



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS November 2025



All Saints

All Saints Sunday (November 2) 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 Immanuel through Holy Baptism in the past 12 months:

Tessa Petersen, Lany Palmer, Cale Botine, Hudson Hoch

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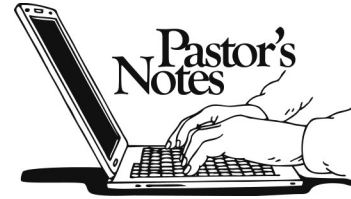
Nate & Lauren Botine, Lusiya Lena, Sani Mora, Issa Nege, Pam Borkowski, Samantha Allen, Ryan & Mallory, Keeghan & Cooper Meyer, Callie Wiltse

Those who have passed from Immanuel to the Church Triumphant in the past 12 months:

**Ken Vorm, Geri Swisher, Sandra Haney, Marilyn Anderson, Donna Hansen,
John Haas, Lorene Thiede, Joyce Nielsen, Jerry Wigness, Doris Towne,
Bruce Havick, Shirley Knudtsen, Bert Hillers**

Worship in November

November 1-2 All Saints	"Our Citizenship" (Philippians 3:17-21)	Communion
November 8-9 Pentecost 22	Guest Preacher	
November 15-16 Pentecost 23	"Rejoice and Rejoice" (Philippians 4:1-19)	Communion Bells
November 22-23 Christ the King	"I Can Do All Things" (Philippians 4:10-20)	Choir
November 26 (5:00 p.m.) Thanksgiving Eve	"Why Me?"	Pie Potluck afterwards
November 29-30 Advent I	"A Word from Habakkuk"	



November 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you to those of you who provided both positive and critical feedback on my letter in the October Insights. It is good to know that people do read my monthly efforts. I do tend to be a middle of the road kind of person who can see good and evil on both sides of a conflict. I think that comes from having spent so much time teaching the Ten Commandments section of the Small Catechism.

I want to give a brief report on the 2025 LCMC Annual Gathering that DeAnn, Craig, Becky, and I attended. The gathering focused on a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the formation of LCMC. We heard from some of the founding members of our association. LCMC was formed in 2001 by congregations that wanted to resist a move toward hierarchy among Lutherans. Beginning in 2009 there was rapid growth from congregations joining that wanted to resist a move away from Scripture regarding sexuality. And since 2020 growth in LCMC has come from congregations that are desperate to find pastors.

There was some discussion about the growing shortage of pastors across the Church including LCMC. It is exciting to hear the quality of the young pastors coming into LCMC, but they are not enough to keep up with the retirement tsunami. Every congregation was encouraged to recruit young people to serve at our Bible Camps and to consider seminary.

We heard a message from our retiring LCMC service coordinator, Mike Bradley, and a message from our new service coordinator, Julie Smith. Several important points were made about the future of LCMC.

1. Congregations need a little help once in a while. The easiest response is to build a bureaucracy or hierarchy so that members don't have to respond to the needs of their neighbors. LCMC calls congregations to be there for one another as partners in the Gospel together. If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together.
2. Theology doesn't take care of itself. LCMC congregations have the freedom to call as pastors whomever they see fit to serve. That does not mean that theology is unimportant. The Gospel is not self-evident. The Gospel is salvation not for the worthy but for the needy, not for the religious but for sinners. We are constantly tempted to trade it in for something that makes sense to us. We are not preaching moralism or self-improvement which are the popular messages of today. Our culture is all about winning. The Gospel calls us to follow Jesus who laid down his life for us.

Next year's Annual Gathering will be in Des Moines. It will be another great opportunity to experience the joy of being part of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

Yours in Christ, Phil Nielsen

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Veteran's Day Breakfast on November 9 at the Vets 7:00-12:00

Caregivers Compass on November 11 9:30

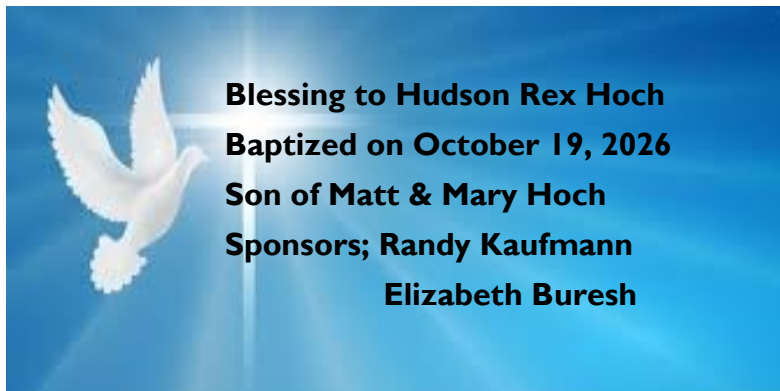
TZ Pie Baking on November 22 9:00-3:00

Worship and Pie Potluck

On November 26- 6:00 & 7:00

ILCW Christmas Tea on December 6 in the Fellowship Hall

10:00





DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME:
Set your clocks back an hour
on Saturday November 1,
2025



November Birthdays

Betty Andersen will be 100 on November 3
Arlene Warner will be 96 on November 5
Dwayne Larsen will be 95 on November 12
Marge Ahrenholtz will be 89 on November 13
Lavon Christensen will be 91 on November 17
Ruthe Pattison will be 94 on November 17
Mary Ann Beaman will be 87 on November 21
Dave Pedersen will be 83 on November 24



JOIN US for a pie pot-luck after the 6:00 worship service on **November 26**. If you are not a baker and unable to bring a pie come join us anyway for fellowship and pie.



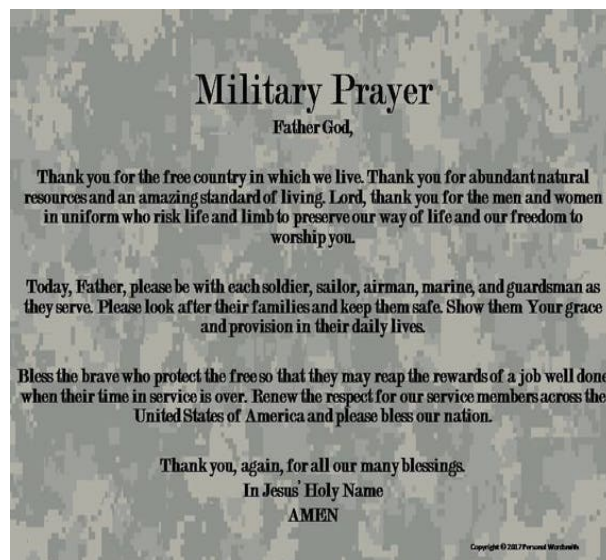
OUR PRAYER LIST: Doris Rasmussen, Eric Chipman, Sherry Lytle, Ellie Nelson, Ruthe & Pat Pattison, Dave Pedersen, Phil Smith, Arlynn Gittins, Kayla Weis, Kay Koos, Connie & Ed Benson, Megan Leslie (Steve Allen's niece), Ken Johannsen (Seth Johannsen's father), Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother), Dave Burmeister (Sue Olson's son-in-law), Larry Gittins, Anne Hein (Mother of Diana Greve), Alice Smith (Aunt of Diana Greve), Waylon Heth (Friend of Dave and Diana Greve).

Jared Walters, Jesse Hansen, Christian Brownlee and Titan Coleman (Dave Pedersen's great nephew) serving in the Iowa National Guard on deployment.

For those who would like to write to Jared Walters and Jesse Hansen and Titan their addresses are:

SPC Walters, Jared	SGT Coleman, Titan
Task Force Elkhound	Task Force Elkhound
D Co. I-168 IN BN	C Co 1-168
LSA Hooligan	Ebril Airbase
APO AE 09316	APO, AE 09316

SGT Jesse Hansen
TF Nyala, 2/34 IBCT
APO, AE 09330



IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS



ILCW CHRISTMAS TEA Presents:
A Winter Wonderland Wedding Dress Review
Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 10:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall.



There is no admission, we just ask that you sign up by the office area for that morning. There will be wedding dresses from the past to the present. Immanuel women will be modeling for your enjoyment with a "write-up" on each person's wedding gown and a special "event" that happened on that person's wedding day. It should prove to be an enjoyable, "memory lane" event and we hope you'll plan to attend. (questions: see Linda Mosher)

Christmas Tea Models: all those who have volunteered to model for the December 6th Christmas Tea, please come for your "fitting" at one of the following dates/times: Sunday the 23rd after church, Monday evening the 24th, 6:00-8:00, or Tuesday the 25th in November. Mark your calendars. Please come to the multi-purpose room (just down from Pastor's office) If you need another date and time, contact Linda Mosher 812-890-8494. Thank you!!

Christmas Tea: Wedding dresses: Those of you who have volunteered to show your wedding dress for the Christmas Tea, please bring your dresses to the church on one of the following dates: anytime Thursday, the 20th, Friday the 21st, or Saturday morning the 22nd. of November. Mark your calendars. Please take them to the multi-purpose room (just down from Pastor's office). There will be name tags for each of you to place on your dress. Many thanks!!! (If you cannot make any of these dates, please contact Linda Mosher 812-890-8494)

WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>	<u>Refugee</u>
September 20-21	31	+	105	= 136	\$ 3380.07	\$ 45.00
September 27-28	12	+	115	= 127	\$2050.00	\$110.00
October 4-5	19	+	127	= 146	\$6531.00	\$ 555.00
October 11-12	25	+	124	= 149	\$4747.00	\$ 45.00
October 18-19	20	+	145	= 165	\$3871.00	\$ 260.00
TZ	\$ 60.00					
Building	\$145.00					

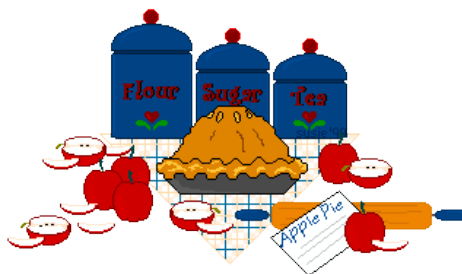


TANZANIA HAPPENINGS

The annual Pie Fundraiser is right around the corner. Mark your calendar's for Saturday, November 22. We will be making cherry, apple, and rhubarb pies in the fellowship hall from 9 am to 3 pm We would love to have you join us for some fun and fellowship,. There are opportunities for everyone.

Peeling apples, rolling crusts, mixing filling, putting stickers on containers, crimping crusts and brushing on egg wash, just to name a few. Lunch will be provided.

We will be ready to start selling pies after lunch on Saturday for \$14. Stop by to take yours home. Otherwise, the pies will be available after church and during the week at the church office. The proceeds will go to the Orphans of Kidugala.



THANK YOU for supporting the annual ILCW Harvest Bazaar and Luncheon. We couldn't have done it without bakers, crafters, quilters, food and money donations, and over 40 volunteers. All proceeds go to our many mission projects.

ILCW COMING UP EVENTS

November 12th, Wednesday, ILCW will be gathering in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM. Maggie's program will help get us ready for **UPCOMING HOLIDAYS**. Linda Peterson will provide refreshments. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there. There is no gathering in December since we have the tea.

November 22/23 is Thank Offering Saturday and Sunday. There is a "Thank Offering" envelope included with your November offering envelopes. These donations are given to a local group in need. Your offering can also be left in the church office or sent to Kathy Block, 1091 Kingwood Rd. Harlan.

December 6, Saturday, will be the Christmas tea at 10:00. Watch for more information and a sign-up sheet.

Poinsettias can be ordered to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas.

All Immanuel women are encouraged to support these activities as we thank God for our many blessings.



"Home for the Holidays" community chorus will once again be performing this year. We will begin rehearsals October 28th at 6:00 (sharp) at Faith Family Church. There are no auditions, just a joy of singing; selections will be Christmas carols, very familiar. We will rehearse for 1 hour and our performance will be on December 14th at Faith Family Church, 3:00. (Questions: contact Linda Mosher)

OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Council met October 14 with 7 of 12 members present. Craig Olson led devotions from a devotional by Martin Luther. November devotions will be led by John Taggs.

Vicki Strissel, Todd Madsen, Kirk Jacobsen, and John Taggs volunteered for December council duties.

Treasurer's Report: September income was \$42,476 (highest for 2025) including \$9580 for refugee food relief. September expenses were \$18,536. September YTD income is \$237,967 and YTD expenses are \$204,687. General Fund balance is \$130,257. Capital Savings balance is at \$84,262. Tanzania Account is at \$61,861.

Worship/Evangelism: We have been asked to host a Christmas concert with Rachel Scott and band. Council agreed to see if a date can be arranged.

Stewardship/Outreach: September Mission Partner grant went to an LCMC congregation in Kodiak, Alaska. October Mission Partner grant will go to LCMC partners in former Communist countries in Eastern Europe including Estonia and Ukraine.

Property: All 7 fire extinguishers in our buildings have been replaced. We have individuals leading the project of furnishing the new library and we have a volunteer to lead the painting and furnishing of the new childcare corner in the narthex. We will make a recommendation about the sewer line project at the 2026 Annual Congregational meeting.

Executive: We had a request for exterior door keys for the school to use in emergency evacuations. John will look into getting more exterior door keys made. John and Kirk will have employee interviews with Pastor, Diane, and Slava. Discussed reaction to pastor's column in the September newsletter.

Old Business: We have a donor for a new computer in the chapel. We will purchase it from Lightbox.

New Business: We had a request for space for an ESL tutor to use for his classes. John will look into insurance liability issues.



CARGIVERS COMPASS

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, November 11 at 9:30. Contact: Elaine Miller 712-579-0925, Joyce Folley 712-579-1837, or Jan Applegate 712-579-2160 with any questions.

"OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD THROUGH SAMARITAN'S PURSE"

It's all about Jesus and how we can help reach children to tell them about Jesus by filling a shoe box. When purchasing items for your shoe box think about including a WOW item such as a doll, soccer ball with a pump or stuffed animal. Other items to consider are clothing, personal care items or school supplies. Be creative when you are shopping for your box. Finally pray for the child who will receive your gift.

Collection week is Nov. 17-24. The box will need to have \$10 included to help ship the box to their destination.

For any questions you can contact Julie Vorm at wsharon@metc.net or phone 712-304-2916. Boxes are available now!



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: 712-755-5207

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

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						5:00 Communion DAYLIGHT SAVINGS (at 2 am fall back 1 hour)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Scouts	6:00-9:00 Garden Club (Linda Andersen)	9:00 CF Quilters 5:45 The Chosen 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council 6:00-9:00 Scouts	1:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	9:30-3:30 WIC 6:00 Men's Bible Study		5:00 Worship
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Veteran's Day Breakfast at the Vets 7:00-12:00 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Scouts		9:00 CF Quilters 9:30 Caregivers Compass 5:45 The Chosen 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council	9:00 ILCW Board Meeting 9:30 ILCW Gathering 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:00 Men's Bible Study	4:00-7:00 Callie Wiltse & Justin Retallic Rehearsal Supper	10:00 am Callie Wiltse & Justin Retallic Wedding 5:00 Communion
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Scouts		9:00 CF Quilters 5:45 The Chosen	3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	ASSEMBLE NEWSLETTER 9:30-3:30 WIC 6:00 Men's Bible Study	PM TZ Pie Day Setup	8:00-3:00 TZ Pie Making Day 5:00 Worship
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Scouts	9:00 Mission Quilters	9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco 5:45 The Chosen	NO GROW NO CONFIRMATION NO LYO 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 6:00 Worship 7:00 Pie Potluck	NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING Office Closed 	NO SCHOOL Office Closed	
30						
8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Scouts						

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule November-December 2025

	November 22-23	November 29-30	December 6-7	December 13-14	December 20-21
Acolytes	Truman Kjergaard Pyper Montgomery	Zoey Olson Harper Petsche	Will Chipman Leah Svendsen	Cora Clay Trinity Haas	Kolton Jensen Gavin Herbst
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Warren & Susan Grummert	Darin-Tammy Haake	Maggie Hatcher	Darlene Hess	Ken Hursey
Saturday Altar Guild			Cheryl Nielsen		Kayla Jacobs
Sunday Greeters/Usher	Bruce & Rita Pfannkuch	Lonnie & Connie Pitts	Shane & Liz Pitts	Jill & Ella Plagman	Doug & Mary Renkly
Sunday Altar Guild			Vicki Strissel Mary Taggs		Stacy Torneten Jan Applegate
Scripture Reader (Sunday)	Kayla Jacobs	Janet Johannsen	Mary Johnson	Roberta King	Stephen Lewo
Communion Servers (Sunday)			Brooke & Andrew Reinert		Scott & Megan Shannon
Coffee Hosts (Sunday)	Linda Peterson Megan Shannon	LaVera, Angel, Katie Stern	Terry & Stacy Torneten	Calvin Twenhafel Jason Weis	Jan Applegate Vicki Carstens
Sound	Kayla Weis	Kayla Weis	DeAnn Nielsen	DeAnn Nielsen	DeAnn Nielsen
Video	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	Rick Chipman	Rick Chipman	Rick Chipman
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	Craig Olson	Amy Kaster	Dave Greve	Vicki Strissel	Todd Madsen