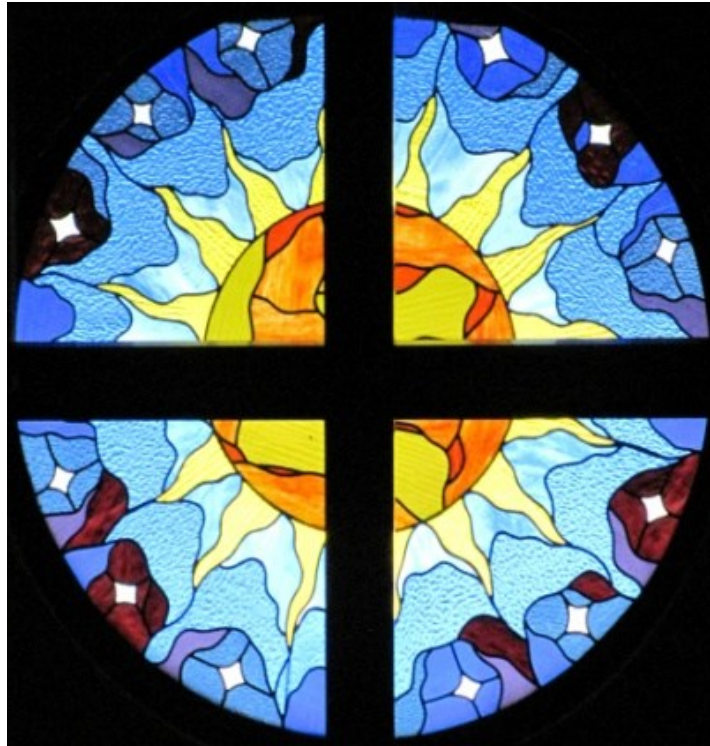


Immanuel Lutheran Church

Share Christ's Love.

July 2025 Newsletter



Worship and Communion
Sunday services ~ 9:00 a.m.
* In-Person * Live Streaming

Faith Formation
Faith Formation ~ will resume in the fall

Office Hours
Kelly in office
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9 am - 1 pm

Find us on Facebook at Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa and online at luthwash.org

YouTube- [luthwash](https://www.youtube.com/luthwash) * Email us at luthwash@hotmail.com

Come visit us at 1226 East Washington Street, Washington, Iowa 52353

Church ~ 319.653.3950

Attendance

Sunday, June 1

9:00 am ~ 52 Offering ~ \$6662

Sunday, June 8

9:00 am ~ 57 Offering ~ \$1530

Sunday, June 15

9:00 a.m. ~ 52 Offering ~ \$2005

Sunday, June 22

9:00 a.m. ~ 54 Offering ~ \$2105

Birthdays For July

- 1- Jason Taylor
- 3- Deb Shepherd
- 6- Kennedy Striegel
- 11- Bev Bailey
- 12- Kathy Fischer
- 14- Sharol Kroll
- 15- Amaya Gutierrez
- 16- Christina Woline
- 18- Evan Woline
- 24- Rob Taylor
- 25- Caitlin Kroll
- 27- Kathy Vetter
- 28- Georgean Roffman



UPCOMING MEETINGS

To have your meetings listed,
please let Kelly know when they are held.

Council- Sunday, July 13th at 10:30 a.m.

Anniversaries for July

- 3- Ken & Susan Baker
- 4- Ben & Kelsey Striegel
- 8- Andy & Danielle Six
- 11- Mike & Debbie Jewell
- 15- Stephen Bay & Rex Findley
- 17- Francis & Joan Johnston
- 26- Aaron & April Six
- 26- Gary & Kathy Fischer



HACAP

Your dollar buys more when HACAP orders food,

consider sending a few dollars to:

HACAP

2175 Lexington Blvd # 1
Washington, Iowa 52353

Help your local families during this difficult time.

Thank you, DeAnn



ENCORE EXPRESS



Encore at Immanuel Meals this month:

Thursday, July 10

and

Thursday, July 24

Serving at 11:30 a.m.

Check Facebook for the menus.

RSVPs are required. *See you there!!*



Centering Prayer:

Saturday, July 12th and Saturday, June 26th

8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

Deacon Fran Victor will be leading an hour of contemplative prayer in Immanuel's sanctuary (practicing social caring and wearing masks) the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month; 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. The hour begins with Centering Prayer and then moving into Lectio Divina (using a verse of scripture as the basis for prayer). No experience is necessary in either prayer practice to participate. No reservations needed, just come and enjoy the hour of contemplation. If you would like to join this intimate group, but are new to this type of prayer, come at 8:15 a.m. for explanation. **"God's first word is silence." – Thomas Keating**

H.O.P.E. - Helping Other People Everywhere, is a small group of people working every Tuesday morning from roughly 9:00 AM until 11:30 AM (or whatever time you can spare). This includes a coffee/tea break with treats. We assemble various kits for Lutheran World Relief. We make blankets, health kits, baby kits and school kits.



Unfortunately our numbers are few and advancing in years and slowing with time. We could use some help. No special skills required! You don't need to be able to sew, just tie knots, or put items together for kits, or pack in boxes that are then shipped all over the world! Any time you can offer to help would be greatly appreciated! If you would like to help or have any questions, contact Deb Simmering or Doris Moore.

Thank you to everyone who jumped in to help with the June 14th Saturday Kitchen. I appreciate everyone being willing to fill in when we were called. It was great to have some new helpers! Our next Saturday Kitchen will be December 6th. Mark your calendar!

Thank you - April Six



UPDATE ON SHARED PASTOR MEETINGS

On Wednesday, June 11th, Gary, Bev and Peg met with 3 pastoral search committee members from United Church of Faith in Keota. The meeting was led by Pastor Erin Kaye as representative for the Presbyterian Church and Deacon Jodi Schuman, assistant to the Bishop from our Synod office.

We reviewed numbers that had been brought to our last meeting by both churches reflecting what we each felt we could budget towards a shared pastor salary. Jodi Schuman will enter items reviewed and discussed and will draft a covenant between our 2 churches that we will then review at our next combined meeting.

We are looking at a 60/40 time split for a full-time pastor to be shared between our 2 churches, which reflects the amount each congregation feels they can bring to the table. The estimate is \$58,000 from Immanuel and \$15,000 from Keota, along with the use of the parsonage they currently own (which is considered a \$30,000 value). With the use of a parsonage, we don't have to provide a housing allowance as part of the pastor's salary. So we are looking at a 60% pastor for us at Immanuel.

We will be discussing this at our Immanuel Lutheran council meeting after church next week for their input.

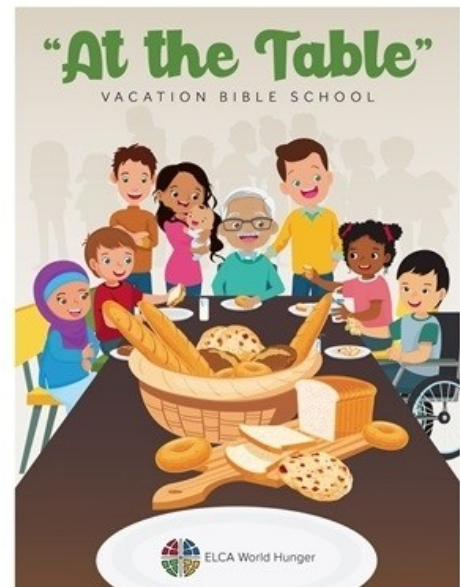
One line item in this covenant will be listing worship times at each church. We have tentatively agreed that 8:30 and 10:30 will be the 2 suggested service times. It is yet to be determined which church would be at which time. Currently, both churches have 9 am Sunday services. Please give this a lot of thought in the coming weeks as we move forward. At our next combined meeting we will review this covenant. If the search committees of both churches agree, we will then bring this before each of our councils. If approved by the councils then it will be brought individually to each congregation for vote.

If approved, a combined call committee will be formed with members from each congregation.



The VBS kids have once again planted a Sharing Garden outside the church. There are 5 raised beds with onions, lettuce, carrots, snap peas, green beans, cabbage, sweet corn, tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, pumpkins, and watermelon. As you see these things becoming ripe and you would like some, **PLEASE** help yourself! That is what it is for. Too much produce has gone to waste in the past because people have not been aware that it is for **EVERYONE**. Feel free to pull any weeds as you admire our beautiful garden this year!

20 campers enjoyed At the Table VBS. We are grateful to the congregation for their support and our volunteers. We enjoyed culturally themed dinners, music, skit, lesson, games, crafts, working in the garden and completed a book drive service project for foster care.



Please enjoy our photos from VBS
on the next page!!



VBS 2025 At the Table

The financial committee would like to share the finalized numbers for the month of March. These numbers are in summary of our income and expenses:

April brought us another small positive balance in our finances. We are on the right track of getting our YTD total into a positive #. I feel like a broken record each month with our main difference being our pastor expenses.

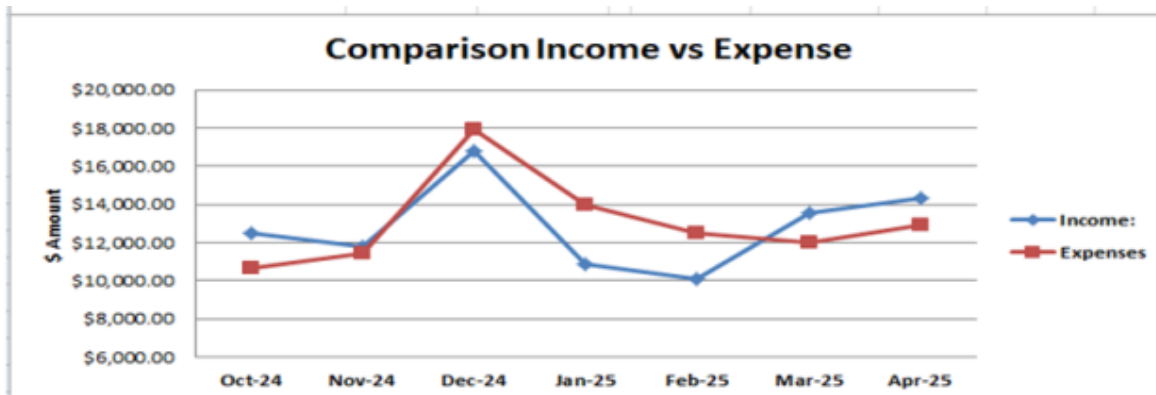
The phrase “April Showers bring May flowers” is one of my favorite quotes. Spring is probably my favorite time of year to watch the earth come to life for another season. The curiosity of what survived the cold winter brings me excitement. Planting the new seeds, anxiously waiting for them to sprout, takes a lot of my patience’s. The excitement in seeing the new growth and then the blooms brings me so much joy. With this time of year it also reminds me of the new beginnings, growth and blessings in everyday living.

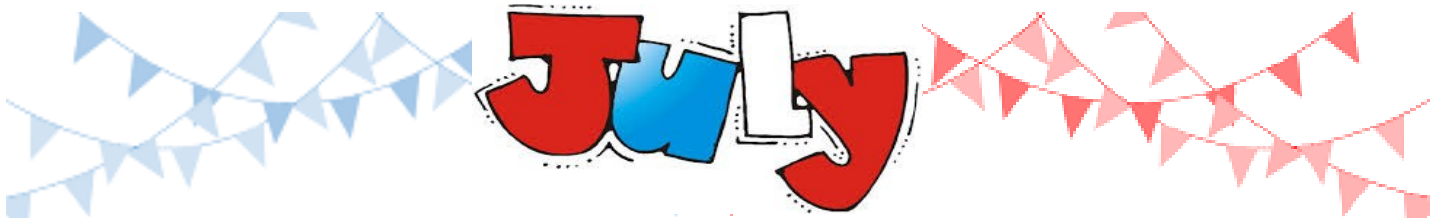
I feel that our church is going through the same emotions at the moment in trying to find a pastor. There is a lot of curiosity, anxiousness, and excitement. Gary announced that we were looking to offer a salary around \$55,000 towards a pastor. If you break this down for the year it comes out to \$4,583 per month. (This is what we are currently paying Pastor Cindy.) If you have followed monthly you know that monthly #'s run tight since we have been paying a Pastor. BUT tight does not mean undoable. From a financial stand point looking at a salary around this amount would be a good choice for our congregation. There are several outstanding questions at this time (ex: benefit package including retirement and health insurance). These questions and answers could possible throw up some red flags with our current financial #'s. Please reach out to council members or myself if you have any questions.

“April showers of blessings” serves as a reminder that life’s challenges can lead to beautiful outcomes. Embracing this concept encourages us to remain hopeful and faithful, trusting that after every storm, there are blessings waiting to bloom in our lives. As we reflect on this phrase, let us be open to the blessings that come our way, nurturing our spirits and those around us. By recognizing the beauty in both the showers and the flowers, we can cultivate gratitude and joy in our daily lives.

Blessings – Finance Committee – Michelle, Ray, John

	2025 April	2024 April	YTD Totals
Income:			
Envelope Offering	\$10,247.00	\$11,366.00	\$68,688.00
Other Income	\$4,052.65	\$3,315.06	\$19,581.04
Total Income:	\$14,299.65	\$14,681.06	\$88,269.04
Expenses:			
Pastor Expense (6100)	\$4,451.88	\$0.00	\$33,389.10
Staff Expenses (6100)	\$4,561.03	\$3,386.72	\$23,985.34
Building & Grounds (6200)	\$1,902.61	\$1,603.12	\$16,884.14
Fellowship / Supplies (6300)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$294.09
Faith Formation (6400)	\$59.01	\$0.00	\$1,019.76
Worship Expense (6500)	\$333.23	\$696.31	\$3,449.66
Benevolence Expense (6600)	\$847.13	\$500.00	\$4,859.74
Administrative Expense (6800)	\$792.96	\$474.98	\$7,658.10
Total Expenses:	\$12,947.85	\$6,661.13	\$91,593.93
Net Operating Income / Loss	\$1,351.80	\$8,019.93	\$3,270.89





Service Date	Acolyte	Communion	Greeters	Reader	Tech	Ushers
July 6	Paige Woline and Evan Woline	Tricia Kroll	Brad & Tricia Kroll	Bev Bailey	Steve Vetter	Brad Kroll and Aaron & April Six
July 13	Axel Six and Ainsley Six	Steve & Kathy Vetter	Bill & Molly Zywiec	Ron Andersen	Brayden Zywiec	Bob Coker, Steve Vetter, and Stephen Bay
July 20	Grace Taylor and Tegan Bartholomew	Christina Woline	The Taylor family	Gary Fischer	NEED Volunteer	Rob Taylor, Jason Taylor, and Scott Bartholomew
July 27	Bentley Striegel and Evan Woline	Naomi Erikson	Stan & Sharol Kroll	Deb Simmering	NEED Volunteer	John Harris, Landon Coker, and Gary Fischer



How will you make
Ordinary Time
anything but
ordinary?

