

Immanuel Monthly

September 2022

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

Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome!



COMING SOON: FAITH NIGHT, SUNDAY SCHOOL, ADULT BIBLE STUDY

We have some exciting education opportunities coming this fall to Immanuel!

Faith Night

Our regular Wednesday faith night activities – Kids for Christ (KFC), Confirmation, High School Bible Study – will begin on September 7, but with a twist. The first three Wednesdays of every month will offer a variety of activities for our youth. We will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., with a meal served from 6:00 to 6:30, and class from 6:30 to 7:30.

On the third Wednesday of every month, the youth will participate in a service project, and we invite the congregation to join them! There will not be any activities on the fourth Wednesday of the month, or the fifth Wednesday should that occur.

Sunday School

This year, Sunday School will meet twice a month on the first and third Sundays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Children aged 3 through high school are invited to attend. Sunday School will begin on September 18.

Adult Bible Study

On Sunday, September 11, Adult Bible Study will resume. Join us at 9:15 a.m. as we explore the training of the Apostles.

Join us for another great year of sharing the stories of the Bible!

SERVICE ACTIVITIES BEGIN SEPT 21



Many helping hands are needed as we kick off our monthly service project evening on Wednesday, September 21.

On the third Wednesday of every month, our youth will be partaking in a service activity, and we invite the congregation to join them. On September 21 we will be gathering to make greeting cards, prayer shawls, and freezer meals. Many of these items will remain on hand and distributed as the need arises.

SEPT 18: INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH SUNDAY

A personal invitation is a powerful thing. It shows you are thinking of that person. That you care for them. That you want them to be included. It feels good to get invited to a party or any event.

And yet how often do we apply that same thinking towards inviting others to church?

Studies have shown that the most effective way to evangelize and grow a church is to simply invite people to come.

A recent survey found that 86 percent of church visitors came because they had been invited by friends or relatives. 86 percent!

It really is not that hard; all it takes is a simple question. Would you like to come to church on Sunday? We don't need to question why they don't go. We don't need to try and guilt them into coming. We don't need to come up with some grand scheme to convince them to come.

All it takes is an invitation.

So, on September 18 we ask that everyone invite someone else to church.

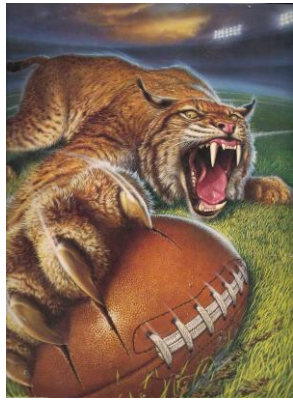
Give it a try! And who knows, they just might show up.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEREMY

Possessions Don't Equate Worth

Now that my son has reached school age, I once again get to partake in the joy that is the start of a new school year. Yes, I was one of those weird kids that loved to be going back to school. It was always such a time of just pure excitement. Excitement to be back hanging with all my friends again. Excitement to be a year older and in a different classroom. Excitement because of all the cool school supplies I had bought in the weeks leading up to school.

There was nothing better than picking out school supplies for a new year! Looking back, it is pretty crazy just how excited I would become about pencils, folders, and notebooks. But to be fair I did have some pretty sweet pencils and folders over the years. My all-time favorite was this Mead No Rules folder I had with a picture of a bobcat grasping a football in his claws. It was without a doubt the coolest folder to ever exist. In fact, it was so cool that just possessing it made me feel exponentially cooler as a result. Yes, folders actually increased my amount of self-worth. I went into that school year full of confidence because I had the coolest folder in the world, and I knew everyone else would be envious.



It seems silly in retrospect to be gaining self-worth from a folder. When you are a child though it is easy to fall into the temptation of allowing material possessions to alter how you view yourself. I'm glad I have grown out of that silliness as an adult. Now I am older and wiser and know I don't need things like notebooks and folders to dictate my worth. No, now I just need things like a nice house with a perfectly manicured lawn. Maybe an expensive watch, a sharp looking suit, and of course my Nikes. Nothing makes me

feel better about myself than stepping out in a cool pair of shoes.

I think you get my point. Even though we grow up it is still so easy for us to allow possessions to give us a feeling of value in life. I legit have more confidence in myself when I am wearing my Air Jordans. It is just so ridiculous. It is also a false feeling. One that never lasts. The feeling of worthiness we obtain from possessions always fades so we need to buy more stuff to keep getting it. It is a vicious cycle. One that doesn't need to happen.

Our real sense of worth doesn't come from any possession. No matter how cool it is. Our value doesn't come from any outside influence. It doesn't come from status or occupation. It doesn't come from popularity or wealth. If we truly want to have a sense of our own worth it can only come from one place, God. Through God telling us that we are worthy. Telling us that we are important. Telling us we are loved. That is where true self-worth comes from. That is where we find our true value.

God loves you, whoever you are. God loves you and doesn't care about how much cool stuff you have. God loves you and values you, just the way you are. In that we are all equal. No one better than any other. All loved. All important. All worthy. So don't worry so much about having the coolest things. Know where your true worth comes from. Know you are loved and valued by God and always will be. View yourself the way God views you. Know you are worthy of love. You are because God says you are. Now that is something to be excited about!

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



PLEASE LIFT IN PRAYER

Students, teachers, and administrators as they head back to school, Clay Hansman, Rita Hilbrands, Bev Hoing, Bev Kaster, Sandy Luenberger, Wanda Parker, Teresa Popkes, Isaiah Sandbeck, Gordon Siebring, Wendy Smith, Military Families, those effected by flooding, and Ukraine.

THIS MONTH AT IMMANUEL: SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:15 Worship w/communion Coffee Fellowship	5 	6	7 Faith Night at Immanuel 6-6:30 Youth Meal 6:30 Confirmation Parent Meeting 6:30-7:30 KFC, HS Bible Study	8	9	10
11 God's Work Our Hands Sunday! 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Painting/cleaning up around George	12 	13	14 Faith Night at Immanuel 6-6:30 Youth Meal 6:30-7:30 KFC, Confirmation, HS Bible Study	15	16	17
18 Invite a Friend to Worship! 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/communion Council Meeting	19	20	21 Faith Night at Immanuel 6-6:30 Meal 6:30-7:30 Service Project (everyone is invited!)	22  First Day of Fall!	23 Deadline for October Newsletter Submissions	24
25 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship	26	27	28 5:00 Bread of Life	29	30	

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers – September: Amy Phelps; October: Julie Ver Steeg

Sound/Power Point

- Sept 4: Alexis Landis & Fred Landis
- Sept 11: Greg Ver Steeg & Lillian Jorth
- Sept 18: Gregory Stueven & AJ Landis
- Sept 25: Clay Hansmann & Sosie Ver Steeg
- Oct 2: Henry Ver Steeg & Aiden Bathke
- Oct 9: Richard Heidloff & Fred Landis
- Oct 16: Alexis Landis & Lillian Jorth
- Oct 23: Greg Ver Steeg & AJ Landis
- Oct 30: Gregory Stueven & Sosie Ver Steeg

READERS

- Sept 4: Lawrence Funk
- Sept 11: Alexis Landis
- Sept 18: Grant Krahling
- Sept 25: Glenda Heidloff
- Oct 2: Cathy Huff
- Oct 9: Richard Heidloff
- Oct 16: Marla Ahrenholtz
- Oct 23: Lillian Jorth
- Oct 30: Julie Ver Steeg

GREETERS

- Sept 4: Randy & Teresa Popkes
- Sept 11: Angie McConnell & Betty Hansmann
- Sept 18: Grant & Marla Krahling
- Sept 25: Dick & Glenda Heidloff
- Oct 2: Jim McConnell & Janet Boone
- Oct 9: Brent & Amanda Jorth
- Oct 16: Greg & Julie Ver Steeg
- Oct 23: Kevin & Lynette Herding
- Oct 30: Rich & Marla Ahrenholtz

ACOLYTES

- Sept 4: Isaiah Sandbeck & Cullen Funk
- Sept 11: AJ Landis & Aiden Bathke
- Sept 18: Bennett Jorth & Colin Phelps
- Sept 25: Khoryn Funk & Leo Ver Steeg
- Oct 2: Jack Denny & Isaiah Sandbeck
- Oct 9: Cullen Funk & AJ Landis
- Oct 16: Aiden Bathke & Bennett Jorth
- Oct 23: Colin Phelps & Khoryn Funk
- Oct 30: Leo Ver Steeg & Jack Denny

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD COOKS

Have you got a knack for feeding hungry youth? Is your lasagna game strong? How about tacos? Perhaps simple sandwiches are more your jam.

Immanuel is looking for volunteers to make a meal and serve it on Wednesday nights from 6:00-6:30 p.m. for those youth participating in Kids For Christ (KFC), Confirmation, and High School Bible Study. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex!



SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

- 12th - Todd & Julie Steenhoven
- 21st - Fred & Kristi Landis
- 27th - Steve & Darla Kruse

BIRTHDAYS

- 8th - Robert Bechler
- 8 - Dale Garlic
- 8th - Marla Krahling
- 9th - Arya Dizaye
- 13th - Darla Kruse
- 14th - Declan Dirks
- 17th - Dawn McComas
- 18th - Benjamin Bathke
- 18th - Byron Krull
- 20th - Fredwin Trei

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY

On Sunday, September 11 thousands of ELCA congregations from all over the country will be gathering for worship. This is not unusual; it happens every Sunday. After this worship though something truly special will happen.



Thousands of congregations all over the country will exit their church doors as they go out into their communities to do a service project. This year, Immanuel will be one of those thousands as we participate in God's Work Our Hands Sunday.

So come to church ready to work as after worship we will be heading out to help spruce up the town by painting and cleaning up in local parks.

WE'RE MAKING A PHOTO DIRECTORY

You read that right. We're bringing back the church photo directory! It's been 10+ years since the last pictorial directory of the congregation, and we need YOU to be a part of this new one.

With the assistance of Artistic Expressions, each family will get 15-20 minutes in front of the camera – that will include a picture of whole family, just the kids, and just the parents.

You will receive one image as 1-8x10 OR 2-5x7s OR 4-3x5s (image must be the same). While there is no cost to you for the session or the print, if you'd like to donate to the directory, you may. A suggested donation is \$30.

Loved your images and want to purchase some for yourself? Discounted pricing for prints will be available, along with a copyright release.

Don't miss out on a wonderful opportunity to support the church, and potentially get your Christmas cards complete. We are looking at a weekend at the end of October. More information is coming soon!



KNOCK, KNOCK

Are you hearing from us?

Each week the Sunday bulletin is emailed to members, and each month the newsletter is printed and put in your church mailbox.

Sometimes, a few emails bounce backs (meaning the email was undeliverable). And, every so often, we print the newsletter and it remains in mailboxes until the next newsletter is printed.

So, we want to know ... do we have your correct email address? How is it best to communicate with you? Do you like receiving emails? Do you prefer a printed copy?

When you think of it, send a quick email to the church office at immanuel.lutheran@mtcnet.net and let us know: electronic or paper?

COUNCIL MINUTES

August 16, 2022

President Mark Behrens called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Amy Phelps, Julie Ver Steeg, Fred Landis, Mark Dickmann and Pastor Jeremy were present. Ryan Funk was absent.

Pastor Jeremy opened with devotions.

Pastor's Report

Jeremy gave an update on several busy Sundays ahead, beginning with worship in Locker Park/Backpack Blessing on Sunday, August 21st.

Secretary's Report

Approved via email.

Financial Secretary's Report

No report.

Treasurer's Report

Amy presented financial reports, along with quarterly Thrivent statement. Fred made a motion to approve the reports. Julie seconded. Reports approved. Council agreed that the new process for recording offering was going smoothly.

Evangelism & Worship

Pastor Jeremy discussed the details for Installation Sunday on August 28th. Worship will return to the fall schedule on September 11. Sunday School will begin on September 18 at 9:30. On September 21 there will be a worknight for the prayer shawl, greeting card and frozen meal ministries.

Education & Youth

KFC and Confirmation will be held on the first three Wednesdays of every month, with the third Wednesday of each month being a service project (the entire congregation is invited to attend the service project nights). Meals will be offered each Wednesday from 6-6:30, class will be held from 6:30-7:30. Pizza will be provided on the third

Wednesday of each month. Sunday School will be held the first and third Sundays of every month. KFC/Confirmation classes will be Trick or Treating for the food pantry in November.

Property & Stewardship

Julie noted that a new lease was needed for the parsonage renter. Mark will get a copy of the lease to be signed. Options were discussed for the sanctuary panels that were affected by the water leak. Mark will follow up on the wiring project. Jeremy noted that a couple lightbulbs needed to be replaced in the sanctuary, and suggested LED's going forward. A quote of \$2615.84 was given for the backup boiler pump. Council will revisit the boiler pump discussion next month.

Old Business

Jeff Groote is drawing up plans for shelving/cabinets in the choir loft. He estimated that he would be able to start the project in February. Jeremy has been in contact with Artistic Expressions, and the picture dates for the new church directory will be October 22 and 23.

New Business

September 11 will be "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. The congregation will meet for worship at 10:30, have a light meal, and then go out together to do some painting projects around town.

September 18 will be "Invite a Friend to Church" Sunday. Acolyte and PowerPoint training/refresher class will be held this fall. Jeremy added that he would like to offer First Communion class to congregation members of all ages, rather than just 5th grade.

The next meeting date is September 18 following worship. Amy made a motion to adjourn. Fred second, meeting adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

BREAD OF LIFE SEPTEMBER ITEM: CEREAL

The Bread of Life food distribution is Wednesday, September 28, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The monthly item being collected is cereal.

Did you know, Bread of Life in George served the largest number of households ever in August? There were 37 households served, with 77 adults and 74 children in those households.

Thank you for adding an additional box or two of cereal to your grocery list. Donations may be left by the pantry door.



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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

