

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Website: www.luthwash.org

1226 East Washington - Washington, IA 319-653-3950

February, 2012

Sunday Worship

2 services at 8:00
& 10:30 AM
Sunday School
at 9:15AM

Our mission:
Gather All Generations
Around the Word of Christ

Welcome **Pastor
Marvin Robeck**

Ash Wednesday

February 22

Soup 5:30 PM

Worship/Readings

6:15 PM

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Jesus Teaches, Heals, and Casts Out Demons by Peter J. Weller

The first chapter of Mark's gospel describes Jesus' early ministry. At the synagogue at Capernaum, he astounded his listeners with his understanding and grasp of scripture. At that same time, in that synagogue, and to everyone's amazement, Jesus caused an unclean spirit to come out of a man in that congregation. Mark records that Jesus "taught as one having authority, and not as the scribes," and that all were "amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching— with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.'" At once, his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee." (Mark 1:21-28)

The gospel lessons for February center around Jesus healing and casting out demons. Mark writes that after his baptism by John the Baptizer, Jesus heard a voice from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." (Mark 1:11) Immediately afterwards, the Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness where he spent forty days tempted by Satan. Yet, he resisted Satan's temptations, and after that experience, he began his ministry.

It is the divine within him that enabled him to withstand temptations that normally would have overwhelmed most ordinary humans. But, it is also the human side in him that enabled him to understand what it is like to struggle, often alone and on one's own, against demons and the forces of evil.

Perhaps, it is hard for us, in our time, to understand precisely what was meant that, in his time, Jesus "cast out demons" or miraculously healed individuals. Yet, the gospels record many such incidents. People, then, easily and readily believed that miracles could and did happen. Today, we expect science to explain or have a hand in matters like these. But, even in today's medicine, there are situations and circumstances where, against all odds, patients revive and recover, which can only be explained by saying that it was by the grace of God.

Mark writes that Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever. Jesus "took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them." (Mark 1:29-31) In a moment, she went from flat-on-her-back sick in bed, to being a well hostess serving her guests! Impossible to believe? Not when God is very present, as he was in Jesus. Later in the chapter, a leper begs Jesus to cleanse him from his leprosy. Jesus does so and admonishes him to tell no one, but to show himself to the priest. Instead, the leper went out and told everybody that Jesus cured him. (Mark 1:40-45)

We can understand a connection of demons with mental illness or psychotic disorders, excessive drug use or problems brought on by addiction. As Christians, we also understand that evil exists, and we may have experienced personally its effects first hand. We also understand the nature of sin, and we accept that it is in all human beings. We cannot deny it. John put it so well when he wrote in his first letter, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8) God the Father knows our nature for he created us. His Son, Jesus, also knows our nature, for he lived as a human being. Yet, he and the Father are willing to forgive our sins and grant us healing and everlasting life.

Mark writes that as Jesus' fame spread throughout Galilee, huge numbers of people sought him out, hoping to be healed or to be freed from their demons. So, it became increasingly difficult for Jesus and his disciples to move about. The crowds searched for Jesus until they found him. He and his disciples were mobbed by throngs of people everywhere. It became impossible for Jesus to go into any town openly because the crowds would become so large. So, he and his disciples stayed in the countryside, and the people came out to see them there. (Mark 1:32-39, 2:1-5)

Yet, Jesus did not tire nor shrink away from his mission. He did not charge any fees, and not once did he turn anyone away who, in faith, approached him with a request. He threw himself into his work with total dedication, earnestness, energy, compassion, and devotion, which testifies to who he was, and also testifies to who his Father was.

Monthly Updates

January Attendance

Jan 1	<u>10:30 am</u>	29
Jan 8	<u>8:00 am</u>	56
	<u>10:30 am</u>	50
Jan 15	<u>8:00 am</u>	52
	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>	42
Jan 22	<u>8:00 am</u>	35
	<u>10:30 am</u>	59
Jan 29	<u>8:00 am</u>	45
	<u>10:30 am</u>	58

General Fund Gifts - December

Dec. 4	\$2,948.00
Dec. 11	2,756.47
Dec. 18	1,394.58
Dec. 24&25	2,576.25
Simply Giving	<u>2,487.00</u>
December	\$ 12,162.30
November	\$ 10,243.17

“Building Fund Gifts ” - December

Dec. 4	\$ 500.00
Dec. 11	526.25
Dec. 18	176.25
Dec. 24&25	26.25
Simply Giving	<u>780.00</u>
December	\$ 2,008.75
November	\$ 2,188.75

Simply Giving is now charging a monthly fee of .20 per transaction. Total Nov \$7.40.

Loans at State Bank are as follows:

1st note \$249,000.00 paying mostly interest of monthly pmts of \$1,100 for the first year. 10 payments made \$239,948.40. \$9,000 pd to principal

2nd note \$18,500.00 was paid off 10-11-11.

Thrivent Leaders 2011

Chapter - Dorothy Grim, Janette Edwards, Judy Venzke, Al Olson

Continuing Funds that can be contributed to:

Luther League Endowment Fund
Maintenance Fund Membership Assistance

Defibrillator Fund

[Make notation on check]

Book Club

Have you been thinking about joining the Book Club? We'd love to see you there!
Open to everyone, not just members of Immanuel.
Meeting Wednesday, February 8
“The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks”
by Rebecca Skloot
Dodici Shop 6:00-8:00PM
Contact Linda Venzke if you want a copy of the book
319-461-3657.

PJ's and Pancakes

PJ's and Pancake Sunday will be on March 11 at 9:15. The kids will be treated to pancakes and they get to wear their pj's to Church!

Mkini Thank-you

Thank you everybody for coming to my fundraiser lunch on Sunday, January 8 and all your donations to my school fund. Thanks for your great hearts of giving and love you've shown to me. I truly appreciate your help and may God bless you all. “Mkini” (With the supplement from Thrivent over \$4,300 was raised.)

Saturday Noon Meal

The Saturday Kitchen is a new effort by Washington area churches to reach out to the community by serving a hot meal to anyone who is hungry. The meals are served at the UP Church from 11:30 - 1:00 every Saturday. So far seven churches, including Immanuel, are participating. Our first meal will be served on February 18. Please check your calendar to see if you can help that day. We'll need servers, cooks, greeters and a clean up crew. There is a sign up sheet on the table under the mailboxes. If you aren't able to attend, you can sign up to buy food for the meal. If you have any questions, please contact Jim or Lynette Sievers 653-6945 or the Church office 653-3950.

Council Members for 2012: April Six 653-7342 (Ed/Youth) Kelsey Sievers (Ed/Youth) Kate Glinsmann (Ed/Youth) 461-9873 - Brad Kroll [VP] (W/E) 653-2388- Linda Six (W/E) 657-3411 - Margie Runaas (W/E) – Tom Lyons [Secty] (B/G/F) 653-6721 - Stan Jones (B/G/F) 653-6795 Nancy Baker (B/G/F) 653-7309 - Al Olson (Stew/Fin) 653-6818 - Gary Fischer [Pres] (Stew/Fin) 653-2098 –Ray Poe (Stew/Fin) -653-3582

Wandering Worshipers

Tom & Charlane Tanner
Grace Lutheran Church
December 18,24,31, 2011
Clarksville, TN

Nita Lovick
Augustana Lutheran Church
December 24, 2011
Boone, IA

Maggie Roth
Glen Cary Lutheran Church
Ham Lake, MN
January 15, 2012
Baptism of a Great-grandson

Thrivent Care Abounds in Communities

The goal of the volunteer part of Thrivent financial for Lutherans is to help those in our community. This year there has been a nice change. We can now help with projects within our church with fund raisers or buying supplies for building projects. We must always have at least 6 Thrivent families involved. For example, last year since the defibrillator would be owned by our church, we couldn't help gather funding by serving a meal. This year we can. We allot money to supplement funds raised. The Thrivent members to talk to are Judy Venzke, Dorothy Grim, and Al Olson if you have projects coming up.

Photo Artistry XXI Exhibit by Lyle Moen & Nancy Rash is on display at the Washington Public Library, Helen Wilson Gallery, February 1 to March 1.

Titled "Bird Antics", the exhibit features song birds and birds of prey in their natural habitat displaying interesting personal behaviors.

Ladies Nights Out

Ladies Night Out this month will be on Thursday February 2 at 6:00 PM. We will be meeting at the Pizza Ranch.

The second one is Tuesday, Feb 21—Napoli's 6:00 PM New Italian restaurant on South Iowa.

Defibrillator Goal Reached!

Thanks to everyone that has contributed to the Defibrillator fund. We have reached our goal and paid \$1,585.76 for our new defibrillator. The Building/Ground/Fellowship team will get it installed. We will have a training session for those who choose to know how to operate it. It is nice to know that we have it in case of an emergency.

Thank You

Pastor Marv and Bev Robeck are grateful for the kindness and good wishes that were extended to them this Christmas Season. Thank you for your gifts to us and best wishes for a joyous New Year.

Congratulations to Andrew and Danielle Six on the birth of their daughter

Anisley Eve Six
January 24, 2012
6# 15 oz. 19 1/2"

Grandparents are Jim & Linda Six
The family now resides in Washington on East 2nd next to the Hernandez family.

Worship Leaders

February 2012	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistant	Communion Setup/Cleanup	Acolyte
Sun Feb 5 8:00 am	Stan & Kristin Jones Family	Duane & Phyllis Hagensick	Ray Poe	Lee Buchholz Kristin & Cody Jones	Mary Gail Lyons Jane Kruse	Ryan Jones
Sun Feb 5 10:30 am	Dorothy Grim & Nita Lovick	Yaro & Mary Chmelar Larry Bartlett	Mary Chmelar	Mary Chmelar Jim & Lynette Sievers	Ashley Cory	Sierra Wagner
Sun Feb 12 8:00 am	Cynthia Fischer	Stan & Kristin Jones Family	Gary Fischer	Ray Poe Jane Kruse Lee Buchholz	Jane Kruse Mike/Judy Sells	Caitlin Sells
Sun Feb 12 10:30 am	Jeff & Shar- lene Soper Family	Dale Venzke Jim & Lynette Sievers	Sherry Ives	Yaro Chmelar Sara & Larry Bartlett	Doris Moore	Chloe Soper
Sun Feb 19 8:00 am	Duane & Phyllis Hagensick	Tom Tanner Jim Gallagher Gary Fischer	Maggie Baker	Bill & Kathy Ebert Ryan Jones	Linda Brown Susan Baker	Cody Jones
Sun Feb 19 10:30 am	Alan & Vickie Rebling Family	Dave Steele Mark Kendall Richard Schmidt	Peg Harris	John & Peg Harris April Six	Carolyn Schmidt	Addison Six
Wed Feb 22 ASH Wednesday					Jane Kruse Judy V/ Maggie Roth	
Sun Feb 26 8:00 am	Ray & Alta Poe	Rich & Deidra Baker Family	Lee Buchholz	Jane Kruse Tom Gaughan Kristin Jones	Jane Kruse	Cale Rausch
Sun Feb 26 10:30 am	Yaro & Mary Chmelar	John & Peg Harris Brian Leuck	Mary Chmelar	Tom & Mary Gail Lyons Linda Six	Ashley Cory	Sam Fields
Sun Mar 4 8:00 am	Ken & Susan Baker	Duane & Phyllis Hagensick	Linda Brown	Deidra, Maggie Marty Baker	Mary Gail Lyons Ray/Alta Poe	Marty Baker
Sun Mar 4 10:30 am	Cory/Fisher Family	Yaro & Mary Chmelar Larry Bartlett	Sara Bartlett	Jon Runaas Jim & Lynette Sievers	Doris Moore	Matteo Hernandez

If you cannot serve the time you are assigned, please find someone to trade with or call BJ Wetherell at 653-2349.

Women of Cluster 7

The spring gathering of our Lutheran church women in our area will be April 14th, Saturday, at Gloria Dei in Iowa City. Every woman in our church and their guests are invited to this morning of friendship. This gathering our speaker is Lois Ludvigeon. She is a member of the North Liberty Lutheran church. The name of her message is Stitching our Lives Together. A light lunch is served at noon. The cluster officers from our church are Peg Harris and Judy Venzke.

Call Committee has interviews set up for February 3-6. After the interviews they will be making a recommendation to the congregation if one of the candidates fits all of our needs listed in the Congregational profile. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters. Thanks to those giving of their time to serve on this important committee.



Our Church Family

We may wonder what has become of members of our church. Here is one of the stories-Evelyn Haifley.

The Haifley family joined Immanuel in the mid 1960's. That would be Harold, Evelyn and their sons Duane and Dale. Pastor Dennis Stutrud was visiting people to build attendance at the newly built church. After his visits to the Haifleys, Jim and Dorothy Gallagher visited and became their sponsors. The Haifleys in turn sponsored Lyle and Ferne Herring. The Haifley family participated in the quarterly church cleaning where everyone helped. Harold helped with finishing work inside the church. Dale and Duane cleared snow in the winter under the direction of Floyd Gonterman and cut grass around the church in the summer. Evelyn would bring her orange rolls to sew day.

Harold worked for the water department. Evelyn's work was at the calendar factory. She was employed 24 years in the direct mailing department. Harold died in 2002 after a series of strokes Harold's memorial money was given to the church to help buy materials for an outside wall. The construction had been stopped because of lack of funds. Dale and Duane purchased a Christmas altar parament in memory of their dad. Harold had always enjoyed the Christmas season. The white cloth is embroidered with the town of Bethlehem under the holy star.

This July 8, Evelyn will be 93. She has diabetes and is unsteady on her feet. She has always liked Immanuel and felt comfortable in it, but now doesn't feel physically able to attend. She is still living in the family home at 610 S. 8th because her sons live near her. They do her shopping for her, take care of her home, and help her out in many other ways. They visit her or talk to her every day. Evelyn also has Duane's wife Teresa and Dale's friend Priscilla to help her plus her grandchildren Adam, David and Anne. She has a Life Line and has Meals on Wheels delivered.

The whole family gathers each Sunday for breakfast. Evelyn is so thankful and feels so blessed to have a loving family. She appreciated Pastor Robeck visiting her and giving her communion. She is a happy and a caring person. If you have remembrances to share with her or just want to have a chat, she'd be pleased to talk to you. Her phone is 653-3380.

Book of Timothy



I just thought some people would get a kick out of this cartoon.



Lent Begins

Wednesday, February 22 is Ash Wednesday which starts the season of Lent. Please join us for Soup at 5:30 pm and service at 6:15. This year there will be a series of interactive readings that will take place. If you are interested in helping Pastor Robeck with these readings please talk to him about the readings available.

The H.O.P.E. women will be getting ready lists of items needed for some of the kits they assemble for LWR. Instead of "Giving up" something for Lent we are encouraging people to "Give something for Lent" weekly. Watch for more details in the bulletin.



Luther League Report for February

Another year has come and gone quickly. We have finished another year of cleaning Kinnick and are now moving into the doldrums of winter. We do have some activities planned for this year.

Last week we meet and played "Sardines" which is a League favorite. You can never go wrong with that game. If you do not know what it is, think of it as "hide and seek" only in reverse. One person is "it" and goes and hides. Everyone else tries to find them. Once they find them, they stay with the person until there is only one left. That person then becomes it. One thing for sure, there are a lot of dark hiding spots in the church.

Later on this year we plan to go bowling and play miniature golf. We also are looking to put together another service project later on this spring. More details on that when we get it set.

Thanks again to all that help with our group. It really does mean a lot to us and the kids. We are still looking for someone to take over the group. Monique and I will be moving on after the spring. Please prayerfully consider this request.

I have listed the latest Luther League Schedule for your convenience.

Until next time.

**"Faith is not about everything turning out OK;
Faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out."**

Luther League Schedule for 2012

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|-------------|--|
| January 15 | All Meet at the Church for Fun and Games 6:30 pm |
| January 29 | All Meet at the Church for Fun and Games 6:30 pm |
| February 12 | All Meet for Bowling at Colonial Lanes Meet at the Church at 5:30 pm |
| February 26 | All Meet at the Church for Fun and Games 6:30 pm |
| March 4 | All Meet at the Church for Fun and Games 6:30 pm |
| March 11 | All Meet at the Church for Pizza Party and Games 6:30 pm |

April and May

Time and Dates to be Determined at a Later Date

BIRTHDAYS

2 Nancy Rash
3 Lee Buchholz
5 Jolene Parriott
5 Jeanette Wagner
6 Mark Bradley
6 Vi Kruse
6 Judy Sells
7 Catrina Sells
8 Brad Buchholz
8 Elsbeth Reinert
8 Louie Sells
8 Ryan Zehr
11 Fletcher Green
11 Jacob Green
11 Evelyn Witthoft
14 Vickie Cox
14 Marcus Ancell
15 Susan Baker
15 Vivienne Kroll
16 Sam Shepherd
17 Barb Bartholomew
17 Ajay Erickson
20 Jack Moore
20 Sean Soper
21 Ruth Jones
21 Rhonda Moore
22 Monique Rausch
23 Justin Dennis
23 Matthew Rueckert
24 Tiffany Evans
25 Dakota Flory
25 Aden Six
25 Avery Six
25 Ajay Six

ANNIVERSARIES

14 Mark & Jeanna Bradley
15 Mark & Christy Rueckert
15 Brian & Carrie Lueck
16 Ron & Bonnie Boshart
16 Nancy Rash & Lyle Moen