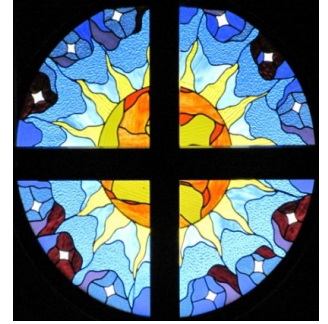


Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

September 2022 Newsletter



“And the grace of our Lord overflowed for me
with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus”

by Peter J. Weller

Weekly Services and Communion

Sunday services

9 am

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

Faith Formation

*Will resume in the
fall*

Office Hours

Kelly in office on

*Tuesdays and
Thursdays*

9 am - 1 pm

The New Testament Lesson for Sunday, September 11, is from Paul's first letter to Timothy: "I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly, in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners— of whom I am the foremost." But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, I as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever, Amen." (1 Timothy 1:12 -17)

In the publication, Working Preacher, Dr. Christian A. Eberhart, Professor of Religious Studies, University of Houston, in Houston, Texas sketches a very brief biography of Saul of Tarsus:

"Originally from Tarsus in Asia Minor (Acts 21:39), Paul received some of his education 'at the feet of Gamaliel' (Acts 22:3), a highly respected rabbi in Jerusalem (Acts 5:34). Joining the Pharisaic movement, [Saul, who later became] Paul vigorously set out to defend his ancestral traditions, thus persecuting the early church (Galatians 1:13, 23; Philippians 3:6). On the way to Damascus where he wanted to arrest those 'who belonged to the Way' (Acts 9:2), he had a vision of Jesus Christ that changed his life and turned him into the apostle to the gentiles (Romans 1:5; 1 Corinthians 9:1). This experience is interpreted in 1 Timothy 1:12-14 as an act of God's mercy.

"The Saul before this experience was 'a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence' (1 Timothy 1:13) who had even assisted in, and approved of, the execution of Stephen (Acts 7:57-8:1). The post-conversion Paul, by contrast, is depicted as somebody who rejected not only violence but also impressive rhetoric, trusting instead to be empowered and strengthened by Christ for his ministry (1 Timothy 1:12; see also 2 Corinthians 10:1-6; 12:8-10)."

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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 8-30-22

General Fund ~ \$21,880.21

Visions ~ \$1,867.77

Endowment ~ \$3,308.21

Community Assistance ~ \$3,770.44

Mortgage ~ \$50,945.60

For detailed finance information,
refer to the monthly Council minutes or
contact any member of Finance.

Attendance

Sunday, August 7

9 am ~ 38 Views ~ 41

Sunday, August 14

9 am ~ 60 Views ~ 52

Sunday, August 21

9 am ~ 51 Views ~ 40

Sunday, August 28

9 am ~ 41 Views ~ 84

Fill the Backpacks

It might seem early, I know, but the stores will be filling with school supplies soon.

Last year we filled **125** Backpacks for Lutheran World Relief because of your generosity.



School Kit items still needed:

Pens

Pencil Sharpeners

Single Subject Notebooks



Please consider helping with supplies again this year.



ENCORE EXPRESS

Heritage

Area Agency on Aging

HyVee
EMPLOYEE OWNED

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 (coming soon!), Vouchers for meals at Hy-Vee

Suggested voluntary contribution of \$5.00 per meal, Evidence-Based Programs

(Chronic Disease Self-Management, Tai Chi, Stepping On and more), Nutrition Education & Counseling, and Opportunities to socialize

To pick up meal vouchers and for additional information call Immanuel

Lutheran Church at (319) 653-3950. Or stop in on Tuesdays and



Birthdays for September

6- Makayla Middle
7- Candace Talbot Scheibe
8- Audrey Wubben
10- Jon Runaas
12- Margaret Quigley
16- Dale Venzke
17- Peg Harris
18- Makenzie Middle
19- Ken Baker
22- Carrie Lueck
24- Brad Kroll
25- Randy Poos
26- Charlotte Andersen
28- Tracy Almelien
30- Sara Bartlett



Anniversaries for September

2- Yaro & Mary Chmelar
5- Ron & Charlotte Andersen

UPCOMING MEETINGS

To have your meetings listed,
please let Kelly know when they are held.

Council- Sunday, September 11th at 10:30 am

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



Thank you to all who assisted or attended my 90th birthday party. What you did really warmed my heart.
Bev Crandall

Dear Immanuel Family:

Thank you for lifting us up with all your unwavering support during John's illness.

All of the cards, prayers, emails, calls, texts, meals, and well-wishes have been so appreciated. You have always been there for us--even though we feel like we have needed help more times "than the average bear"....!

We appreciate the encouragement our Immanuel family has given us over these last few difficult months. John is continuing to improve, still slowly. Please keep us both in your prayers!

Sincerely, John and Peg Harris

September 2022, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Direct Support Professionals Week Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives. One way LSI empowers Iowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up Iowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities. Through our innovative Host Homes program, caregivers can also become mentors to individuals with disabilities, welcoming them into their private family home where they can receive more one-on-one care and encouragement.

If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

A New Home for D.

D. wanted to become more connected to her community, while still ensuring she could receive the care she needed on a daily basis. Through LSI, D. has been able to enroll in the Host Homes program, which provides 24/7 care for individuals with disabilities and mental illness who thrive in a one-on-one setting instead of a busier group home environment. D. was able to move into a private family home with her Host Homes mentor, Anita, and they have built a friendship and a shared social life. Anita is there to support D. as she works on her personal goals, while D. is still able to get the care she needs. Currently, one of D.'s goals is to exercise and become more active in the community, so the duo enjoys shopping and walking around the local mall to stay active. Back at home, the two can work on skills – like hygiene and cooking – that make D. feel more independent and confident. "I like helping D. and seeing her progress and growth in her daily living," Anita says. "When you and the person in your care begin living like a family, when they are able to trust you and open up, then you know you're getting somewhere."

*LSI does not identify the people we serve, except in well-vetted circumstances. The names and some personal details we use in this story have been changed.

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I have written in previous columns of the intensely personal impact that the unforgettable and life-altering encounter with Jesus the Christ must have had on Paul. Yet, one can still wonder what went through his mind during this encounter as he faced the risen Christ in those dramatic moments. Was he embarrassed or ashamed at how he had treated the followers of Jesus? Did he feel remorse? Did he want to say to Jesus, "I'm sorry"? Clearly, he became a different man on the other side of the encounter and following his recovery in Damascus.

Rereading what Paul wrote in 1 Timothy, cited in the first paragraph above, it is interesting to note his choice of words. Paul is humbly grateful "to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence." I do not doubt that Paul felt reassured by Jesus in that moment that he was forgiven, and that the words, "because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service," best expressed what he felt Jesus was saying to him. Paul also believed that he had received mercy because in his former life, he had "acted ignorantly, in unbelief," and yet, "the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." Paul discovered that God's grace and sense of love and sense of forgiveness is so much greater than our own.

In Paul's case, his encounter with Jesus turned his life in a totally new direction, and he began the work that ultimately established a brand new religion that came to be known as Christianity. As he, himself wrote above,

"The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners— of whom I am the foremost."



Sundays
Sept. 4th
Sept. 11th
Sept. 18th
Oct. 2nd
Oct. 30th
Nov. 13th



Saturday
Nov. 26th

Meet at Immanuel @ 7:45am or meet at Kinnick @ 8:30am, let someone know if you need a ride – all are welcome! Great fellowship and there will be donuts!!!

Contact Brad Kroll @ 641-781-0388 or Tricia Kroll @ 319-530-0415 with questions.



God's work our hands is postponed we'll keep you updated with our new date.

Immanuel Lutheran is set to box food for HACAP on
Wednesday, September 14th at 5 pm.

Make plans to attend as many hands make light work!!

See you then!!

November 20th

we will be celebrating "The Arts in Worship" Sunday.
Asking all musicians, artists, writers, dancers to get involved.

Contact: mikejewell55@gmail.com
Or call Mike 319-461-4777 if interested

Thank you to all who attended our Grand Opening!! Thank you to our amazing volunteers!!

We hosted **94** guests on Thursday, August 11th.

It was a joy to see the fellowship hall so full!!

If you have not been able to attend a meal, don't worry, we have 2 meals a month, the 2nd and 4th Thursdays.

Please call, leave a message, or email with your reservation the Tuesday before.

Our next meal is **Thursday, September 15th at 11:30 a.m.**

Hy-Vee will be serving spaghetti, lettuce salad, broccoli, and breadstick.



Beloved of Christ,

As noted at council meetings and the final worship we shared, I have continued to do some pastoral work for you across the final weeks of August, and this is the last update I will share. While I cannot answer all your questions, I hope this answers a few and gives you resources for what's next, and I realize some of it you may have already heard.

- I have spoken with the synod office about connecting you with another interim pastor, and they are working on it. Pastors of any stripe are in short supply right now, so this is a great opportunity to practice flexibility and creativity. While you are waiting for your next pastor, continue to love one another and take tender and constant care of each other with your prayers, worship, conversations, visits and gatherings. God is already working among and around you!
- I have left documents with the council and worship leaders that can be used on any Sunday a pastor is not available. These are just a few ideas for how worship can happen in this liminal (in between) time. I imagine you can construct a few more, if you need them.
- I begin my work at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Hopkins, MN, September 5. Paige started middle school in August. We are both grateful for any routine that isn't packing or unpacking! I am still on crutches and waiting for a consult on my back, but getting really good at managing stairs in our 3 story home (or more accurately, managing to NOT go up/down stairs as much as possible!).
- Thank you! Our time together as interim pastor/congregation has been life-giving for me, and I will hold you in my heart and prayers throughout the call process and beyond. As the Apostle Paul noted in his letter to the Thessalonians, we have shared with each other not only the gospel of God but also our own lives—and the world is richer for it! Again, thank you.

In peace,

Pastor Susan





Centering Prayer: September 10th and 24th at 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Deacon Fran Victor will be leading an hour of contemplative prayer in Immanuel's sanctuary (practicing social caring and wearing masks) the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month; 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. The hour begins with Centering Prayer and then moving into Lectio Divina (using a verse of scripture as the basis for prayer). No experience is necessary in either prayer practice to participate. No reservations needed, just come and enjoy the hour of contemplation. If you would like to join this intimate group, but are new to this type of prayer, come at 8:15 a.m. for explanation.

“God's first word is silence.” – Thomas Keating

Looking ahead at the dates for upcoming Centering Prayer times

October 8th and 22nd

November 5th and 19th (Note this is a change to the 1st and 3rd weeks to avoid Thanksgiving weekend.)

December 3rd and 17th (Note this is a change to the 1st and 3rd weeks to avoid Christmas Eve.)

In January we return to the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month.

Ecclesiastical (Church) Balloting

The church council has adopted a Holy Spirit led approach to raising up leaders for Immanuel Lutheran. We invite the congregation to enter into a time of prayer asking God to lead your thoughts to persons who have spiritual gifts in leadership and vision to serve as church council members for 2022-2024. We ask that you begin praying for God's wisdom on Sunday September 4th concluding on Sunday October 2nd. Please mail or deliver the names God has revealed to you no later than Sunday October 16th to Steve Vetter, Nominating Committee Chair, 114 McCreedy DR., Washington, IA 52353. The nominating committee will then contact each viable person, to prayerfully consider serving on church council. At the Annual Meeting (November 20th), we will vote from the pool of candidates that have prayerfully accepted the nomination.





Service Date	Acolyte	Greeters	Reader	Ushers	Communion Set up/Clean up
September 4	Need Volunteer	Fran Victor and Clyde Pearce	Lee Buchholz	Fran Victor, Steve Vetter, and Gary Fischer	Beverly Bailey
September 11	Need Volunteer	Naomi Erickson	Beverly Bailey	Stan Kroll, Ron Andersen, and Sid Manfull	No Communion
September 18	Need Volunteer	DeAnn Hakert	DeAnn Hakert	Steve Vetter and Gary Fischer	Naomi Erickson
September 25	Vivi Kroll	Stan & Sharol Kroll	Tricia Kroll	Brad Kroll and Stan Kroll	Tricia Kroll

Guest Pastors:

September 4 Pastor Bill Runaas
 September 11 Hymn Sing
 September 18 Pastor Bill Runaas
 September 25 Pastor John Meyer

Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly PARTY

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 20, 2023

YOU READ THAT RIGHT—NEXT YEAR THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY WORK SESSIONS WILL BE ONLINE ONLY FOR THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES (MAY BE IN DES MOINES ON SATURDAY, MAY 15 AND 16) AND THE PARTY IS IN PERSON **FOR EVERYONE IN THE SYNOD** ON SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 IN DES MOINES.

SAVE THE DATE! WE ARE ALL INVITED!