

# Immanuel Monthly

July 2022

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
400 E Iowa Ave, George, IA 51237  
(712) 475-3626 | [www.immanuelgeorge.com/](http://www.immanuelgeorge.com/)

Join us Sundays at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome!



## INTRODUCING: TITHE.LY

Online Offering Now available

For many people the only place they still write a check for is to their church. This no longer has to be the case here at Immanuel. There is now an easy way for anyone to give online.

Here's what you'll need to do:

1. Simply go to our website, [www.immanuelgeorge.com](http://www.immanuelgeorge.com), and click where it says "Give Offering."



2. A window will then pop up where you can give a one-time donation or set it up as a recurring gift to be automatically given as often as you would like.
3. This can be done through either your credit/debit card or directly through your bank account.

It is an easy way for you to continue to give your support to the church even if you can't be here on a Sunday morning.

## IMMANUEL IS ON THE WEB!

Drrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrum-roll, please! You can now find Immanuel on the world wide web! The URL for the new site is: [www.immanuelgeorge.com](http://www.immanuelgeorge.com).

While the church will still have a presence on Facebook, the goal of the website is to provide our members – as well as visitors – with an easier way to learn about our church and what we offer.

Useful information about our service is on the homepage, including a link to the weekly bulletin and a link to the video of our service live streamed on Facebook. Throughout the site you'll also find information about our beliefs, our leadership, and our education programming.

The hope is you'll find the website simple, with easy to access information.

## Please lift in Prayer



Military Families, Summer Safety, Ukraine, Clay Hansman, Rita Hilbrands, Bev Hoing, Bev Kaster, James Luenberger, Wanda Parker, Teresa Popkes, Isaiah Sandbeck, Gordon Siebring and Wendy Smith.

# A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEREMY

## *Won't you love your neighbor?*

One of my favorite parts about being a parent is being able to introduce some of the things I loved when I was a kid to my children. I am a big nostalgia buff and love reconnecting to my own childhood. Luckily these days you can find just about any old show on the internet. Many of them you can even get on DVD. So, now my kids are getting to know all the great classic cartoons like transformers, teenage mutant ninja turtles, and the very underrated Garfield and Friends. Maybe not all of you are familiar with these entertainment gems. There is one show I have introduced them to though that I can almost guarantee all of you enjoyed watching at some point in life, Mister Rogers Neighborhood.

I mean, who didn't love Mister Rogers? I loved watching him change into his always comfortable looking sweater and tennis shoes. I loved watching him feed his fish. I loved going to the Neighborhood of Make-Believe. But most of all I just loved Mister Rogers. Mainly because he was so filled with love himself, and you could feel that love even through a television screen. When he asked, "won't you be my neighbor?" we all said yes, and meant it.

Mister Rogers was, for my money, one of the greatest examples of living a Christ like life that I have ever seen. He had this amazing way of treating everyone as if they were important and loved. He showed us what it looked like to follow Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves. Which is the very heart of everything Christ taught us. Jesus wanted us to look out at the world and see everyone, every single person, as our neighbor. Then, of course, to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

It is important for us it is to teach our kids these things. Which is why shows like Mister Rogers were so well-loved. We want our children to learn to be tolerant and compassionate. To share their toys and to help others. To treat people with kindness and respect. These are values we all want to impart to our children. To be like Christ as a child is expected.


Yet somehow, we seem to forget all of that once we become adults. Then it becomes every person for themselves. We can be mean and harsh. We all too easily get focused on greed and protecting what is ours. We gossip about others and say mean things behind each other's backs. We judge each other and hurt each other, often knowingly and willingly. We don't treat each other as neighbors and we forget what it means to love one another.

To be like Christ as an adult can be hard and we often fail at it. So, maybe we all need a refresher. To remember the things we learned as children. Just imagine if we all lived like Mister Rogers taught us to. If we could take the things we teach our children and actually live by them. If we always showed kindness and compassion. If we shared what we had with others freely. If we made everyone we could feel important and loved. If we asked everyone we encountered if they would be our neighbor, and we treated them as such. If we could do all that then I think we could truly say it is a beautiful day in our neighborhood indeed.

**Pastor Jeremy Winter may be reached through email at [jwinter001@gmail.com](mailto:jwinter001@gmail.com), the church office: (712) 475-3626, or on his cell phone: (712) 389-2747.**



# THIS MONTH AT IMMANUEL: JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 George Freedom Days	2 1:00 Parade
3 9:15 Worship w/communion Coffee Fellowship	4 Independence Day! 	5	6	7	8	9
10 9:15 Worship Coffee Fellowship Council Meeting	11	12	13	14	15 Deadline for August Newsletter Submissions	16
17 9:15 Worship w/communion Coffee Fellowship	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:15 Worship Coffee Fellowship	25	26	27 5:00 Bread of Life	28	29	30
31 9:15 Worship Coffee Fellowship						

## JULY/AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**Ushers – July: Mark Dickmann; August: Fred Landis**

### Sound/Power Point

- July 3: Clay Hansmann & Lillian Jorth
- July 10: Henry VerSteege & AJ Landis
- July 17: Richard Heidloff & Sosie VerSteege
- July 24: Lexi Landis & Aiden Bathke
- July 31: Greg VerSteege & Fred Landis
- Aug 7: Gregory Stueven & Lillian Jorth
- Aug 14: Clay Hansmann & AJ Landis
- Aug 21: Henry VerSteege & Sosie VerSteege
- Aug 28: Richard Heidloff & Aiden Bathke



### Readers

- July 3: Mark Behrens
- July 10: Kristi Landis
- July 17: Angie McConnell
- July 24: Mary Behrens
- July 31: Darlene Woelber
- Aug 7: Gregory Stueven
- Aug 14: Amanda Jorth
- Aug 21: Sosie VerSteege
- Aug 28: Marla Krahlung

### Greeters

- July 3: Clay & Deb Hansmann
- July 10: Dick & Glenda Heidloff
- July 17: Mark & Mary Behrens
- July 24: Kevin & Lynette Herding
- July 31: Bev Strenge & Marilyn Van Gelder
- Aug 7: Fred & Kristi Landis
- Aug 14: Ida Mae Kruger & Dale Garlic
- Aug 21: Lawrence & Norene Funk
- Aug 28: Russ & Anita Hopp

### Acolytes

- July 3: Isaiah Sandbeck & Cullen Funk
- July 10: Austin Landis & Aiden Bathke
- July 17: Bennett Jorth & Colin Phelps
- July 24: Khoryn Funk & Leo Ver Steeg
- July 31: Jack Denny & Isaiah Sandbeck
- Aug 7: Cullen Funk & AJ Landis
- Aug 14: Aiden Bathke & Bennett Jorth
- Aug 21: Colin Phelps & Khoryn Funk
- Aug 28: Leo VerSteege & Jack Denny



# COUNCIL MINUTES

*May 15, 2022*

President Mark Behrens called the meeting to order at 9:15 am. Julie Ver Steeg, Fred Landis, Ryan Funk and Pastor Jeremy were present. Amy Phelps arrived later and Mark Dickmann was absent. Pastor Jeremy opened with devotions.

Pastor's Report -- Jeremy reported that he has been busy visiting shut ins, and felt that things have been going well thus far as he's been getting acquainted with his new role at the church.

Secretary's Report -- approved via email.

Financial Secretary's Report -- no report.

Evangelism & Worship -- plans were discussed for worship at Locker Park. Details will be determined at a later date.

Property & Stewardship -- Mark noted that the parsonage tenant had reported dampness in the basement. Mark and Harris Kaster found the sump pump was not working. Harris has fixed the sump pump and hopefully solved the problem. Mark mentioned that, in the future, we may want to discuss the possibility of selling the parsonage, due to ongoing maintenance and not needing it in our current situation. Mark was going to touch base with Sandbecks to inquire about mowing the parsonage lawn.

Education & Youth -- no business

Old Business -- Mary Behrens and Glenda Heidloff have developed a possible plan for the choir loft shelving. Jeff Groote has been contacted, but is not able to get to the project until the first part of 2023. In the meantime, Mark will have him come and quote a price for the project.

Lynette Kruger joined the meeting to discuss a replacement for the Secretary's position. She noted that the new Secretary may need a laptop, as the church's is quite old. Lynette is willing to serve as treasurer until the end of the year and help with organizing financial information for the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Discussion was had about the best way to handle the weekly offerings. Lynette will create a form for the Head Usher to use for offering information each week. Arlyce Elias will continue to reconcile accounts, and Lynette added that it is always helpful to have an extra set of eyes on the accounts. Discussion was had regarding how much to pay the new Secretary and the council agreed on \$200/month.

New Business -- Pastor Jeremy mentioned that the church's laptop was quite outdated. The council agreed that it should be replaced. Jeremy felt he would be able to get one for under \$500. He also asked about developing a church website, which would also help make online giving possible for anyone accessing the site. The council was in support of Jeremy moving forward with the website. Jeremy also inquired about a church debit card and noted that having one would be helpful when ordering items for the church, since many things are purchased online. He also mentioned that signage in the church may make the space more welcoming for visitors, particularly denoting Restrooms, Nursery, Sanctuary, etc. Julie agreed to look online to get some ideas and pricing information. Jeremy suggested that we might also want to update our church directory, as the most recent one is approximately ten years old. He mentioned that there are affordable options for having directories made, either having a company come in to take pictures or have members submit their own. The council agreed that it was a good suggestion and discussion should be continued.

The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, June 8 at 7pm.

Julie made a motion to adjourn, Fred seconded. Meeting adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Treasurer's Report -- Amy arrived and distributed the Financial Reports. Julie made a motion via email to approve the reports. Mark seconded. Reports approved.

# COUNCIL MINUTES

*June 8, 2022*

President Mark Behrens called the meeting to order at 7:03. Amy Phelps, Julie Ver Steeg, Fred Landis, Mark Dickmann, Ryan Funk and Pastor Jeremy were present. Pastor Jeremy opened with devotions and reflection on the gifts of Immanuel.

Pastor's Report -- Jeremy noted that confirmation went well with 6 young people being confirmed, and attendance for the day was 102. He is continuing to visit shut ins. The synod has not yet set a date for installation, but it should be sometime this summer.

Secretary's Report -- Fred made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 15. Ryan seconded. Meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report -- Amy presented new financial forms to be filled out by head usher and one other person (preferably, but not specifically, a council person) when counting each Sunday's offering. The head usher will make the week's deposit.

Amy noted that no bible camp reimbursements have been requested to date. Julie noted that Ingham-Okoboji is currently struggling with staffing so potential campers have been placed on waiting lists. Alternatives were discussed if campers were not able to attend the camp of their choice. Pastor Jeremy mentioned that the synod is sponsoring a youth event at Lutheran Lakeside, July 31st-August 3 and will follow up for more information.

Mark Dickmann made a motion to approve financial reports. Julie seconded. Reports approved.

Evangelism & Worship -- Worship in the park is scheduled for August 21st. Fred will reserve the space. Coffee and fellowship will follow worship during the summer months beginning on June 12.

Property & Stewardship -- Mark Behrens mentioned that we may want to address the idea of selling the parsonage again. Council consensus was that, as long as there is a tenant in the parsonage, the topic of selling should be tabled, but addressed again if/when there is a vacancy.

Jim Bathke has a backup boiler pump available to purchase to have on hand in the event that the current pump goes bad. Cost of the pump is approximately \$2500. Mark Behrens will follow up with Jim for more information.

Education & Youth -- no business

Old business -- Amanda Jorth will take over as church secretary on July 1st. Lynette Kruger will continue with Treasurer's duties until the end of the year/annual meeting.

Pastor Jeremy shared that he created a church website. [www.immanuelgeorge.com](http://www.immanuelgeorge.com) is our church's domain name and he will continue to work to develop the site. The possibility of an updated church directory was discussed. Jeremy addressed options, and suggested that we use an in-home approach, where members submit their own photos. He will discuss different options with Amanda Jorth, who has experience in this area.

Julie mentioned she had researched church signage options and gave pricing information. A website link will be sent to council members for further consideration.

New Business -- Pastor Jeremy asked about ideas for the George Freedom Days parade and will ride/walk during the parade to promote the church.

Fred mentioned that the flatscreen that is used to monitor the cable access programming has gone bad and they are looking for a small flat screen tv to replace it. Council members agreed that one should be purchased if he was not able to find a used flatscreen tv within the congregation.

Next meeting date was set for July 10th, following worship. Mark Dickmann will be head usher in July.

Amy made a motion to adjourn. Fred second, meeting adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.



# CELEBRATIONS

## *Anniversaries*

- July 11 - Blair & Jennifer Hansmann  
- Tom & Lauri Starr
- July 12 - Jeremy & Jackie Stueven

## *Birthdays*

- July 1 - Ashley Stueven
- July 3 - Renae Thornton
- July 8 - Dan Ahrenholtz
- July 10 - Sara Luenberger
- July 12 - Janie Krahlung  
- Lawrence Funk
- July 15 - Dawn Gisolf
- July 18 - John Sandbeck  
- Richard Schmidt
- July 21 - Christopher Hansmann
- July 25 - Jim Bathke
- July 27 - Elise Sandbeck
- July 29 - Judy Busse
- July 30 - Karen Wibben
- July 31 - Matthew Matuska



*Anniversaries  
and Birthdays*