

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Website: [www.luthwash.org](http://www.luthwash.org) [new address]

1226 East Washington Washington, IA 319-653-3950

April, 2010

## Sunday Worship

8:00AM  
& 10:30 AM

Sunday School at  
9:15 AM

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

## Church Directory

### Photos sessions:

April 28, 29, 30

2:30-9:00PM

May 1, 10:00-

2:00PM

Sign-up online or  
on Sunday morn-  
ings [seepage 7]

**50th Anniversary  
Celebration  
September 19, 2010**

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## Believing Without Seeing by Peter J. Weller

We all have heard the statement, "Seeing is believing." If we can see it or experience it through the five senses, then it must be real. "I saw it happen." "It was right there in front of me." "I could reach out and touch it." "I could feel it." Without sensory perception and without memory, it might be difficult to recall an event, or really believe that it happened. But then, how do we tell or explain it to others? If we hear someone tell a story, whether we are able to believe it depends on how comfortable we are in trusting the source. Sometimes, we can even doubt ourselves: "Did I really see that?" Do I really remember exactly how that happened?"

In his final two chapters, the Gospel writer, John, tells us of Jesus' resurrection and the events following. John is probably the youngest of Jesus' disciples, very likely still in his teens when the resurrection occurred. He lived a long life, and he was 70 or more years of age when he wrote his Gospel. Lest one think that at that advanced age, John's memory might have been failing him, we should be reminded that memories of events that one experiences as a teenager often remain sharp and vivid even when memories of a later time have already begun to fade.

John begins his story with Mary Magdalene discovering that Jesus' tomb is empty. She tells Peter and John, who ran to the tomb, and also saw what Mary Magdalene saw. Afterwards, the two disciples returned to their homes and did not appear to say anything to anyone about what they saw. Mary remains there, weeping, but doesn't recognize that the man who asks her why she is weeping is Jesus. She mistakes him for the gardener until he calls her by name.

When Jesus first approached his disciples after Mary Magdalene told them that she had seen him, he showed them his hands and side that nails and spear had pierced. Thomas was not present at that meeting, and when told by the other disciples that they had seen Jesus, he refused to believe it. "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side I will not believe."

A week later, John writes, the disciples were again present in the same house, and Thomas was with them. Jesus again appeared to them even though the doors were shut. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt, but believe." How could Jesus have entered into that house with the doors shut? And how could he have known what Thomas had expressed or was thinking, if he had not been divinely empowered? Thomas responded, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Thomas needed to be convinced by the physical evidence that Jesus was real. But, Jesus uses this opportunity to show Thomas, and the other disciples, that the overwhelming majority of the people of that time, and all those of future generations, would not have the opportunity that the disciples have had to see the resurrected Jesus. They would not be able to see and touch his wounds. Instead they must receive and accept on faith, that the tomb is empty, that Jesus is resurrected, and that he received eternal life. By believing in him, and in his name, we, too, will have eternal life. And that, of course, is the gift from God through the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God.

## Monthly Updates

### March Attendance

March 7	8:00 am	50
	10:30 am	80
March 14	8:00 am	47
	10:30 am	81
March 17	6:15 pm	65
March 21	8:00 am	38
	10:30 am	86
March 24	6:15 pm	52
March 28	8:00 am	43
	10:30 am	130

### General Fund Gifts - February

1/12 <sup>th</sup> of annual budget =	\$ 13,814.75
February 7	2,005.00
February 14	1,521.50
February 17	189.05
February 21	2,590.00
February 24	210.00
February 28	2,319.00
<i>Simply Giving</i>	<u>2,511.00</u>
February	\$ 11,345.55
January	\$ 14,390.25

### “Building Fund Gifts” - February

Monthly mortgage payment -	\$3,422.55
February 7	455.00
February 14	182.50
February 21	455.00
February 28	180.00
<i>Simply Giving</i>	<u>790.00</u>
February	\$ 2,062.50
January	\$ 2,980.00

At this time we have payments made through April. Next payment due 5/23/10.

Simply Giving is now charging a monthly fee of .20 per transaction. Total February \$6.20.

#### Thrivent Leaders 2010

Chapter - Dorothy Grim, Mark Kendall, Ray Poe  
Judy Venzke

#### Continuing Funds that can be contributed to:

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

[Make notation on check]

Council Members for 2010: Ed Burdock (Ed/Youth) 653-2495 - Kathy Dea[Sec't'y] (Ed/Youth) 653-6097 Kate Glinsmann (Ed/Youth) 653-7314 - Marty Westen [VP] (W/E) 653-6021 - Linda Six (W/E) 657-3411 - Mary Chmelar (W/E) 653-2043 - Tom Lyons [Pres] (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 - Gary Fischer (Stew/Fin) 653-2098 -Mark Kendall( (Stew/Fin) -653-6561

### Thank-You

Thank you to everyone for the prayers, thoughts, and concern during Gary Bray's (Rich Brown's partner) illness and death. Even though Gary and Rich were not legally married, Gary was our son-in-law in our hearts. Gary was such a joy to be around. He loved life and his LORD and was so proud of his Cherokee heritage. Thank you again.

Love and peace, Ron and Linda Brown

### NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.luthwash.org>

Thanks to Jan Newhouse for her work on getting a new website up and running. The previous company was making it difficult to be able to get in and make changes, this new site will be much easier to maintain. There is fee involved but it is nominal. Take time to check out the site! You might find your photo on there!

Sign-up for photo sessions for the new Church Directory. It's fast and easy! April 28-May 1

Mike Jewell and Jim Sievers are organizing a benefit concert for Haiti that will be held at Immanuel on April 18th at 4 p.m. We hope to have many performers sign up. We will serve cheesecake desserts, talk to Lynette Sievers if you are interested in bringing a cheesecake 653-6945. Thrivent Financial is supplementing the money that is raised through free will donations. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Kids Against Hunger.

### BOOK CLUB- April 14

Book Club next scheduled meeting will be April 14 where we will be reviewing - Only the River Runs Free by Bodie & Brock Thoene from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Dodici Coffee Shop. There are extra copies of the book available to borrow, contact Linda Venzke at 461-3657.

May 12th selection will be Coming Out of the Ice by Victor Herman

## Wandering Worshipers

Nita Lovick  
February 28, 2010  
Augustana Lutheran Church  
Boone, IA  
\*\*\*\*\*

Larry & Sara Bartlett  
February 28, 2010  
Sun City Christian Church  
Sun City, AZ

**Thanks to the family of Evelyn Worley for the memorial donation of \$ 125.00. Evelyn was a long time member of this congregation who passed away on February 11, 2010. She was probably best remembered for her wonderful talent of cooking and baking. Our sympathy to her family, she will be missed.**

### Ladies Night Out

Ladies Night Out will plan on meeting April 20, 5:45 p.m. at the Church to carpool and either go to the Shamrock in Ainsworth or the Icehouse in Riverside.

### Mother/ Daughter Banquet

April 6 is the date for the Mother/Daughter Banquet. Please sign up under the mailboxes at church or send an email to [luthwash@hotmail.com](mailto:luthwash@hotmail.com) for a reservation. Building/Grounds / Fellowship is sponsoring this event. They are asking those that have them to bring a family members wedding photos along. Call for Reservations 653-3950

### Christian Banquet -October 16

Christian Banquet will be help October 16, 2010 please save the date! For those of you that aren't familiar with the banquet, we have a very nice catered meal and an auction to raise funds for the Building Fund and also support some of Immanuel's other projects.  
It's a fun night full of fellowship!



### CHILD VOICE INTERNATIONAL

Our collection of loose dollars is going strong. There are envelopes in the pews at church for the collection of loose monies to try and buy a pickup truck for Child Voice use. It is our goal to collect as much as possible by the time of our Church's 50th celebration on September 19.

As of March 28 we have collected \$6,118.80.

Thanks to everyone that has contributed. This will change the lives of several people for the better.

**Healthy Alternative on Sunday mornings.** We have started serving fruit and other healthy choices for our Sunday morning coffee, for those wanting a healthier option. We would like to have one person sign up for cookies and another person for a healthy option (fruit, crackers and cheese etc.) . Sign up sheet on the wall by the counter where the cookies are served.

### New Church Pictorial Directory for 2010

It has been 8 years since our last family picture directory. In conjunction with our 50th Anniversary we would like to have a directory ready by the anniversary date of September 19, 2010. We were able to secure the photo dates of April 28, 29, 30 and May 1 so the book can be completed on time.

If you have not picked up your information from your mailbox at church, do so as soon as possible. If you would prefer to have it mailed or you did not receive information and would like to be included, please contact the church office at 653-3950.

Please see page 7 for more complete details on *Feed the Need*, a promotion put on by Lifetouch to collect food for those in need.

### Coffee Fund

Thanks to those who are donating to the coffee can so we can keep purchasing Fair Trade Coffee for the kitchen. Also, there's a wonderful display of coffees and teas in our hallway for you to buy.



## Worship Leaders

<b>April 2010</b>	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistant	Communion Setup/Cleanup	Acolyte
Sun April 11 8:00 am	Jim Gallagher	Stan & Kristin Jones Family	Lee Buchholz			Marty Baker
10:30 am	Steve Green Family	Brian Lueck John & Peg Harris	John Harris			Michael Hall
Sun April 18 8:00 am	Cynthia Fischer Family	Tom Tanner Jim Gallagher Gary Fischer	Kristin Jones	Kyle Fischer Deb Shepherd Lee Buchholz	Jane Kruse	Jenny Seubert
10:30 am	Brian & Carrie Lueck Family	Mark Kendall Dave Steele Richard Schmidt	Al Olson	Sherry Ives Larry & Sara Bartlett	Jane Kruse	Shayna Blitsch
Sun April 25 8:00 am	Lee & Lois Buchholz	Rich Baker Family	Gary Fischer			Kyle Fischer
10:30 am	Jim & Lynette Sievers	Ken Erickson Dale Venzke Jim Sievers	Monique Rausch			Elaney England
Sun May 2 8:00 am	Tom & Charlane Tanner	Duane & Phyllis Hagensick Deb Shepherd	Maggie Baker	Gary Fischer Deidra Baker Kristin Jones		Maggie Baker
10:30 am	Maggie Roth	Yaro & Mary Chmelar Larry Bartlett	Ashley Rausch	John Harris Jim & Lynette Sievers		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.

Anyone interested in being a Worship Leader (greeter, usher, reader, communion assistant, acolyte), should contact Kathy Vetter . She can be reached by phone 653-5515 or email [skvetter@iowatelecom.net](mailto:skvetter@iowatelecom.net).

### Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate Lee Buchholz for receiving the Washington Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award at the Chamber Banquet on Monday , March 22. It is a wonderful honor and we are pleased to have him as a member of this congregation. We all know how hard Lee works and we are glad that others have noticed as well!!!!

### Thrivent Sponsors an Educational Event

Chris Harris, a Thrivent Financial representative, presented a power point talk about his experiences in El Salvador helping with a Habitat for Humanity home. The only power tool they had was a dirt-pounder. Chris is an excellent speaker and was able to express his joy and satisfaction in helping others. He also related his upbringing as a Lutheran which continues with his work with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and his church membership at Zion in Iowa City. Chris is the son of members John and Peg Harris, and the grandson of Jack and Doris Moore. A soup supper was served before the talk. It was prepared by Thrivent and served by the Luther League. All the money went to Luther League.

## April Luther League Report

Well, another month has come and gone and spring is almost here. We have been a little stir crazy with not being able to get out side, but it looks like things are changing.

We have had several activities with the youth over the last couple of months. We had a bake sale on Feb 28 to benefit Ryan Morrison, boy friend of Allissa Jewell. The proceeds went to help him on his mission trip to Africa. He and Allissa went in March with Ryan's church out of the Cedar Falls area. We can't wait until they get back so they can share their stories with us. The kids were pretty excited that they were going.

The Junior High group has met a few times over the last few weeks and some of the activities we did, were dodge ball, noodle hockey, and on Valentine's day, we played some special games that involved winning, eating, and playing with candy. You can bet when they got home they were a little wound up. Sorry parents! We have also spent some time writing a letter and e-mail to our friend in Uganda. For those of you that don not know, we sponsored a little girl through Compassion International. Her name is Nakato Proscovia and she is 9 years old. She lives with her grandma and she has a twin sister named Babirye and a brother named Kizza.

She sent us a letter thanking us for our support and through that letter we found out that her favorite food is Matooke and rice. She likes the color blue and her favorite games to play are skipping and netball. We told her that our favorite food was a McDonald's hamburger so we are anxious to see if she knows what that is.

It has been really good for the kids to communicate with her and to learn about life in her country. They battle Aids, poverty, and starvation so it has been a real eye opener for our kids and has been great topics of discussion.

We have a few more meetings coming up and I hope that the weather holds so we can start doing some things outside.

There is a schedule of events and meeting times on our Facebook page and in the bulletin every week. I encourage you all to invite your friends. We are called to share the Gospel and there is no better way to do that then to invite people to come to Luther League.

I look forward to next time.

God's Peace

Jason and Monique Rausch

**REMINDER: Riverboat Foundation Applications are due April 9 at 5:00pm** for more information, go to their website:

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

If you have experience in grant writing please contact David Sells about writing a grant for the parking lot 319-461-5873.

### Wal-Mart Helps

Gary Brown, an employee at Wal-Mart helped HOPE obtain a \$25 gift certificate. The certificate was used to buy wide toothed combs and adult toothbrushes for Health Kits.

FYI: If you wish to request money from Wal-Mart, stop at their customer service desk at the front of the store and ask for a request sheet. Fill it out and turn it back in.

### Womens' Spring Cluster Gathering

Saturday April 10, 2010

8:30-12 noon, \$5 registration

Christ the King Lutheran on Moorman Trek Blvd

Break away from your busy lives and come enjoy a half-day of information and fun. Our two guests are Pastor Cindy Breed, Lutheran chaplain at the U of I Hospitals who will provide information about her ministry and Master Gardener Marilou Guy will provide the fun plus a trio of vocalists for a little more enjoyment. Meet women from the ELCA Lutheran churches around Washington. There's a signup sheet on the table in the hall. I'll register whoever is on the sheet so you won't need to do that. We'll meet at our church at 8 a.m. and car pool. If you wish, bring nonperishable food or toilet paper for the Iowa City Crisis Center.

## Holy Week Schedule

**Maundy Thursday, April 1**

7:00 PM

Location: Immanuel Lutheran Church

United Presbyterian and Immanuel Lutheran are sharing services

**Good Friday, April 2**

Location: United Presbyterian Church—209 East Main

7:00 PM

(no worship at Immanuel)

**Easter Sunday, April 4**

7:00AM Sunrise Service /Communion

8:15—9:45 Luther League Serves Breakfast

NO Sunday School today

10:30 AM Worship/Communion

### AUDITORY ENHANCERS

OUR CHURCH HAS AUDITORY ENHANCERS FOR THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE TROUBLE HEARING EVERYTHING THAT IS BEING SAID. THEY ARE SIMPLE AMPLIFIERS THAT CLICK ON AND OFF AND THE VOLUME MAY BE ADJUSTED. ANYTHING COMING THROUGH OUR SOUND SYSTEM CAN BE HEARD CLEARLY. RECENTLY TWO OF THEM STARTED TO STATIC. A SALESMAN FROM THE COMPANY OF PURCHASE CAME TO OUR CHURCH ON MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>. HE QUICKLY ADJUSTED ONE BUT THE OTHER ONE HAS DEEPER PROBLEMS AND HE TOOK IT WITH HIM FOR A TECHNICIAN TO CHECK. RIGHT NOW THERE ARE 3 WORKING AMPLIFIERS IN A BASKET ON THE SIDE TABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. IF YOU FIND THE BASKET EMPTY SEVERAL SUNDAYS, LET ME KNOW AND WE'LL RAISE MONEY TO BUY ANOTHER ONE.  
JUDY VENZKE

### Changes in Thrivent

The Giving Plus and Care in congregation programs have been eliminated. There are replacement programs but they are very different. Thrivent members, look in your next Thrivent magazine. There should be a place for you to vote on which of the 10 organizations you wish Thrivent to give their money. Thrivent has set aside one million dollars and will divide that money according to your vote. If an institution gets 40% of the vote, they will receive 40% of the million dollars. You may also vote on line in April. This replaces the Giving Plus program. The replacement for Care in Congregations will be explained in the May newsletter and will begin in June or July.

# Immanuel Lutheran Church / Washington

## 2010 Pictorial Directory

We will have the directory in time for the our 50th Anniversary  
On September 19, 2010

### PHOTO SESSION DATES:

Wednesday, April 28	2:30 – 9 pm
Thursday, April 29	2:30 – 9 pm
Friday, April 30	2:30 – 9 pm
Saturday, May 1	10 am – 2 pm

### APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING OPTIONS

Please allow about an hour total. You view an order portraits all in the same session.

\*Sign up in **church** on the following Sundays:

**April 4, 11, & 18**

(for those of you with out internet access or a computer)

Or

Sign-up **ANYTIME** on Church Website:

**<http://www.luthwash.org>**

Or

### CONTACT:

Ann Bennett at 319.721.4133  
Kathy in Church Office: 319.653.3950

**FEED THE NEED!! Bring 1 non-perishable food item and receive a \$5 Portrait Coupon.**

***This will be given to you when you come to have your photo taken.*** Lifetouch will donate back to our Church the equivalent of 4 meals for every family photographed, this is money we can decide where it gets spent.

*Generation Pictures available upon request. You must allow a couple of photo session time slots to accommodate more than one family to be photographed.*

We want to include as many families as we possibly can. A packet of information that gives you ideas what to wear is available at church in your mailbox. If for some reason you did not receive any information in your mailbox or you cannot find your mailbox please contact the office 653-3950. If you need the information mailed to



# Birthdays & Anniversaries for April

## BIRTHDAYS

2 Ian Edwards  
3 Lucas Anderson  
3 Dalton Brown  
4 Angi Ellis  
5 Donald Tisor  
6 Steve Messinger  
8 Jane Kruse  
9 Anna Wiley  
10 Jean Potratz  
12 Debbie Jewell  
13 Duane Haifley  
13 Paul Weller  
15 Hayley Harman  
17 Alexey England  
18 Sam Fields  
20 Kate Glinsmann  
21 Larry Bartlett

21 Donovan Bailey  
21 Matthew Pemberton  
22 Jason Rausch  
22 April Six  
22 Karen Flory  
24 Rachael Hall  
24 Kristin Scheibe  
27 Sarah Hernandez  
27 Kathy Fields  
28 Robyn Feik  
28 Debra Griffin  
29 Mark Kendall  
29 Wesley Parriott  
30 Christopher Jewell  
30 Chloe Soper  
30 Carolyn Schmidt  
30 Rose Simmering

## ANNIVERSARIES

4 Randy Poos & Nancy Baker  
4 Stan & Jean Potratz  
8 Josh & Lindsey Sponheim  
8 Tom & Cris Gaughan  
11 David & Deb Griffin  
11 Lynn & Carol Woodruff  
20 Cary & Dawn Brown  
22 Marty & Joyce Westen  
29 Bob & Betty Warren  
30 Allan & Marilyn Dennis