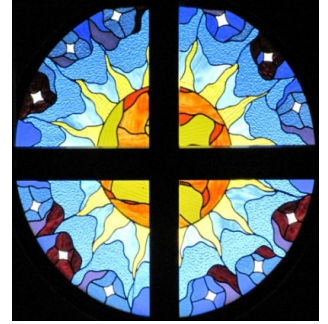


Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

June 2021 Newsletter



Weekly Services and Communion

Sunday services
9 am

- * In-Person
- * Live Streaming
- * Conference Call

Car Hop Communion

Sunday, June 13th
10:30- 11 am

Office Hours

Kelly in office
Tuesdays and
Thursdays
9 am - 1 pm

“We Know That the One Who Raised the Lord Jesus
Will Raise Us Also With Jesus”
by Peter J. Weller

All of the Second Readings for June are from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians. This month's column will look specifically at verses 4:13–5:1. Paul writes: “But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—‘I believed, and so I spoke’—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

“So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

“For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” (2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1)

If you read carefully the words that Paul chooses in writing this text, you can visualize and understand the depth of his faith as he proclaims the wondrous meaning of the Resurrection and its importance and implications for us. Paul writes that, in that same spirit of faith, “. . . we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.” (v. 14)

Paul is clearly aware of the frailty of human existence. “Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.” (2 Corinthians 4:16) A human body is not designed to live on this earth forever; therefore, any of us can, on average, expect to live, some 80 to 100 years, more or less. Yet, the human mind can comprehend the concept of eternity. As Paul writes, “. . . we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.” (v. 18) In other words, what can be seen is less permanent and more illusory than we can imagine. What cannot be seen is far more durable and of greater value.

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

YouTube- [luthwash](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8) * Email us at luthwash@hotmail.com

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

Church ~ 319.653.3950

Monthly Updates (Month to date)

Account balances as of 5-27-21

General Fund ~ \$4,930.87

Building/Visions ~ \$3,959.49

Endowment ~ \$3,304.07

Community Assistance ~ \$3,825.94

Mortgage ~ \$65,094.24



Attendance

Sunday, April 25 ~
9 am ~ 25 Views ~ 142

Wednesday, April 28 ~ 0

Sunday, May 2 ~
9 am ~ 50 Views ~ 302

Wednesday, May 5 ~ 3

Sunday, May 9 ~
9 am ~ 21 Views ~ 160

Sunday, May 16 ~
9 am ~ 32 Views ~ 166
Car Hop Communion ~ 19

Sunday, May 23 ~
9 am ~ 56 Views ~ 364

Don't Forget Immanuel Lutheran

We continue to give God our thanks and praise through our tithes and offerings of thanksgiving for the mission of the church including the care of those in need. We continue to receive you tithes and offerings by: mailing your checks to Immanuel Lutheran (1226 E. Washington St., Washington 52353), call the church (653-3950) to have the automatic withdrawal (Simply Giving) enrollment form mailed to you, or give online through Immanuel's website (luthwash.org). We are grateful for your continued generosity to God through Immanuel Lutheran.

Immanuel's Golden Nuggets



As a people of God, the following are the identifying, non-negotiable characteristics of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

- 1) God's Word and Sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion) are paramount in the life of Immanuel.
- 2) We are an inclusive congregation; ALL are welcome.
- 3) As disciples of Christ, we live in service to God and others.
- 4) We are an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) congregation.

As discerned by the 2019 Council.



Birthdays for June

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



Anniversaries for June

8- Jon & Margie Runaas
12- Sid & Donna Manfull
23- Dale & Judy Venzke
25- Sara & Larry Bartlett
28- David & Jane Ann Croft



HACAP

Your dollar buys more when HACAP orders food, consider sending a few dollars to:

HACAP

2175 Lexington Blvd # 1 Washington, Iowa 52353

Help your local families during this difficult time.

Thank you, DeAnn

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Education: Tuesday, June 1 at 9 am

Finance: Thursday, June 3 at 6:30 pm

Council: Sunday, June 13 at 11 am

Worship/Music:



Luther League

NO JUNE MEETING

When:

Where:

Why:

Who:

Time:

Leadership:

Christian Sympathy

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the family of

+Crystal Grange (Cris Gaughan's Mom)

may her family find comfort and peace
in the promise of the resurrection of Christ.



THANK YOU to Deb Tisor for planning and cooking a delicious Confirmation Rehearsal Dinner: shrimp cocktail, salad, diner rolls, Parmesan cheese encrusted pork loin, cheesy potatoes, green beans, and strawberry shortcake parfait! YUMMMMM!!!!!! You created a night that honored our confirmand Claire with an evening to remember with fondness.



THANK YOU Aaron, Avery, Ajay, and Aden Six for returning the wooden cross, used during the seasons of Lent and Easter, back to the storage room. We're grateful for your willingness to carry such a heavy cross (hmmm, sounds like something Jesus did). **THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU Rob Taylor, Emma Taylor, Taylor Bartholomew, Emma Lueck, Thomas Lueck, and Mike Howard for removing the Chancel tapestry and putting up the red, Pentecost streamers. A celebratory reminder of God's gift of the Holy Spirit to God's people ~ The Church.

THANK YOU to Steve Vetter and Gary Fischer who have been volunteering their time to see that Immanuel's lawn is cut and manicured. You've been busy bees with all this rain! The lawn looks great!

THANK YOU to Angela Taylor, Bev Bailey, DeAnn Hakert, and Rob Taylor for overseeing the Immanuel table at KidzFest on Friday, May 21st. You provided a fun, interactive table which promoted Immanuel's VBS: Agents of Truth. Thank you for your leadership!



THANK YOU to EVERYONE who purchased Mason Jars cookie mixes from the confirmation students: **Claire Wubbena, Emma Taylor, and Brayden Zywiec**. This was a fundraiser to assist sending the three confirmands to Confirmation Camp at Camp EWALU this July. It costs \$479/ camper to attend camp. Mike Howard secured a \$250 Thrivent Card to purchase the ingredients and the fundraiser raised \$640! Treasured memories are ALWAYS brought home after attending Camp EWALU! Thank you for your financial support by purchasing mixes for Princess Cookies, Captain American Cookies, Chocolate Chip Cookies, and/or Brownies.

June 2021, 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 Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them. This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065. Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

Finding Paradise

Perseverance is a familiar quality for Mon, who after spending decades living as a refugee from an early age was recently able to place roots in Iowa and succeed in building a life for his family. After living in a Nepali refugee camp for almost 24 years, Mon's family was able to resettle in the U.S. When they arrived in Iowa, they moved directly into a tiny apartment. But the single room was not sufficient for their family – especially once their youngest daughter was born. They stayed in the apartment for four years, but Mon was determined to create a better home for his family. Mon secured housing for his family through the Habitat for Humanity program, and through LSI Refugee and Immigrant Services, he was able to get on track and save and earn money towards his goal of homeownership. With guidance from staff in LSI's Match and Save financial program, he was able to open a savings account and develop a monthly savings plan. Mon and his family moved into their new home last year, and he said LSI and Habitat for Humanity were critical steps in helping him learn about U.S. finances and savings – lessons that will pay off during his journey as a homeowner.

"I felt very sad when I left my country," Mon says. "I felt as if I lost my paradise. But when I got the key and when I entered my house, I felt that I regained my lost paradise. So that was the happiest moment in my life and right now, I, my family, and kids are super happy to live in this new house."

Continued from page 1

Paul clearly believes, and so implies, that what cannot be seen is superior and more worthy of our pursuit than what can be seen. In two places in this text, Paul says, "We know that. . ." At the beginning, he writes, ". . . [W]e know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence." And toward the end of this text, he writes, "[W]e know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

We can ask, "How can Paul be so confident that he can say, 'We know that. . . ' "? How does he "know" that? Practically all of his "knowing" stems from his dramatic encounter with the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus and his sudden conversion and acceptance of Jesus' teachings in the days immediately following that event. Undoubtedly, this encounter had shaken Paul to his core, and it subsequently and dramatically altered his beliefs and his behavior. He later wrote in his letter to the Galatians, "For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ." (Galatians 1:11-12) This, indeed, was divine intervention and revelation. Before his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, Paul had been schooled on Jewish Law in Jerusalem. But, the breadth of his knowledge of the gospel, as he proclaimed it in his travels and teaching, greatly surpassed whatever he might have learned there.

Dr. Carla Works, Associate Professor in New Testament, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., wrote in *Working Preacher*,

"Underlying the entire message of 2 Corinthians — and indeed Paul's whole gospel — is the apostle's certitude in God's power. God made Paul a minister (3:4-6), and it is by God's mercy that Paul has survived numerous hardships (4:1). God is a God of consolation (1:3-7) and reconciliation (5:18-21).

"God has chosen mortal bodies in which to display God's power. God is in the act of transforming bodies that are so fragile and vulnerable that Paul likens them to jars of clay (4:7). According to Paul, the reason that God has chosen such fragile vessels is to make clear 'this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us' (4:7). The good news is only possible because a powerful God is at work.

"The apostle's certitude in God's power gives him strength to face any hardship. Since Paul has faith that God who raised Jesus will also raise up those who are in Jesus (4:13-14), he can say with confidence, 'We do not lose heart' (4:16)."

Immanuel at HACAP JUNE 9th, 2:30 p.m.



Photo taken before COVID-19

HACAP food boxes need to be put together more than ever. Immanuel needs 6-8 volunteers to meet at HACAP (2175 Lexington Blvd, Orchard Hill Complex Building 1) on **Wednesday, June 9th, at 2:30 p.m.** Standing is a requirement for this volunteering service project. Masks still must be worn while volunteering inside the building. We usually are finished in less than an hour. Please let Pastor Howard know that you will be boxing food at HACAP. THANK YOU for your willingness to help feed the hungry.

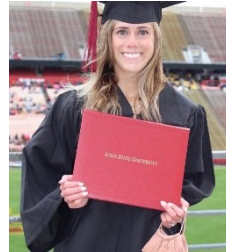
WELCOME to Christ's Family!

Congratulations to **Blaine Daniel Widmer** and **Gehrig Joel Widmer** who were baptized in the name of our Triune God during our Pentecost worship on Sunday, May 23rd. "We welcome you into Christ's family known as Immanuel Lutheran and into the mission we share: giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world."

Congratulations to our College Graduate

Mariah Howard graduated from Iowa State University on May 8, 2021 and will be headed to Adams State University, Alamosa, Colorado to earn her M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Congratulations Mariah!!

Grant, O Savior, to Mariah the knowledge of your continued presence as she goes forth into the future. Bless Mariah and keep her. Guide her steps. Hold her in the hollow of your hand. Amen.



Congratulations to the Confirmed

Claire Wubbena has been instructed in the Christian faith, as confessed in the teachings of the Lutheran Church, and on Sunday, May 2nd made a public affirmation of her Baptism. We welcome you as a full member 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.

Handprints and Confirmation verse added to our wall



Car Hop Communion: Sunday, June 13th

Pastor Howard will be serving Holy Communion on **Sunday, June 13th, 10:30 a.m. – 11a.m.** under the portico in the church's parking lot. 19 people were nourished with the presence of Christ at Car Hop Communion on Sunday, May 16th. Pastor Howard will consecrate the elements (wafers, wine, and grape juice) during worship; 9 a.m. Pastor Howard will be wearing a face mask during distribution. The common cup will not be available only individual, plastic cups. Cars will enter the parking lot through the North entrance and exit through the West entrance. Pastor Howard will give you Holy Communion while you remain in your cars. You will then drive to the garbage can and throw away your plastic cup(s).

A quick glance at Car Hop Communion Dates:

June 13th Serving **10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. (NOTE TIME CHANGE)**

July 11th Serving **10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. (NOTE TIME CHANGE)**

Communion is served under the portico in the church's parking lot, regardless of the weather.

VBS: Agents of Truth June 13 – 17

Please join us at Immanuel Lutheran Church for an exciting week of VBS: Agents of Truth June 13th-June 17th, 2021. The fun kicks off on Sunday, June 13th at Sunset Park at 5:45 p.m. for a family pizza party, we will then walk over to the pool to swim from 6:15-7:45 p.m. Monday-Thursday VBS will be from 5:30-7:30 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m. We will dig into God's word Monday night and splash around as we learn about Jonah and the Whale as well as do an art project. Each night we will also start with music around the campfire and learn the verse of the day. Tuesday night we will be grilling out and learning about Daniel and the Lion's Den as well as going on a secret mission on our bicycles in hopes of escaping some hungry lions. Wednesday night we will learn about David and Goliath and will be doing a service mission. Thursday the fun wraps up as we invite families to attend our closing program and to work as a team to solve the Bible Story Escape Room. Registration form and RSVP due by May 31st to the church office located at 1226 E. Washington St., call (319) 653-3950 with questions. There **is no cost** to attend VBS and children from PreK (age 3) – 5th grade completed are welcome to attend. We can't wait to get started on this special mission!



Southeastern Iowa Synod Mission Support Thank You

THANK YOU for your continued generosity in providing mission support throughout 2020 even in the midst of Covid-19 challenges and the Derecho. For the fiscal year 2020, the Southeastern Iowa Synod received mission support at the same level as the prior year and finished the year with expenses lower than expected. In February, the Southeastern Iowa Synod Council voted unanimously to distribute surplus funds to our ministry partners based on the results of the year-end audit. A total of \$164,400 has been provided for three ministries: \$54,800 to Lutheran Services in Iowa, (over and above the synod's annual appropriation of \$175,000); \$54,800 to the LSI Disaster Response Fund; and \$54,800 to the Southeastern Iowa Synod Fund for Leaders Endowment supporting seminary students from this synod. Immanuel's financial pledge to the ministries of the Southeastern Iowa Synod is \$4,000.00.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN!

2022 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

July 24 – July 28, 2022

19I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is. Ephesians 3:19 CEV

We are bound. Bound by our sin, by the expectations of others, by poverty, by -isms that try to divide us, and by so much more. In a life that often feels as if it has young people in a suffocating grip, we want them to imagine the boundlessness of God: boundless love, boundless mercy, boundless freedom, boundless creation, boundless strength. All offered from a gracious and loving God who knows and adores them. All so abundant and endless it cannot be measured.

What are the stories of God's people, both in Scripture and modern-day, that share the awe and wonder of just how vast our God is? What does it mean, what does it look and feel like to live a life "filled with all that God is"? How can young people find themselves within the boundlessness of Christ's love?

The Gathering are unique opportunities to invite young people into a deeper relationship with a God whose possibilities are boundless. Through one-of-a-kind experiences, this ministry stretches and affirms young people's gifts and calls. They experience the power of the Spirit within them, that frees them to live in the grace of God's boundless love in Jesus Christ.

Finally, we are excited by the connections this theme offers to our host city of Minneapolis and the surrounding area. Known as the "City by Nature," Minneapolis is an earth-minded city in many ways. The Minneapolis Area Synod also names advocacy around care for creation as a top priority, which would allow us to learn from and support the local expression of the church.

Pastor Howard will be holding an interest meeting on Sunday, June 27th at 10 a.m. Youth who are in 8th to 12th grades, at the time of registration (Fall 2021), are eligible to attend the Gathering. Interested youth and their parents are invited to attend this meeting. Early Bird Registration — \$350 September 22nd – November 21st; Regular Registration — \$390 November 22nd – February 21, 2022.

a godly Father is:



Faithful, to God and family.
Able, to discern God's will in trying times and good times.
Thankful, for all the joys and trials of life.
Happy, no matter what the life brings.
Enthusiastic, about a life lived with purpose.
Righteous, rock-solid in heart and mind, from a growing relationship with Jesus.

For these things and so many more
we praise God for our Fathers,
this Father's Day and always.

<https://www.effectivechurchcom.com/tag/fathers-day-bulletin->

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 20th (Father's Day) and bless the men of Immanuel who have been formed by God's grace.

CHANGES TO SUNDAY WORSHIP

- +**NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED** for worship attendance.
- + Face masks must be worn inside Immanuel Lutheran Church. Masks must be worn properly, covering both the nose and mouth. However, the accompanist (if chooses), Mike and Pastor Howard will not be wearing a mask when leading worship. Mike and Pastor Howard will remain in the Chancel.
- +You will seat yourself continuing to practice social distancing. Ushers will continue to dismiss you at the conclusion of worship.
- +Bulletins will be printed and available to you. Bulletins will be reused week to week and the weekly announcement page will be reinstated.
- +The accompanist will continue to sing the appointed verse(s) of the Gathering Hymn and the liturgical music. However, the congregation will sing the Sending Hymn.
- +We will use the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Books (ELWs) for the hymns.
- +We will continue the practice of bowing to one another (a sign of respect as we acknowledge Christ in each of us) as a sharing of Christ's peace. The offering plates will also remain on the stands in the back of the sanctuary. For the time being, we will continue to use the individual, prepackaged Communion wafer/cup.

IMMANUEL'S IN PERSON WORSHIP

You have three Sunday opportunities to worship our Triune God as Immanuel Lutheran: in person, live streamed to Immanuel's Facebook page (Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa), website (luthwash.org), and uploaded to YouTube (luthwash); and conference call (319) 656-2663 using participant code 344238#. This phone line will open at 8:50 a.m. on Sundays and it will end at the conclusion of worship.

Community Worship Service



Sunday, May 30
10:00 am

Central Park Bandstand

Bring a chair!

Bring your lunch
for afterwards!

Offering
Bring a
Canned Good
for Hacap

Due to being outside, masks are not required, although we encourage social distancing.
Hosted by: First Baptist, Grace Community, Immanuel Lutheran, and United Presbyterian Churches

Exciting NEWS at Immanuel!!



ENCORE EXPRESS

Meals for seniors 60+!

Encore Express is **“your second call to enhance your health”**

This **NEW** and **INNOVATIVE** program features

Bi-monthly meals catered by Hy-Vee (beginning in July)

Vouchers for meals at Hy-Vee

Suggested voluntary contribution of \$5.00 for those 60+

Charge of \$8.00 per meal for those under 60

Evidence-Based Programs (Chronic Disease Self-Management, Tai Chi, Step-ping On and more)

Nutrition Education & Counseling

Opportunities to socialize

To pick up meal vouchers and for additional information call Immanuel

Lutheran Church at (319) 653-3950.



2021 SE Iowa Synod Assembly Report

We were thankful for the opportunity to be Immanuel’s delegates to the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly on May 22, via Zoom. The theme was Baptized And Set Free, stressing that baptism sets us free to be disciples of Christ and go tell the world about God’s love.

The keynote speaker was Rev. Carmelo Santos from Arlington, VA. He is a Pastor, Social Activist and Director of Theological Diversity with the ELCA. He challenged his listeners to really “hear” the voices of others in our communities and in the world from the perspective of the Cross by putting ourselves in their shoes. He highlighted the need to combat White Supremacy, to recognize Indigenous people in our state and world, to stop Asian hate, to have compassion for migrants and refugees, to bring racial justice to the country and the world. “What is God asking us to do?”

Other matters at the Assembly included (1) passing the 2022 budget (giving to the SE Iowa Synod in 2020 met and exceeded the budget) (2) election of committee members and synod council members (3) minor wording changes to the Constitution (4) passed compensation proposal for pastors and supply pastors. Our new Bishop, Amy Current, spoke of the “Church Together” to accomplish God’s work. Our synod responded to many needs in 2020/2021 – Covid response fund served 387,000 people, Free Indeed Prison Ministry, Disaster Relief, World Hunger in 59 countries (\$ 31 million). The SE Iowa Synod gives over \$ 1 million to mission ministry of our larger church of the ELCA.

We passed 2 important resolutions that highlight the churches commitment to helping refugee children find homes in Iowa and recognize child abuse and develop child protective policies.

Ron & Char Andersen