



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS AUGUST 2024



Worship in August 2024

August 3-4 Pentecost 11	I Corinthians 11:17-34	The Table of Welcome	Communion
August 10-11 Pentecost 12	I Corinthians 12:1-11	Spiritual Gifts	
August 17-18 Pentecost 13	I Corinthians 12:12-31	The Body of Christ	Communion
August 24-25 Pentecost 14	I Corinthians 13:1-13	Learning to Love	Baptism

VBS Thank You

Thank you to all who helped with our 2024 Day Camp/Vacation Bible School. Thanks to the children who participated with energy and enthusiasm. We had 53 children attend. Thanks to the parents and grandparents who made it possible for them to be there.

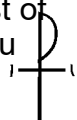
A big thanks to DeAnn Nielsen who headed up our preschool program. Thanks to Patty Allen, Becky Chipman, Kris Olson-Harmon, and Barb Furst for helping with kids. Thanks to Sandy



ILCW August 14th Gathering



The ILCW will be gathering August 14th in the fellowship hall at 5:15. Join us for sundaes, bars, laughs, games, and fellowship with the women of Immanuel. Everyone is welcome. We hope the gathering at this later time in August will encourage you to join some of the women of Immanuel. We have several events coming up the rest of the year that we want to share with you. Please come and join us! It will be an event you won't forget!





Humble Beginnings

"The Past": For most of my Christian life, until nearly a year ago, my walk with God was purely based on gathered information and trivial knowledge. God did not have my whole heart, and what parts He did have, were given out of habit and traditional ritual – "...because that's what every other Christian says or does, so I guess I must also..." But on October 23rd, 2023, my perspective and position on my relationship with God changed forever as He began to reveal how big and awesome He truly is.

'Youth With A Missions (YWAM)' offered me the space to truly take my faith seriously, to ask the hard questions, either become rooted in God whole heartedly or turn away from Him completely. YWAM was my first taste of missions' work, the good, the bad, and the ugly of it. In total I spend 9 months abroad chasing after God, developing our relationship to a deeper level.

"The Present": Within the latter 3 months of my time in YWAM during a Discipleship Bible Course, my eyes became open to the depth of the Scriptures, the vast complexity of layers to be discovered, and the beauty of learning about God through His own Word especially within community and fellowship. It was within this school I began to pray on becoming a teacher for God's Word.

Now I begin my journey on becoming a teacher of biblical studies and have applied to staff within YWAM at their base in Denver, CO with the intention to teach within the organization of 'Youth With A Mission' globally across their countless bases, educating and equipping the young generation for the missionary field.

This month of August is my month of raising support for staffing as all position within YWAM are considered missionary work ('volunteer'). If God has put it on your heart to help aid my walk with God as a missionary, here are a few ways you can lend a helping hand:

Prayer and Spiritual: Often the best way to help is by being a prayer warrior for others. For this month I would greatly appreciate prayer for Patience in God's timing, to be able to rely more on His will and plans than on my own understanding, and to seek His guidance in my walk.

Financial Giving: If financial giving is how you have decided to help, the best way to donate is through my page on "Equipnet.org".

By whatever means you decide to support my work in God's missions, be sure to partner with God in it and give from the heart. Every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated.

"The Future": The Goal is to start in Denver, CO in September of this year and staff with them up to 2025. If no opportunities present themselves for me to continue with Denver, then the idea would be to return to Pacific Reach in New Zealand in April, after my March Mission-Outreach trip in Nepal.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me either by phone (call/text) or email.

Email: evan.nielsen23@gmail.com

Phone: +1 402-510-6057



Happy Birthday to the following:

Mert Kastens will be 83 on August 15.
Maggie Hatcher who will be 86 on August 18.
Vernice Vrtiska will be 90 on August 20.

Happy Anniversary to the following:

Linda & Mark Knoell who will be celebrating their 57th anniversary on August 5.
Ilene & Verne Nelson will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on August 10.
Peg & Larry Haas who will be celebrating their 53rd anniversary on August 21.
Sally & Allan Simdorn will be celebrating their 55th anniversary on August 22.
Judi & Dave Pedersen who will be celebrating their 58th anniversary on August 27.
Donna & Wayne Olson will be celebrating their 53rd anniversary on August 28.



OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Rev. Steven Paul Martens who passed away June 30th. He was a son of Immanuel Lutheran Church and served calls to 9 Lutheran churches from 1980 to 2020. We thank God for the ministry of Steven Paul Martens.



ON OUR PRAYER LIST: Linda Norgaard, Roger and Connie Schweiso, Jim Chipman, Christine Jones, Dave Pedersen, Ellie Nelson (daughter of Preston & Shelby Nelson), Phil Smith, Kay Koos, 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, Megan Leslie (Steve Allen's niece), Ken Johannsen (Seth Johannsen's father), and Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother).

Dates for your calendar:

Sept. 6—SCCO "Front Nine/Back Nine" Golf Tournament in Harlan.
Sept 20-Oct 2—LCMC Annual Gathering in Marion, IA
Oct. 26—LCMC Heartland District Women of the Word Fall Gathering at Peace Lutheran Church in Deshler, NE.





Immanuel Choir News



A little history lesson: I became a member of Immanuel in 1972, as a new teacher in the Harlan Community Schools. I taught 5th grade at Westridge Elementary. Being raised Lutheran, I sought out Immanuel as my church family. The first person to greet me on my first Sunday was Willard Olson. What a welcoming human being, then right with him, of course, was Marg. They put me at ease and I knew I was in the right congregation. Immanuel was looking for a choir director, and I just said, "I'd try," as I am not a music major, just a minor who has her limits, still true to this day, even after 40 years of choir and handbell directing. It is a bit ironic that I started directing in 1972, and now at age 72, (very soon to be that

I love church music. That is pretty much it. What else is really important? (My first solo was in the church at age 8, singing "In the Cross of Christ Glory") I believe worship through song. The Psalms are a great example of that. The "Messiah," Bible based, down to "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know." What better words are there put to music?

The church choir is becoming an element of worship services that is dwindling in great numbers. 40% of churches, overall, have lost or given up their choirs. What a shame, and what a BLESSING Immanuel has!!! 23 people that enjoy sharing their talent, their voices, their time, their love of music and one another!

A church choir encourages one another, and we DO have those people who say, "you're doing great," "you can do it," "that was so pretty," and an occasional, "Craig, what did you just do?" We have fun at our rehearsals, no one takes themselves too seriously.

A church choir celebrates the human voice. What a gift for all of us to speak, to communicate, and in music, to worship through song. A choir praises God and hopefully, touches your heart, and brings a congregation a moment with God. A church choir shares its talent and works together for the enrichment of a church service.

In a church choir, the young and the old and the "in-betweens" all sing together and learn from each other. What a gift that is!

In closing, without a congregation, there would be no choir at Immanuel. A HUGE thank you to all of the present choir members, and a HUGE invitation to any of you who have a desire to sing, to be part of a church group, to have some fun and to send a message to our congregation once a month.

For my part, I will do my best to select meaningful and doable music, to be enthusiastic, (easy job) and to always remember that we are part of this church, we sing to the Lord and we pray He enjoys what he hears. Thank you to the Worship Committee and choir members for asking me to take on this task...

First organizational meeting will be Wednesday, August 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the church chapel.

Linda Mosher

Your New Volunteer Choir Director.



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.



JULY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Church Council met July 9 with 10 of 13 members present. Craig Olson led devotions from C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. August devotions will be led by Joey Hansen.

Rich & Barb, Craig, Eric, Vicki, Scott, Todd, John, and Joey volunteered for Sunday morning deacon duties.

Treasurer's Report: June income was \$24,734 and expenses were \$17,486. YTD our deficit is at \$1,471. General Fund balance is \$89,612 and the capital savings balance is \$73,312.

Outreach/Stewardship: July Mission Partner is Lutheran Disaster Assistance. August Mission Partner is the Lutheran Church in Estonia. September Mission Partner is the Lutheran Church in South Sudan. ESL classes for Sudanese folks has begun at Immanuel.

Property – We had a broken window in the sanctuary from a recent hail storm.

Executive – Discussed changing payroll pay period to make it more consistent.

Pastor – Reported on LCMC District leaders meeting.

Thank you to Christopher Chapman who organized the Boy Scouts to paint our parking lot as his Eagle Scout project. Good work, Christopher!

WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Total</u>
June 29-30	25	+	102	= 127	\$ 2,646.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 2,666.00
July 6-7	21	+	98	= 119	\$ 9,691.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 9,866.00
July 13-14	26	+	104	= 130	\$ 2,925.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 3,065.00
July 20-21	22	+	85	= 107	\$ 2,110.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 2,130.00



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS

ILCW EXECUTIVE BOARD**ILCW****July 17, 2024**

The ILCW Executive Board met Wednesday July 17 at 9 AM with Sandy Nelsen, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen (by phone), Sharon Daberkow and Sally Nairn present. Sandy called meeting to order at 9 AM.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes were reviewed. Kathy motioned to approve. Sally seconded. Ayes all.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy reported no activity in account for June. Balance remains at \$1704.46.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank You from Roger and Connie Schwieso is posted on the bulletin board.

COMMITTEES: Community: Chairman Sharon, Vicki Carstens and Kathy Block entertained with bingo at Elm Crest with 30 attending. Each participant received 2 prizes and all had an enjoyable afternoon. No other dates are scheduled.

Kitchen: Kitchen cleaning will have to wait till November 13 after the Gathering.

Old Business: None

New Business: Immanuel Lutheran donated 8 dozen cookies to the July 16 Blood Drive. Thank You to all who donated. Also Thank You to all who worked at Vacation Bible School and for donations of food or money for that event.

August Gathering: August 14 at 5:15 is set. Sandy will be asking for donations of bars for our Special August date.

Harvest Bazaar: Bazaar will be **October 16**. Chairmen positions of several committees are available. Check with Sandy Nelsen which committees need help. It takes many willing hands to make a successful bazaar--our main event of the year.

UPCOMING DATES: August 14 Gathering 5:15 August 26 Mission Quilters 1:00

There being no further business, we adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for the Gathering.

Janet Johannsen, Secretary

**ILCW GATHERING**

Sandy opened the meeting with 14 attending. Sharon served goodies of bars/bread and watermelon. Those attending shared names of some members, family and friends that need to be remembered in our prayers and also maybe sending them a note of encouragement. Sandy led a prayer to uplift all who need God's love and strength. Program by Linda Mosher, sharing beautiful crafts she has made with ribbon, paper, baskets and calligraphy. She has created containers out of Pringle cans, decorative packets w/envelopes of hot chocolate mix or teas, beautiful cards, books and bookmarks and albums for family. Some of her calligraphy was framed with special poems. At the end of her program, she gave each person one of her creations. Thanks Linda, for a fun program. Cheryl Nielsen shared a special album she had done. Myrna Havick donated craft items for anyone attending to help themselves or she will give to VBS. Sandy asked for volunteers to donate toppings for ice cream sundaes or bars for the August 14 Special Gathering at 5:15. This special time is set for those working to have a social connection with other members of ILCW and friends attending.



Tanzanian Happenings

Breaking news! An invitation letter is being sent out from Immanuel to the Kidugala parish inviting two ambassadors from the Kidugala region to join us next summer in the celebration of the twentieth-year anniversary of our mission partnership between Immanuel and Kidugala, Tanzania. This is a developing story, and we look forward to sharing related upcoming events.

We recently learned that our zeri rafiki (very good friend) Pastor Lova passed away last week. Pastor Lova had previously visited Immanuel for a week with Pastor Nodfred. Pastor Lova was the pastor of several parishes in the Southern District of Tanzania over his many years of church service. He also held positions in the district office as well as the position of rector of the Kidugala Seminary. Over the years the travel teams have enjoyed his hospitality and have recently visited his new home in Kidugala.

We have a new parish pastor in Kidugala! Pastor Yuaja Mgeni has moved onto another parish and Kidugala's new pastor is Neto Msigwa. We have spoken with Neto and have emailed him a few times and we have discovered his English is excellent. We look forward to meeting him on our next trip.

On our last trip to Kidugala we sat down with Pastor Sebastian who has currently been assigned to a parish near Kidugala. Sebastian was the parish pastor in Kidugala several years ago and we have kept in contact with him since then. When the travel team was in Kidugala in August of 2023 we got together and had a lot of laughs and great conversation. During the conversation Sebastian spoke of a parish sponsored handicapped children's school that would soon be holding a fundraiser.

A month or two after returning from our August 2023 mission trip a private donor approached the Tanzanian team with funds that he wanted to use for mission work in Tanzania. He asked us to decide how to use them in the most beneficial way that we could, possibly in another village that has needs. We couldn't think of a better way to use those funds than to finish off the handicap school fundraiser shortfall, support 34 primary orphans and 18 secondary orphans as well as distribute Bibles to 163 confirmation students!

I love it when HIS plan comes together! I spoke with Pastor Sebastian today. He said several items had been purchased for the handicap school, the confirmation class Bibles had been distributed and the orphans are being assisted. Since that conversation I have received several pictures from Sebastian. This too could be another developing story and indeed another cause for celebration! Stay tuned!

Mungu Akubariki (God bless you all)

Rick



We'll Bring the

World

His Truth





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

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

HARLAN, IOWA 51537

PERMIT NO. 97

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office: 712-755-5207

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

AUGUST 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 5:00 Communion
4 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	5 5:00 Garden Club	6 9:00 CF Quilters 6:00 Worship Comm. 6-9:00 Boy Scts 7:30 Fellowship Ed	7	8	9	10 9:00-12:00 LHG 5:00 pm Worship
11 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	12	13 9:00 CF Quilters 6:30 Exec. Bd 7:00 Church Council	14 4 ILCW Mtg 5:15 ILC Gathering	15 6:30 Ladies Homestead	16	17 5:00 Communion
18 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	19	20 9:00 CF Quilters	21	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24 5:00 Worship
25 9:00 Worship/Baptism 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	26 1:00 Mission Quilters	27 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco	28 6:30 Choir Mtg 7:00 Confirmation 9th grade	29 Assemble Newsletter 6:00 Tz Team	30	31 5:00 Communion

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule

	Aug. 17-18	Aug. 24-25	Aug. 31-Sept. 1	Sept. 14-15	Sept. 21-22
Acolytes	Rex Swanson Cade Neve	Jace Palmer Collin Burchett	Gavin Sisson Drake Nippert	Abbey Brue Maggie Petersen	Katie Stern Grant Chipman
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Pat Schug	Deb Stendrup	Allan & Myrna Andersen	Art & Linda Andersen	Emmert Anderson
Saturday Altar Guild	Sandy Nelsen		Cheryl Nielsen		Kayla Jacobs
Sunday Greeters/Ushers	Ryan & Julie Carter	Charlie & Janelle Conrad	Tom & Lisa Conry	John Davis	Ernie & Stacie Foss
Sunday Altar Guild	Vicki Strissel		Mary Taggs		Mary Petersen
Scripture Reader (Sunday)	DeAnn Nielsen	Craig Olson	Judi Olson	Mich Petersen	Pam Rust
Communion Servers (Sunday)	Taylor & Tony Hansen		Erin Hastert Maggie Hatcher		Matt & Mary Hoch
Coffee Hosts (Sunday)	George & Jan Applegate	Rick & Cheryl Chipman	Duane & Vicki Errett	Larry & Peg Haas	Lois Hansen Karen Plewes
Sound	Christopher Chapman	Christopher Chapman	Gaige Lytle	Gaige Lytle	Gaige Lytle
Video	Grant Chipman	Grant Chipman	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Arenholtz
Projection	(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					