

IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS March 2026

Tanzania Soup Supper, Auction & Silent Auction

The competition is ON!

Who will be crowned Immanuel's Best Soup Champion this year?

When: Saturday, March 21, 2026

Doors open at **5:30 PM** for supper

Auction immediately following

All-you-can-eat soup!

Free-will donation – all proceeds go to Immanuel's Tanzania Mission

Where: Immanuel Fellowship Hall



Soup Supper

Enjoy a variety of **delicious soups, beverages, desserts, and homemade ice cream.**

Soup Competition Fun!

Make your favorite soup, decorate your table, and compete for:

Judge's Choice – Best Tasting Soup, **People's Choice** – Best Tasting Soup,

Crowing Rooster Award – Best Decorated Table



The Auction

Enjoy both a **Live Auction** and a **Silent Auction** with lots of wonderful items.

We are looking for auction items!

Donations can include: A pie or baked item for a month, Gift certificates, Services or labor, Tickets to events, Homemade treasures.

How You Can Help

Attend the Soup Supper & Auction, Bid on auction items, Make a **free-will donation**, Spread the word to friends and family.



Mission Impact

Your support helps: Sponsor 161 primary school orphans, Sponsor 151 secondary school orphans, 200 confirmation students with bibles, Microloans for the people of Kidugala, Demonstration plots of corn and beans, Equip evangelists with bikes, Bibles, and hymn books.

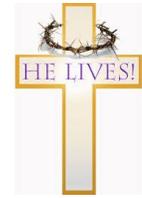
Join us for a night of delicious food, friendly competition, fellowship, and making a difference in Tanzania!

Souper 

IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS



FROM THE *Pastor's Desk*



Dear friends in Christ,

The gospels tell us that the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus at his baptism looking like a dove. But Mark tells us that the dovish Holy Spirit turned hawkish as it drove Jesus out into the desert. Matthew says that the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil. The desert (or wilderness) is a place of solitude and silence. Jesus went there to fast and pray and to prepare for his mission which would lead him ultimately to the cross.

Christians have observed a season of Lent for centuries as a metaphor for following Jesus into the desert as means of focusing ourselves on our call to carry the cross with Jesus. Jesus called us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow him. (Luke 9:23) We naturally like to focus on the Epiphany revelations and the Easter resurrections. But Lent calls us to recognize that we are sinners who must deny ourselves and even suffer in the spiritual battles against the devil, the world, and our sinful selves.

Lent calls us to follow Jesus into the desert by taking up spiritual disciplines. Spiritual disciplines are practices that make space in our hearts for the Word of God. They are attempts to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly as in Colossians 3:16. They may have some emotional and mental benefit, but the real purpose is to hear and receive the Word of God which is the power of salvation.

Solitude and silence are the most basic spiritual disciplines. They are a form of fasting that is extremely challenging for most of us. We live in a world bombarded with stimuli like never before. We are addicted to noise, to hurry, to phones, to the internet, to someone else (besides God) guiding our thoughts. To unplug from the world and to quiet ourselves can be very difficult for us. That is why Lent is not 20 minutes long. It takes us quite a while to quiet our busy minds so that we can hear ourselves think and so that we can truly pray and attend to God's Word.

Whatever you do this Lent, I would encourage you to make time for silence and solitude. Take a walk. Memorize a favorite passage of Scripture and recite it to yourself every day and see what those words begin to say to you. I promise you that the dynamic Word of God will speak to you in new and fresh ways as you take time to let it work through the layers of resistance that we build up.

Corporate spiritual disciplines are those that we do together such as worship and Bible study. I want to remind you that everyone is always welcome to join our adult Bible class on Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 11:00. We are currently reading through 2 Peter, but you don't have to know a thing about 2 Peter to enjoy the class. Each week is a different conversation that assumes no prior knowledge. It is just an opportunity to sit with Scripture and see where it takes us. I always look forward to seeing where the Word will take us each week.

I am grateful for the call of Lent to slow down, let go, and listen to God's Word.

Yours in Christ, Phil Nielsen

Happy Birthday

Warren Grummert will be 82 on March 1

Doris Rasmussen will be 96 on March 6

Dolly Burgin will be 88 on March 7

Darlene Hess will be 83 on March 7

Linda Wigness will be 82 on March 21

Jerry Strissel will be 84 on March 22

Judi Pedersen will be 82 on March 25

Prayers

OUR PRAYER LIST: Phil Miller, Sally Nairn, Al Ickes, Shirley Haner, Karen Plewes, Rich Daberkow, Hertha Haas, Doris Rasmussen, Sherry Lytle, Ellie Nelson, Ruthe & Pat Pattison, Phil Smith, Arlynn Gittins, Kayla Weis, Kay Koos, Connie & Ed Benson, Grace Ashdown (Randi McEvoy's sister-in-law), Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother), Dave and Kim Burmeister, Lindsay Beatty (Brother-in-Law of Todd & Angie Madsen, Waylon Heth (Friend of Dave and Diana Greve), Howard Jensen (Friend of Dave and Diana Greve), and Marilyn Torgersen (Judi Pedersen's sister).

Jesse Hansen, Titan Coleman (Dave Pedersen's great nephew) Koby Redler (Cousin of Kevin Osborn) serving in the Iowa National Guard on deployment.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Ron and Kathy Block will be married 66 years on March 20.



Congratulations to Justin & Callie Retallic on the birth of their daughter Ava Jean on February 20. She was 7 lbs 10 oz. and 19 " long. Grandparents are Scott and Jean Whitfield

Our Sympathies go out to Justin, Callie, Ava and families at the loss of Justin's dad Dale Retallic (Atlantic) on Sunday, February 22.

Congratulations to Willi, Pitter, Adam and Sebit Adem sons of Sani Mora and Daniel Adem. They were baptized on February 8 here at Immanuel. Their sponsors are Sani Mora, Steven Lewo, Becky Chipman, Sandy Nelsen, Craig Olson and Jonelle Conrad.

Congratulations on the baptism of Thomas Mark Andersen son of Tyler and Baylee Andersen. He was baptized on January 4 at Immanuel. His sponsors are Megan Andersen

Our Sympathy to the family of Barbara Sorensen who passed away on January 30. Her services will take place at a later date.



Happy
Easter



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

12,205,900 This is the number of Shoe Boxes packed and delivered in 2025!!!!

These shoeboxes go to the very end of the earth - from jungles to deserts, from megacities to remote villages.

Let us all pray about how we at Immanuel can help this number to increase in 2026.

Start collecting items now for your shoebox in the fall.



Spring is Calling!

Our Fall Bazaar is blooming into a **Spring Bazaar on June 3!** Stay tuned — for more information & watch for signups.



MARCH ILCW GATHERING

ILCW will gather on Wednesday, March 11 at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Joyce will present the program, **"I'm Charged Up. Are you?"**

Sounds like an interesting program. Sharon will be sharing some yummy treats. It's a great way for you to spend an hour or so visiting friends and making new friends. **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!**



JOIN IMMANUEL IN WORSHIP ONLINE

(updated 01/28/2026)

COMPLETE LIST OF RECORDED VIDEO FILE LINKS AND CORRESPONDING BULLETINS (most recent at top)

<http://www.harlanimmanuel.org/sermons.html>

HMU Cable TV (channel 15)

Times vary according to playlist loaded by HMU (current week's recorded service)

HMU On-Demand

Current week's recorded service available by late Monday via the On Demand system

Service videos remain in the On Demand library for approximately 30 days

FMCTC Cable TV (channel 43)

4:00 PM Wednesday (current week's recorded service)

Livestream via Facebook Live Video (no Facebook account needed)

9:00 AM Sunday (livestreaming)

<https://www.facebook.com/ilcharlan/videos/>

Recorded video files via Facebook (no Facebook account needed)

<https://www.facebook.com/ilcharlan/videos/>

Facebook live videos remain in the Facebook video library for approximately 30 days

VIMEO (no VIMEO account needed)

<https://vimeo.com/ilcharlan>

Recorded sermons or services from May 26, 2013 through current date

WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Refugee</u>
January 24-25	18 + 112 = 168	\$ 2385.00	\$ 70.00
January 31-Feb. 1	23 + 117 = 140	\$ 5955.00	\$ 75.00
February 7-8	16 + 156 = 172	\$ 4921.00	\$ 170.00
February 14-15	20 + 151 = 171	\$ 2705.00	\$ 20.00
February 18 (Ash Wednesday)	? ?	\$ 286.00	\$ 0
February 20-21	26 + 91 = 117	\$ 2803.01	\$ 20.00
Building \$20.00			
Sharing Cupboard (Food Pantry) \$0			
Direct Deposit General \$1952.00			

FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Council met February 10 with 10 of 12 members present.

Craig Olson led devotions and opening prayer and talked about the special baptism from last Sunday. Eric Chipman will lead devotions in March.

Eric, Vicki, Dave, Scott, and Kirk volunteered for Deacon on Duty.

Treasurer's Report: January income was \$32,633.74 with expenditures of \$22,147.70 leaving us net gain of \$10,486.04. General fund balance is \$84,050.15 with additional \$55,667.41 in CDs. Capital Savings balance is \$86,633.23.

Election of Officers: Executive Committee of President Scott Shannon, Vice-President Craig Olson, Treasurer Joey Hansen, and Secretary Vicki Strissel. Worship and Evangelism will be led by Amy Kaster and Alex Monson. Fellowship and Education will be led by Eric Chipman and Kirk Jacobsen. Stewardship and Outreach will be led by Dave Greve and Trent Svendsen. Property will be led by Ken Nielsen and Todd Madsen.

Outreach/Stewardship: January mission partner grant of \$3000 went to LCMC. February mission partner grant of \$3000 will go to Salem Lutheran Homes.

Property: Ken fixed a leaking stool in the women's bathroom.

Executive: Discussed custodian position conversation from the annual congregational meeting.

Old Business: Ken talked to the plumber and they will get things lined up to do the sewer project as soon as we can.

New Business: RAGBRAI – Do we want to form a committee? Will we make and serve food? T-shirts?

Palm Sunday Organ Recital

We do enjoy our pipe organ at Immanuel. And we enjoy the program that allows skilled organists to play our pipe organ via a program downloaded from the internet. But we also really enjoy having a live organist play our pipe organ.

This past Christmas Eve we enjoyed having Barb Frember lead our worship on our pipe organ. There is something about a live organist who is able to fully use the pipe organ. This Palm Sunday we will have the privilege of having Peggy Wolverton lead our worship on our pipe organ.

Last year Peggy played our pipe organ for Bert Hiller's funeral, and she really made our organ sound wonderful. We quickly decided that we needed to have her back soon. Peggy has agreed to play for us on Palm Sunday. But wait, there's more. At 11:00 after coffee, rolls, and fellowship that morning, Peggy will present a 45-minute organ recital in our sanctuary. We invite you to come and enjoy the gift of music on our beautiful pipe organ.

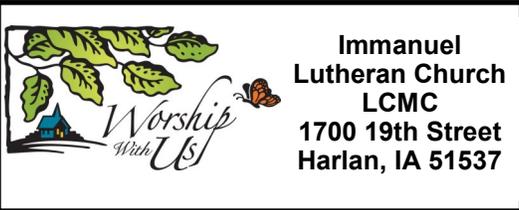
Camp Scholarships: Don't forget to fill out an application for an Immanuel Camp Scholarship for your family or your children to attend our camps at Riverside or Ingham/Okoboji this summer. Early bird deadlines are in March.

Thrivent Members: Choice Dollars disappear at the end of March if they are not used. Please consider donating them to a worthy cause here at Immanuel.

Since launching, our **Caregivers Compass Support Group** we have built a vibrant community, offering a safe and compassionate space for members to connect and find support. If you would like to join us, our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 10 at 9:30. Contact: Elaine Miller 712-579-0925, Joyce Folley 712-579-1837, or Jan Applegate 712-579-2160 with any questions.

WORSHIP IN MARCH 2026

March 4 Midweek 2	"The Passion according to Caiaphas"	6 p.m. soup & sides 7 p.m. worship
March 7-8 Lent 3	"The Greatest and the Least" Mark 9:30-41	
March 11 Midweek 3	"The Passion according to Peter"	6 p.m. soup & sides 7 p.m. worship
March 14-15 Lent 4	"What Do You Want?" Mark 10:32-45	Communion
March 18 Midweek 4	"The Passion according to Pilate"	6 p.m. soup & sides 7 p.m. worship
March 21-22 Lent 5	"I Want to See" Mark 10:46-52	
March 25 Midweek 5	"The Passion according to the Centurion"	6 p.m. soup & sides 7 p.m. worship
March 28-29 Palm/Passion Sunday	"Where to Find Forgiveness" Matthew 26-27	Palm procession Guest organist Choir



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

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Home Number: 712-766-3178
E-mail: peacephillip@gmail.com
www.harlanimmanuel.org

Staff:

Pastor Phil Nielsen
Office Manager: Diana Greve
Custodian: Slava Aleev

MARCH 2026

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8:00 Choir 1 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts</p>	<p>2 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>3 9:00 CF Quilters 6:30 Rehearsals 5:00-9:00 Scouts</p>	<p>4 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:00 Soup 7:00 Worship</p>	<p>5 9:00-3:30 WIC 10:30 Pastor @Westridge 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>6 10:00 Pastor @ ElmCrest</p>	<p>7 5:00 Worship</p>
<p>8 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts 5:30 Scout Leaders</p>	<p>9 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>10 9:00 CF Quilters 9:30 Caregivers Compass 10:00 Pastor @ ElmCrest 6:30 Executive Bd. 6:30 Rehearsals 7:00 Church Council</p>	<p>11 9:00 ILCW Bd Mtg. 9:30 ILCW Gathering 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells 6:00 Soup 7:00 Worship</p>	<p>12 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>13 Homeschool Game Club 5:30-8:30</p>	<p>14 PIANO FESTIVAL 8:00 – 1:00 (Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall) 5:00 Communion</p>
<p>15 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts</p>	<p>16 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>ST. PATRICK'S DAY 17 9:00 CF Quilters 10:00 Pastor @ Hansen House 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>18 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:00 Soup 7:00 Worship</p>	<p>19 9:00-3:30 WIC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:30 Pastor @ Salem 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>20  Setup for Soup Supper</p>	<p>21 5:00 Worship TZ Soup Supper</p>
<p>22 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 2:00 PEO 4:30 Scouts</p>	<p>23 1:00 Mission Quilts 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>24 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>25 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:00 Soup 7:00 Worship</p>	<p>26 ASSEMBLE NEWSLETTER 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>27 Homeschool Game Club 5:30-8:30</p>	<p>28 Becky & Alex Nelson Baby Shower AM 5:00 Worship</p>
<p>PALM SUNDAY 29 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Organ Recital NO ADULT BIBLE CLASS 4:30 Scouts</p>	<p>30 6:30 Rehearsals</p>	<p>31 9:00 CF Quilters 6:30 Rehearsals 7:30 Fellowship & Ed Comm.</p>				

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule March-April 2026

	March 28-29 Palm Sunday	April 2 Maundy Thursday	April 5 Easter (7 am)	April 5 Easter (9 am)	April 11-12
Acolytes	Trinity Haas Gavin Herbst	Kolton Jensen Truman Kjergaard	Pyper Montgomery Zoey Olson	Maggie Petersen Harper Petsche	Leah Svendsen Will Chipman
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Deb Strendrup				Alan Ahrenholtz
Sunday Greeter/Usher	Linda Brue Pam Borkowski			Jami & Gabe Arkfeld Rich & Sharon Daberkow	Denise Barnes Lee Berkley
Sunday Altar Guild		Kate Petersen Vicki Strissel	Mary Taggs Stacy Torneten	Kathy Block Samantha Allen	
Scripture Reader (Sun)	Vicki Carstens			Becky Chipman	Hope Chipman
Communion Servers (Sun)		Sandy Nelsen DeAnn Nielsen	Craig & Judi Olson	Andrew Reinert Issa Santino	
Coffee Hosts (Sun)	Linda Petersen Megan Shannon				LaVera, Angel and Katie Stern
Sound	Kayla Weis	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Video	Rick Chipman	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger
Projection	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)			
Council Person	Kirk Jacobsen				