



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS June 2026



2026 VBS at Immanuel: Camp Creation

Immanuel invites children 4 years old through 6th grade to sign up for our 2026 Vacation Bible School. Every year we gather about 50 children from our congregation and our community for a few days of fun and fellowship to celebrate and share the good news of Jesus. This year we are hosting 3 days of VBS on June 16, 17, and 18 (Tuesday through Thursday). Our VBS day will run from 9:00 A.M. to noon. Our theme is "Camp Creation." Our goal is that children will experience the goodness and greatness of our God as seen through the wonders of God's creation. Our 3 days together will be packed with songs and stories, games and crafts, puppets and snacks. Sign-up forms are available in the Church office. Everyone is invited to a campfire with s'mores Wednesday evening, June 17 at 7:00 p.m.

ILCW

SPRING BAZAAR

JUNE 3, 2026

SERVING FROM

11 AM - 1:00 PM



Menu

Chicken Salad on a Croissant, Fruit, Chips, Dessert and Beverage

Ticket Price \$15.00

Carry-Out Available

(Tickets can be purchased from the

Church Women, Church office, or at the door)

Baked Goods Sale starting at 10:30 am

Baked Goods, Quilts, Crafts, and much more...



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTSFROM THE
Pastor's Desk

June 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

This summer, I will be preaching from the New Testament book of James. Tradition says the author of this brief but powerful letter was one of the brothers of Jesus. He was originally a skeptic when Jesus began his ministry, but after he saw Jesus risen from death, he became a leader in the Church. He became the head of the church in Jerusalem and even the head of the Jewish half of the Church.

Many people love the book of James because it is so very practical. Whereas Paul's letters often focus on theology and on what Christ has done for us, James focuses all his attention on how we are to live. I think that James is trying to emphasize what Jews and Christians have in common: that we are all called to live a life of obedience, humility, and mercy.

Of course, there are those who have complained about the book of James. Luther famously called it an "Epistle of Straw" because it was used to refute the teaching of Paul's letters that we are saved by faith apart from works of the Law. James only mentions Jesus by name twice in the whole book. And James explicitly says that we are not saved by faith alone. But when we understand what both Paul and James actually taught, it is possible to find agreement between James and Paul regarding the relationship between faith, love, and religion.

The book of James is especially relevant for us today because it highlights the ways the first generation of Christians lived in a world that was not that different from our world today. Much of our modern Christianity has lost the spirit of humility and compassion of ancient Christianity. We will do well to meditate on the truths of James.

Meanwhile, the Sunday morning Adult Bible Class will continue conversations about a modern critique of Christianity. We have found that much of what critics reject of modern American Christianity are things that Luther also rejected about medieval Christianity. We are still trying to discover the real heart of the movement that Jesus started.

Yours in Christ, Phil Nielsen



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

As I continue in ministry throughout this internship, I am looking to form a small support committee within the congregation. This committee would serve as a source of encouragement, accountability, prayer, and guidance throughout the internship process. I am seeking 6 individuals who would be willing to meet almost monthly to offer feedback and to support me spiritually and personally during this time of formation and learning. People of different ages, experiences, and perspectives within the congregation would be a blessing.

If you are interested in serving in this role or would like to learn more about what it involves, please feel free to speak with me after service, contact me directly, or just leave your name in the office.

Thank you, and God bless you all!

Yours in Christ,

Jared Walters

IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS



Larry Klein will be 82 on June 4
 Myrna Andersen will be 79 on June 8
 Kathryn Voge will be 84 on June 9
 Sandy Stormer will be 85 on June 14
 Sue Olson will be 82 on June 16
 Karma Petersen will be 84 on June 18
 Allan Andersen will be 81 on June 28
 Karen Brasch will be 85 on June 29

Martha (Marty) Burchett will be married 57 years on June 5
 Dave and Kay Koos will be married 65 years on June 10
 Arthur and Linda Andersen will be married 60 years on June 25

OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Sally Nairn. Sally passed away on May 18 at UNMC. Services will be held for Sally at Immanuel on June 1.



OUR PRAYER LIST: Steve Allen, Judy and Dave Pedersen, Phil Miller, Shirley Haner, Hertha Haas, Ellie Nelson, Pat Pattison, Phil Smith, Arlynn Gittins, Kay Koos, Connie & Ed Benson, Jeann Nelson (Julie Vorm's sister), Larry Andersen (Connie Behrens' brother), Grace Ashdown (Randi McEvoy's sister-in-law), Tracy Klein (Larry Klein's son), Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother), Dave and Kim Burmeister, Lindsay Beatty (Brother-in-Law of Todd & Angie Madsen), Jacque Baxter (Sister of Diana Greve), Howard Jensen (Brother of Dalton Jensen), Waylon Heth (Friend of Dave and Diana Greve), Roy Hicks (Karen Plewes' stepson), and Marilyn Torgersen (Judi Pedersen's sister).



Worship in June 2026

June 6-7	Matthew 9:9-26 Called by Grace	Communion
June 13-14	James 1:1-12 Joy-Filled Trials?	
June 20-21	Courageous Loyalty Matthew 10:24-39	Communion
June 28	James 1:13-18 Temptation and Sin	No Saturday evening service

WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>					<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>REFUGEES</u>
May 2-3	23	+	189	=	212	6110.00	\$ 175.00
May 9-10 Mother's Day	0	+	156	=	156	\$2764.00	\$1720.00
May 16-17 Grad. Recog.	25	+	193	=	218	\$ 4600.00	\$1350.00
May 23-24	18		95	=	113	\$2847.00	\$ 215.00
Sharing Cupboard (Food Pantry) \$ 65.00							
Direct Deposit \$1751.00							
TZ \$95.00							



**Soup Supper and Auction
2026 Judge's Choice Soup**



Mexican Corn Cowder

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 ½ lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts | ½ - 1 Tsp. Ground Cumin |
| 1/2 Cup chopped onion | 2 Cups Half & Half Cream |
| 3 Tbsp. Butter | 2 Cups shredded Monterey Jack Cheese |
| 1 – 2 Garlic Cloves, minced | 1 Can (14 3/4 ounces) Cream Style Corn |
| 1 Cup Hot Water | 1 Can (4 ounces) Chopped Green Chiles, undrained |
| 2 Tsp. Chicken Bouillon Granules | ¼ - 1 Tsp. Hot Pepper Sauce |
| | 1 medium Tomato, chopped |

In Dutch Oven, brown chicken (that has been cut into 1-inch pieces) and onion in butter until chicken is no longer pink. Add garlic; cook 1 minute longer. Add the water, bouillon and cumin; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 5 minutes.

Stir in the cream, cheese, corn, chiles and hot pepper sauce. Cook and stir over low heat until cheese is melted; add tomato.

If desired, top with cilantro and tortilla strips.

Substitution/addition Notes:

- Chicken bouillon granules - chicken broth
- Cream style Corn – I added some of our own frozen sweet corn
- Green Chiles – I used a can of Rotel
- Tomato – I used a can of Fire Roasted tomatoes



O.C.C.

I'VE PENNED THIS POEM TO TELL A TALE
OF CHILDREN FAR AND NEAR.
WHOSE LIVES ARE FILLED WITH POVERTY,
FAMINE, WAR, AND FEAR.

THEY NEED TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE CARES,
FAR MORE THAN OUR DISPLAYS.
THEY NEED TO KNOW THE SAVIOR'S LOVE,
AND OF HIS SINLESS WAYS.

THE SHOE BOX COMES WITH MANY THINGS,
SOME TOYS, AND SOAP, AND CLOTHES,
A YOYO, AND A JUMPING ROPE,
A DOLL WITH HAIR THAT GLOWS.

CRAYONS, BOOKS AND WRITING PADS,
MITTENS, HATS, AND GAMES,
CANDY, RINGS, AND PUZZLES,
FLASHLIGHTS, CARDS, AND PLANES.

THE SMILES APPEAR AND ALL ENJOY
THE TREASURES THAT WE SEND.
BUT THE GREATEST GIFT THEY'LL EVER KNOW
IS JESUS—SAVIOR, FRIEND.

BY JUDY STANLEY
6-17-2001



CAREGIVERS COMPASS

Our Caregivers Compass gathering will have a presentation by Tina from Myrtue Home Health on Tuesday, June 9th, at 9:30 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church. She will provide information that we may find useful in our caregiving journey. You need to know the help this service from Myrtue offers: physical therapy, occupational therapy, personal care advice, and nurses to help with medical issues. The fellowship that comes with home care is important too. The gathering on June 9th will give us information with time to ask questions.. Everyone is invited and all is confidential. Caregiver's Compass will not meet in July and August. Call Immanuel Lutheran Church, Joyce Folley, Jan Applegate, or Elaine Miller.

VBS SNACKS

If you would like to help with snack items to **Celebrate God's Creations** for VBS, June 16,17,18, you can sign up before and after church or in the church office. There are snack items to purchase or monetary donations are welcome for the committee to purchase items. Thank you so much for your assistance.

PEDERSEN MEAL TRAIN

A Meal Train has been set up for Dave and Judy Pedersen. Judy has recently been in the hospital and ER and will be undergoing additional testing for her heart. Dave is also scheduled for shoulder surgery in August.

They would appreciate help with providing one meal per day. Because of dietary needs, meals should be diabetic-friendly.

If you are unsure how to sign up using the QR/scan code, please contact Diana at the church office, and she will gladly help get you set up.

Thank you for your care, prayers, and support for Dave and Judy during this time.



Web Sight: mealtrain.com/ee6rre



ILCW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2026



The ILCW Executive Board met May 13 with Sandy Nelsen, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen, Sharon Daberkow, Jean Whitaker, Julie Vorm and Joyce Folley present. Sandy called meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed. Julie motioned to approve. Sharon seconded. Ayes all.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy reported bill of \$375 for Easter lilies was paid. Jean was paid \$37.74 for kitchen supplies. No income reported or new bills. April balance is \$1684.03.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: **Community-**Sharon reported 22 May bags for shut-ins/seniors were assembled and to be delivered after the meeting. **Mission Quilters-**Four quilts were assembled. Quilters now meeting the **3rd Monday of every other month starting July 20 at 1:00.** **Kitchen-**It is well stocked for the present.

OLD BUSINESS: "Spring Bazaar"-Posters are done and will be distributed to businesses. Donations to provide for the luncheon are still needed. Tickets are printed.

NEW BUSINESS: Bible School-June 16, 17 & 18 from 9 AM to noon. "Camp Creation" is theme. ILCW is providing snacks in the camp theme. There will be sign-up sheets for snacks and/or donations to defray cost to purchase. Five workers each day will be helpful. Contact Sandy Nelsen if you would like to volunteer.

Janet Johannsen, Secretary

ILCW GATHERING

Twenty-three attended. Sandy announced the new bazaar date. Joyce talked about food donations. Kathy and Linda had delicious baked treats and fruit. Linda read humor from the Lutheran book. Linda's program was "A Look Back." Remember when you could get sets of dishes with S & H green stamps and other promotional stamps from stores? You had to make sure those stamps were pasted into their special books to fill and redeem for goods. Linda had many beautiful items from family or acquired in her collection. Some to her weren't beautiful but a sign from the past on what was available back then. Each guest was asked to bring an item for "show & tell" that was given or acquired which had special meaning. A beautiful green bowl was brought which was dug out of the dirt at the site of an old hotel near Cyclone Ave near the fairgrounds---and to bone china---some were sets and many one-of-a kind items. Some were wedding presents of many years ago! All having sentimental meaning to those bringing them. A fun program and beautiful table decorations from Linda's collection of tea pots. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



ILCW will be gathering **Wednesday, June 10**, in the fellowship hall at 9:30. Jean has been working on her program, "**The Original 21**", which I know that you will enjoy. Julie will be serving something delicious. It will all be GREAT. Hope to see you there. There is **no July gathering**. The **August gathering is at 5:15** so that our working gals can attend. More about that next month.

MAY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Council met May 12 of 11 members present. Vicki Strissel led devotions from Colossians 3:23 about not doing more but doing what we do with a whole heart. June devotions will be led by Craig. Vicki, Amy, Kirk, Craig, and Scott volunteered for Deacon on Duty.

Treasurer's Report: April income was \$27,806 with expenses of \$25,304 for a net gain of \$2,501. Utilities continue to be high. YTD income is \$111,990 and expenses are \$116,345 for a net loss of \$4355. General fund balance is \$62,697 plus two CDs of \$56,000 totaling \$118,697. Capital Savings account is \$89,072. Refugee Food Aid has \$16,100 in the general fund.

Outreach/Stewardship: May Mission partner is the Lutheran Church in Estonia which is reaching out to young people in the formerly atheist country.

Property: Sewer line has been replaced and sleeved. Lawn care for dandelions is needed. We will probably wait until fall to do it. Furnace repair is still needed. Thanks to a group from the high school who cleaned up our yard. Front doors are sagging and need work.

Executive: We decided to ask Shane Pitts to fill out the 12th council member position. He agreed. Discussed the need for an internship committee to provide Jared with feedback and support during his internship.

We have been given two RAGBRAI groups who will be camping on our lawn. Both groups are self-contained and will not need the use of our building. We have received a request from a small group from Luther college who would like to stay overnight in our building.

We have an apartment for Jared and Kaitlyn that they can move into June 1.

Pastor: We have figured out our picture directory program. We have pictures for about 100 of our households. We would like to have at least 50 more. Selfies are welcome. Digital or printed pictures are fine. We especially need pictures of people who have joined in the past 3 years.

Thank you to Ken Carstens for his lawn mowing and to Ken Nielsen for all his handy work around the property.



LCCM Neighborhood Gathering

Immanuel is part of an association of congregations called Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. As part of this network, congregations are mutually accountable to one another, meaning that we are called to support and encourage one another in our shared mission. We have several LCCM congregations in our area. On Saturday, June 27, at 5:00 p.m. we will be gathering together at the city park in Kimballton for worship and a picnic. Bring a camp chair or a lawn chair and join us for some great fellowship together as Christians who are free in Christ, accountable to one another, rooted in the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, and committed to the Great Commission. There will be no Saturday evening service at Immanuel that evening.



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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Office Hours: 9-2(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: Diana Greve
Custodian: Slava Aleev

JUNE 2026

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 9:00 Visitation 10:00 Nairn Funeral	2 9:00 CF Quilters Bazaar Setup	3 11-1 ILCW Spring Bazaar	4 9:00-3:30 WIC 10:30 Pastor @ Westridge	5	6 5:00 Communion Pastor Gone
7 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class Pastor Gone	8	9 9:00 CF Quilters 9:30 Caregivers Compass 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council	10 9:00 ILCW Board 9:30 ILCW Gathering	11	12 Homeschool Game Club 5:30-8:00	13 5:00 Worship
14 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	15	16 9:00-12:00 VBS 9:00 CF Quilters	17 9:00-12:00 VBS 7:00 VBC Campfire	18 9:00-12:00 VBS 9:00-3:30 WIC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19	20 5:00 Communion
21  9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	22 5:00-7:00 Girl Scouts	23 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco 5:00 Mother's Assoc.	24	25 ASSEMBLE NEWSLETTER	26 Homeschool Game Club 5:30-8:00	27 5:00 LCMC Worship I in Kimballton
28 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	29	30 9:00 CF Quilters				

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule June-July 2026

	June 6-7	June 13-14	June 20-21	June 27-28	July 4-5
Acolytes	Pyper Montgomery Truman Kjergaard	Zoey Olson Maggie Petersen	Harper Petsche Leah Svendsen	Will Chipman Cora Clay	Gavin Herbst Kolton Jensen
Saturday Greeter/Usher	James Burmeister	Kathy Dirks	Warren and Sue Grummert	Darin and Tammy Haake	Maggie Hatcher
Sunday Greeter/Usher	Jim and Joyce Folley	Dan, Mikayla and Kolton Jensen	Brian and Paula Kjergaard	Janell Leinen and Jonas Reynolds	Santino Ngelo Stephen Lewo
(Saturday) Altar Guild	Cheryl Nielsen		Sandy Nelsen		Kayla Jacobs
(Sunday) Altar Guild	Mary Taggs Stacy Torneten		Peg Haas Janet Johannsen		Donna Nelson Kate Petersen
Scripture Reader (Sun)	Janet Johannsen	Elaine Miller	Linda Mosher	Sandy Nelsen	Donna Nelson
Communion Servers (Sun)	Jim and Becky Chipman		Dave Greve Larry Haas		Taylor Hansen Erin Hastert
Coffee Hosts (Sun)	Galan and Janet Johannsen	Greg and Donna Nelson	Ilene and Verne Nelson	Craig and Judi Olson	Kris Olson-Harmon
Sound	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Rick Chipman
Video	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Rick Chipman
Projection	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Cheryl Nielsen Sat Teri Johnson (Sun)	Teri Johnson (Sun)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)
Council Person	Scott Shannon	Vicki Strissel	Amy Kaster	Kirk Jacobsen	Craig Olson