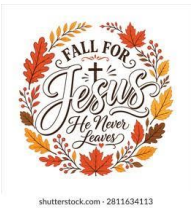


IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS
NOVEMBER 2026
All Saints



All Saints (November 1) 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:
Thomas Andersen, Willie Adem, Petter Adem, Adam Adem, Sebit Adem, Ava Retallic



Those who have joined Immanuel in the past 12 months:
Helen Purcell, Allan Warner

Those who have passed from Immanuel to the Church Triumphant in the past 12 months:
Barbara Sorensen, Sherry Lytle, Sally Nairn, Arlene Warner,
Roger Schwieso, Sandra Clemons, Pat Pattison, Elizabeth Hughes

ILCW POINSETTIA SALE

Halloween Candy, Thanksgiving Turkey &… POINSETTIAS?! We know, we know… Christmas seems so far away! But our greenhouses need to plan ahead to make sure there are plenty of beautiful poinsettias for everyone! So, while you're buying your Halloween candy and planning your Thanksgiving dinner, don't forget to order your Christmas poinsettias!

🎄 **GOOD NEWS! THE PRICE REMAINS AT $15.00 EACH!**
ORDER DATES: Saturday & Sunday, October 24–25, Saturday & Sunday, October 31–November 1
ILCW will be taking orders before and after church services on both weekends.



Tanzania Pie Time



The annual pie making fundraiser for Tanzania is Saturday, November 21, from 8:30 am to 4 pm in the church fellowship hall. We will be making cherry, apple, rhubarb and peach. 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. Join us for the day or for a couple of hours. Lunch will be provided.

We will be ready to start selling pies after lunch on Saturday, November 21. So after lunch, stop by to take yours home. Otherwise, pies will be available after church or anytime during the week at the church office. The pies are $14 each. The proceeds will go to Kidugala for our orphan project.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends in Christ,

The 2026 LCMC Annual Gathering was centered on the theme of our freedom in Christ. 6 of us from Immanuel attended among a total of 894 registrants at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines. It was good to see Evan Nielsen representing his new congregation in Clear Lake, Iowa. He is attending seminary at the Master's Institute.

Our gathering focused on our freedom in Christ under the theme of "Unleashed." Each morning Sara Stenson of the Luther House of Studies in Sioux Falls led us in a Bible study on our theme verse of Galatians 5:1 "For freedom Christ has set us free. Therefore, do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Dr. Stenson explained how God's Law is different from man-made laws. Man-made laws focus on externals. God's Law focuses on our inmost heart. We can't fulfill God's Law with our external deeds. God's Law exposes and accuses the sinner within us. The Gospel simply announces that Jesus Christ forgives you all your sins. Period. No ifs, ands, or buts. If we add an "if" to the Gospel it is no longer good news. It is now fake news. Christ's forgiveness is complete or it is no good news at all.

David Zahl was our first keynote speaker. He spoke on the universal captivity of humanity. Have you ever met a human being who was not captive to something? Approval, fear, self-pity, a phone, work, money, politics, looks, sports, anger, the past, poverty? We are all captive to something. Sin is the internal captivity of disordered desires. We love the wrong things too much and the right things not enough. Evil is the external captivity of social, political, spiritual forces assaulting us. Jesus came forgiving sin and casting out demons, setting people free from internal and external captivity.

Tara Beth Leach was our second keynote speaker. She used the story of Paul in Philippi (Acts 16) to talk about our freedom to set others free through the sharing of the Gospel. The Gospel leads to radical conversions with lasting effects. The Gospel leads to real diversity. The Gospel raises up new leaders from the most unlikely people. The Gospel produces outrageous joy.

Our final keynote speaker was Pastor Mike Householder from Lutheran Church of Hope. He said that if you are going to survive in this oppressive world, you have got to know that there is a God and this God loves you.

All 6 of us attended various breakout sessions and came away with some encouraging ideas and helpful information. It was also good to visit with various exhibitors from our LCMC ministry partners. I personally enjoyed singing in the Gathering choir in a section of 8 tenors!

Next year's gathering will be in St. Louis October 3-6. I would highly encourage anyone looking for hope for the future of the Church to join us next year in St. Louis.

Yours in Christ, Phil Nielsen



Worship in November

October 31 - November 1 All Saints	"Wrestling with God" Genesis 32:22-32	Communion
November 7-8 Pentecost 24	"Hope in the Night" Matthew 25:1-13	Bells
November 14-15 Pentecost 25	"Forgiveness from the Heart" Genesis 50:15-21	Communion Bells
November 21-22 Christ the King	"Worship the King"	Choir
November 25 (5:00 p.m.) Thanksgiving Eve	"Grace and Gratitude"	Pie Potluck afterwards
November 28-29 Advent 1	"The End of the World" Mark 13:24-37	

ANNIVERSARY'S, BIRTHDAY'S, AND PRAYERS

90th BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE



On November 14, from 2 to 4 there will be an Open House to celebrate Marge Ahrenholtz's 90th Birthday. All are welcome. Marge requests no gifts.



Bruce and Rita Pfannkuch will be married 50 years on November 20

Linda Andersen will be 79 on November 1

Betty Andersen will be 101 on November 3

Linda Knoell will be 79 on November 8

Dwayne Larsen will be 96 on November 12

Marge Ahrenholtz will be 90 on November 13

Connie Behrens will be 76 on November 15

Lavon Christensen will be 92 on November 17

Ruthe Pattison will be 95 on November 17





OUR PRAYER LIST: Kori Petersen (Dylan and Katie's daughter), Ethan Arkfeld, Harry Priest, Dwayne Larsen, Dave Pedersen, Phil Miller, Shirley Haner, Ruthe Pattison, Phil Smith Arlynn Gittins, Kay Koos, Connie & Ed Benson, Dave & Kim Burmeister, Patty Jacobsen (friend of Derald Kumm & LaVera Stern), Annette Meyer (Ryan Meyer's mother), Amanda Davidson (Lois Hansen's granddaughter), Larry Andersen (Connie Behrens' brother), Grace Ashdown (Randi McEvoy's sister-in-law), Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother), Howard Jensen (Dalton & Gayl Jensen's brother), Waylon Heth (friend Dave & Diana Greve), Roy Hicks (Karen Plewes' stepson), Marilyn Torgersen (Judi Pedersen's sister), Josh Christensen (great nephew of Derald Kumm), Michael Heithoff (serving in the Middle East).



ILCW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING



October 14, 2026

The ILCW Executive Board met on October 14 with Sandy Nelsen, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen and Sharon Daberkow present. Sandy called meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

SECRETARY REPORT: Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed. Sharon motioned and Kathy seconded to approve. Ayes all

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy reported $43.84 paid to Jan Applegate for placemats. Donations of $55 from Marge Ahrenholtz and $200 from Clemons funeral. September balance is $6628.45. No new bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Community- Twenty-one Thankful Bags were filled by Vicki and Nancy. These will be delivered after the Gathering today. **Mission Quilters-** The group put together 5 quilts.

OLD BUSINESS: Women's Day Away Oct 17- Julie Vorm and daughter-in-law will be attending at Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp. **Christmas Child Shoeboxes-Nov 15** is final day to get boxes to church so keep collecting items for the boxes. **Christmas Tea-Saturday Dec 5 from 10 AM to noon-**Sharon and Kathy of Group A have the program entitled "Loving Stitches." Bring any hand work done by yourself or from others you've received that have meaning to you. Mark items with your name. NO QUILTS FOR THIS PROGRAM.

NEW BUSIENSS: Order will be taken Oct 24/25, Oct 31/Nov 1 and Nov 7/8. Final date to order is Nov 9. Can also be ordered in the office. Price remains $15 each.

Nov 11: "T & J Breakfast Tea Social" program—Linda M; Sharon-treats. Thank Offering Nov 21-22

Janet Johannsen, Secretary

ILCW GATHERING

Twenty-eight were in attendance. Sandy opened the program requesting help in delivering the Thankful Bags after the meeting. Kathy read a humorous reading "When I Was in My Younger Days". Linda had Ole & Lena thoughts on Lutheranism. Julie presented the Program, "Bras for a Cause", with many creatively decorated ones on display. October being breast cancer month, much information was shared from Julie and many family members' experience having breast cancer. Breast cancer is genetic. Testing is done to see if inherited gene mutation is present. Taking hormones, having only 1 child after age 30 or never having a child increases risk, along with obesity and being physically inactive. It's the 2nd leading cause of death for women with 1 in 8 dying. A mammogram should be done by age 40. Ages 45-54 should have yearly mammograms and every 2 years if they are over 55 and health is generally good. Men are also at risk of having breast cancer. Treatment can range from chemotherapy, radiation, hormone therapy, lumpectomy or surgery. A "People's Choice" vote was won by Kim Burmeister for her creation, "Check the Pumpkins for any Lumpkins". Very creative and fit in with the fall season.:). Great program Julie!! Some of the decorated bras were taken to the clinic for display to raise awareness of breast cancer month. We closed the Gathering with the Lord's Prayer.









ILCW GATHERING SEPTEMBER 2026

Sandy opened with 20 attending and reviewed upcoming calendar of events. Jean and Becky spoke about a program through the school for all 4th grade classes. About 20 Pen Pals are still needed to write to 4th graders and they would respond giving them experience in communication and penmanship skills. Contact Becky or Jean if interested in this popular program to help the kids. Delicious coffee cake was served by Kathy Holdeman. We prayed for those needing our prayers and the Lord's Prayer before we started the working program by Dolly Burgin, "Vintage Handkerchief Angels." Dolly gave demos and lessons to Women's Fellowship 40 years ago and has made hundreds since that time. People were asked to bring a method and an optional method then everyone got busy making their own. MANY TOTES of embellishments were available to make each Angel unique. A handout of instructions was available to make more at home. Thank you, Dolly, for a fun program. Many heirlooms and regular hankies can be handed down to family and friends remind us that **we all need angels.**



ILCW: *TJ BREAKFAST TEA SOCIAL*

. Take yourself back in time to the early 1800's. Specialty teas, breads and social time. Come and join in on our November program for a brief history lesson, story and social fun!! For questions contact Linda Mosher.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Time to start packing those boxes!! Collection date is November 15th, but they can be dropped off any time between now and then. Please pray over your boxes when packing so that the box will meet the needs and wishes of a special child. We can never know how much these boxes bless a child and bring them to Jesus. A book is included in each box in the child's language, and this can be the first time they have material to read in their own language. Remember that each box should include $10 to help with shipping and materials included in the boxes.





ILCW CHRISTMAS TEA



This year at ILCW's Christmas Tea" Loving Stitches" we want to showcase some of the beautiful handwork that has been made for generations suck as embroidery, cross stitch, tatting, needlepoint, knitting, and crocheting. We all have pieces from generations past or pieces that you have made yourself.

Please look in your cedar chests for your loving keepsakes and share the beautiful handwork. There will be a sheet in the office to let us know what you're bringing so we can have the displays ready. We will need your pieces at the church on Friday, December 4th, by 9:00 a.m. You may write a note with your name or information on the piece. For questions

Call Kathy Block 712-579-1003

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK IS BACK!!

November 14-15, 2026, at the Vets Building.
Packing sessions
Saturday, November 14 from 12-2:30, 3:30-4:30
Sunday, November 15 from 12:30-2:30
Sign-up in the church office or online at fmsc.org/volunteer-listing and search for the mobile pack event in Harlan.

CAREGIVER'S COMPASS

We will be changing our meeting to the 4th Tuesday of each month starting in January at 9:30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church We are a supportive care group that offers friendship and a safe place as we navigate health issues, losses, and the new purpose we now face. Please come and join us. **There will be no meeting in November and December.**

OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Council met October 13 with 9 of 12 members present. Alex led devotions with a prayer. Alex nominated Craig to lead November devotions.

Treasurer's Report (Joey Hansen)

- September income was $27,351 and expenses were $27,249, leaving a net gain of $101.
- Year to date is a net loss of $10,127.
- General fund balance is $56,571 plus $56,849 in CDs which includes $16,052 designated for the Refugee Food Aid Fund which continues to send $2000 each month to the refugee camps in Ethiopia.

Worship/Evangelism (Amy Kaster and Alex Monson)

- Will meet October 20 and discuss frequency of Communion.

Outreach/Stewardship (Dave Greve and Shane Pitts)

- October Mission Partner was the Iowa District and the Heartland District of LCMC.
- November Mission Parter will be Feed My Starving Children to support the local meal packing event and LCMC Asian Ministry in Southeast Asia.

Property (Todd Madsen)

- Yard was sprayed for dandelions.
- We have worked on the front doors which continue to stick.
- Grass seed was washed away.

Executive (Scott Shannon)

- Considered names to serve on the financial secretary team.

Worked on an evaluation system for the custodian.

WORSHIP & GIVING

DATES	ATTENDANCE					
September 26-27	0	+	135	=	135	$5934.00 $630.00
October 3-4	23	+	144	=	167	$6788.00 $445.00
October 10-11	29	+	130	=	159	$4400.00 $ 70.00
October 17-18	25	+	110	=	135	$6727.00 $ 20.00
October 24-25	21	+	123	=	144	$1625.00 $ 40.00

Sharing Cupboard $2035.00
Building $1115.00
Direct Deposit $2402.00

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

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

HARLAN, IOWA

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
Intern Jared Walters
Office Manager: Diana Greve
Custodian: Slava Aleev

NOVEMBER 2026

© AGU RESOURCE CENTER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts 4:00-6:00 WIAA Auditions	2 6:00 Garden Angels 6:00-8:00 WIAA Auditions 6:00-7:00 WIAA Kid's Choir Rehearsal-Chapel	3 9:00 CF Quilters 5:00-9:00 Scouts Dists 6:00-7:00 WIAA Adult Choir Rehearsal-Chapel	4 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:130Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	5 9:00-3:30 WIC	6	7 5:00 Worship
8 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 NO BIBLE CLASS 12:30-2:30 Food Pack 1:30-3:30 Clover Kids 4:30 Scouts	9 6:00-7:30 Girls Scouts 6:00-7:00 WIAA Kid's Choir –Chapel 7:00 Fellowship/Ed.	10 9:00 CF Quilters 9:30 Caregivers Compass 6:00-7:00 WIAA Choir-Chapel 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council	11 9:00 ILCW Board 9:30 ILCW Gathering 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:30 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	12 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**	13 Homeschool Game Club 5:30-8:00	14 Marge Ahrenholtz 90th Birthday Party 12-5:00 (LeAnn Saylor 402-699-3410) Food Pack 12:30-2:30 Food Pack 3:30-5:30 5:00 Communion
15 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts	16 1:00 Mission Quilts 6:00-7:00 WIAA Kid's Choir-Chapel	17 9:00 CF Quilters 10:00 Pastor @ Hansen House 6:00-7:00 WIAA Adult Choir-Chapel	18 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:30 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	19 9:00-3:30 WIC 9:30 Pastor @ Salem **ASSEMBLE NEWSLETTER**	20	21 8:00am-3pm TZ Pie Day 5:00 Worship
22 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts	23 6:00-7:30 Girls Scouts 6:00-7:00 WIAA Kids Choir-Chapel	24 9:00 CF Quilters **No Bunco** 6:00-7:00 WIAA Adult Choir-Chapel	25 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:30 Bells 6:00 Thanksgiving Worship	26 Dave Monson FH Reserved Thanksgiving Day **OFFICE CLOSED**	27 **OFFICE CLOSED**	28 5:00 Worship
29 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class 4:30 Scouts	30 **OFFICE CLOSED** 6:00-7:00 WIAA Kid's Choir-Chapel					

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule November/December 2026

	November 14-15	November 21-22	November 28-29	December 5-6	December 12-13
Acolytes	Harper Petsche Levi Palmer	Leah Svendsen Olivia Sanduk	Cora Clay Keegan Meyer	Truman Kjergaard Avery Nippert	Pyper Montgomery Adam Adem
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Orvetta Priest	Gayl Jensen	Betty Larsen	Randi McEvoy	Sharon Oman
Sunday Greeter/Usher	Craig Clemons Mary Johnson	Rich & Sharon Daberkow	Larry & Nancy Gessmann	Jeff & Erin Hastert	Mert & Diane Kastens
(Saturday) Altar Guild		Betty Larsen		Sue Grummert	
(Sunday) Altar Guild		Janet Johannsen Cathy Murray		Donna Nelson Kate Petersen	
Scripture Reader (Sun)	Donna Nelson	Sandy Nelsen	DeAnn Nielsen	Craig Olson	Scott Shannon
Communion Servers (Sun)		Chris & Jen Booth		Jim & Becky Chipman	
Coffee Hosts (Sun)	Lois Hansen Gaige Lytle	Jeff & Erin Hastert	Jeff & Penny Nelson	Craig & Judi Olson	Kris Olson-Harmon
Sound	Kayla Weis	Kayla Weis	Kayla Weis	DeAnn Nielsen	DeAnn Nielsen
Video	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	Rick Chipman	Rick Chipman
Projection	Kaitlyn Walters (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Kaitlyn Walters (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Kaitlyn Walters (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Kaitlyn Walters (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)	Kaitlyn Walters (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)
Council Person	Kirk Jacobsen	Craig Olson	Kirk Jacobsen	Scott Shannon	Vicki Strissel