



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS JULY 2023



VBS: Uncovering the Truth – July 24 to 27

We are looking forward to a fun 4 days with our staff from Ingham/Okoboji. The theme is “Uncovering the Truth.” Children ages 4 through 12 are invited to join us for 4 days of fun and friendship, stories and songs, skits and surprises, crafts and games, snacks and laughs as we become detectives who uncover the truth about God and about us. The day will run from 12:30 to 5:00 Monday through Thursday.

Thursday (July 27) we will have a 5:00 p.m. **program** for families and friends followed by a hot dog feast.

Registration forms are available in the church office and online at harlanimmanuel.org. Volunteers to help whether for one day or all four days are encouraged to call the church office. Host homes are needed for our 4 staff members from Ingham/Okoboji. Donations of food are also needed including someone to make lunch for the Ingham/Okoboji staff each day.

S'more Church – Wednesday, July 26

Everyone is invited to “**S'more Church**,” a time of worship and song, fun and fellowship, and campfire snacks at Prairie Rose State Park at 7 p.m. at the south shelter. Bring camp chairs if you have any. There will be seating for everyone. And the Fellowship and Education team will bring the fixings for s'mores. In case of stormy weather or rain, we will cancel and serve s'mores at the VBS program the next day.

Heartland District Gathering – July 14 and 15

The Heartland District of LCMC has an annual gathering of leaders from the 50 plus LCMC congregations in Nebraska, Western Iowa, Kansas, and South Dakota. This year we will meet July 14 and 15 in Seward, Nebraska. Our guest presenter is Pastor Julie Smith, the LCMC Coordinator for Districts and Fellowships. Pastor Smith has been a pastor, Bible Camp director, and co-founder of St. Paul Lutheran Seminary. She is an excellent teacher who is passionate about encouraging and training congregations and leaders. If you are interested in attending with a group from Immanuel, please contact Pastor Phil.



Dear Friends in Christ,

What is your church like? Anybody ever ask you that question? How does one begin to answer that question? We could say that we are Lutheran, but most people outside of a Lutheran Church don't know what Lutheran means. So how would you best describe Immanuel to someone who is not Lutheran? What 3 words would you use to describe Immanuel? I would describe Immanuel as traditional, sacramental, and evangelical.

We are traditional. We consider ourselves to be a movement within the one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We are open to new songs and new ways of doing things, but we treasure the traditions and wisdom of the generations of Christians that have come before us. We follow a traditional liturgical pattern of worship that puts the focus on God and God's Word rather than on styles of music, personalities of pastors, or trends in popular culture.

We are sacramental. Baptism and Communion are very important to us. They are not rituals that we do to earn merit or promises that we make to God. They are God's promises to us and a means of God's grace working faith into us. Our worship is not about performing for God or about being entertained. Our worship is about seeking, celebrating, and sharing God's gifts of grace and truth given to us in his Word and Sacraments. We gather in worship because we believe God's Word is good for us.

We are evangelical. The word evangel is a New Testament word meaning "good news." We are shaped by the 16th century Reformation movement which was sparked by the rediscovery of the Gospel good news of salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. We are a Gospel-focused Church. We read the Bible because it gives us Jesus and we believe Jesus speaks to us through the Bible. So we distinguish between Law and Gospel in the Bible. The Law kills our spiritual pride. The Gospel give us life and frees us to love God and others. The Bible is misused when it is preached as just another self-help book.

Those are the 3 words I would use to describe Immanuel: traditional, sacramental, and evangelical. I wonder what 3 words you would describe to describe Immanuel. I wonder what 3 words our neighbors would use to describe their churches.

Yours in Christ, *Phil Nielsen*

P.S. The Sunday morning Adult Bible Class is discussing the Gospel of John. We are in chapter 3 and will soon discuss one of my favorite stories: the Samaritan woman at the well. All are welcome to join us from 10:15 to 11:00 each Sunday. We will not meet on July 9.



Happy Birthday to the following:

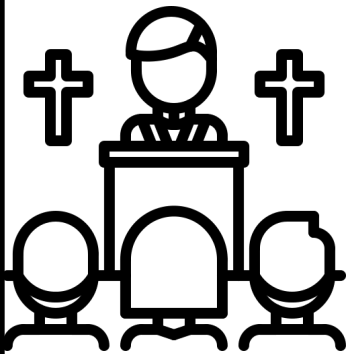
Carolyn Hursey will be 82 on July 7.
 Maxine Hillers who will be 80 on July 09.
 Marilyn Burger will be 88 on July 29.

Happy Anniversary to the following:

Vernon & Linda Brue who will be celebrating their 56th anniversary on July 8.
 Dalton & Gayl Jensen will be celebrating their 51st anniversary on July 22.



Worship in July



Date	Message	
July 1-2	"Civil War" Romans 7:15-25	Communion
July 8-9	"Unoffendable Christians" James 3:13-18	
July 15-16	"Spirit vs. Flesh" Romans 8:1-13	Communion
June 22-23	"The Groan and the Glory" Romans 8:14-27	
July 29-30	"More Than Conquerors" Romans 8:28-39	

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.





A SPECIAL THANK YOU & RECOGNITION

Goes to JoAnn Christensen for the 42 baby quilts she sewed and were taken to Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. They were beautiful.

The many hours are as JoAnn states, **"A Labor of Love for the Lord"**.



ON OUR PRAYER LIST: Ed Mills, Julie Vorm, Nancy Gessman, Galen Johannsen, Kayla Weis, Sandra Haney, Connie Benson, Bill Broveak (son-in-law of Ed & Shelia Mills, Jerry Christensen (son of John Christensen), Rita Whiteley (cousin of Maggie Hatcher), Wade Mills (son of Ed & Shelia Mills), Curt Olson (son of Sue Olson), Doug Beaman (son of Mary Beaman), Julie Duval.





JUNE COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Church Council met June 13 with 10 of 13 members present. John Taggs led devotions. Craig Olson will lead devotions in July.

Treasurer: May income was \$49,143 including \$27,459 for the organ project. May expenses were \$47,700 including \$24,000 paid out to the organ builder. General Fund balance was \$76,645. Building Fund balance was \$59,955. After paying first installment, the Organ Project balance was \$48,364.

Worship/Evangelism: To enhance the organ, a tile company recommended that we paint the ceiling tiles in the balcony to provide more resonance. We discontinued our tuning contract with Darrow Pipe Organ. Increased our pulpit supply compensation from \$200 per weekend to \$250 per weekend to match area rates.

Fellowship/Education: Easter breakfast was well supported. Over 20 people joined the bowling fellowship in April. 30 people from 6 families attended our Graduate Breakfast in May. 10 children and 2 families are attending one of our church camps with scholarships from the congregation. Bible School Day Camp plans include a Wednesday night S'more Church at Prairie Rose for the whole congregation and a Thursday evening VBS program and picnic dinner. Rally Sunday will include a video/slide program on our educational ministry that Becky Chipman has put together followed by a tailgate lunch and games.

Outreach/Stewardship: 514 pounds donated to the food pantry. Sharing cupboard and fridge have been sparser than expected. July Mission Partner is West Central Community Action. Tanzania Team is planning on 3 going to Kidugala in August. A group from Immanuel attended the presentation in Shelby by Pastor Haamer of the Estonian Lutheran Church.

Property: The sewer line has been augured out. Wasp traps have been set up, but no wasps spotted lately.

Executive: Council had a good discussion about membership renewal process. We are seeking ways to invite people to consider their commitment to Christ through the Church. We are also seeking ways to be more welcoming to new members and to streamline volunteer coordination. Decided to continue to develop the process and to present at the annual congregational meeting in January. Also, looking to revise a visitor/new member welcome resource.

WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Total</u>
May 27-28	15	+	74	=	89	\$ 3,618.35	\$ 3,618.35
June 3-4	27	+	93	=	120	\$ 4,544.89	\$ 4,619.89
June 10-11	12	+	87	=	99	\$ 3,940.00	\$ 3,940.00
June 17-18	24	+	78	=	102	\$ 6,183.87	\$ 6,183.87
June 24-25	23	+	77	=	100	\$ 3,762.00	\$ 3,762.00



Sisters in Christ

A sister In Christ is a
sister for life
Mark 3:35

ILCW EXECUTIVE BOARD

June 14, 2023

ILCW met Wednesday, June 14 at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall with 13 attending. Sharon introduced her guest, Doris Silling, who gave an interesting program on "Wedding in India". Doris lived in South Dakota before moving to Harlan. While in South Dakota she worked with a Dr from India and became great friends. She was invited to his wedding in India and fell in love with the country, it's people and customs. The groom's family has strict requirements

on the groom's choice of a bride. Once the wedding date is set it's a 2-day affair. The first day the bride's and groom's families are all present and just mingle getting to know each other. The second day each set of families do not see each other until the ceremony. There are no rings exchanged but a gift of a necklace for the bride instead. And the groom's family buys a jewelry gift for the bride also. There are no attendants for the bride and groom. There is much dancing, food and celebrating but no alcoholic drinks. Each guest attending gets a gift which Doris showed—a silver keepsake small urn-like container w/lid. Doris was attired by the family in traditional dress of sarong etc. and handmade leather shoes. She showed the fabric that made up her wedding attire—probably 6 yards in length—wrapped around her many times and fastened over the shoulder. She also showed many beautiful fabrics created by very talented people and had an album of pictures to show. While in India for 4 weeks she was able to travel with a tour group to the North part and the South part. The northern part of India's culture is a stricter culture than the south. In April the weather there was starting to warm up. Very enjoyable program!

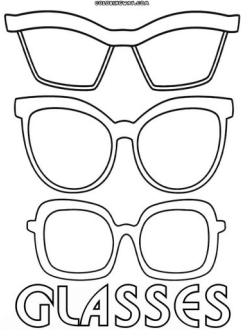


Janet served a flag fruit tray (in honor of Flag Day today) and pastry treat. The Gathering was followed by many ambitious ladies who cleaned the kitchen. Job well done ladies! Thank You!





TANZANIA HAPPENINGS



Tanzania here we come! In August a group from Immanuel will be traveling to Kidugala. In preparation for the trip, we would like to take along leather work gloves of all sizes as gifts for the pastors and evangelists. Also, cheater glasses of all strengths to help people to be able to read. If anyone is interested in helping with these gifts it would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left in the church office. Thank you!





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Church
LCMC
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NON-PROFIT ORG
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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: Connie Boysen
Custodian: Slava Aleev

JULY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	26 9:00 Mission Quilters	27 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco	28	29	30	1 5:00 Communion
2 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	3 6:30 Garden Club	4th OF JULY OFFICE CLOSED	5	6	7 Pastor on vacation to 10th of July	8 5:00 Worship
9 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee NO Adult Bible Class	10 8-4 Fair	11 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco 6:30 Executive Bd 7:00 Church Council	NO ILCW	12	13 8-5 4H Pies	14 5:00 Communion
16 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	17	18 9:00 CF Quilters 7:30 Fellowship & Ed.	19	Newsletter Deadline	20 6:30 Ladies Homestead	21 5:00 Worship
23 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	24 12:30-5:00pm VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	25 9:00 CF Quilters 12:30-5:00pm VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	26 12:30-5:00pm VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 7pm S'more Church at Prairie Rose	27 Assemble Newsletter 12:30-5:00pm VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 5pm VBS Program & Picnic	28	29 5:00 Worship
30 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	31 9:00 Mission Quilters	1 9:00 CF Quilters	2	3	4	5 5:00 Communion

JULY 2023

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule

	August 12-13	August 19-20	August 26-27	September 2-3	September 9-10
Acolytes	Caden Herbst Gavin Sisson	Aubrey Petsche Jolie Nielsen	Grant Chipman Cade Neve	Rex Swanson Jace Palmer	Abbey Brue Katie Stern
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Emmert Andersen	Rick & Cheryl Andersen	Roger Andersen	Mary Beaman	Connie Behrens
Saturday Altar Guild		DeAnn Nielsen		Cheryl Nielsen	
Sunday Greeters/Ushers	Barney & Judy Ahrenholtz, Stephanie Ahrenholtz, Amy Petersen	Mark & Michelle Andersen Jami & Jon Arkfeld	Denise Barnes Chris Booth Jennifer Malone	Deb Brix Matt & Michelle Bruck	Bob & Patty Brue Vernon & Linda Brue
Sunday Altar Guild		Janet Johannsen Tammy Haake		Peg Haas Sharon Daberkow	
Scripture Reader (Sunday)	Dave Greve	Janet Johannsen	Roberta King	Elaine Miller	Linda Mosher
Communion Servers (Sunday)		Kathy Block Becky Chipman		Jim Chipman Rick Chipman	
Coffee Hosts (Sunday)	Linda Norgaard Kris Olson-Harmon	Craig & Judi Olson	Linda Peterson Karma Petersen	Lavera Stern Angel & Katie	Verne & Ilene Nelson
Sound	Christopher Chapman	Christopher Chapman	Christopher Chapman	Gaige Lytle	Gaige Lytle
Video	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Darin Haake	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz
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	Steve Allen	Rich & Barb Furst	Vicki Strissel		Steve Allen

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