



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS April 2024



Worship in April 2024

April 6-7 Easter 2	Guest preacher Jared Walters	Communion
April 13-14 Easter 3	"The Perfect Church?" I Corinthians 1:1-9	
April 20-21 Easter 4	"One Church" I Corinthians 1:10-17	Communion
April 27-28 Easter 5	"The Foolishness of God" I Corinthians 1:18-31	



Immanuel Lutheran Church Is 110 Years Old in 2024

You are invited to a Sunday afternoon/evening "Old Time Game Night" at the Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. Shuffleboard, darts, ping pong, foos ball, board games. We invite you to bring potluck sandwiches, "Lutheran Jello," cake, cookies, popcorn, and other snack foods. We might even have a Lutheran Jello contest. We will enjoy a good time together celebrating Immanuel's 110 years.

Shared by a member of Immanuel:

When you wake up, say "Jesus, I love you."

When leaving the house, say, "Jesus, come with me."

When you feel like crying, say, "Jesus hug me."

When you feel happy, say, "Jesus, I adore you."

When you do something, say, "Jesus, help me."

When you make a mistake, say, "Jesus forgive me."

When you go to sleep, say, "Thank you, Jesus, and cover me with your holy mantle."



April 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you. The Apostle Paul began all but 2 of his 13 New Testament letters with that same simple greeting: "Grace and peace to you." It seems like a simple greeting. And yet those two words summarize the whole Gospel message. You can sum up everything that Paul wrote in just those 2 words: grace and peace.

First, grace. Grace is the free gift of God's saving love. We do nothing to deserve it. It comes to us not because we are good but because God is good. Grace is love for the unlovely. Grace tells us the truth about our sin and then gives us the gift of God's forgiveness. Grace is the gift that makes life worth living. Grace came to us in the gift of the one and only Son of God.

Then, the gift of grace produces the second word: peace. We are born into a rebellion against God. We are born fighting against God and God is fighting against us to save us from ourselves. We didn't learn to rebel against God. Sin just came naturally to our corrupted human nature. But grace declares an end to our warfare against God. Despite our continued struggle with sin and selfishness, because of God's grace we know that God is our best friend.

Grace and peace. That is the good news of the Gospel of Jesus. It is that simple. Even a little child can understand it. And yet grace and peace are also incredibly profound. Paul didn't stop his letters with that simple greeting of grace and peace. Paul then went on to explain what that grace and peace means for our lives as Christians in this complex, confusing, and challenging world. Learning to live by grace and learning to live in our peace with God is a lifelong challenge.

We sinners can find plenty of ways to complicate what should be very simple. The Lutheran movement was really all about trying to get back to the simple basics of grace and peace in the Gospel. And the Protestant Reformation after Luther has been all about trying to make it complicated again in different ways.

It isn't easy in this conflicted world to keep our focus on the main thing. But what I am looking for each week as we gather in worship is to have my life focused on the simple basics of life: grace and peace. I so easily get distracted by all the other things that the world says are so important. But a simple reminder for an hour each week of the grace and peace of the Gospel is just what I need keep my focus in life, to keep myself centered and balanced. I hope that you find the same thing in our worship life together at Immanuel.

Yours in Christ,

Phil Nielsen



Happy Birthday to the following:

Joyce Nielsen will be 93 on April 10.
 Lois Troll who will be 91 on April 11.
 Marvel Jacobsen who will be 89 on April 6.
 Judith Juhler will be 89 on April 23.
 Emmert Andersen who will be 86 on April 27.
 Nancy Christensen will be 82 on April 25.

Happy Anniversary to the following:

Richard and Barb Furst who will be celebrating their 58th anniversary on April 15.



THANK YOU!!! Ken and I would like to thank everyone for all your prayers, cards and support as we have and still go through cancer treatment. *Julie and Ken Vorm*

Blessings to Kaitlyn Usher who was baptized on Easter morning. Kaitlyn's sponsor is Jared Walters.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Joanne Christensen who died March 17.

Her visitation and funeral were at Immanuel on March 22 and 23.



OUR PRAYER LIST: Connie Schwieso, Ellie Nelson (daughter of Preston & Shelby Nelson), Phil Smith, Pam Rust, Kay Koos, Vicki Strissel, Arlynn Gittens, Ken Vorm, Lorene Thiede, Kayla Weis, Sandra Haney, Connie Benson, Bill Broveak (son-in-law of Ed & Sheila Mills), Wade Mills (son of Ed & Sheila Mills), Julie Duval, Grace Pauley, Margie Schenck, Melvin and Helen Allen (Steve Allen's parents), Megan Leslie (Steve Allen's niece), Ken and Audrey Johannsen (Seth Johannsen's parents), and Jim Halagarda (friend of Kirk Jacobsen).



WORSHIP SERVICES at Immanuel are streamed on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ilcharlan) Sunday mornings. They are also recorded for viewing on HMU channel 15 (9:30 a.m. Sunday and 5:00 p.m. Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday) and on FMCTC channel 48 (4:00 p.m. Wednesday). Our worship is also posted on www.harlanimmanuel.org/sermons.html.



Summer Church Camp 2024

Immanuel wants to help you send your child to Bible Camp this summer. We really believe in the blessings of a week away at one of our Church Camps. A week at Okoboji or Riverside gives young people a deeper connection to their faith in Jesus and to their home Church.

We believe in camp so much that we have teamed up to provide \$300 scholarships for any child of Immanuel and for one of their friends. That means that your cost for your child's week away at camp can be less than \$200. Can you feed your child for less than that?

You can sign your child up for Ingham or Okoboji at Okoboji.org or for Riverside at Riversidelbc.org.

There are multiple weeks available, but Immanuel is recommending particular weeks to encourage our children to go together and to enable parents to carpool.

GROW: July 14-19 at Ingham

Confirmation: June 9-14 at Okoboji

If you have any questions, call or text Pastor Phil at 579-2098. Then give us a copy of your registration, and we will get your scholarship to the camp.

Worship & Giving

	Attendance		Total	General	Building	Total
Ash Wed.	+	88	= 88	\$ 690.00		\$ 690.00
Lent				\$ 240.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 290.00
Mar. 2-3	25	+ 102	= 128	\$4,511.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 4,536.00
Lent		+ 45	= 45	\$ 480.00		\$ 480.00
Mar 9-10	26	+ 120	= 146	\$4,928.00		\$ 4,928.00
Lent		+ 42	= 42	\$ 419.00		\$ 419.00
Mar 16-17	20	+ 124	= 144	\$3,591.00		\$ 3,591.00
Lent		+ 44	= 44	\$ 620.00		\$ 620.00
Mar 23-24	25	+ 158	= 183	\$2,914.00		\$2,914.00



MARCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Church Council met March 12 with 12 of 13 members present. Joey Hansen led devotions from Max Lucado. April devotions will be led by Craig Olson.

John Taggs, Eric Chipman, Rich & Barb Furst, Joey Hansen, Vicki Strissel, and Craig Olson volunteered for Sunday morning deacon duties.

Treasurer's Report: February income was \$20,483 and expenses were \$35,775 leaving us with a negative of \$14,906 for the year. We paid our annual insurance premium of \$11,803. General Fund is balance is \$75,617 and the capital savings balance is \$69,154.

TZ Report: Immanuel and Kidugala are approaching the 20-year anniversary of our partnership in 2025. TZ team would like to invite 2-3 ambassadors to Immanuel. This would be our 4th time hosting. Funding would be through the TZ Travel Fund at \$3000-3500 per person in cost. Ambassadors would be here for 2-3 weeks. Also, Well #10 is almost complete and Well #11 fund goal has been met and the drilling has started.

Outreach/Stewardship – Food Pantry contribution is up to 229 pounds. March Mission was Salvation Army for \$2,150. April Mission pending. SW Iowa Mobile Food Pack sent an appeal to raise \$30k for a Harlan event Oct. 11-12.

Property – Ken installed a new handicap toilet in handicap restroom. Service call scheduled on kitchen garbage disposal. Elevate Roofing repaired a hole that caused a leak. Looks like crows have been pecking. Discussed an outdoor clean-up date for this year in June.

Pastor's Report – Jared Walters is planning to study for ordained LCMC ministry. Pastor asked for approval of Jared Walters participating in a Baptism. We discussed Lutheran theology and practice regarding Baptism and Communion. Council approved request with Pastor providing oversight and information to the congregation. Jared will also be leading worship in April, May, and June when Pastor is unavailable. Pastor also invited Evan Nielsen to share his experiences with YWAM in New Zealand as the sermon for July 20-21.

Pastor is still working on a Photo directory. A member has donated funds to ILC through a stock transfer to avoid capital gains taxes. Perhaps other members should be educated about the advantages and the process. The Mission Quilters donated a beautiful quilt for the TZ Auction and it disappeared from the auction tables. We will file a police report and keep other items secured during the week.

Old Business – It was suggested that we should pull out every other Yew hedge from the front sidewalk to improve the appearance.

New Business – It was suggested that we should welcome our new attendees from South Sudan with a dinner meeting to explore ways that ILC can be of assistance to them in Harlan.



ATTENTION: All Women of Immanuel are invited to the April 10th meeting of the ILCW at 9:30 a.m. Since April is PROM month, for most schools, we are doing a Program on Prom dresses and styles of dresses over the years. If you have a dress to share, please bring it. If you don't have a dress to bring, you can bring a picture. If you have neither, just come and have a great time!

**ILCW EXECUTIVE BOARD****ILCW****March 13, 2024**

The ILCW Executive Board met Wednesday March 13 at 9:00 AM in the Narthex with Sandy Nelsen, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen, Sharon Daberkow, Jean Whitfield and Julie Vorm present. Sandy opened the meeting at 9:07.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes reviewed with no corrections. Motion to approve by Jean, seconded by Sharon. Ayes all.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy reported the audit was completed and all is OK. Income received (\$575) from 4 funerals (Hansen, Kumm, Brue and Olson). Jan Applegate was reimbursed \$102.48 for placemats. February ending balance is \$2166.83. Jean presented 2 bills-- \$34.24 for baskets for sugar/creamer packets and \$430.13 for gold imprinted napkins. Motion by Julie and seconded by Sharon to pay the bills. Ayes all.

COMMITTEES: Community: Four birthday cakes were taken to Salem Home. The home was closed to visitors because of Covid so the committee was unable to stay and celebrate the birthdays.

Mission Quilts: 10 ladies attended, assembling and tying 6 quilts.

OLD BUSINESS: Easter Lilies: 24 Lilies have been sold. Sally requested 2 helpers on Saturday March 30 to place in sanctuary. Kathy and Jean volunteered.

Coffee Carafes: The presently used carafes are seeing their age and occasionally we don't have enough. After discussion on type of carafes to purchase, Janet ordered 20 new carafes. The older ones will be used as backup.

NEW BUSINESS: Programs: ILCW Program presenters are needed for August and September.

UPCOMING DATES: April 10 Exec Board meeting 9 AM with Gathering to follow at 9:30. Julie will have the program and Myrna will do refreshments.

Bazaar date is October 16.

Janet Johannsen, Secretary

ILCW GATHERING

Sandy opened the Gathering with 18 ladies attending. Ann Holt served delicious refreshments with a Spring flower theme and gave out flower seed packets to welcome Spring. Linda Mosher gave a reading on "Memories and Hope". The best memory we should have is saying "yes to God." She also read an original poem written by Sandy Stormer titled the "Country Girl." Linda's program was on "feed sacks". The tables displayed about 2 dozen feed sacks belonging to Dolly Burgin. Three beautiful quilts were also displayed made from feed sacks that belong to Leroy and Phyllis Larsen. The sacks came from Leroy's parents' home that had been stored in the attic for years. The first feed sacks were made of cotton in the 1840's by slave labor. Later some were also made of jute or burlap. In the 1880s logos were placed on the sacks. In the 1930's the sacks were used to store everything from chicken feed to flour. During that time, it was estimated that 3 million people wore clothing made from feed sacks. The "postage stamp" quilt was named because of tiny pieces of scrap feed sack material was used to make yet another quilt! The feed sack era ended in 1964. Fun and informative program Linda!



TANZANIA HAPPENINGS

On Saturday, March 23 was the TZ Soup Supper and Auction for the orphans of Kidugala. The soups were yummy, the judges were thoughtful, the auction items were many and the auctioneer was witty. Add this all together and you have the recipe for a fun night. Thank you everyone, no matter what part you played in the FUNd-raiser, it was much appreciated. All the proceeds will go to the orphans in Kidugala. At the present time Immanuel is sponsoring 238 orphans. The total for the evening was \$12,500.

The winners from the soup supper are:

People's Choice for the best soup: Spud Squad by Jennifer Malone and crew

Judges' Choice for the best soup and Best Decorated Table:

Quail and Manna by the family of John, Gaylen, Aubrey and Harper Petsche

Quail and Manna (aka chicken gnocchi)

Disclaimer: NO QUAIL WERE HARMED IN THE MAKING OF THIS SOUP!!

3-4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cooked and shredded

1-2 stalks of celery, chopped

1 large sweet onion, chopped

2 Tablespoons minced garlic

1 cup shredded carrots

4 Tablespoons butter

4 cups chicken broth

16 oz. Potato gnocchi

2 tsp cardamom

1 Tablespoon Hidden Valley Ranch seasoning

2 tsp. Thyme

2 cups half & half

1 cup fresh spinach, roughly torn

1. Sauté onion until onions are nearly translucent. Add garlic, celery and carrots, continue to sauté until carrots are soft.
2. Add chicken, chicken broth, and seasoning. Bring to a boil and add gnocchi. Once gnocchi have floated to the top, add cream and spinach.
3. Simmer for about 10 minutes or until desired consistency is reached.

According to Moses, nobody is to keep this overnight, but we have found this modern version keeps well for leftovers the next day just fine if you add a little more broth.

Shalom!!



Immanuel
Lutheran Church
LCMC
1700 19th Street
Harlan, IA 51537

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HARLAN, IOWA 51537
PERMIT NO. 97

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office: 755-5207
Office Hours: 9-1(M-F)
Office Email: ilc@fmctc.com
Pastor Phil's Cell Number: 712-579-2098
Home Number: 712-766-3178
E-mail: peacephillip@gmail.com
www.harlanimmanuel.org

Staff:

Pastor Phil Nielsen
Office Manager: Rachel Block
Custodian: Slava Aleev

APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 EASTER 7:00 Communion 8:00 Breakfast 9:00 Communion/JAM	1	2 9:00 CF Quilters 6-9:00 Boy Scouts Dist.	3 4:00 Women's Bible S 5:15 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	4	5	6 5:00 Communion
7 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship Jared Walters F.Hall 5:00 Boy Scouts	8 5:00 Garden Club	9 9:00 CF Quilters	10 9:00 ILCW Bd Mtg 9:30 ILCW Gathering 4:00 Women's Bible S 5:15 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	11	12	13 4:00 - 7:00 Sharon Zimmerman Graduation Party 5:00 Worship
14 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:00 GAME NIGHT	15	16 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco 6:30 Executive Bd 7:00 Church Council	17 3:30 GROW/4 Womens Bible Study 5:15 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	18 Newsletter Deadline 3:30 Clover 4H 6:30 Ladies Homestead	19	20 5:00 Communion
21 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts	22	23 9:00 CF Quilters	24 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible S 5:15 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	25 Assemble Newsletter	26	27 5:00 Worship
28 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts	29 9:00 Mission Quilters	30 9:00 CF Quilters	1 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible S 6:30 LYO	2	3	4 5:00 Communion

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule

	April 6-7	April 13-14	April 20-21	April 27-28	May 4-5
Acolytes	Grant Chipman Will Chipman	Kolton Jensen Zoey Olson	Rex Swanson Cade Neve	Jace Palmer Collin Burchett	Abbey Brue Maggie Petersen
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Karen Brasch	James Burmeister	Linda Christensen	Roger & Joann Christensen	Kathy Dirks
Saturday Altar Guild	Kayla Jacobs		DeAnn Nielsen		Sandy Nelsen
Sunday Greeters/Ushers	Andrew & Brooke Reinert Kate Schechinger	Deb Schechinger Mark & Nancy Schmitz	Lee & Brittany Schoof Winter Sette	Al & Sally Simdorn Craig & Sandy Sisson	LYO
Sunday Altar Guild	Erin Hastert Mary Taggs		Peg Haas Vicki Strissel		Mary Petersen Kate Petersen
Scripture Reader (Sunday)	Mitch Petersen	Terry Torneten	Judi Olson	Jan Applegate	LYO
Communion Servers (Sunday)	Sandy Nelsen Donna Nelson		Craig & Judi Olson		Eric Chipman Jared Walters
Coffee Hosts (Sunday)	Rick & Cheryl Chipman	Duane & Vickie Errett	Larry & Peg Haas	Lois Hanson Karen Plewes	Jeff & Erin Hastert
Sound	Gaige Lytle	Gaige Lytle	Gaige Lytle	Gaige Lytle	Kayla Weis
Video	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger	Rick Chipman
Projection	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)
Council Person	Joey Hansen	Dave Greve	John Taggs	Rich & Barb Furst	Scott Shannon