

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Website: [www.luther95.net/ILC-WIA/](http://www.luther95.net/ILC-WIA/)

1226 East Washington Washington, IA 319-653-3950

June, 2009

**Sunday Worship  
9:00 AM**

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

**HOPE to collect  
bars of Soap for  
June**

**VBS Set for  
July 12-16**

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

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## Knowing God by Peter Weller

My inspiration for this month's column came from a daily devotional book that I picked up a couple years ago at a Thrivent meeting. The devotion for the day that I wrote this column was entitled, "Knowing God," and it cited Matthew 11:25, where Jesus said, "No one knows the son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." The devotion goes on to say that formal education, academic study, and degree programs are of only limited use in revealing God to us. God becomes known to us in Christ. This is not a secret, but a mystery revealed through the Holy Spirit.

This point is well illustrated in Nicodemus' encounter with Jesus (John 3:1-17). Nicodemus is well educated, a member of the highest Jewish court, the Sanhedrin. During the course of this encounter, Nicodemus attempts to size up Jesus, learn about his background and training, and find out where and how he acquired his vast religious knowledge. Yet, Jesus, with no advanced degree in theological studies from any earthly university, is able to baffle Nicodemus, who fails to grasp the significance of the need to be born of water and the Spirit of which Jesus speaks. Jesus asks him, "You are a great teacher of Israel and you don't know this?"

Mark, in his gospel, records many miracles performed by Jesus. In chapters 4 and 5, Jesus calms a storm on the Sea of Galilee that threatened to swamp the boat that he and his disciples were in, he heals a woman who suffered from severe hemorrhaging for twelve years, and he brought the daughter of Jairus, a synagogue official, back to life. Those who witnessed these works were amazed and could not know or understand how he did it.

Mark also describes Jesus speaking in parables, many of which begin with the phrase, "The Kingdom of Heaven is like. . . ." In simple stories and language, Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to everyday situations, items, or objects to which people can understand and relate. Yet many were mystified. To his disciples, he explained the meanings behind the parables.

We surely can be as baffled as those in Jesus' time. Yet through faith, the Holy Spirit reveals these mysteries to us. Faith is, by definition, belief in that which cannot be proved or disproved. We therefore choose to accept and believe that which cannot be observed and understood through the five senses. That is the gift God gives us. That is the faith demonstrated in Lamentations 3:22-33, where we read, "The Lord's unfailing love and mercy still continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise. The Lord is all I have, and so in him, I put my hope. The Lord is good to everyone who trusts in him. . . . The Lord is merciful and will not reject us forever. He may bring us sorrow, but his love for us is sure and strong. He takes no pleasure in causing us grief or pain." That is a faith to hold on to. That is a faith to treasure.

## Monthly Updates

### May Attendance

May 7	9:00 am	114
May 10	9:00 am	170
May 17	9:00 am	155
May 24	9:00 am	87
May 31	9:00 am	110

### General Fund Gifts - April

1/12 <sup>th</sup> of annual budget =	\$ 13,814.75
Apr 5	2,092.02
Apr 12	3,238.25
Apr 19	3,216.78
Apr 26	2,092.75
Simply Giving	<u>2,313.00</u>
Apr \$	12,952.80
Mar \$	13,398.70

**\$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 ” - April

Monthly mortgage payment -	\$3,422.55
Apr 5	\$ 975.00
Apr 12	120.00
Apr 19	475.00
Apr 26	250.00
Simply Giving	<u>770.00</u>
Apr \$	2,590.00
Mar \$	2,760.00

At this time we have payments made through June. Next payment due 07/23/09.

Parking Lot update—We did not receive a grant from the Riverboat Foundation for a second time. The committee will see how they will proceed.

#### 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]

### June is “Soapy Month”

HOPE (formerly Sew Day Group) for Lutheran World Relief will start again in September. During the summer months, we would like for you to concentrate on bringing an item that is needed to finish layette and health kits. This month of June we will focus on bars of soap. We need bath size bars of soap in the original wrap. Ivory is a suggestion. Please bring the bars of soap to church and drop them off.

### 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. Garage Sales are a GREAT place to find these items. Drop them off by the sewing room or let us know and we can arrange to have them picked up 653-3950.

### OPEN HOUSE

Pastor Brian and Julie Gentz would like to invite the members of the congregation to an Open House at their new home 121 Vogel Ave, Ottumwa, IA. They are celebrating their 15<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. The open house is scheduled to run from 2:00-5:00 PM.

### Korner Kremery

This is a thanks to the Kremery owners Carolyn and Richard Schmidt. They furnished 5 big tubs of their ice cream at cost to treat the 400 junior high students who worked one morning in the surrounding community in clean-up and fix-up projects—“Orange and Black Day”. When they returned to the school around 1 p.m., the students each received a cup or a cone of ice cream as a thank you. The ice cream was paid for by a Join Hands Day project through Thrivent. Also, Carolyn and Richard donated another big tub of ice cream to the church for our pie baking contest. Thanks.

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

## Wandering Worshipers

Nita Lovick  
Point of Grace Church  
Waukee, IA  
May 10, 2009

Congratulation to  
Nancy (Chmelar) & Steve Bird  
on the birth of their Son  
Joseph Cannon Bird  
May 5, 2009  
Seattle, WA  
Joseph has 2 sisters at home  
Elizabeth (4) and Kate (2)  
Grandparents are Yaro and Mary  
Chmelar members of this  
congregation

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.  
The secret of getting started is breaking your  
complex overwhelming tasks into small man-  
ageable tasks, and then starting on the first  
one. – Mark Twain

### Cry Room

Miniblinds have been installed in the “cry room” at the back of the sanctuary, replacing the removable window treatments. If you have children who need to move around during the worship service, this room was originally intended for them. Parents are invited to take their little wiggleworms into this room, raise the blinds, and watch and listen to the service as it takes place. Their children are at liberty to wiggle, and the parents can participate in the worship service at the same time. If the family needs privacy, they can lower the blinds. Please, no children without adults. We hope this will meet everyone’s needs during our worship services.

I have gone back to school for Esthetics and will need clients (that need to pay for their treatment) to complete my course. I can start taking clients now but can only do body wraps, makeup application, microdermabrasion, back facials. I am learning new treatments every week. I am on clinic floor August 6 when I will be able to do all the treatments. I will keep you updated by calling 461-4010. This is how I hope to earn my way in the world please help me out. Thank you sister in Christ. Ruth Jones

### 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. An organizational meeting will be held Tuesday June 23 at 5:30 PM.

### Spring Clothing/Bake Sale

The sale reached many people in the community offering nice used clothing for only fifty cents an item. The bake sale was tremendous. The profit from the sale all went to help Luther Leaguers attend the national convention, so the mothers of many of the leaguers added to our bake sale table. Also, Jane Kruse donated 17 loaves of bread. We raised \$557.75 from the sale and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans supplemented \$150 for a total of \$707.75 for the New Orleans trip. .

There will be a fall clothing sale. You may bring clothing to the church any time starting now. There is a big box in the back adult Sunday school room. The planning/work committee members are Linda Venzke, Lynette Sievers, Nancy Baker, Diana Wubena, Lori Seubert and Judy Venzke.

### Youth Gathering in New Orleans

Those attending the Youth Gathering from Immanuel are: Lucas Anderson, Ashley & Paige Wagner, Sean Soper, Kyle Fischer, Courtney Kliegenschmidt, Cloe Kliegenschmidt, Samantha Callison, Shirley Tobiason, Jason Rausch, Steve Koch. The Gathering is in New Orleans, July 22-26.

### VBS Set

Mark you calendars for July 12-16 for this years Vacation Bible School. The theme is “Son Rock Camp”. We are looking for all kinds of helpers, if you are interested contact Sarah Hernandez 653-3038, Kathy Dea 653-6097, Kate Glinsmann 653-7314 or the office 653-3950.

The suffering on the cross is meant not for itself but for something else. Christ does not suffer because suffering is in itself a value but because love without restraint requires suffering.  
– Anthony Padovano

## Worship Leaders

June/July 5 2009	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistant	Communion Setup/ Cleanup	Acolyte
Sun 9:00 am June 7	Kristin & Stan Jones Family	Larry Bartlett Phyllis & Duane Hagensick	Kyle Fischer	John Harris	Al & Jane Kruse/ J&D Moore	Marty Baker
Sun 9:00 am June 14	Cyndi Kindred	Mark Kendall Greg Seubert Bill Ebert	Sara Bartlett			Jacob Greene
Sun 9:00 am June 21	Rich & Deidra Baker Family	Tom Tanner Jim Gallagher Richard Schmidt	Deidra Baker	Jim, Lynette & Brad Sievers Kyle Fischer	T&V Kruse Hagensick/ M&J Sells	Megan Hill
Sun 9:00 am June 28	Gary & Kathy Fischer	Yaro & Mary Chmelar Jim Sievers	Linda Brown			Ashley Rausch
Sun 9:00 am July 5	Kathy Dea	Larry Bartlett Phyllis & Duane Hagensick	Bill Ebert	Yaro Chmelar	Alita Stark/ Jack & Doris Moore	Kyle Fischer

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.

## June Luther League Report

Well, another year has come and gone. Wow, time really flies. I just wanted to give you all an update on Luther League as we close out another season.

We had a busy April and May. We met twice a month with both groups and we had all kinds of fun. We played toilet brush hockey, a fan favorite, sardines, and a couple of new games which required a perfect aim with a straw and a Q-Tip to try to knock a cup off of their partners head. Not to worry, we took all safety precautions; safety glasses, hard hat, the whole works. The game was a blast, but picking up all of the 1000 or so Q-Tips was not. Right Rich!

We met with the high school group to discuss our trip to New Orleans and to get them better prepared to go. We are planning on a workshop and a meeting or two before we leave. We have 12 people going and it will be hear before you know it.

To end the year out, we had an all meet at Sunset park where we cooked hotdogs and burgers. We played waffle ball, kick ball, and ran until it got dark. Attendance was low, but it is a tough time of year.

I also wanted to take a moment to congratulate our seniors. What a great time in your lives right now as you look back on the memories of high school and begin your trek towards new ones in college or whatever it is you plan to do. It has been a pleasure to get to meet you all and learn more about you. I just wish that we could have had more time.

Good luck to Sean, Ashley, Vern, Bekka, and Brad. Monique and I wish you the very best and we hope that your life after high school continues down the path that God has set for you.

Thank you to Rich, Diedra, Steve, Pam, Pastor and all of you that have supported your youth. It really means a lot and we could not do this without your support.

God Bless and we will see you all back in the fall.

Sincerely,  
Jason and Monique Rausch

