

# IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS NOVEMBER 2020

## All Saints

All Saints Sunday celebrates the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church founded by Jesus as his Body in the world. We therefore celebrate those who have joined the Church in the past year and those who have graduated from the Church on earth to the Church in heaven.

Those who have joined the one holy Church through baptism in the past 12 months include: Opal Nelson.

Those who have joined Immanuel Lutheran Church in the past 12 months include: Jerry Strissel; Vicki Strissel; Brandi, Aubri, Dani, Emeri, and Kori Smith; Pyper Montgomery; John Boato; Phil and Jane Smith; Austin Phipps; Kari, Jace, and Levi Palmer; Linda Petersen; Jennifer, Lucas and Liberty Plumb.

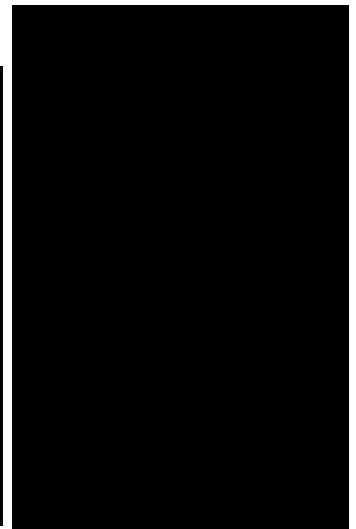
Those who have passed from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant in the past 12 months include: Diane Andersen, Nancy Klein, Marion Cornilsen, Bill Hosack, Dewey Hess, Verda Larsen, Clarice Andersen and Jeff McEvoy.

## Congregational Meeting – November 22

The Immanuel Church Council has called for an annual meeting on Sunday, November 22, at 10 AM immediately following the Sunday morning worship service in the sanctuary. There will be no Sunday School classes that morning. The only item of business will be consideration of a revision of the Immanuel Lutheran Church constitution. A quorum of 28 voting members is needed.

## Worship in November

October 31-November 1 All Saints	A Clean Heart Psalm 51	Communion
November 8	Pastor Sam Jacobs Salem Chaplain	No Saturday evening service
November 14-15	One Minute in Heaven Psalm 84	Communion
November 21-22 Christ the King	Numbering Our Days Psalm 90	
November 25 (7:00 p.m.) Thanksgiving	Forget Not All Psalm 103	
November 28-29 Advent 1	The Incredible Mind of God Psalm 139	Communion



Dear Friends in Christ,

A couple of years ago, it was suggested at an annual meeting that we should review our constitution to see if any updates were needed. The main concern was that the church council was too large. We had already downsized from 16 to 14 members on the council, but it still seemed too large. Also, our constitution was 28 pages long and in need of some simplification. And finally, the constitution had language that reflected the structure and practices of the ELCA rather than our current association in LCMC.

So a team of 5 (Vicki Carstens, Kayla Jacobs, Craig Olson, John Taggs, and myself) went to work studying our constitution and other LCMC constitutions. We made no changes to the chapter on "Confession of Faith". What Immanuel believes and teaches has not changed. We did, however, find some things that we believed could be improved.



1. We simplified and cut out extra wording to reduce the text of the constitution from 28 to 18 pages. We removed chapters on "Nature of the Church" and "Property Ownership" as unnecessary leftovers from our history in the ELCA.
2. We simplified the Statement of Purpose to focus on the Great Commission in Matthew 28 and on Luther's Small Catechism explanation to the third article of the Creed. Our purpose is simply to make disciples of Jesus by calling, gathering, enlightening, and sanctifying for service.
3. We updated language on Communion participation to allow freedom to welcome younger children to the sacrament and to reflect Luther's language in the Small Catechism. We have already begun to do this, but now it is clearly explained how.
4. We downsized the Church Council from 14 to 12 members with 3-year terms instead of 2-year terms. The congregation will elect 4 members each year to the council and then the council will elect its own officers and committee representatives for each year. Last year the nominating committee had to replace 7 members (half of the church council). This change will mean that the nominating committee can focus on finding no more than 4 candidates for church council each year.
5. We added bylaws to address complaints against a pastor. Not that we are expecting complaints, but there was no clear process for dealing with conflict. In LCMC we don't have a bishop to tell us what to do.
6. We reduced council committees from 6 to 5 by combining the Fellowship and Education committees. This enabled us to reduce the council to 12 members while still keeping 2 council people on each committee. Hopefully the new Fellowship and Education committee can recruit enough people to take care of both areas of our ministry.
7. We changed terms on the Trust and Memorial Committee from two 3-year terms to a single 5-year term. This will help with continuity as only one new member will be added to the committee each year.

In order to amend the constitution, we need two congregational votes. Our first one will be November 22 at 10:00 AM. If the proposal passes at the November meeting a ratifying vote will be held at our annual congregational meeting in January. Immanuel has been blessed with good leaders and good organization. I think that these small changes will help us continue that tradition into the future.

Yours in Christ, *Phil Nielsen*



## Operation Christmas Child Is Back

Once again area churches are packing gift boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We have gift boxes available at the church along with a table of some free supplies for packing. Everyone is invited to take a gift box home and pack it with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and other gifts. No liquids, foods, or candies allowed. Boxes must be returned to Immanuel by Friday, November 13. These gift boxes will be shipped by Samaritan's Purse to churches around the world who will deliver the boxes as part of our gospel outreach to children around the world who have never heard the Christmas story.

### Volunteers needed:

In ordinary times, Immanuel assigns members to help with the various tasks of worship and fellowship. However, 2020 and 2021 are not ordinary times. So we are asking for volunteers to sign up to help with setting up Communion, reading Scripture, and hosting coffee and donut fellowship. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Joan in the church office to let her know what dates you are available to serve.

### Staff changes:

We welcome Slava Aleev as our new custodian/janitor. He began working October 1. He has taken the custodian position as a second job and is currently working at Immanuel in the mornings.

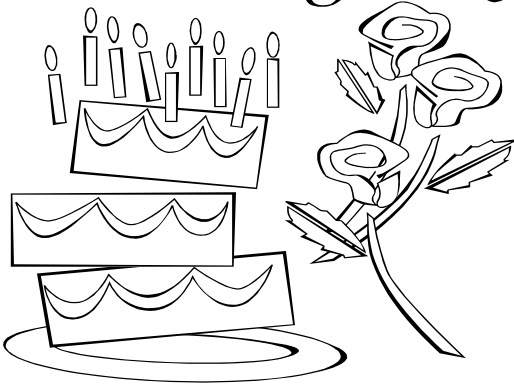
Our office manager, Joan Wehr, has informed us that she plans to retire from her position sometime next spring. So we are looking for applications for the office manager position. Application forms are available in the church office.

Thank you to Richard & Sharon Daberkow for trimming the bushes, removing sticks & brush and caring for the garden. Thank you to Charlie Conrad for mowing the church grounds and to Jeff Nelson for assisting with the mowing. Thank you to Terry Torneten and the landscape committee for sidewalk edging and bush trimming. Thank you to Ed Wehr for his service as custodian.

Thank you to John Taggs, Steve Allen, Kayla Jacobs and Ivy Nielsen for performing the weekend council duties. Thank you to Bert Hillers for the variety of things he continues to do.



## *Birthdays &*



## *Anniversaries*

### **Happy Birthday to the following:**

Arlene Warner who will be 91 on November 5.  
 Dwayne Larsen who will be 90 on November 12.  
 Marge Ahrenholtz who will be 84 on November 13.  
 Ruthe Pattison who will be 89 on November 17.  
 Lavon Christensen who will be 86 on November 17.  
 Mary Ann Beaman who will be 82 on November 21.  
 Lori Schultz who will be 84 on November 29.

### **Happy Anniversary to the following:**

Derald & Patti Kumm who will be celebrating their 66th anniversary on November 7.

**MISSION QUILTERS:** We are delighted to report we had eight ladies attend our first back-to-making quilts meeting. Much was accomplished! We also had a new member, LeAnn Hawthorne, friend of Julie Vorm. Dolly Burgin continues to cleanout her "stash" of material and has again donated many pieces to our group. We thank her very much! We would invite any interested members and/or friends to come and join our mission group-making quilts for our shut-in members, our ill members and giving to others in need. The group will not meet in November or December but will resume on January 25th. Thanks to all ladies that have contributed to and have given of their time and talents!

**WOW** will be social distance/gathering Wednesday November 11 at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We are thankful that we can spend "safe time" together. Hope to see you there.

**THANK OFFERING SUNDAY is November 22<sup>th</sup>.** There is a "Thank Offering" envelope with your November offering envelopes. We can share our blessings. Any donations will be given to a local group in need. If you are unable to attend church, you can leave your envelope in the church office or send to Kathy Block, 1091 Kingwood Rd., Harlan.

**THANK YOU** everyone who helped deliver the 32 fall goodie bags to our homebound members. We know that they appreciate knowing we haven't forgotten them. These are lonely times for many.



***In all Things give Thanks. | Thessalonians 5:18***



**Please Pray for:**

**ON OUR PRAYER LIST:** John Christensen, Bryan Kaster, Nancy Christensen, Jon Burmeister, Shawn Havick, Nancy Gessmann, Marlys Moore, Connie Benson and Callie Wiltse (daughter of Scott & Jean Whitfield).

## COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY October 13, 2020—7 pm

The Immanuel Church Council met October 13 with 11 of 14 members present by video conferencing. Steve Allen shared devotions about our problem pebbles vs. God's oceans of grace. Becky Chipman will share devotions in November.

Steve Allen, John Taggs, and Kayla Jacobs will continue to cover council duties at our worship services.

Treasurer reported September income of \$15,983 and September expenses of \$17,866. Year to date income is \$202,724 (which is slightly ahead of 2019). Year to date expenses are \$179,818. Our general fund account ended September at about \$49,400. Our capital project savings are at \$24,532. Tanzania Projects Fund is at \$9,374. Thanks to all who have continued to support the ministry of Immanuel.

**Outreach** – Immanuel has given 1,069 pounds to the County Food Pantry. October Mission Partner is the new LC (Life Care) Clinic opening up in Atlantic. TZ Team will be making pies for the Tanzania projects on Saturday, November 14. All help is welcome.

**Worship** – Discussed how to organize worship services and communion on Christmas Eve. We will encourage volunteers to sign up to help with Scripture reading, Communion prep, and coffee fellowship.

**Education** – Discussed COVID mitigation and Sunday School. Postcard will be sent out to parents regarding Sunday School. There is no way to do Immanuel Kids Club right now. Perhaps we can do a Christmas program by filming small groups to create a video program.

**Property** – The new custodian, Slava Aleev has begun work. Volunteers have helped with edging the sidewalks, watering trees, and tending flowers. Discussed finding someone to wax fellowship hall floors. Greg Nelson will take care of snow removal on sidewalks. Help is needed to remove snow from in front of the doors.

**Executive** – Employee reviews were held. Committee recommends a 3% pay raise and council approved. At Pastor's request committee recommended giving pastor 2 weeks additional vacation this year. Council approved 1 week paid and 1 week unpaid additional vacation. Council approved cancelling the Saturday evening service on November 7 when Pastor is out of town. November 8 service will be led by Sam Jacobs. Joan Wehr will continue on summer hours (9:00 to 1:30) indefinitely. Committee will begin the search for a new office administrator so that Joan will have an opportunity to train her replacement before she retires next spring. The Council approved setting the first vote on the proposed constitution for Sunday, November 22, immediately following the worship service. The necessary quorum is 28 members. There will be no Sunday School on November 22.

**Pastor** – Pastor recommended Jennifer Plumb for membership. Council approved.

### WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>			<u>Building</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Sept. 26/27</b>	17	+	62	=	89	\$ 4,181.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 4,341.00	
<b>Oct. 3/4</b>	27	+	74	=	101	\$ 5,143.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 5,213.00	
<b>Oct. 10/11</b>	15	+	60	=	75	\$ 1,946.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 1,966.00	
<b>Oct. 17/18</b>	27	+	57	=	84	\$ 3,396.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 3,461.00	
<b>Oct. 24/25</b>	17	+	89	=	106	\$ 4,971.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 5,171.00	

## TANZANIA HAPPENINGS

The holidays are fast approaching and the Tanzania Team is gearing up for the annual Pie Making Day. The funds from this event go to support our orphan project. Right now the church in Kidugala is traveling to the four primary schools to measure the orphans for uniforms so they can begin the process of making them for the school year that starts in January. There are around 150 primary school orphans, and after the uniforms are made, the Kidugala church will return to the four schools and hand them out, along with notebooks and pens. Immanuel also supports about 160 secondary school orphans with educational fees.

### PIES FOR ORPHANS



Saturday, November 14 at 9 am till 3 pm in the Church Fellowship Hall

We will be making apple, cherry and rhubarb. If you would like a little fellowship and social distance at the same time, come join us. We have jobs for everyone, doesn't matter age or skill. We have sit down jobs, putting stickers on the pie containers; also, mixing ingredients, rolling pie crusts, and lots of other fun jobs. We would love to see you for an hour or two, or all day. Lunch will be provided.

Pies will be available for sale starting in the afternoon of the 14th, for \$12 a pie. After that pies will be at the church, check in the church office. Thanks for your support.



REMEMBER DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST SO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK SATURDAY NIGHT BEFORE YOU GO TO BED.



**WOMEN OF THE WORD EXEC BOARD** September 9, 2020

Due to the ongoing COVID19 pandemic, June, July and August Board meetings were not held. Following CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines of social distancing, the WOW Executive Board did meet September 9 in the narthex. Present were Sandy Nelsen, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen, Sharon Daberkow, Myrna Havick, Sally Nairn and Julie Vorm. Chair Sandy called the meeting to order at 9 AM.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Minutes from the last meeting in March were reviewed. There being no corrections, Kathy moved to accept the minutes. Myrna seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The WOW Lenten supper potato bar Mar 11 was the last Lenten service before the U.S. shutdown. Fifty-two people were served. Several people purchased the leftover food. Thanks to all who assisted in any way or donated money for expenses. The potato bar income was \$197.05. Receipt of \$192 for quilting a quilt. Kathy reported the March ending balance at \$2569.86.

In August a donation was received from the Verda Larsen family. Due to the Harvest Bazaar being canceled it was decided to request donations through a Bakeless Bake Sale event. Suggested donation was for an amount normally spent purchasing/baking goods and items at the Harvest Bazaar. \$975 was donated by 22 individuals noted in the August Treasurer's Report. Another \$270 by 7 individuals has been received but not yet deposited so will be in a future report. Funeral lunch/meals are not being served by the church women during this pandemic. Bill of \$15.90 paid to Fareway for ingredients for tossed salad for Jacobsen funeral. August ending balance is \$3543.96.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A Thank You was received from parents of a child who received assistance from the funds provided to the "Kids At Risk" program. A Thank You also received from the Pattison's for the cards sent by WOW members. Others reported phone calls from those receiving cards as well. Thank You's on narthex bulletin board.

**KITCHEN:** The mats in the kitchen need to be cleaned again. Since no activity in the kitchen for months, the dishwasher and sink drains need to be flushed out to eliminate odor.

**COMMUNITY:** Sharon reported we should continue the WOW cards being sent. Fall "Goodie Bags" were discussed. It was decided to have prepared bags at the Oct 14 WOW Gathering and deliver afterwards leaving on doorsteps.

**MISSION QUILTS:** Will be meeting Monday, Sept 28 at 1:30. Social distancing will be followed. Material cutters needed if you don't quilt.

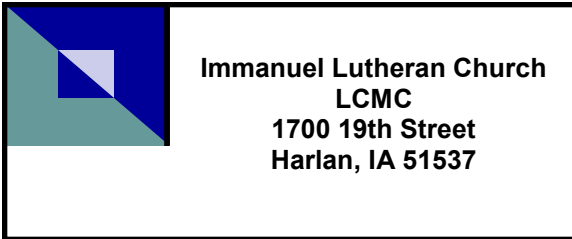
**OLD BUSINESS:** **Harvest Bazaar is canceled.** Donations are still being accepted and can be given to any WOW Board member or left at the church office. **Christmas Tea is canceled.** At this time it's uncertain when Confirmation will be held. Flowers will not be purchased. Janet will remain the Secretary following unanimous decision.

There being no further business, Sally moved to adjourn with a second by Sharon. Ayes all. No WOW Board meeting in October.

**WOW GATHERING**

WOW met with 13 attending. Social distancing and masks in place. Sally N. served a delicious dessert. Thank You's read by Sharon and Sandy. Sharon had list of people to send notes to and encouraged us to continue sending them. No program so time was spent updating on illnesses and happenings. Prayers to all those suffering or have lost loved ones. WOW Gathering will meet Oct 14 at 9:30 social distanced. Kathy will serve refreshments. We closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Janet Johannsen, Secretary



**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: 755-5207  
Office Hours: 9-12 & 12:30-1:30 (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:



## November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00 Communion 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Adult Bible Class	<b>2</b> 9:30 OA 6:00 Garden Club-Fellowship hall (Patti Kumm)	<b>3</b> 9:00 CF Quilters	<b>4</b> 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Education Comm on Zoom 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	<b>5</b> 1:00 LCMC Pastors Mtg. 6:00 Boy Scout Leaders	<b>6</b> Mock Trial Pastor out of town to 11/13	<b>7</b> NO Worship
<b>8</b> 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Adult Bible Class 2:00 Ladies Homestead Gathering	<b>9</b> 9:30 OA 3:30-5 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 9:00 CF Quilters 5:30 Worship Comm. 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council	<b>11</b> 9:30 WOW 1:30 Rachel Circle (library area) 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	<b>12</b> 6:00 MOPS	<b>13</b> Set-up for pie making Operation Christmas Child Boxes due	<b>14</b> Tanzania Pie Making 5:00 Communion
<b>15</b> 9:00 Communion/Peterson Baptism 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Adult Bible Class	<b>16</b> 9:30 OA 3:30-5 Girl Scouts 3:30-5 4-H 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 9:00 CF Quilters	<b>18</b> 4:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	<b>19</b> 3:30-5 4-H 7:00 Ladies Homestead Gathering	<b>20</b> Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 3:00 Wedding 5:00 Worship
<b>22</b> 9:00 Worship NO Sunday School 10:00 Congregational Meeting	<b>23</b> 9:30 OA 3:30-5 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 9:00 CF Quilters	<b>25</b> 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve service	<b>26</b> Happy Thanksgiving	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:00 Worship
<b>29</b> 9:00 Worship No Sunday School 10:15 Adult Bible Class	<b>30</b> 9:30 OA 6:30 Boy Scouts					