
| August 11 | Marilyn Bennett Naomi Erickson | Bob Coker, Brad Kroll, and Ray Poe | Ray Poe | Caitlin Kroll | Tricia Kroll Corrine Martin |
| August 18 | DeAnn Hakert Carol Woodruff | Aaron & April Six and family | Clyde Pearce | Issac Giesmann | Bev Bailey Stan & Sharol Kroll |
| August 25 | Sherry Ives Doris Moore | Stan & Kristin Jones and family | Taylor Bartholomew | Clayton Bartholomew | Kristin Jones Naomi Erickson |
| | | | | | |

Volunteer Spotlight



Doris Moore has adjusted her volunteer schedule to fit her lifestyle. In the past, she volunteered as a Sunday School teacher, VBS superintendent, and communion set up/clean up. Now, she spends her time volunteering with HOPE, being a greeter, helping with funeral dinners, and making treats for fellowship. Doris volunteers because it comes naturally. She doesn't think about volunteering, she just does it. She and her family have been volunteering at Immanuel for four generations. Doris feels good about her volunteering. Doris said, "The Bible tells us to take care of others. Most volunteer jobs involve helping people." Doris encourages others to volunteer. She points out that time is the most valuable gift you can give. So many jobs don't need a specific set of skills, you can learn as you volunteer. There is a job for everyone, just open your eyes to it.



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: 9/1, 9/8, 9/29, 10/13, 10/20, 11/17, and 11/24.** The money earned from cleaning up Kinnick Stadium goes towards the Luther League activities.

