

# IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS

## FEBRUARY 2020

### Worship in February

February 1-2 Epiphany 4	"Happiness" (Matthew 5:1-12)	Communion
February 8-9 Epiphany 5	"Salt and Light" (Matthew 5:13-20)	
February 15-16 Epiphany 6	"Sin" (Matthew 5:21-37)	Communion Choir sings
February 22-23 Epiphany 7	"Open Your Eyes" (Matthew 17:1-9)	
February 26 Ash Wednesday	"Spiritual Disciplines" (Matthew 6:1-18)	Imposition of Ashes Choir sings
February 29/March 1 Lent 1	"Jesus and a Seductive Satan" (Matthew 4:1-11)	Communion



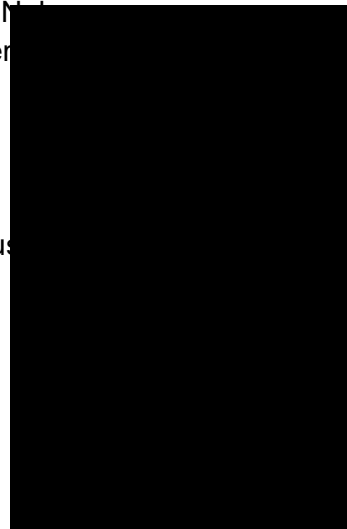
**YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP:** You are invited to enjoy fine dining on Sunday, February 16th, 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. You will be served a delicious three course meal including a salad, chicken and wild rice, and a decadent dessert. Childcare will be available at the church, and the children will be served a kid- friendly meal. Pass the word and get to know more young adults at Immanuel. Come, be our guests! Please sign up after church or call the church office (712-755-5207) by Friday, February 14th.

*\*We are also looking for volunteers to help with childcare that evening.\**

**ANNUAL MEETING NOTES:** 54 members signed in and attended the 2020 annual meeting of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Elected to church council for 2020 were John Taggs (president), Deb Brix (secretary), Derek Chapman (worship), Jonne Carlsen (fellowship), Mary Petersen (education), Cheryl Chipman (outreach), Wayne Nelson (property). Elected to the Trust and Memorial Committee were Darin Haake and Sally Simdorn. Elected to the 2020 Nominating Committee were Craig Olson, Ilene Nelson and Rick Chipman. Elected as delegates to Salem Lutheran Homes Association were Maggie Hatcher, Sandy Nelsen, Patti Kumm, Galen & Janet Johannsen and Judi Olson. Elected as delegates to LCMC were Cheryl Nielsen and Donna Nelson. Elected as Camp Ambassadors were Maggie Hatcher and Vickie Carstens.

Treasurer reported a 2019 end of year net income of \$452 which was our first surplus in several years. Thanks to all the generous givers at Immanuel. The 2020 budget of \$283,140 was approved unanimously.

A motion was made and passed to have the council appoint a constitutional review committee to review the constitution of Immanuel with a view toward making suggestions about possible updates.



Dear Friends in Christ,

Jesus proclaimed that every individual life has value in the love of God. Luther argued for freedom of conscience for individuals. But our Christian faith was never meant to be an individualistic experience. Christianity is about building a community called the Church.

America is becoming more and more individualistic. Social isolation is a growing problem in our society. People don't know their neighbors and therefore they care little for their communities. People don't have friends they can rely on and therefore they feel alone.

Worship in American churches is becoming more and more individualistic. People sit in theatre style seats facing a stage with theatre lighting, loud musical performers, and engaging videos. Everything is designed to give people an individual experience that satisfies their tastes.

Historically Christian worship has been about creating community, reminding us that we are not alone, and connecting us with one another as the Body of Christ. We worship in a well-lit room so that we can see each other. We sit in pews where we can (theoretically) rub shoulders with others. We keep music at a volume that allows us to hear the congregation singing. Ideally we sing songs with simple rhythms and accessible pitch ranges for average singers. Ideally we also sing songs that are not about private experience (I, me, and my) but are about our shared experience in Christ (we, us, our).

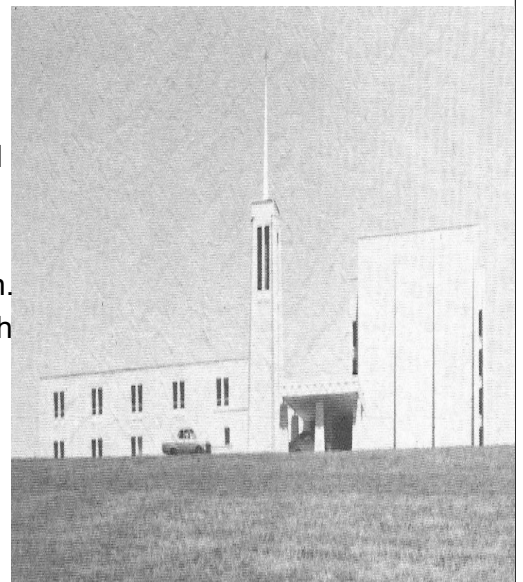
We confess our sins together, recognizing that none of us are too bad to come to church and none of us are too good to come to church. It's like a "Sin Addicts Anonymous" meeting where we all introduce ourselves with "Hi, I'm Joe and I'm a sinner seeking grace". Some of us have had a good week and some of us have had a bad week, but we all need to be here to get back on -- or to stay on -- the wagon of grace.

We share the peace of Jesus with a smile and a touch. For some people this may be the only touch they experience all week. It is not a "hello" moment. It is a moment of "God loves you", "you are family", and "I'm glad you are here." We are doing the gospel for each other by proclaiming peace with God and with each other through the forgiveness of Jesus.

We confess our faith together out loud in the words of the Creed. It is good to hear our voices blending together as we proclaim the faith we share with millions of Christians of the past 20 centuries. We have a wide variety of opinions about politics and moral issues. But we have a shared faith that unites us in spite of our many differences.

Sermons are not so much a practical seminar in how to have a happy life as they are a reminder of the story that gives meaning to our existence. Sermons are the remembering and reclaiming of God's Word for us in Law and in Gospel so that we might be formed and reformed as the family of Jesus for the world. Living our daily lives in a "wilderness of cultural unbelief", we need to be pulled into the story that created and continues to create the community of faith. Worship that offers a religious product to individuals will not do much to counter the isolation and polarization of modern life. But worship that is not "all about me" but "more about us" will nurture the kind of community that will truly bring faith, hope, and love to our fractured world.

Yours in Christ, *Phil Nielsen*



Beginning in February, 2020 offering envelopes will no longer be mailed to your home. Offering envelopes are available for pick up now at Immanuel. Please do so as soon as possible, thank you.



### UP COMING @ WOW

FEBRUARY: Gather February 12 at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. Check out what is planned for FUN FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP.



Please leave a baby picture of yourself (up to age 2) in the office anytime between now and our February gathering. If you can't be there, leave a picture to make it even more interesting. We will have great treats and learn about baptisms.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Connie Schwieso and family at the death of her brother, Wayne Sahl. Wayne passed away December 25 and his funeral was Monday, Dec. 30 in Denison.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Larry Klein and family at the death of his wife, Nancy. Nancy passed away Friday, January 3 and her funeral was January 7 at Immanuel.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Sally Nairn at the passing of her sister, Priscilla Thraen. Priscilla died Thursday, January 9 and her funeral was Monday, January 13 in Earling.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Cheryl Chipman at the passing of her father, Everett Lamer. Everett died on Saturday, January 11 and his funeral was Wednesday, January 15.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Phil Zimmerman at the passing of his brother, John Zimmerman. John died on Wednesday, January 15 and his funeral was Monday, January 20 in Westphalia.



**Please Pray for:**

**ON OUR PRAYER LIST:** Joanne Ernst, Jon Burmeister, Karen Plewes, Jean Whitfield, Donna Hansen, Sue Olson, Shawn Havick, Annette Anderson, Nancy Gessmann, Dave Greve, Marlys Moore, Bill Hosack, Clarice Andersen, Sally Claussen, Connie Benson, Robert Glenn (father of Sharon Kroger), Jessica Beeton (great-niece of Kathy Voge), Pam Patterson (niece of Judi Pedersen), Betty Anderson, Scott Bergemann (father of Hope Chipman), Chuck Matthews (son of Mary Beaman) and John Masters (son-in-law of Shirley Knudtson).

**FIRST FRUITS** Is held on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month (February 1 & 2). Please bring your non-perishable items to the church for the local food bank. Please place them in the shopping carts in the Narthex. Thank you! And thank you to all who have given. Thanks to those who have supported The Sharing Table. It has been used a lot this season. The items currently needed at the local food bank are: pasta sides, soups, canned chicken, canned fruit, box potato sides, Manwich, chicken helper, tuna helper, hamburger helper, peas, cake mixes, brownie mixes, ketchup, mustard, dish soap, laundry soap and toiletries (shampoo, body wash, tooth paste, deodorant).



**Happy Birthday to the following:**

David Koos who will be 82 on February 3  
 Derald Kumm who will be 85 on February 3.  
 Doris Towne who will be 96 on February 4.  
 John Swisher who will be 93 on February 5.  
 Charles Grabill who will be 88 on February 6.  
 Irma Pedersen who will be 82 on February 21.  
 Ed Mills who will be 83 on February 28.

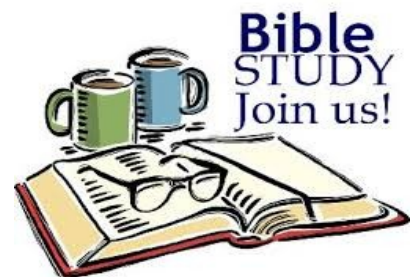
**Happy Anniversary to the following:**

Richard & Sharon Daberkow who will be celebrating their 54th anniversary on February 12.  
 Phil & Elaine Miller who will be celebrating their 56th anniversary on February 14.  
 Allan & Bonnie Ickes who will be celebrating their 51st anniversary on February 15.  
 Dick & Sue Olson who will be celebrating their 51st anniversary on February 15.  
 John & Hertha Haas who will be celebrating their 65th anniversary on February 27.



**WOW BUNCO**— Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. Bring your food pantry or share table items. Also bring a friend and enjoy an evening of Christian fellowship, fun and food!

**MARCH 2020  
 NEWSLETTER  
 DEADLINE:  
 THURSDAY,  
 FEBRUARY 20**



**February 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 4:30**  
 Women's Bible Study  
**February 5, 12, & 19 at 7:00**  
 Men's Bible Study

## COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY January 14, 2020—7 pm

The Immanuel Church Council met January 14 with 12 of 14 members present.

Vicki Carstens shared devotions from Luke 2:34-35 about looking into the future. Steve Allen will lead devotions in February.

Treasurer reported December income of \$35,082 and expenses of \$24,011. We ended 2019 with a small surplus of \$452.72 for the year. General Fund at the end of 2019 stood at \$26,624. Capital Savings Account stood at \$11,506.

**Outreach:** Community Kitchen went well in December. For 2019 we donated over 800 lbs. of food to the Food Pantry. Committee reached out to the only LCMC congregation in Australia which is about 40 kilometers from the fires so they have fire refugees in their community and the air quality is not good. They asked us to please pray for rain.

**Fellowship:** Planning for Talent show in January and a Fine Dining evening in February.

**Executive:** Ballot was presented to the council. Council approved to recommend to the congregation: John Taggs (president), Deb Brix (secretary), Derek Chapman (worship), Jonne Carlsen (fellowship), Mary Petersen (education), Cheryl Chipman (outreach), Wayne Nelson (property), Darin Haake and Sally Simdorn (Trust and Memorial). Nomination committee to be nominated from the floor.

Verne will recruit someone to audit the books for 2019.

Council approved to add forming a constitutional review committee to the annual meeting agenda.

“**UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRIEF**” is a series of six grief classes in a supportive and educational environment for adults who have experienced the death of a loved one. Classes will be from 9—10:30 am on Wednesdays, February 19, 26, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 at Myrtue Medical Center Board Room. Registration is required by February 12, 2020. Please call 755-4424 to register. Many people have gone through these classes and found them to offer valuable information about grief and the opportunity to talk with others who are in similar situations. We will be using the book, “Understanding Your Grief,” by Dr. Alan Wolfelt. There is no cost for the class or book.

### WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>			<u>Building</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Dec. 21/22</b>	35	+	126	=	161	\$ 6,235.00	\$	= \$ 6,235.00	
<b>Dec. 24 4 &amp; 6 PM</b>	317	+	82	=	399	\$ 5,616.00	\$ 1,010.00	= \$ 6,626.00	
<b>Dec. 28/29</b>	25	+	95	=	120	\$ 2,657.00	\$	= \$ 2,657.00	
<b>Jan. 4/5</b>	24	+	125	=	149	\$ 6,124.00	\$ 165.00	= \$ 6,289.00	
<b>Jan. 11/12</b>	37	+	128	=	165	\$ 6,337.00	\$ 1,043.17	= \$ 7,380.17	
<b>Jan. 18/19</b>	19	+	95	=	114	\$ 7,222.85	\$ 80.00	= \$ 7,302.85	
<b>Jan. 25/26</b>	42	+	134	=	176	\$ 2,574.00	\$ 200.00	= \$ 2,774.00	

## TANZANIA SOUP SUPPER AND AUCTION

The competition is on, who will be the winner this year of the best soup at Immanuel.

**When:** Saturday, March 21, 2020

**Where:** Immanuel Fellowship Hall

**Time:** Doors open at 5:45 for supper and auction immediately follows  
All the soup you can eat, Beverage, Desserts and Homemade Ice cream

Free-will donation

Fun and Fellowship for the whole family

### The Auction

Lots of wonderful items, find some special item you can't live without

### All Proceeds Go To Immanuel's Tanzania Mission

Sponsoring over 161 primary school orphans

Plus 151 secondary school orphans

200 confirmation students with bibles

Evangelists' bikes, bibles and hymn books to help with their ministry


Micro loans for the people of Kidugala

Demonstration plots of corn and beans

### How can you help?

Make your favorite soup, decorate your table and compete for the honor of The Judge's Choice Best tasting Soup, People's Choice Best tasting Soup or Crowing Rooster Award (Best Decorated Table)

We are also looking for Auction items. This can be as simple as a pie, baked item. Month, gift certificates, services/labor, tickets to an event, homemade treasurers. The sky is the limit.



**IOWA DISTRICT OF LCMC** presents the Midwinter Leadership Conference for council members, church staff, pastors, lay leaders, and interested individuals. Perry Fruhling (LCMC Coordinator for Pastoral Ministry) will speak on conflict resolution. Thursday, February 13, 9 AM to 3 PM at Riverside Bible Camp in Story City. Pastor Phil is planning to attend. If interested, please speak to him.

**WOMEN OF THE WORD EXEC BOARD**

January 8, 2020

The WOW Executive Board met Wed January 8, 2020 in the narthex with Sandy Nelsen, Kathy Block, Sharon Daberkow, Myrna Havick present and Janet Johannsen via phone.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Minutes from the December meeting were reviewed. There being no corrections Sharon moved to approve the minutes. Kathy seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Report was given by Kathy. December receipts were \$235 Thank Offering, \$370 Poinsettia sales, \$100 for Andersen funeral for total of \$705. Disbursements were Floral Elegance \$286.75 (poinsettias), \$110 for stamps to Jonelle C, \$35 KNOD for Harvest Bazaar, \$22.03 HyVee & \$195.20 Main Street Market for the Christmas Tea for total of \$648.98. This brings December balance to \$5995.81. No new bills presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** *Hospitality:* None *Kitchen:* None *Community:* Sharon reported that Vicki Carstens and Kathy Block volunteered to help and Maggie Hatcher will help with the local events. There will be 2 events at Elm Crest and 2 at Salem Home this next year.

**OLD BUSINESS:** *Kitchen:* Cleaning will commence after the WOW Gathering today. There were 11 funeral luncheons served in 2019. This service is greatly appreciated by the families.

*Christmas Tea:* Dec 14 Tea was well attended by approximately 80 women. A big THANK YOU to Linda Mosher for organizing and presenting a fun, informative program on "Aprons". Thanks also to Group B who had charge of the delicious brunch with the excellent help from many members not in Group B. Thanks Again.

**NEW BUSINESS:** *WOW Directory:* WOW Mission Committees Community list added Vicki Carstens and Kathy Block and Myrna Havick removed. WOW Activities Fellowship Group list additions were WOW Gathering and Mission Quilters. Sally Nairn's email address was corrected. Further review by Jan Applegate and Sandy Nelsen of the Alphabetical Listing will be done and changes made as needed.

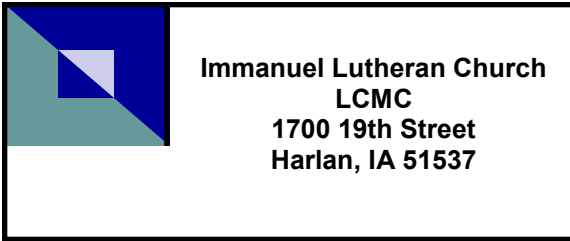
*Lenten Supper:* WOW Baked Potato Bar Lenten Supper will be chaired by Elaine Miller and Jill Miller. Date to be determine--possibly March 11?

**WOW GATHERING**

Women of the Word met in the Fellowship Hall with 9 attending. Sharon D presented the program on "Pew Sisters." Each women sitting in the pews has a story to tell of God's faithfulness in her life. She gave everyone present a piece of paper which each one had to write something about themselves that no one else would know. Lots of good laughs in finding out more about our Pew Sisters. Linda also had humor to share. Myrna served a delicious lunch.

Next WOW Board Meeting will be Feb 12 at 9:00. Next WOW Gathering will be Feb 12 at 9:30. Becky will be in charge of lunch.

Janet Johannsen, Secretary



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Church Office: 755-5207  
Office Hours: 9-12 & 12:30-4:00 (M-F)  
Office Email: [ilc@fmctc.com](mailto:ilc@fmctc.com)  
Pastor Phil's Cell Number: 712-579-2098  
Home Number: 712-766-3178  
E-mail: [peacephillip@gmail.com](mailto:peacephillip@gmail.com)  
[www.harlanimmanuel.org](http://www.harlanimmanuel.org)

**Staff:**

Pastor Phil Nielsen  
Music Director: Heidi Thies  
Office Manager: Joan Wehr  
Custodian: Ed Wehr

**FEBRUARY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Every Saturday Worship at 5:00 p.m.  
Communion on February 1 & 15  
Every Sunday Worship at 9:00 a.m.  
Communion on February 5 & 16  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee/Rolls  
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

A fellowship of believers

Committed to be and become:

Christ-Centered

Bible-Based

Family-Focused

Mission-Minded

In all that we do for the glory of God!

Matthew 28:18-20



February 2020						
◀ Jan 2020						Mar 2020 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 4-8 Ladies Homestead Game Night 5:00 Communion 7:00 Prayer Team
<b>2</b> 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 10:15 Sunday School	<b>3</b> 9:30 OA 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> 9-noon Girl Scout Delivery 9:00 CF Quilters	<b>5</b> 3:30 Kid's Club 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Bells/Confirmation 6:30 Meal/LYO 7:00 Men's Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 5:00 Worship
<b>9</b> 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 10:15 Sunday School 12:30-5 K Nelson-Fellowship Hall	<b>10</b> 9:30 OA 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 9:00 CF Quilters 5:30 Worship Committee 6:00 Boy Scout Leaders 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council	<b>12</b> 9:00 WOW 3:30 Kid's Club 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Bells/Confirmation 6:30 Meal/LYO 7:00 Men's Bible Study	<b>13</b> 6:00 Girl Scout Leaders 6:30 MOPS	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 5:00 Communion
<b>16</b> 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 10:15 Sunday School 5:30 Young Adult Dinner	<b>17</b> 9:30 OA 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> 9:00 CF Quilters	<b>19</b> 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Bells 7:00 Men's Bible Study	<b>20</b> Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Ladies Homestead Gathering	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 5:00 Worship
<b>23</b> 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class NO Sunday School	<b>24</b> 9:30 OA 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 9:00 CF Quilters	<b>26</b> 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Bells/Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Meal 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service	<b>27</b> Assemble Newsletter 7:00 Bunko	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:00 Communion

Worship Schedule								
March 2020	Sunday	Wednesday	Sunday	Wednesday	Sunday	Wednesday	Sunday	Wednesday
	Feb 29-March 1	March 4	March 7-8	March 11	March 14-15	March 18	March 21-22	25-Mar
Greeters	John/V Christense	n/a	Linda Christensen	n/a	Maggie Hatcher	n/a	Kirk/P Jacobsen	n/a
			Lori Christensen		Darlene Hess			
Acolytes	Ava Monson	Claire Schmitz	Josh Zimmerma	Chris Chapman	Braydon Ernst	Haylee Ernst	Ava Monson	Claire Schmitz
	Dani Smith	Kori Smith	Gabe Arkfeld		Grant Petersen	Emeri Smith	Mikayla Jensen	Cory Lee
			Harrison Kjergaard					
Saturday Ushers	Kathy Dirks	n/a	Lee Gittins	n/a	Warren Grumme	n/a	Sue Grummert	n/a
Sunday Ushers	Dale/L Conrad	John/J Davis	erry/N Gessma	James/J Folley	Bruce/K Havick	Joey/J Hansen	Gary/N Jahn	Bryan/A Kaster
	Tom/L Conry	Darin/T Haake	Dave/D Greve	Ernie/S Foss	Duane/V Errett	Bill/C Hosack	erry/R Hoffmar	Brian/P Kjergaard
Lector	Dave Greve	Darin Haake	Rick Chipman	Cheryl Chipman	Hertha Haas	Bill Hosack	Jerry Hoffman	Amy Kaster
Saturday Altar Guild	Maggie Hatcher				Kayla Jacobs			
Sunday Altar Guild	Jan Applegate				Jan Applegate			
	Stacy Torneten				Myrna Havick			
Communion Servers	Ron /K Block				Rich/S Daberkow			
	Myrna Havick				Larry Haas			
Fellowship Coffee	Theresa Doerr	n/a	Larry/P Haas	n/a	Tyson/A Haas	n/a	erry/K Jacobse	n/a
	& family							
Sound Technician	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen
Video Recorder	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake
Projectionist	Teri Johnson		Teri Johnson		Teri Johnson		Teri Johnson	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Cheryl Nielsen		Cheryl Nielsen		Cheryl Nielsen		Cheryl Nielsen	
Council Person	OPEN		OPEN		OPEN		OPEN	