

Immanuel Monthly

August 2022

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

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



A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEREMY

Nostalgia for the Good Ole Days

I never, ever thought I would say this—and my dad is probably going to be even more shocked than I am—but I miss bailing hay. I don't know why. It was horrible work. Out in the sun in 90-degree humid weather. Lifting heavy bail after bail after bail. You get all sweaty and sticky. The hay particles cling to you like glue. You are filthy and tired by the end, with a little sunburn to top it off. It's brutal! Yet, even after writing that, as I drive around and see people bailing, I can't help but miss it. I guess you can chalk it up to good ole nostalgia.

Nostalgia is a powerful thing. It seems to have this remarkable ability to remember the good times while completely forgetting the bad. It can make things you hated at the time seem great, simply because they happened in the past. We all go through it, that longing for yester year. Idealizing the past simply because it happened. When the reality is, things were never actually as good as we like to believe they were. The farther you get away from a time and place, the better it seems. I'm pretty sure if I was out bailing right now, I would be complaining like crazy. Wishing for it to end. But since I'm not, I have nostalgia for it.

One of the areas people seem to have the most nostalgia for is religion. We've become really good at idealizing the church of the past. Whether it be the church we remember when we were younger, the first American Christians, the Reformation, or all the way back to the ancient church. It seems so easy for us to get it in our heads that Christianity was just perfect at one point, not the mess it is today. So, we long for the past. We long for the church the way it used to be. We wish it could be what we remember it to be. Or what we *think* we remember it to be.

Christianity has never been perfect. In fact, it has always been kind of a mess. I hate to say it folks, but I can almost guarantee the church you remember so ideally had plenty of problems. Even the original church way back when it first started was full of disagreements, arguments, and just flat-out fighting. That ideal church we remember and we so often long for never existed. Us humans have our flaws and the church has always been flawed with us. This is a bummer in many ways, yet it's also freeing. There is no perfect church. There never has been. We don't need to sit around longing for the way the church used to be. Instead, we can go forward excited about what the church can become!

Things change, including the church. Sometimes that change is good. Sometimes not so much, which makes it natural for us to long for the past. Change happens whether we want it to or not. What matters is how we respond to that change. Or even better, how we can get ahead of it and bring the change we want. Because even though Christianity may not look the same today as it did 100, 500, or 1000 years ago, that doesn't mean it doesn't have an impact in this world. Even though our church may not look the same as it did just 5 or 10 years ago, that doesn't mean there isn't some pretty great things going on. The church is still entering into the lives of people and bringing the joy of God's good news. It's still working in this world to bring God's love and hope to people. It may look different, and it may not be exactly how we want it, but it's still Christ's church. It always will be, no matter how much it changes. When we remember that, there is no nostalgia needed.

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.

AUGUST READINGS

August 7

Genesis 15:1-6 *pew Bible p 20*
Psalm 33:12-22 *pew Bible p 870*
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 *pew Bible p 1874*
Luke 12:32-40 *pew Bible p 1618*

August 14

Jeremiah 23:23-29 *pew Bible p 1212*
Psalm 82 *pew Bible p 921*
Hebrews 11:29--12:2 *pew Bible p 1874*
Luke 12:49-56 *pew Bible p 1619*

August 21

Isaiah 58:9b-14 *pew Bible p 1150*
Psalm 103:1-8 *pew Bible p 939*
Hebrews 12:18-29 *pew Bible p 1878*
Luke 13:10-17 *pew Bible p 1620*

August 28

Proverbs 25:6-7 *pew Bible p 1022*
Psalm 112 *pew Bible p 952*
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 *pew Bible p 1878*
Luke 14:1, 7-14 *pew Bible p 1621*



THIS MONTH AT IMMANUEL: AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:15 Worship w/communion Coffee Fellowship	8	9	10 7:00 Council Meeting	11	12	13
14 9:15 Worship Coffee Fellowship	15	16 7:00 Council Meeting	17 5:00 Bread of Life	18 Deadline for September Newsletter Submissions	19	20
21 9:15 Worship @ Locker Park w/ backpack blessing Brunch potluck follows	22	23 First Day of School!	24	25	26	27
28 9:15 Worship w/communion Installation of Pastor Jeremy Winter Meal follows	29	30	31			



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers – August: Fred Landis; September: Amy Phelps

Sound/Power Point

- Aug 7: Gregory Stueven & Lillian Jorth
- Aug 14: Clay Hansmann & AJ Landis
- Aug 21: Henry Ver Steeg & Sosie Ver Steeg
- Aug 28: Richard Heidloff & Aiden Bathke
- 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

READERS

- Aug 7: Gregory Stueven
- Aug 14: Amanda Jorth
- Aug 21: Sosie VerSteeg
- Aug 28: Marla Krahlung
- Sept 4: Lawrence Funk
- Sept 11: Alexis Landis
- Sept 18: Grant Krahlung
- Sept 25: Glenda Heidloff

GREETERS

- Aug 7: Fred & Kristi Landis
- Aug 14: Ida Mae Kruger & Dale Garlic
- Aug 21: Lawrence & Norene Funk
- Aug 28: Russ & Anita Hopp
- Sept 4: Randy & Teresa Popkes
- Sept 11: Angie McConnell & Betty Hansmann
- Sept 18: Grant & Marla Krahlung
- Sept 25: Dick & Glenda Heidloff

ACOLYTES

- Aug 7: Cullen Funk & AJ Landis
- Aug 14: Aiden Bathke & Bennett Jorth
- Aug 21: Colin Phelps & Khoryn Funk
- Aug 28: Leo VerSteeg & Jack Denny
- 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

ONLINE OFFERING AVAILABLE

No time to stop by the ATM for offering cash before church? Still writing checks? There is an easier way for you to give — online.

It's simple! Here's what you need to do:

1. Go to our website, www.immanuelgeorge.com, and click where it says "Give Offering."
2. A window will pop up where you can give a one-time donation or set up 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.

FALL RETREAT, CRAFTING

Are you looking to enhance your relationship with God and others? Or perhaps you'd like to get your creative juices flowing? Ingham Lake Bible Camp is offering you two options this fall!

On Saturday, October 15, Women's Day Away will explore how to find, seek, and build relationships and communities which connect us to God and one another in ways that fulfill God's command in Matthew 22 to Love God and Love Others. The cost is \$44 with a \$15 non-refundable deposit. Lynette Herding is willing to drive a group from Immanuel. See the brochure on the secretary's door, or go to www.okoboji.org/register.

If you're looking for fellowship and accomplishment, fill your vehicle with the materials and tools you need and head to camp for a weekend of creativity, relaxation and spiritual growth. November 18 -20 you're invited to a weekend of crafting of your choice, and time to gather together to encourage each other and grow in your faith. Cost is \$119 per person (double occupancy) Friday through Sunday. A brochure for this event is also on the secretary's door.

IMMANUEL IN THE NEWS



Pastor Jeremy Winter was featured on the front page of the Lyon County Reporter on June 28. A copy of the article is available on the door of the secretary's office.

Do you know of a member making news? Let us know! Email immanuel.lutheran@mtcnet.net or let Pastor Jeremy know.

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.

CELEBRATIONS

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 - Dick & Glenda Heidloff
- 3 - Jack & Wendy Smith
- 3 - William & Kelsey Kruse
- 5 - Randy & Teresa Popkes
- 10 - Todd & Kim Dykstra
- 11 - Jim & Kay Bathke
- 13 - Kevin & Collen Trei
- 16 - James & Sandy Luenberger
- 17 - Mike & Bev Hoing
- 20 - Dave & Cathy Huff
- 25 - Dan & Dawndralee Gisolf

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd - Keaton Funk
- 3rd - Jack Smith
- 5th - Darcy Hansmann
- 8th - Jamie Schmidt
- 11th - Tal Ver Steeg
- 12th - Colin Phelps
- 12th - Sydney Bender
- 14th - Helen Fiihr
- 17th - Mike Dickmann
- 23rd - Greg Ver Steeg
- 24th - Allison Sandbeck
- 24th - Matt Matuska
- 25th - Aiden Bathke
- 25th - Dave Huff
- 27th - Colleen Trei
- 27th - Dan Gisolf
- 28th - Ruth Hansmann



COUNCIL MINUTES

July 10, 2022

President Mark Behrens called the meeting to order. Amy Phelps, Julie Ver Steeg, Fred Landis, Ryan Funk, Mark Dickmann and Pastor Jeremy were present.

Pastor Jeremy opened with devotions and discussion on how we can use the gifts of Immanuel Lutheran outside of our church walls. Ideas such as adopting a corner/highway, making meals and continuing the Personal Touch card ministry were discussed.

Pastor's Report

Installation will take place on August 28. Mark Behrens will get catering quotes.

Secretary's Report

Approved via email.

Financial Secretary's Report

No report

Treasurer's Report

Amy shared financial reports. Council members agreed that the new process for recording offering is going well. Pastor Jeremy noted that our minimum commitment to the Touch of Hope ministry is \$35 a month, which we have not been meeting. The noisy offering will be collected during worship going forward. The extra funds needed to meet our commitment will be taken from the Mission/Special Needs account. Julie made a motion to approve the financial reports. Ryan seconded; reports approved.

Evangelism & Worship

Worship in the park with Backpack Blessing and brunch potluck will be on August 21 in Locker Park. Fred will check on the speaker system.

Property & Stewardship

The fire extinguishers have been recharged and are up to date. A water leak was discovered in the sanctuary. Amy will contact Jim Bathke regarding necessary repairs and an updated quote for boiler pump. Mark B. mentioned that equipment breakdown coverage may be included in our insurance policy. Mark also noted that the landscaping is finished in the front of the church. The sides of the church still need to be done.

Education & Youth

Pastor Jeremy would like to meet with the Parish Ed Committee in July.

Old Business

Pastor Jeremy will order church signage. He also got a quote from Artistic Expressions for a new church directory. He will follow up again and ask about a possible Fall/Holiday timeline. The electrical updates still need to be done and will hopefully be completed by the end of the year.

New Business

Future parsonage use options were discussed.

Fred made a motion to adjourn. Mark D. seconded; meeting adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting date is August 10 at 7pm.



9:15 a.m. | Sunday, August 21 | Locker Park

Bring a chair, bring a friend, & bring some sunshine! In the case of inclement weather, the service & brunch will be at church.

All are welcome to attend the installation of Pastor Jeremy Winter by Rev. Dr. Mike Kroona, assistant to the Bishop, at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, August 28. A meal will follow the service in the fellowship hall.



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IMMANUEL MONTHLY – AUGUST ISSUE

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



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