

IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS October 2025



Congregational Campfire Supper

Join us Saturday, October 25, at 6:00 p.m. at the fire pit on the east lawn of Immanuel, for an evening of fellowship, food, and fun. Everyone is invited to bring camp chairs and roasting sticks. Hot dogs and smore fixings and drinks will be provided.



Library News



The Church Library has moved. If you are looking for the Church library, it has moved north, down the hall. It is on the west side of the hall past the childcare room and the all purpose room. We plan on adding a nice conference table and some comfortable chairs for the room. Meanwhile, the former library space is awaiting a makeover to become a space for parents of young children to use when needed during worship services. Anyone who is interested in helping us design and furnish these two spaces is welcomed to contact the church council.

THE CHOSEN



The Chosen, season 5, has come to Immanuel beginning the first full week in October. Steve Allen leads a discussion class and all are welcome to join us. The Tuesday evening class begins October 7 at 5:45 sharp. The Thursday evening class (AKA the men's group) begins October 9 at 6:00 not so sharp. Plan on popcorn and M&Ms. Everyone bring your own drink. Sleeping is allowed, but snoring is not. We meet in the LYO room. If you would like to watch season 5 of the Chosen, come join us.



HALLELUJAH OPEN



The Golf outing was held September 24 at 2:00 with 33 golfers at the Shelby County Golf Course. All had a wonderful time with beautiful weather. The winning group was Trevor Herbst, Caden Herbst,, Drake Nippert and Kirk Jacobsen. We will do this again next September so look for the signup sheet next year and join us.



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I surf the internet, I have found some excellent Christian content. It is absolutely wonderful how easily we can access insightful and helpful Christian thought online. But at the same time, there is a lot of misguided and pseudo-Christian junk online. Even worse, there is a lot of anger and hatred posing as Christian thought on the internet.

In the wake of the tragic assassination of Charlie Kirk, it is quite disheartening to see so much anger and hatred being spewed and shared. It used to be that tragedy brought people together in solidarity and support. Now because of social media -- which always spread the most provocative and angry stuff -- people react with hatred and suspicion. It used to be that tragedies would tear down walls and build bridges between people. Now social media platforms use tragedies to build walls and to encourage people to fire hatred at each other.

Charlie Kirk was a Christian who shared the gospel of Jesus with people. And he was a political activist who pushed a political agenda. He was a husband and a father. He was also a social media star who enjoyed making his opponents look foolish. He was a brilliant thinker and speaker who spoke the truth with boldness. He was also a sinner who said harsh and insensitive things. Like Martin Luther, he was never boring. As Lutherans we should not be surprised that Charlie Kirk was both saint and sinner at the same time. But social media posters want you to think that Charlie was either the devil incarnate or the perfect saint. Don't buy into the lies.

The murder of Charlie Kirk was a terrible injustice and a shocking public display of the hatred and anger poisoning our society. It follows the assassinations of a House Speaker and her husband in Minnesota in June. And the same day brought another school shooting. This should be a moment to pull together and weep for the kind of nation we have become. The problem is not liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican. Both sides have been demonizing each other for over 30 years. Our country seems to be locked in a vicious cycle.

Jesus spoke the truth with boldness but also with a compassion that attracted sinners rather than repelled them. We are called by Jesus to speak the truth boldly, but also to love people boldly. Anybody can talk. Lots of people do it today. But Jesus also calls us to listen, to share compassion, and to show understanding. That should be our prayer.

Yours in Christ, Phil Nielsen

Worship in October 2025

October 4-5	The Mind of Christ Philippians 2:1-11	Communion
October 11-12	Work Out Your Salvation Philippians 2:12-18	Bells
October 18-19	The Work of the Gospel Philippians 2:19-30	Communion
October 25-26 Reformation/Confirmation	To Know Christ Philippians 3:1-14	Confirmation Choir



Happy Birthday to the following:

James Burmeister will be 84 on October 10

Phil Miller will be 82 on October 13

Carl Nielsen will be 81 on October 13

Sandy Nelsen will be 81 on October 16

Linda Norgaard will be 85 on October 21

Orvetta Priest will be 81 on October 29



OUR PRAYER LIST: Eric Chipman, Sherry Lytle, Ellie Nelson, Ruthe & Pat Pattison, Dave Pedersen, Phil Smith, Arlynn Gittins, Kayla Weis, Kay Koos, Paul Berkley, 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), Julie and Lee Kaufman (Parents of Kayla Weis and Mary Hoch), Larry Gittins, Anne Hein (Mother of Diana Greve), Waylon Heth (Friend of Dave and Diana Greve), Larry Anderson (Connie Behrens brother).

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 there addresses are:

SPC Walters, Jared
Task Force Elkhound
D Co. I-168 IN BN
LSA Hooligan
APO AE 09316

SGT Coleman, Titan
Task Force Elkhound
C Co 1-168
Ebril Airbase
APO, AE 09316

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



thank you

THANK YOU Immanuel family. Hilda would like to THANK everyone for the warm welcome. She was busy visiting the sights of Iowa. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to include her in your everyday life, meals, outings and the many gifts. Hilda went home with many memories and stories to tell Kidugala about Immanuel. Your generosity has been amazing. God Bless. Mungu Akubariki.



Confirmation Sunday, October 26



On Sunday, October 26, we will celebrate the confirmation of faith of 5 young people: Abigale Brue (daughter of Bob and Patty Brue), Cade Neve (son of Mindy Neve), Jace Palmer (son of Jake and Kari Palmer), Rex Swanson (son of Chad and Lisa Palmer), and Brody Jacobsen (son of Amber Jacobsen). Here are some of their thoughts on their faith:

Abbey Brue: "I think that being Christian, and in turn helping the world be a better, more hopeful place, is by using your faith to help others to feel more accepted and loved."

Cade Neve: "One reason I really like being Lutheran is because we are taught that we are saved by grace through faith. That means I don't have to be perfect to be loved by God. Jesus already took care of everything by dying on the cross and rising again. This gives me hope. I know I'll make mistakes, but I also know that God forgives me and still loves me. That's a big comfort."

Rex Swanson: "Jesus is God's one and only son who he sent to us to show that we are made in the image of God and that we are all able to be forgiven by him, because he died on the cross for us and rose again. Forgiveness is a gift from God."

Jace Palmer: "I believe that there is a reason God created this earth, and I think the reason is so that God could see us humans express his glory. The meaning of life is to know God and be known by God and trust him with every step we take in life."

Salem Lutheran Homes

Fall Bazaar

Elk Horn Lutheran Church

Now accepting donations.

October 20th

5:00 pm Dinner

6:00 pm Auction



WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>	<u>Refugee</u>
August 23-24	13	+	111	= 124	\$1904.00	\$ 360.00
August 30-31	18	+	75	= 93	\$3099.00	\$1440.00
September 6-7	26	+	118	= 144	\$5085.00	\$ 295.00
September 13-14	25	+	112	= 137	\$6751.00	\$7665.00
TZ	\$7500.00					
Building	\$0					



TANZANIA HAPPENINGS

It has been a busy couple months for the TZ team. Pastor Phil, Patti Allen, and Rick Chipman visited our companion congregation. We celebrated the 20th Anniversary of working with Kidugala and Hilda, the ambassador from Kidugala, visited Immanuel. Many memories were made. Now we are off on the next adventure.

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.



ILC REFUGEE FUND welcomes gifts to provide food to refugees from South Sudan in the Sherkole Camp in Ethiopia. If you would like to participate regularly in this project, there is a small form available to register your estimated intention so that we can budget our funds consistently. Completed forms may be turned in to the church office. Or you can call or email the office with your estimate of giving.



CAREGIVERS COMPASS will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering will October 7 at 9:30 am 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.

Contact: Elaine Miller 712-579--0925, Joyce Folley 712-579-1837, or Jan Applegate 712-579-2160.



ILCW



ILCW GATHERING SEPTEMBER 10TH

Sandy welcomed the 21 members and guests. Linda Mosher served a delicious lemon bread and fruit. Jonelle Conrad, as Hospitality Chair, shared information about the cards that she sends from Immanuel to members on the prayer list, milestone birthdays & anniversaries, and holidays. Last year she sent over 200 cards. We appreciate Jonelle sending these.

Becky Chipman thanked the ILCW for sponsoring 17 campers this summer to Ingham or Okoboji camps. Bible Study was a common response as a favorite part of camp. She then introduced our speaker, Kelly Mure, who is part of the South Sudan families that worship at Immanuel. Kelly escaped from South Sudan, due to war, to a refugee camp in Ethiopia when she was six years old. Her parents had both died. She walked for a week barefoot, her feet bleeding, carrying her niece. In the camps there were very few schools and only boys were allowed to attend. Their food was mainly rationed corn that had to last six months. When she was 11 years old she came to America with her older brother. It was a very interesting program and made us aware of the needs around the world and we take so much for granted. Kelly told us she so appreciated the unselfish support of Immanuel and the LOVE shown to the adults and children.

The gathering closed with the Lord's prayer.



ILCW HARVEST BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON

October 15, 2025 11:00-1:00



The women of Immanuel hope that you will plan to attend this GREAT event. Tickets are \$15 for the luncheon and can be purchased before and after church, in the church office, or at the door. The menu is the popular turkey casserole, green beans, salads, Harvest Apple Cake, and a beverage. Carry outs are also available. Stop before or after in the narthex where there is a craft sale, bake sale, and quilts, made by the Mission Quilters, are available for purchase. **Craft items and bake sale items are needed so show your talents and PLEASE bring your items. There are signup sheets to bring food items for the luncheon. A monetary donation could also be made for purchase of food items. All income goes toward our various mission projects. Thank you for your support.**

THERE IS NO ILCW GATHERING IN OCTOBER



SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Council met September 9, 2025 with 9 of 12 members present. Dave Greve led devotions from “Jesus Lives” on courage based on Jesus’ tenacious presence with us. October devotions will be led by Craig Olson.

Kirk Jacobsen, Todd Madsen, Joey Hansen, John Taggs, Eric Chipman, Craig Olson, Scott Shannon, Amy Kaster, and Dave Greven volunteered for Sunday council duties.

Treasurer’s Report: August income was \$17,860 (lowest for 2025) and expenses were \$20,299 for a loss of \$2,438. August YTD income is \$195,491 and expenses are \$186,150 for a gain of \$9,340. General Fund balance is \$82,009 plus \$25,328 in a CD totaling \$107,337 and the Capital Savings balance is at \$83,667. Tanzania Account is at \$52,851.

Worship/Evangelism: We plan to invite Peggy Wolverton to serve as our guest organist in the future. We plan to use prelude music as a way to encourage silent preparation for worship.

Fellowship/Education: Children and youth programming has begun. GROW had 22 students. Confirmation had 9 students. LYO had 12 students. Recommendation for our congregation to offer stipend to any member who would like to serve as a camp counselor next summer. October campfire supper planned for October 25, at 6:00 at the fire pit out back.

Property: HVAC units are finished. New commercial vacuum has been purchased.

Executive: Insurance toured the building. They found some things they would like us to address. Ceiling tiles in the sanctuary, out of date fire extinguishers, etc. Appointed Craig Olson and Scott Shannon to serve on Nominating Committee with Darin Haake, Mitch Petersen, and Lonnie Pitts. November meeting will be moved to November 4. Library is ready for the move to the new room. Move will be on the church cleaning night, September 19.

Pastor: Pastor is taking some more vacation on Fridays this fall and November 6-11.

Old Business: We would like to have a couple of people look into alternatives to our current landscaping near the church building.





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

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 LYO		Setup for shower PM	Bridal Shower For Callie Wiltse (Jan Applegate) 5:00 Communion
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts LCMC Convention	THE CHOSEN season 5 5:45 Sharp Guardian Angels Garden Club 6:00-9:00 LCMC Convention	9:00 CF Quilters 5:45 THE CHOSEN SEASON 5 6:00-9:00 Boy Scouts Dist. LCMC Convention	NO SCHOOL 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells LCMC Convention	6:00 Men's Bible Study		5:00 Worship
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class	THE CHOSEN season 5 5:45 Sharp	9:00 CF Quilters Setup for Harvest Bazaar 9:30 Caregivers Compass 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Church Council	HARVEST BAZAAR 11:00-1:00 3:30 Grow 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:30 Confirmation 5:15 Bells 6:30 LYO	6:00 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Homestead Gathering		5:00 Communion
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:00 Choir 9:00 Communion/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts	THE CHOSEN season 5 5:45 Sharp	9:00 CF Quilters 6:00 Worship Comm. 7:00 Fellowship/Ed Comm.	NO SCHOOL 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:15 Bells 6:30 Confirmation Rehearsal	6:00 Men's Bible Study NEWSLETTER DEADLINE		5:00 Worship 6:00 Bonfire
26	27	28	29	30	31	
REFORMATION SUNDAY 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/JAM 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:15 Adult Bible Class 5:00 Boy Scouts	1:00 Mission Quilters THE CHOSEN season 5 5:45 Sharp	9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco	3:30 GROW 4:00 Women's Bible Stu 5:30 Confirmation 5:15 Bells 6:30 LYO	6:00 Men's Bible Study ASSEMBLE NEWSLETTER	HALLOWEEN	

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule

October-November

	October 18-19	October 25-26	November 1-2	November 8-9	November 15-16
Acolytes	Truman Kjergaard Pyper Montgomery	Zoey Olson Harper Petsche	Will Chipman Leah Svendsen	Cora Clay Trinity Haas	Kolton Jensen Gavin Herbst
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Connie Behrens	Karen Brasch	James Burmeister	Linda Christensen	Kathy Dirks
Saturday Altar Guild	Cheryl Nielsen		Kayla Jacobs		Sandy Nelsen
Sunday Greeters/Usher	Mindy & Owen Neve	Neil & Melanie Ohms	Kevin & Jahde Osborn	Dylan & Katie Petersen	John & Gaylen Petsche
Sunday Altar Guild	Samantha Allen Cora Chapman		Peg Haas Janet Johannsen		Donna Nelson Kate Petersen
Scripture Reader (Sunday)	Dave Greve	Hertha Haas	Lois Hansen	Tony Hansen	Tim Herbst
Communion Servers (Sunday)	Donna Nelson Verne Nelson		Santino Ngelo DeAnn Nielsen		Craig & Judi Olson
Coffee Hosts (Sunday)	Elaine & Jill Miller	Sandy Nelsen Donna Nelson	Ilene & Verne Nelson	Craig & Judi Olson	Kris Olson-Harmon Karma Petersen
Sound	Seth Johannsen	Seth Johannsen	Kayla Weis	Kayla Weis	Kayla Weis
Video	Mark Schechinger	Mark Schechinger	Dave Greve	Dave Greve	Dave Greve
Projection	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Al Ickes (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat) Teri Johnson (Sun)
Council Person	Eric Chipman	Craig Olson			