



# IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS OCTOBER 2024



## HARVEST BAZAAR & LUNCHEON

Come and enjoy the annual Harvest Bazaar and Luncheon on Wednesday, October 16th. Serving will be from 11:00-1:00. You can dine in or carry out. The menu is Turkey Casserole, Green Beans, Salads, Harvest Apple Cake, and Beverage. Luncheon tickets are \$14 and can be purchased following church services, in the church office, from ILCW board members, or at the door that day. There are sign-up sheets at church for baking the Harvest Cake, Cool Whip, bagged coleslaw, Hidden Valley coleslaw bottled dressing, Jell-O salads, and volunteers. Don't forget to bring baked items, other goodies, crafts etc. for the Country Store and **SHOP** also. Quilts, made by the mission quilters, will be available for purchase. All profits from this event go toward mission projects the ILCW supports. Thank you. If you have questions, contact Sandy Nelsen 755-7373.

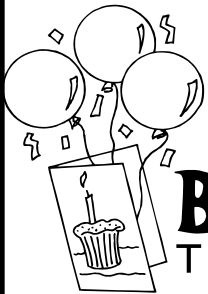
**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!**



## Worship in October

October 5-6	"A Word from Isaiah" (Isaiah 6:1-6)	Communion Baptism of Hugh Petersen
October 12-13	"A Word from Jeremiah" (Jeremiah 1:4-10)	
October 19-20	"A Word from Ezekiel" (Ezekiel 2:1-5)	Communion
October 26-27	"The Truth Shall Set You Free" (John 8:31-36)	Choir Confirmation of Faith

We begin October celebrating the Baptism of Hugh Samuel Petersen, the son of Mitch and Kate Petersen. We will end the month celebrating the Affirmation of Baptism/ Confirmation of Faith for six young people: Grant Chipman, Trevor Herbst, Drake Nippert, Aubrey Petsche, Gavin Sisson, and Katie Stern.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

### Happy Birthday to the following:

James Burmeister will be 83 on October 10.  
Philip Miller will be 81 on October 13.  
Carl Nielsen will be 80 on October 13.  
Sandy Nelsen will be 80 on October 16.  
Linda Norgaard will be 85 on October 21  
Marilyn Anderson will be 88 on October 28.  
Orvetta Priest will be 80 on October 29.

### Happy Anniversary to the following:

Julie & Kenneth Vorm will be celebrating their 52nd anniversary on October 1.  
Carolyn & Ken Hursey will be celebrating their 57th anniversary on October 7.  
Susan & Warren Grummert will be celebrating their 57th anniversary on October 28.

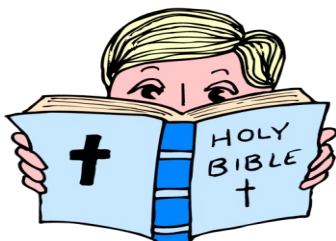


### Dates for your calendar:

**Fall Fellowship Potluck**—Sunday, September 29 at 11:00 a.m.

**Harvest Bazaar**—Wednesday, October 16 from 11:00—1:00 p.m.

**Tanzania Annual Pie Making Fundraiser**— Saturday, November 16  
from 9:00—4:00 p.m.





## IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS

Dear Friends in Christ,



I have enjoyed walking with you through 1 Corinthians this past summer. Beginning this month we are scheduled to hear from the great prophets of the Old Testament: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and others. The prophets were preachers who called God's people to faithfulness to God. They preached both warnings of judgment and promises of renewal. The prophets were critical of Israel's idolatry and greed which they called spiritual adultery. They were hated by the powerful and the popular. Many of them suffered for their preaching.

I imagine the prophets of Israel wouldn't be any better off in America today. They would be accused of mixing religion and politics. But for the prophets, faithfulness to God included issues of economic justice and political righteousness. Justice is giving people what they deserve as God's beloved creations. Righteousness is living in relationships of honor and peace. The prophets of the Old Testament didn't have to vote. But they were rarely fans of those in power. They called everyone, including the kings, to the ways of justice and peace.

I have always believed it is my Christian duty to vote. To fail to vote would be to dishonor the blessing of citizenship in a free nation and the sacrifices of those who died to secure that right for us. At the same time, when one is not given decent choices to vote for, can abstaining from voting also be a way to honor our freedom?

We can't expect our candidates to be perfect. But is it too much to expect candidates to respect the outcome of our elections and to not speak of people in dehumanizing ways? Is it too much to expect candidates to answer questions without talking in meaningless "word salads" and to have some sense of respect for the life of unborn children?

I will probably vote, but I can respect those who will vote for the opposing candidate. There is nothing easy about voting. Everybody in the media thinks it is an easy choice, either for one candidate or the other. They think undecided voters are ignorant. They are wrong.

The real tragedy of the current American political climate has been the politicization of the Church. When preachers take cheap shots at Trump, they are telling Republicans they are not welcome in the Church. When preachers take cheap shots at Harris, they are telling Democrats that they are not welcome in the Church. Either way, Jesus, the friend of sinners, weeps.

When we read the gospels, it's clear Jesus was not here to win elections. He refused attempts to politicize his mission and his message. He spoke the truth in ways that offended both liberals and conservatives. His calls for justice and compassion and for honesty and humility are critical of our whole political climate.

What this world needs is NOT Christians with the correct political views. What this world needs is Christians who act like Jesus. Sinners looking for hope won't really care about our political positions as much as they will care if we act like Jesus, with honesty and understanding, with passion for justice and the patience of peace.

When we get a snapshot (in John 17) of Jesus praying for the future church, what is Jesus most concerned about? Not theological (or ideological) purity, as important as that may be. His number one concern was unity. Our mission is to love others as God in Christ loved us. It isn't easy. But in this divisive and polarized climate, how we follow Jesus is far more important than our political opinions.

Yours in Christ, *Phil Nielsen*





Evan "Martin-in-Missions" Nielsen

October 2024

## WHERE I AM

**Mason City, IA** I have moved to north central Iowa and have begun my journey of wholly independent living. I would appreciate prayers for my mental health during these early months of learning to manage myself in ways that lead to growth and prosperity.

**Youth for Christ** I have been accepted as their new Middle School Campus Life Director. Here, along with the rest of the Staff, I will be ministering to the youth of troubled backgrounds with the intention of being the light in their lives. Although, I am familiar with youth ministry, many parts of this job are new to me. I would accept prayers for courage and confidence as I partner with God in this.

**THANKSGIVING** to those who reached out and offered aid in my time of waiting and searching, thank you. Your generosity and consideration means everything. To those who fight for me through prayer, you are the unsung heroes. I will never know your dedication, but I do know I am looked after.



To all, God bless you.

**OUR PRAYER LIST:** Jean Whitfield, Linda Christensen, Larry Haas, Ruthe and Pat Pattison, Christine Jones, Dave Pedersen, Ellie Nelson, Phil Smith, Arlynn Gittens, Ken Vorm, Lorene Thiede, Kayla Weis, Sandra Haney, Kay Koos, Connie Benson, Bill Broveak (son-in-law of Ed & Sheila Mills), Wade Mills (son of Ed & Sheila Mills), Julie Duval, Megan Leslie (Steve Allen's niece), Ken Johannsen (Seth Johannsen's father), Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother), Jim Halagarda (friend of Kirk Jacobsen) Klay Vogt, Christi Nelsen Koch and family, and Curt Olson (Sue Olson's son).



**Please Pray for:**



**WORSHIP SERVICES** at Immanuel are streamed on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/ilcharlan](http://www.facebook.com/ilcharlan)) Sunday mornings. They are also recorded for viewing on HMU channel 15 (9:30 a.m. Sunday and 5:00 p.m. Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday) and on FMCTC channel 48 (4:00 p.m. Wednesday). Our worship is also posted on [www.harlanimmanuel.org/sermons.html](http://www.harlanimmanuel.org/sermons.html).



## SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Church Council met September 10 with 9 of 13 members present. Joey Hansen led devotions on Philippians 4:6-7 and anxiety. October devotions will be led by John Taggs.

Dave, Joey, Vicki, John, and Todd volunteered for Sunday morning deacon duties.

**Treasurer's Report:** September income was \$16,943 and expenses were \$25,259 leaving us with a net loss for 2024 YTD of \$2,729. VBS expense was \$1,658. General Fund is at \$89,866 and Capital Reserve is at \$75,312.

**Worship/Evangelism Report:** Bell Choir met with 12 ringers. They will plan to perform several times this year. Volunteers will direct.

**Fellowship/Education Report:** We have seen growth in our youth programming this fall. JAM has had 10. GROW has had 15. Confirmation has had 17. LYO has had 15.

**Stewardship/Outreach Report:** September Mission Partner is the Lutheran Church of South Sudan. Pastor Jordan Long will be our guest speaker September 28-29.

**Property Report:** Window for the sanctuary has been installed. Now we need to decide what to do about the decorative shade covers. Carpet cleaning has been scheduled for October. We are on the job list for the cameras and WiFi installation. We will clean out the junk room after harvest.

**Executive Report:** Nominating Committee includes John Taggs, Joey Hansen, Verne Nelson, Kirk Jacobsen, and Sherry Lytle.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor recommended Santino Ngelo and Jima Leko for membership in Immanuel. Cheryl Nielsen and Craig Olson and Pastor completed a major clean-up of upstairs rooms. Class rooms look a lot nicer. Lots of new stuff in the junk room.

### WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	21	+	132	= 153	\$ 4,540.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 4,560.00
Sept. 7-8	25	+	133	= 158	\$ 2,516.00		\$ 2,516.00
Sept. 14-15	22	+	100	= 122	\$ 3,670.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 3,720.00
Sept. 21-22	16	+	124	= 140	\$ 3,630.00		\$ 3,630.00



ILCW



**ILCW GATHERING**  
**September 11, 2024**

The ILCW Gathering was attended by sixteen. Sally Nairn served a delicious variety of baked treats. Sandy was absent so Sharon Daberkow reminded the group of the **Harvest Bazaar October 16**. Sign-up sheets were passed to volunteer to provide items for the meal. Donations of Harvest Cake, Cool Whip (*no canned whipped cream please*), bagged coleslaw, Hidden Valley bottled coleslaw dressing and Jello salads are needed. The Country Store needs baked goods, crafts, snacks and canned/preserved items. Any volunteer help for that day would be welcomed.

Flyers to post at area businesses were handed out as well as tickets. Tickets will be sold before/after church services, during the week in the office, personal sales and at the door that day.

Kris Olson-Harmon had the program on her Kids At Risk. The November Thank Offering has been given to her the past several years. It's a program that's ongoing because of the great need in this community to help these kids. Most are at great risk because of the environment they live in.

Our offering is used for many things but shoes/boots (purchased locally) is one of the many things. She tells them that Immanuel Lutheran Church has made it possible for them to have those items. Other items and clothing are given to her from a local organization. Some of the items given to them, (boots especially), stay at school so they can go to recess. She also gives of her heart and encourages them with words they don't ever hear at home. She is a great mentor providing the self-esteem they so desperately need. Thank You Kris—your caring and generosity of your time and love of kids is commendable.

*Sisters  
in  
Christ*

A sister In Christ is a

sister for life

Mark 3:35







## TANZANIA HAPPENINGS



**CAN YOU HELP?** The Tanzania Committee may need help in the coming weeks/months. If you are willing to volunteer to transport and/or count cans and bottles, please text or call: 712-579-2142 with your name and how you may be able to assist. We'll put your name on the list and contact you if/when you are needed.



**Pie time!!!** The annual pie making fundraiser for Tanzania is **Saturday, November 16**, from 9 am to 4pm in the church fellowship hall. We will be making cherry, apple and rhubarb. 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 16. So after lunch, stop by to take yours home. Otherwise the 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.





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

*Give Thanks to the Lord,  
for He is good.  
Psalm 107:1*



Church Office: 712-755-5207

Office Hours: 9-1(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)

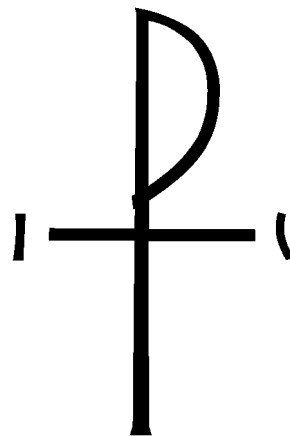
[www.harlanimmanuel.org](http://www.harlanimmanuel.org)

Staff:

Pastor Phil Nielsen

Office Manager: Rachel Block

Custodian: Slava Aleev





# OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 LCMC CONVENTION 9:00 CF Quilters 6-9 Boy Scout Dist. 5:45 The Chosen	2 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	3	4	5 5:00 Communion
6 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM Petersen Baptism 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class Kate Petersen F.H. 5:00 Boy Scouts	7	8 9:00 CF Quilters 5:45 The Chosen 6:30 Executive Bd 7:00 Church Council	9 CARPET CLEANING 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Confirmation 6:30 LYO	10 CARPET CLEANING	11	12 5:00 Worship
13 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 12-4 Carl Nielsen Birthday Party F.H. 5:00 Sudanese Fellowship	14 ILCW Kitchen a.m.	15 ILCW Kitchen a.m. 9:00 CF Quilters 5:45 The Chosen	16 11-1:00 HARVEST BAZAAR 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Confirmation 5:30 Bells 6:30 LYO	17 Newsletter Deadline 6:30 Ladies Homestead Gathering	18 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal	19 3:00 Hoegh-Andersen Wedding 5:00 Communion
20 8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts	21	22 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco 5:45 The Chosen	23 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Confirmation 5:30 Bells 6:30 LYO	24 Assemble Newsletter	25	26 5:00 Worship
27 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM Confirmation 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts	28 1:00 Mission Quilters	29 9:00 CF Quilters 5:45 The Chosen	30 3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Study 5:15 Confirmation 5:30 Bells 6:30 LYO	31	1	2 5:00 Communion

# Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule

	Nov. 2-3	Nov. 9-10	Nov. 16-17	Nov. 23-24	Nov. 30-Dec. 1
Acolytes	Jace Palmer Maggie Petersen	Harper Petsche Leah Svendsen	Rex Swanson Will Chipman	Gavin Herbst Trinity Haas	Abbey Brue Collin Burchett
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Warren & Susan Grummert	Darin & Tammy Haake	Maggie Hatcher	Darlene Hess	Ken Hursey
Saturday Altar Guild	Sandy Nelsen		Kayla Jacobs		Cheryl Nielsen
Sunday Greeters/Ushers	Zach & Kelli Klaasen Dallas & Kendra Klindt	Courtney & Wren Koch Malisa & Michael Koesters	Randy & Sharon Kroger Scott & Jeanne Larsen	Janell Leinen & Jonas Reynolds Steve & Julie Livingston	Andrea & Cole Lowary Jon & Kara Meiners
Sunday Altar Guild	Mary Petersen Kate Petersen		Erin Hastert Janet Johannsen		Donna Nelson Stacy Torneten
Scripture Reader (Sunday)	Becky Chipman	Rick Chipman	Vickie Errett	Rich Furst	Dave Greve
Communion Servers (Sunday)	Elaine Miller Linda Mosher		Verne Nelson Craig or Judi Olson		Brooke Reinert Scott or Megan Shannon
Coffee Hosts (Sunday)	Terry & Stacy Torneten Jason Weis	Calvin Twenhafel Vicki & Ken Carstens	Rick & Cheryl Chipman	Matt & Mary Hoch	Colin & Roberta King
Sound	DeAnn Nielen	DeAnn Nielsen	DeAnn Nielsen	DeAnn Nielsen	Kayla Weis
Video	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	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	Joey Hansen	Todd Madsen	Dave Greve		