

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH LC-MS
229 11TH AVENUE WEST
GRINNELL, IA 50112
OFFICE- 641-236-6691
EMAIL- immanuellutheran@iowatelecom.net
WEBSITE- www.immanuelgrinnell.org

ALL SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE
SERVICES ARE LIVE STREAMED ON OUR FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE PAGES

REV. DR. JOEL G. KOEPP CONTACT INFORMATION
EMAIL- koeppj@hotmail.com
CELL PHONE- 507-829-3901
OFFICE HOURS- MON-FRI 8AM-3PM

LET US KNOW...

If you have a change in address, phone or email, have a loved one who is or hospitalized, have a new baby, would like a pastoral visit, or if you would like a special prayer during the prayers of the church on Sunday, please contact Pastor Koepp or the church office.

DO YOU...

want to put something in the bulletin or newsletter?

Have a prayer request? Birth/Anniversary/Graduation announcements?

If so, please submit the information as you want it to appear in the bulletin or newsletter by the deadlines listed below to the church secretary at immanuellutheran@iowatelecom.net.

Deadline for submitting in the weekly bulletin is Thursdays by noon.

Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 15th of each month.

For those of you without email access, please call or submit your written request to the church secretary.

2021 Immanuel Officers/Board Members & Contacts

President: Steve Haase

Vice President/President Elect: Joel McDonough

Secretary: Kathy Stanek

Treasurer: Chris Christinson

Elders: Joel McDonough, Steve Haase, Darlo Kelting, Ken Mergen

Trustees: Kevin Schultz, Ben Loudon, Melissa Mintle

Board of Education: Sherry Baker, Danielle McDonough, Markie Koepp

Board of Stewardship: Keith Thorpe, Pam Sittig, Diane Schultz

Board of Evangelism & Missions: June Routier, Dianna Kelting, Pam Haase

Organists: Esther Huedepohl & Pam Haase

Pianist: Sophia Loudon

Church Secretary: Amber Carnine

Sunday School Opening: Pastor Koepp

LWML Board:

President: Pam Haase

Treasurer: June Routier

Secretary: Pam Haase

Christian Life: Denise Cadwell

Altar Guild:

Helen Thorpe

June Routier

Danielle McDonough

Pam Haase

Pam Sittig

Esther Huedepohl (Backup)

NEWSLETTER FOR

September 2021

In this issue...

- Pgs 3-6 Letter from Pastor**
- Pgs 7-8 President Saunders Piece for Peace**
- Pgs 9-10 LCMS Stewardship Ministry Article**
- Pg 11 District Life Coordinator Alex Post Article**
- Pg 12 Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca Update**
- Pg 13 Confirmation September Schedule**
- Pgs 14-15 St. Paul Lutheran Church 90th Anniversary**
- Pgs 16-17 June Council Minutes**
- Pgs 18-19 July Council Minutes**

A Message from our Pastor

Grace, mercy, and peace be unto you from God, our Father, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

September marks an interesting day in America: Labor Day. The very name itself is somewhat oxymoronic when you think about it. We take a day away from labor to celebrate the laborer. It

doesn't make sense. Wouldn't it be more appropriate to celebrate Labor Day by actually doing labor; celebrating the laborer while he/she labors? Rather than call this day off from work "Labor Day," we should call it what it really is: Non-Labor Day! After all, this is a special day that is set aside to honor all laborers, whether they labor in a factory, in a classroom, in the home...wherever and however they labor. We set this day aside to give the laborer a much-needed, much-deserved rest. Personally, I think that Labor Day should be more of a day that celebrates those who can't take off from their labors; folks like policemen, firemen, our military stationed in a war zone on the other side of the world, and yes, moms and dads too. After all, it's not like moms and dads get a break from their labors just because the post office, banks, and schools are closed. In fact, days off—when the kids are home—are precisely when the labors of parenting become quite apparent! A day of true rest and relaxation would be nice. No laundry. No cooking. No cleaning. No refereeing. No chasing all over God's green earth because someone forgot something and someone else needs something from Walmart and the youngest still has to get to practice, all before you get the groceries, go to the bank, and pay the bills.

This date on the calendar that many look forward to isn't really restricted to a one-day thing, is it? This is about having that last three-day, extended weekend while the weather is still good and you're able to go swimming and have a cookout. This is the last opportunity to have a summer blowout. This is the last opportunity for a little vacation. This is a final little opportunity for a little rest and relaxation before we all settle in for the busier months that lay ahead.

Just what does rest and relaxation mean? That's what the Labor Day holiday is supposed be all about, right? Unfortunately, as many of you already know, rest and relaxation is often not associated with church. Church is work. I'm not talking about the willpower that it takes to not worship the mattress god and instead get out of bed on what would normally be a good day to sleep in. I'm not talking about the laborious chore it is to roll out of the sheets on your day off, especially when that day falls smack-dab in the middle of a three-day weekend, and come out to be with a bunch of people that you probably would never hang out with if it wasn't for church. I'm not talking about the work that goes into giving hard-earned money away to a place that continually tells me how much of a sinner I am. I'm not talking about the work that goes into trying to forgive and love everyone in attendance, not just the people we like. I get it. Church is work, but this isn't the sort of work I'm talking about.

So what kind of work am I talking about? I am talking about the work that many first think of church as "what I do for Jesus"? It happens all the time, doesn't it? Again, understand that I'm not talking about some of the glaring ways that some Christians exemplify this "working for Jesus" in their worship; sacramental ways that take God's gifts of grace and forgiveness and turn them into our gifts to God; that's not the work I'm talking about. I'm talking about the works-righteousness that we all commit. I know there's not a single person reading this who hasn't at one time or another looked to heaven and asked God why things were going bad in life. "God, why me? Don't you know who you're dealing with here? I'm not like those other people. I'm on your side. I work for you. I sacrifice my time, talents, and treasures. I do this, that, and the other thing for you, and this is how you treat me?"

Then there is other side of the ditch, where we play Let's Make a Deal. "God, tell you what I'm gonna do. If you do this for me; if you make this thing happen for me, I will do this, that, and the other thing for you. You labor for me, and I'll labor for you. Scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours." Brothers and sisters, you can argue, dress it up, or call it whatever you want. You can justify it all you want (and we often do justify ourselves), but God calls it like it is. He calls all this foolish and unfaithful; it is nothing but works-righteousness.

How does God see things when it comes to His Church and labor? Jesus says, ***"I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; 26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."***

28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”¹

I find it tragic that when we think of rest and relaxation, the first thought is more often the church; yet, God Himself said, “Come to Me and I will give you rest.” I want you to think about that for a moment. God gives us rest. He gives us peace and relaxation. He does this precisely because we can’t find this peace on our own. We can’t make this sort of rest happen in our own lives. We can’t legislate it. We could have a whole lifetime of paid holidays, and yet without Christ we would have no rest; no peace. This reminds me of something one of our earliest Christian forefathers, St. Augustine, said: “The soul created for God, by God, will not rest until it rests in God.”

So...how does the soul find rest in God? How and where do we find and receive rest from our labors? I’ll let you in on something: You don’t have to die in order to find rest in Christ. Rest in Christ is a present-tense thing too, although it’s only understood and apprehended through saving faith. It’s ironic when you think about it, but God labors for you on the Sabbath day; the very day that He commands you to rest. This is His “labor of love” for you! You’re Lord kneels down from heaven in His Word, in His sacraments, in the stead and by the command of His called and ordained servants, deigning to serve and nourish you; deigning to give you the rest that only He can give. This is where He specifically comes to you to personally feed and nourish you with His Word and Sacraments. This is where you receive His gifts of rest and peace that surpass all human understanding.

Kind of puts the whole commandment about keeping the Sabbath in a different perspective, doesn’t it? For the faithful child of God who knows the reality of their sin and the reality of God’s gifts of grace, it’s never a matter of “having to go to church.” Going to church—in faith—is not a laborious thing. Instead, this is rightly recognized for what it is—an opportunity to come and receive Christ. It’s an opportunity to be served and nourished by almighty God Himself. That’s why this is often referred to by faithful congregations as “Divine Service.” It’s not us laboring for God. It’s the Divine—God—serving us. We simply receive and respond. That’s true worship. There’s nothing laborious about it.

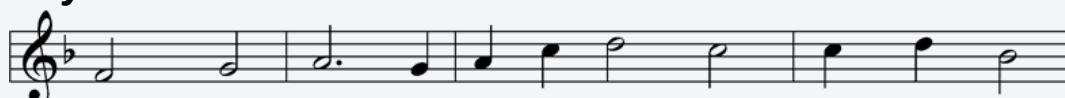
If you’ve noticed, I haven’t said anything about good works. “Well of course not! We’re saved by faith alone!” You’re right! However, does this mean that good works have no place in our lives? Does your Lord have no need for laborers in His harvest fields anymore? We know the answer to that question, don’t we? As called and redeemed baptized children of God, we are all called to labor for God in our daily vocations. But... why do we labor? Do we labor so as to earn God’s grace and favor? No! We labor because we want to serve our Lord. We labor out of joyful, thankful response to Christ’s all-redeeming and justifying labors that He endured for our sakes in His life of perfect obedience and His suffering, death, and resurrection. We labor, not to be saved, but because we’re saved! We labor, not for our sakes, but for the sake of our neighbors.

As we observe Labor Day, I encourage you to take some time to contemplate the greatest labor of all. Look to the cross and labors of your Lord and Savior, who willingly and obediently gave up all of heaven to take on our fallen and sinful flesh, all for the sole purpose of having that flesh beaten and crucified upon a lowly criminal's cross. He took all the sins of the entire world upon Himself, willingly suffering the eternal pains and fires of damnation so that we would never have to taste them ourselves, not even for a moment. He became nothing so we could have everything. This Gospel is the blessed seed that takes root in the heart and bears good, abundant fruit. Understood in this light—the light of the cross of Christ—all our sacrifices and labors cease to be burdens and chores, and instead rightly become the opportunities and joyous chances we have to thank and praise God for all that He has so richly entrusted to us—His loving and faithful stewards.

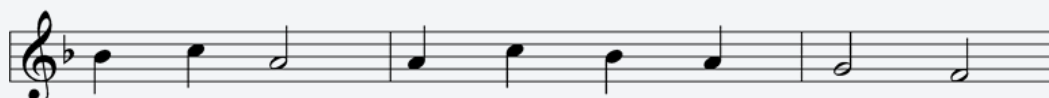
I encourage you to sing with me this month:

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

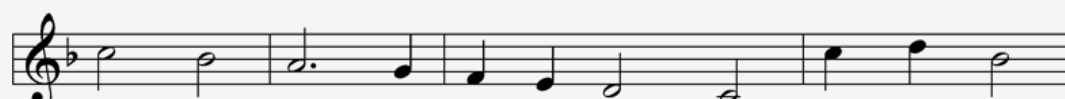
LSB 756



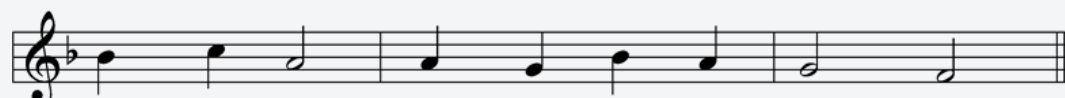
1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, Though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, And I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, For I am
 5 Now in Christ, death can - not slay me, Though it might,



With His cheer; Nev - er will He leave me.
 May be great, They will not de - feat me.
 Trust Him still When He sends me sad - ness.
 His dear lamb, He, my Shep - herd ev - er.
 Day and night, Trou - ble and dis - may me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en That God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sends them; He who knows
 God is good; His love at - tends me Day by day,
 I am His be - cause He gave me His own blood
 Christ has made my death a por - tal From the strife



For me won When His life was giv - en?
 All my woes Knows how best to end them.
 Come what may, Guides me and de - fends me.
 For my good, By His death to save me.
 Of this life To His joy im - mor - tal!

Tune and text: Public domain

Text (sts. 4–5): © 2004 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission:

LSB Hymn License no. 110001879

+Soli Deo Gloria+

Rev. Dr. Joel G. Koepp

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

I suppose like many of you, while traveling on vacation you take time to attend a Sunday morning worship service at a near-by LCMS congregation. You have an opportunity to meet new people, introduce yourself to clergy serving in another district, and enjoy the fellowship of a common confession of the Faith. My wife and I had just such an opportunity this summer as we traveled well across the country.

It was a beautiful church building with an excellent organist and a fine singing gathering of saints. We enjoyed meeting the pastor who was generally interested in who we were and where we were from. The congregation was large so they had two pastor's and also a vicar. It was the vicars last Sunday before returning to the seminary where he would resume his preparation for the Holy Ministry.

Since it was his last Sunday he was the preacher. As a District President I evaluate many sermons as requested by our preachers in the Church. So, as I listened to the sermon I am also doing an evaluation of the message as to how textual it is. The Vicar made a valiant attempt to sum up his year with the folks (especially in the past COVID year) and bring application of the text to the hearer. That is a very difficult task in and of itself, but I give him kudos for the effort.

When all was said and done my wife asked me what I thought of the sermon. I thought for a moment and answered, "I thought it was a donut sermon." When inquiring what that meant I said that it went round and round with the theme and then expressed nice sugary coatings on the outside, but there was nothing in the middle.

This, of course, led my wife to beckon from me an explanation of this evaluation. Because the vicar really had to get in two topics (textual and his departure) with this sermon he had to bring it back so as to keep everyone from being confused as to which topic he was referring to. That wasn't the core problem though. Nor was he short on attempts to preach the gospel, although the gospel he preached was not from the text. It was an interval of nice sentiments as to how much the Lord loves you. There is nothing wrong with hearing how much the Lord loves us. Yet I begged for an answer to the question, "so what?"

What I mean is this, there was no law to his sermon at all. The three texts had plenty of law in them but the sermon had none. I was not convicted of anything, no malady, no sin, no iniquity from which I needed a Savior. Oh, I heard about a loving Jesus, but from what? The message never got to the Cross of Calvary. There was no atonement measured out far and above the sins that I need to repent of. I heard of a Jesus who was sweet and glazed rather than a Savior from sin.

I was pointed to His love rather than the place where His love was made concrete for me. I heard nothing of my baptism and its holy gifts, I was not taken to the words spoken just 40 minutes earlier with the absolution, nor was there any reference to the Table at which I would receive the resurrected Body and Blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of my sins and the strengthening of faith in Christ Jesus that comes with it. The certainty of God's grace has locality to it and I need to be pointed to it.

"The Gospel comes to rescue you from the deadly consequence of having been killed in your sin."

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

This was just a good reminder for me, and also for me to remind you, about preaching. Donut sermons might taste good to the pallet but they do nothing for the soul. The sweetness of the Gospel is in response to the sour taste of the Law. The Gospel comes to rescue you from the deadly consequence of having been killed in your sin. The “so what” is not about making me feel good about myself. It is about pointing me to He who is good and has done good things *for me*. Feed your sheep dear men of the pulpit. Feed them meat, substance, and nutrition sent from above.

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President





Hello September

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article

At the end of the first of his chapters on the virtue of faith in *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis provides a helpful reminder, by way of analogy, for the foundation of stewardship. He wrote:

“Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So then, when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like. It is like a small child going to its father and saying, ‘Daddy, give me sixpence to buy you a birthday present.’ Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child’s present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is sixpence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. (128–129).”

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article

This is the first thing we are given to confess about stewardship, and it has to do with ownership. God owns everything, and we are simply managers – stewards – acting on His behalf. This is true not only of all that we have in this life (Deut. 8:17–18) but also all that we are in this life (1 Cor. 6:20).

The rest flows from here. Since we are stewards, or managers, of what belongs to God, entrusted to make use of it according to His will, there is an expectation of responsibility and accountability. For the Lord said, “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more” (Luke 12:48b). And from this comes blessing and reward: “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matt. 25:21).

We have everything we need to support this body and life from our God’s fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We have everything we need for our spiritual life also from His merciful hands. On account of the sacrifice of His Son, our Lord Jesus, through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, we have the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and everlasting salvation delivered to us with absolute certainty that it is ours – not as stewards but as sons (Gal. 4:1–7). Let us then, as His own sons, press all that He gives to us into the service of His church and to His glory.

District Life Coordinator—It's Time to Speak

Our Sunday morning Bible study at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown just purchased with their collected offerings a set of pamphlets from Lutherans for Life entitled:

*"How You Can Speak:
Ideas on how you can speak on behalf of those
who cannot speak for themselves."*

Listen to God speak to you in His Word from Proverbs 31:8-9:

**"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy."**

There are over 200 practical ways that you, your congregation, and your family can speak and defend all human life in this booklet! Here are just a few:

- God Himself will teach you what to speak (Exodus 4:12).
- Speak in the church, using Life Quotes and Life Thoughts in the Church Year in the bulletin, studies, sermons, and newsletters.
- Speak through worship, singing Scriptural and confessional hymns that affirm God's love and forgiveness for everyone He has made.
- Speak to your family, remembering Baptism birthdays, teaching children about all 9 months of life in the womb from the moment of conception/fertilization, promoting sexual purity and chastity, and encouraging a teen struggling with these issues.
- Speak up and support Lutherans for Life. Speak on social media, speaking the truth in love. Pray in front of an abortion clinic. Learn scientific and medical facts about human life, especially fetal development.
- Encourage others to speak: pastors, school teachers, shelters for mothers and children, children at a kids' day picnic with an emphasis on defending life, or at a diaper drive.
- Speak to the local newspaper, radio, television station, or erect a for-life billboard.
- Speak to your community at the fair, the library, the jail, the parade, a forum or panel, a public debate, a candlelight memorial for victims of abortion, a life chain, or march for life.
- Speak to government and elected officials. Run for office. Vote for and support for-life candidates. Write letters. Send emails. Make calls.
- Speak by doing: adopt, or help pay for an adoption. Collect diapers, clothes, and toys for babies. Support an adoption service agency, like Lutheran Family Service. Visit shut-ins who can't come to worship. Withdraw support from organizations or business that fund pro-abortion agencies. Make blankets for the families of newborn babies. Speak about the importance of chastity and marriage.

The Lord Jesus be with you as you speak on behalf of those who can't speak for themselves!

Submitted by Rev. Alex Post, Redeemer Lutheran - Marshalltown, IA

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca



Summer Camp 2021—Believe and Confess

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” Romans 10:9-10

We had an excellent summer at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca! Thanks be to God, all programs operated safely and every session was completed without interference from the pandemic. Campers from all areas of Eastern Iowa and beyond have come to a dozen different camps to enjoy themselves while learning all about Jesus and their faith.

Throughout their time at camp, our campers took the time to learn about the Christian faith that they believe and confess. Learning all about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus for their forgiveness and salvation, campers also spent time focusing on confessing, that is, telling the truth of Jesus to others.

We pray that all of our campers have had a fantastic time with us here at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca! As we all look forward to next summer, look for an opportunity to come out for one of our retreats this year, or have your own church or church group book their own retreat at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Stay tuned for information on our Fall Workday and Spring Cleanup, as well!

BELIEVE &
CONFESS
ROMANS 10:8-10

2021-2022 Iowa District East Youth Events

October 8-9 - Fall Confirmation Retreat

November 19-20 - Sr. High Retreat

January 28-29 - Middle School Retreat and Snowlympics

3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web www.campiodiseca.org

email office@iodiseca.org



Confirmation Schedule

5th - 6th Grade Catechesis Schedule: 2021-2022 **Classtime 4:00-5:30pm**

Please be sure that your catechumen is prepared each week and brings his or her workbook, Small Catechism, and Bible to class.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEMORY WORK</u>	<u>LESSON TO BE COMPLETED IN CLASS</u>	<u>BIBLE LESSON</u>
September 1	First 17 Books of the Old Testament	Lesson 1	Genesis 1
8	All Books of the Old Testament	Lesson 2	Genesis 2
+ 15		Dinosaurs, Ice Age, and the Pre-Flood World: Session 1	
+ 22		Dinosaurs, Ice Age, and the Pre-Flood World: Session 2	
29	Baptism: <i>What is Baptism?</i>	Lesson 3-4	Genesis 3-5

7th - 8th Grade Catechesis Schedule: 2021-2022 **Classtime 5:30-7:00pm**

Please be sure that your catechumen is prepared each week and brings their Small Catechism, Bible, and Book of Concord to class.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEMORY WORK</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT DUE BEFORE CLASS</u> <i>Large Catechism pages from Book of Concord</i>	<u>LESSON IN CLASS</u> <i>SCQ = Small Catechism Questions</i>	<u>SPECIAL ITEMS</u>
September 1	Books of the Bible – Old & New Testaments	<i>Prefaces in Book of Concord:</i> Small Catechism – 307-315; Large Catechism – 351-357	SCQ 1-14	T.V. Paper's Given
8	Lord's Prayer: Introduction & Meaning	Large Catechism 408-412 Small Catechism 360-361	SCQ 230-249	
+ 15	<i><u>Combined Class: All grades from 4:00-6:00</u></i>		Dinosaurs, Ice Age, and the Pre-Flood World: <i>First Half</i>	
+ 22	<i><u>Combined Class: All grades from 4:00-6:00</u></i>		Dinosaurs, Ice Age, and the Pre-Flood World: <i>Second Half</i>	
29	Lord's Prayer: 1 st Petition & Meaning	Large Catechism 412-413	SCQ 250-254	<i>T.V. Evaluation Papers Due</i>

This year St. Paul Lutheran Church in McGregor, IA celebrates its 90th anniversary.

As part of our anniversary celebration during the weekend of September 11th and 12th, we are hosting a day of study with much fun on that Saturday for our members but we are also inviting all members of Iowa District East to participate. Along with an afternoon study on the Augsburg Confession with Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb the day will include Matins, a hymn sing, an hour background on where the reformation took place over in Germany and Dr. Martin Luther and his wife, Katharina von Bora, in person. This event is free and sure to be a day you will remember.



Please consider joining us on Saturday, September 11th in McGregor. The day begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. so the event can really be a day trip. We ask that you call ahead to reserve a seat so that we can plan and prepare ahead accordingly.

To reserve a seat or ask for more information please call Dave Wesener, event co-chair, at (715) 459-6204 for additional information.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, McGregor, Iowa
St. Paul's 90th Anniversary Year The Word of the Lord Endures Forever

Join us on Saturday, September 11, 2021 as we host a day of Reformation learning, singing, and fun in celebration of our 90th anniversary. Come for the morning, the afternoon, or all day. It's all free, all day, unless you choose to enjoy the German favorites lunch in our fellowship hall.

9:00 a.m. We start out the morning with Matins. A wonderful way to begin the day.

9:30 a.m. Wittenberg, Augsburg, Saxony; Let's get a lay of the land Pastor Randal Poppe will set the table for the day as he explains and shows us the lay of the land in Reformation times. He will show us where Luther traveled, where he spoke, where he hid out in a castle and the important city for the day - Augsburg. Pastor Poppe graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary in 1983. He served Grace Lutheran Church in Racine, Wisconsin for 34 years. He and his wife Cinda have 5 children and 10 grandchildren. Pastor enjoys history, genealogy, and traveling. He has hosted numerous trips to Europe concentrating on Luther sites and Germany.

10:30 a.m. Meet Dr. Martin Luther and wife Katharina von Bora David and Mary Wiedenkiller will portray Martin Luther and Katharina von Bora in full costume. First you will get to know Martin Luther and wife Katie in a general way and then Dr. Martin Luther will further set the table in preparation for the afternoon study of the Augsburg Confession.

12 noon until 1:30 p.m. Lunch time and you have two choices.

Choice one: You can have German favorites in the church fellowship hall, brats, salads and chips for a free will donation. This option will allow you to make it to the hymn sing at 1:00 p.m.

Choice two: Head downtown and try and get into one of several nice establishments during a busy tourist season. Odds are you will miss a portion of a very nice hymn sing but that is alright. Join us as you return.

1:00 p.m. to 1:25 p.m. A "not entirely" reformation hymn sing which will be certain to fire you up for our afternoon speaker.

1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. A study on the Augsburg Confession

The Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb will present a study on the Augsburg Confession. Bring your full Lutheran Confessions from home or use the C.P.H. Augsburg Confession 40 page edition which we will give you. It will be yours to take notes, underline and reread often. Rev. Dr. Schurb is the Administrative Assistant to the President of the Central Illinois District of the LCMS since 2017. He has been a parish pastor for 19 years in Indiana and Missouri. Dr. Schurb has also taught at Concordia College, Ann Arbor. He is a graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. He has also earned a M.A. and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. Dr. Schurb is a regular contributor on Issues Etc. where he is now speaking weekly on the topic of Preaching the Old Testament in the church year.

To reserve your seat or inquire about our handicapped accessibility, please call David Wesener at 715-459-6204

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Monthly Meeting of the Church Council
June 13, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Church Council was held on June 13th, at 8:00 AM. Present: Pastor Koepp, Steve Haase, Chris Christinson, Kevin Schultz, Diane Schultz, Dianna Kelting, Darlo Kelting, Pam Haase, Markie Koepp and Kathy Stanek.

President Steve Haase called the meeting to order and Pastor Koepp opened with prayer.

Minutes from the May 9th, 2021 council meeting were presented for approval. Darlo motioned to approve and Diane 2nd. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Board of Elders: Darlo Kelting

- Continue to work on member list.
- 1 Usher will be assigned during worship services

Treasurer's Report: Chris Christinson

- Written reports attached. All bills have been paid and the current balances are reflected.

Board of Trustees: Kevin Schultz

- Trees and stumps have been removed

Board of Evangelism: Dianna Kelting

- The Immanuel picnic was a big success with 48-50 people attending
- Registering for 4th of July parade and asking for volunteers to help pass out candy. Line-up starts at 4:30. The Sunday school classes decorated water bottles with biblical verses and will be passed out during the parade.

Board of Education: Markie Koepp

- Preparing for VBS

Board of Stewardship: Diane Schultz

- Business as usual – nothing new to report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Koepp

- 6/26/21: Pastor Koepp is on vacation so an elder will be reading the sermon.
- 7/27/21 – 08/2/21: Pastor is the resident Pastor at Camp IO-DIS-E-CA.

- You may still call his cell phone if needed or contact an elder.
- Providing spiritual leadership to members of Immanuel church, preparing weekly sermons, preaching and conducting worship services. Leading Confirmation and Bible Study classes.
- Counseling/home visits, attending board meetings, visiting sick/shutins as allowed and providing Communion to those who cannot attend Sunday Divine service.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Steve asked council members to prayerfully consider staying on the board for the 2021 elections in October and reach out to other members asking them to consider joining.

With no other business to discuss meeting was adjourned and Pastor closed with prayer.

Next Council Meeting: July 11, 2021 - 8:00 AM

Submitted by:
Kathy Stanek
Church Council Secretary

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Monthly Meeting of the Church Council
July 11th, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Church Council was held on July 11th, at 8:00 AM. Present: Pastor Koepp, Steve Haase, Chris Christinson, Kevin Schultz, Diane Schultz, Ken Mergen, Sherry Baker, Dianna Kelting, Darlo Kelting, and Keith Thorpe.

President Steve Haase called the meeting to order and Pastor Koepp opened with prayer.

Minutes from the June 13th meeting were not available and will be presented to the council August 8th.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Board of Elders: Darlo Kelting, Steve Haase, Pastor Koepp

- Continue to work on membership list and have sent out multiple letters and emails over the last 2-3 years to make contact. A list of members will be brought to the voters meeting to vote on self-exclusion.
- Usher duties have been revised. Changes will be posted and sent out to members.
- o Ushers: Monitor the acolyte's candle/lighter for oil. Keith has been posting hymns on hymnal board and will continue but if he is gone for a Sunday it will be done by the elders.
- o Alter Guild: Takes care of Communion and supplies
- o Weekly church cleaners: The acolyte candle/lighter has oil it in that needs monitored. The alter guild takes care of Communion

Treasurer's Report: Chris Christinson

- Written reports attached. All bills have been paid and the current balances are reflected.

Board of Trustees: Kevin Schultz

- Keith and Helen were thanked for spraying of the parking lot for weeds. They have sprayed for weeds 3 times and have no problem continuing.

Board of Evangelism: Dianna Kelting

- Immanuel sponsored a float in the 4th of July parade. 5 walkers passed out candy, stickers, and bottles of water with Christian logos. Only 3 people rode on the float and the board will evaluate in 2022 if they want to do this again.
- Reviewing options for a fall fellowship event.

Board of Education: Sherry Baker

- VBS dates are July 19-21 with the theme “Asking Promise”.
- Reviewing the fall Sunday School curriculum.
- August 29th is Christian Education Sunday and bibles will be given to eligible Sunday School students.

Board of Stewardship: Keith Thorpe

- 2nd quarter statements are in the mail.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Koepp

- Providing spiritual leadership to members of Immanuel church, preparing weekly sermons, preaching and conducting worship services. Leading Confirmation and Bible Study classes.
- Counseling/home visits, attending board meetings, visiting sick/shut-ins as allowed and providing Communion to those who cannot attend Sunday Divine service.

Unfinished Business: None**New Business:**

- Steve reviewed the membership list for those on the self-exclusion list. Prayers, and letters have been sent for 2 – 3 years with no responses. Pastor Koepp recommended a practice of other churches with this issue have listed the names in the bulletins for 2 – 3 months. Members can review and remove any names on the list that should not be on it.
- Per Steve – Due to a request of several members, prior voters meeting minutes and the agenda will be handed out prior to any upcoming voters meeting for those that request it. No one will be caught off guard with this process in place. Moving forward there will be a deadline to add anything to the agenda.
- LWML: Per Pam the District sent out a letter stating that LWML was behind in their goal of \$105,000 which is attributed to Covid and no meetings or rallies during the last 1½ years. Currently they have only raised \$30,000 and the council approved putting out a “noisy bucket” for anyone who wishes to donate throughout August. Christian Education will have a “noisy bucket in October and will have an LWML Sunday. It will no be listed as a “Mission Sunday”.

With no other business to discuss Steve thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting. Pastor closed the meeting with prayer.

Next Council Meeting: August 8, 2021 - 8:00 AM

Submitted by:
Dianna Kelting



Electronic Giving: Fast, easy, & secure

Support the work of our church through Electronic Giving. Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically—you'll never have to remember your checkbook again!

We would love for you to get started! Pick up an authorization form today.