

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Website: www.luther95.net/ILC-WIA/

1226 East Washington Washington, IA 319-653-3950

MAY, 2009

**Sunday Worship
9:00 AM**

**Our mission:
Gather All Generations
Around the Word of Christ**

**VBS Set for July
12-16**

**Snipe Hunt & Bar B
Que July 19 at
Chmelar's**

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God is Love by Peter Weller

In both his gospel and his first letter, John proclaims emphatically that God is love. He quotes Jesus during the Last Supper as saying, "I love you just as the Father loves me; remain in my love. . . . My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you. The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them. And you are my friends if you do what I command you. . . . You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name. . . ." (John 15:9-17)

In his first letter, John expands upon what Jesus said at the Last Supper and declares that God is love, that love comes from God, and that it is through love that we come to know and understand and love God. It is through love that our relationship with God develops. It is through love that we have union with God and he has union with us. We love because God first loved us. And because God first loved us, we must, therefore, love our brothers and sisters and one another. We no longer need to be afraid of God, for his perfect love drives out all fear and gives us courage on the day of Judgment. Below, John, himself, says it so much more eloquently:

"Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven.

"Dear friends, if this is how God loved us, then we should love one another. No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in union with us, and his love is made perfect in us.

"We are sure that we live in union with God and that he lives in union with us, because he has given us his Spirit. And we have seen and tell others that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone declares that Jesus is the Son of God, he lives in union with God, and God lives in union with him. And we ourselves know and believe the love which God has for us.

"God is love, and whoever lives in love lives in union with God, and God lives in union with him. Love is made perfect in us in order that we may have courage on the Judgment Day, and we will have it because our life in this world is the same as Christ's. There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear. So then, love has not been made perfect in anyone who is afraid, because fear has to do with punishment.

"We love because God first loved us. If someone says he loves God, but hates his brother, he is a liar. For he cannot love God, whom he has not seen, if he does not love his brother, whom he has seen. The command that Christ has given us is this: Whoever loves God must love his brother also." (1 John 4:7-21)

Monthly Updates

April Attendance

Apr 5	9:00 am	160
Apr 12	6:30 am	78
	9:00 am	208
Apr 19	9:00 am	138
Apr 26	9:00 am	132

General Fund Gifts - March

1/12th of annual budget = \$ 13,814.75

Mar 1	2,308.75
Mar 8	1,705.00
Mar 15	1,419.70
Mar 22	1,927.25
Mar 29	3,171.00
Lenten Offering	489.00
Simply Giving	<u>2,378.00</u>
Mar \$	13,398.70

Feb \$ 10,996.48

\$2,000.00 has been paid to the Synod for Mission Support in 2009 beyond the congregation for synodical and church wide ministries of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

“Building Fund Gifts ” - March

Monthly mortgage payment - \$3,422.55

Mar 1	\$ 645.00
Mar 8	415.00
Mar 15	270.00
Mar 22	355.00
Mar 29	210.00
Simply Giving	<u>865.00</u>

Mar \$ 2,760.00

Feb \$ 3,190.00

At this time we have payments made through May. Next payment due 06/23/09.

Thrivent Leaders 2009

Chapter - Yvonne Buster, Mark Kendall, Ray Poe
Judy Venzke
Care in Congregations—Dale Venzke, Mike Jewell,
Oscar Hernandez

Continuing Funds that can be contributed to:

Luther League	
Parking Lot Fund	New Carpet Fund
Endowment Fund	Piano Fund
Membership Assistance	Bobbie Schmidt Fund

[Make notation on check]

THANK YOU!

Dear members of Immanuel Lutheran Church,
On behalf of Operation Snowflake, I would like to extend a HUGE thank you for allowing us to use your facility. We are so grateful to have a space to hold such an important event for the youth of Washington. I greatly appreciate your willingness to open your church for our training and for Snowflake. We had a great day. Thank you so much.

Sincerely, Rachel Meyer Snowflake Director

Needed for HOPE Day Ladies

We are looking for any old blanket, drapes, sheets, bedspreads, or anything large in size to use as a liner for the quilts. Drop them off by the sewing room or let us know and we can arrange to have them picked up 653-3950.

WAY TO GO!

The H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Everywhere) Women's group at Immanuel sent off to Cedar Rapids on April 18, 98 quilts, 121 health kits, 86 school kits, and 110 layettes. Remember these are ongoing projects and we need supplies for all of these kits on a regular basis. If you did not get your school kit returned you can do so anytime for the next shipping in the fall.

Congratulations to our graduating Seniors:

Brad Sievers, Sam Shepherd, Sean Soper, Vernon Moore, Ashley Wagner, Emily Parriott, Bekka Goodwin, Lauren Mueller, Jordan Anderson
(Please notify the office if you know of others 653-3950.)

Graduation Reception Invitation

Ashley Wagner daughter of Bill & Jeanette and Vernon Moore son of Rhonda, would like to welcome everyone from Immanuel to their Graduation reception that will be held on Sunday, May 24 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Immanuel. Please come and help them celebrate their high school careers and wish them well in the future!

Council Members for 2008: Sarah Hernandez (Ed/Youth) 653-3038 - Kathy Dea [Sec.] (Ed/Youth) 653-6097 Kate Glinsmann (Ed/Youth) 653-7314 - Marty Westen [V.P.] (W/E) 653-6021 - Ed Burdock (W/E) 653-2495 - Mary Chmelar (W/E) 653-2043 - Tom Lyons (B/G/F) 653-6721 - David Sells (B/G/F) 461-5873 Nancy Baker (B/G/F) 653-7309 - Ken Erickson (Stew/Fin) 653-5258 - Ruth Jones [Pres.] (Stew/Fin) 461-4010 - Mark Kendall (Stew/Fin) -653-6561

Congratulation to
 Tom & Lynn Zoulek
 on the birth of their
 Son
 Joshua Donald
 March 30, 2009 9:32 AM
 7# .5 oz. - 20 .5" long
 Tom & Lynne are new members
 at Immanuel

Please join us as we celebrate

Brad Seivers' graduation

Sunday, May 24th

Barbeque

4:00 to 7:30 PM

Mary Marr Lodge

Marr Park, Ainsworth

Jim and Lynette Sievers

P.S. Your presence is gift enough!

Congregational Council Meeting Highlights

Eight members present, four absent

April 14 7:00 pm—Devotions Ruth Jones

- Build/Grnds/Fellow. New key policy in place
Garbage pickup changed—Mowing done by
Don McAvoy this summer. May 1 Orange and
Black give back day. Carpet project enough
money to order carpet. Window panels in cry
room discussed.
- Worship & Evangelism—White parament dis-
cussed, possible communion assistant train-
ing, discussion on dimmer switches,

Old Business:

- Two services discussion will revisit late sum-
mer
- Reviews—still in the process of setting up
- Mary Chmelar will head up 50th Anniversary

New Business

- Synod Assembly June 12&13
- Looking for Relay for Life coordinator
- Pictorial Directory—possibly doing it our-
selves in conjunction with 50th Anniv.

Next meeting: May 12

Christian Banquet Date set for 2009

Save the date of October 24th for the Christian Banquet. We will accept donations of any new merchandise, hand made craft items or any baked goods for the Banquet, so begin making your plans now. We will be selling tables this year so if you have a group they can all sit together. Keith Murphy has also agreed to be the auctioneer again.

May Sunday School News

The Sunday School classes for this year will end on Sunday, May 17th with a "Route 66 Diner" breakfast at 10:15 (right after the service) and special presentations during the church service. There will be no official lesson on that Sunday. If you would like to help by donating supplies for the breakfast please sign-up on the list under the mailboxes. Most of all please come and join us for breakfast to celebrate another season of Bible lessons and spiritual growth on our life journey. On May 17th we will also be concluding our Bible challenge so keep reading!

We are still looking for someone to head up Bible School this summer. If you are interested in heading up or helping with Bible School in any way, please attend an organizational meeting on Sunday, May 3rd at 11:15 or let members of the Education Committee know of your interest!

I'd like to thank all the Sunday School teachers and substitutes that made this Sunday School Year a success. Thank you parents for bringing your children and to students for attending. Thank you to the all members of Immanuel for supporting our efforts and attending our events. I have enjoyed serving as superintendent and thank you for the opportunity. Happy summer!

New Members Join Immanuel

On March 15 Immanuel welcomed new members into our church family: Alan & Vicki Rebling and their daughter Allison, Matt & Jayme Steffen and their children Noah and Carson, Pastor Al and Jane Kruse, Tom & Lynne Zoulek, Ken & Susan Baker, Sherry Ives, Cyndi Kindred. Please introduce yourself to these new members.

VBS Set

Mark you calendars for July 12-16 for this years Vacation Bible School. The theme has not been selected as of yet. If you are interested in helping contact Sarah Hernandez 653-3038, Kathy Dea 653-6097 or Kate Glinnsmann 653-7314.

Worship Leaders

May 2009	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistant	Communion Setup/Cleanup	Acolyte
Sun 9:00 am May 3	Jim & Ann Bennett Family	Steve Vetter Phyllis & Duane Hagensick	Peter Weller	Gary Fischer	T&V Kruse Hagensick/ J&D Moore	Maggie Baker
Sun 9:00 am May 10	Larry & Sara Bartlett	Dale Venzke David Steele Deidra Baker	Deb Shepherd			Shayna Blitsch
Sun 9:00 am May 17	Jan Newhouse	Tom Tanner Jim Gallagher Richard Schmidt	BJ Wetherell	Mary Gail Lyons	Deb Shep- herd M&J Sells	Grant Hill
Sun 9:00 am May 24	Matt & Jayme Steffen Family	Pastor Al Kruse Deb Shepherd Brian Lueck	Julie Hill			Elaney England
Sun 9:00 am May 31	Ken & Naomi Erickson	John & Peg Harris Carrie Lueck	Mary Gail Lyons		Hagensick/ Kruse	Fletcher Green

If you cannot serve the time you are assigned, please find someone to trade with or call Kathy Vetter 653-5515 before noon on Friday.

May Luther League Report

Well, another month has come and gone. Spring is almost here and I, for one, am glad to see warmer weather and things that are green. These winters sure are long and hard on this old Kansas boy. I thought that I would give you all an update on what we have been doing with Luther League. We hosted 3 Lenten Soup Suppers throughout March and April. We had a great turnout from the kids and for the congregation. We raised about \$700 between the 3 suppers and that money will go towards things like our trip to New Orleans and other expenses that occur. Thank you all for supporting our wonderful group.

Sunday, March 15, we participated in a youth Sunday which was a lot of fun. The kids really like to be involved in the service. It gives them a chance to show you all their talents. Thanks to Mike, Rich and Pastor for their hard work with the kids to get them ready.

On the weekend of March 27, the High School group went out to Crooked Creek Christian Camp with the Methodist Youth Group for a youth event. We saw several speakers and were able to party with the Josiah Smith Band. The kids had a great time on a very cold and snowy weekend. Thanks to Amy Christiansen and her group for putting it all together.

On Easter Sunday we hosted the church breakfast. We had a great turnout from all. It was nice to see the church full. God is truly at work within our group and our church. Thank you to all who donated money, brought food, and helped out. You all made it run very smooth. We had just enough eggs but ran a little short on breakfast rolls. The doughnuts went fast as well. We will try to have more of these next year.

We owe the kids a lock in and we will do that sometime this summer. As far as upcoming events, we are planning some fun outdoor activities as the weather warms up. We will try to get something set up soon. With all the baseball, golf, softball, soccer, etc...it makes it tough to schedule, but we will do the best we can. We will let everyone know when we get the dates set.

Thanks again to all of you that support our group. We all really appreciate it.
Talk to you all next month.
Godspeed.
Jason and Monique Rausch

