

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
229 11TH AVE W  
GRINNELL IA 50112-8217

***March Newsletter***

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH LC-MS**  
**229 11TH AVENUE WEST**  
**GRINNELL, IA 50112**  
**OFFICE- 641-236-6691**  
**CHURCH EMAIL- [immanuellutheran@iowatelecom.net](mailto:immanuellutheran@iowatelecom.net)**  
**WEBSITE- [www.immanuelgrinnell.org](http://www.immanuelgrinnell.org)**

**REV. DR. JOEL G. KOEPP**  
**EMAIL- [koeppj@hotmail.com](mailto:koeppj@hotmail.com)**  
**CELL PHONE- 507-829-3901**

**ALL SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE**  
**SERVICES ARE LIVE STREAMED ON OUR FACEBOOK**

**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 Koeppe 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](mailto: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.**

## 2024 Immanuel Officers & Board Members

**President** Steve Haase

**Vice President/President Elect** Lucas Bayer

**Secretary** Kathy Stanek

**Treasurer** Chris Christinson

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

**Trustees** Kevin Schultz, Ben Louden, Dan Huebner

**Board of Education** Sherry Baker, Danielle McDonough, Markie Koepf

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

**Board of Evangelism & Missions** June Routier, Bev Huebner, Dianna Kelting

**Organists** Pam Haase, Amber Bayer, Esther Huedepohl

**Pianist** Sophia Louden

**Church Secretary** Amber Carnine

**Sunday School Opening** Pastor Koepf

**LWML Board** President: Pam Haase    Treasurer: June Routier    Secretary: Pam Haase

**Altar Guild** Helen Thorpe    June Routier    Danielle McDonough    Pam Haase    Pam Sittig  
Esther Huedepohl (Backup)

*Hello  
March*



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# A Message from our Pastor



With many strong feelings on both sides of the use of icons and art, I wanted to share with you this question and answer from the LCMS website. May this give you some background information for the use and understanding of crucifixes in the Lutheran Church, as well as help your Lenten journey to the celebration of Easter. The quotation marks and formatting are original to the text, I did not add or change anything (except for a misspelling of Orthodoxy in the first paragraph).

**QUESTION:** Is the use of crucifixes a Roman Catholic practice? Doesn't the empty cross provide a better symbol for Lutherans? How does The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod feel about using a crucifix in church? *[Note: A crucifix is a cross with a statue of the crucified Christ on it.]*

**ANSWER:** A common misunderstanding among some Lutherans is the opinion that a crucifix, or the use of a crucifix, is a “Roman Catholic” practice. The history of Lutheranism demonstrates that the crucifix was a regular and routine feature of Lutheran worship and devotional life during Luther’s lifetime and during the period of Lutheran Orthodoxy.

It was also the case among the founding fathers of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. If you were to visit most of the original congregations of the LCMS in the United States you would find lovely crucifixes adorning their altars, and, in addition, beautiful statues on the altar of Christ and the four evangelists or other such scenes.

There is nothing uniquely Roman Catholic about this. Many Lutherans and Lutheran congregations use crucifixes. Crucifixes are used in the chapels of both of our seminaries and our International Center.

Lutheranism has always considered the crucifix to be a powerful reminder of the sacrifice our Lord Jesus made for us and our salvation, on the cross. A crucifix vividly brings to mind the Apostle Paul's divinely inspired words, "We preach Christ and Him crucified" (1 Cor. 1:23).

Interestingly enough, while there is certainly nothing "wrong" with an "empty" cross, the practice of using an "empty cross" on a Lutheran congregation's altar comes more from non-Lutheran sources.

At the time of the Reformation there was conflict between Lutherans and Reformed Christians over the proper place of pictures, images, statues and the like in the church. Lutherans stood with historic Christendom in realizing that such art in the church was not wrong, and it was a great aid for helping to focus devotional thoughts on the truths of the Word of God. No greater truth can be found than the death of Jesus Christ our Lord for the world's salvation.

The "empty cross" is not a symbol of Christ's resurrection, as some say, for the fact is that the cross would have been empty regardless of whether or not Christ had risen from the grave. The point to be kept clear here is that both an "empty cross" and a crucifix symbolize the same thing: the death of Christ our Lord for the salvation of the world.

Many feel the crucifix symbolizes this truth more clearly and strikingly. That has been the traditional opinion of historic Lutheranism, until the last 50 years ago, due to the influence we will now mention.

Some Lutherans began to move away from crucifixes during the age of Lutheran Pietism, which rejected much of Lutheran doctrine and consequently many Lutheran worship practices. At the time, Lutheran Pietists, contrary to the clear position of Luther and the earlier Lutherans, held that symbols such as the crucifix were wrong.

This was never the view of historic Lutheranism. In America, Lutherans have always felt a certain pressure to "fit in" with the Reformed Christianity that predominates much of the Protestant church.

Thus, for some Lutherans, this meant doing away with things such as crucifixes and vestments, and other traditional forms of Lutheran worship and piety. It is sad when some Lutherans are made to feel embarrassed about their Lutheranism by members of churches that teach the Word of God in error and who do not share Lutheranism's clear confession and practice of the full truth of the Word of God.

Lutheranism has always recognized that the use of any symbol (even the empty cross) can become an idolatrous practice, if in any way people are led to believe there is "power in the cross" or that a picture or representation of a cross has some sort of ability, in itself, to bring us into relationship with Christ and His Gospel. Any of God's good gifts can be turned against Him in this life and become an end in themselves.

Lutherans have never believed that banning or limiting proper artwork in the church is the way to prevent its improper use. Rather, we believe proper teaching and right use is the best way, and the way that is in keeping with the gift of freedom we have in Christ to use all things to the glory and honor of God.

Thus, many Lutherans use and enjoy the crucifix as a meaningful reminder of our Lord's suffering and death. It might interest you to know that our Synod's president has a beautiful crucifix adorning the wall of his office, constantly reminding him and visitors to his office of the great love of God that is ours in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In short, and this is the most important point of all, there is nothing contrary to God's Holy Word, or our Lutheran Confessions, about the proper use of the crucifix, just as there is nothing wrong with the proper use of an empty cross, or any other church symbol by which we are reminded of the great things God has done for us.

We need to guard against quickly dismissing out of hand practices that we believe are "too Roman Catholic" before we more adequately explore their use and history in our own church.

In Christian freedom, we use either the crucifix or an empty cross and should not judge or condemn one another for using either nor not using either symbol of our Lord's sacrifice for our sins.<sup>1</sup>

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1 If you want to check this out online, here is the link:

<https://www.lcms.org/about/beliefs/faqs/worship-and-congregational-life#crucifixes>

As you walk through this Lent, join me in singing;

'Upon the Cross Extended'

LSB 453



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your  
2 Come, see these things and pon - der, Your soul will  
3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so  
4 I caused Your grief and sigh - ing By e - vils



Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.  
fill with won - der As blood streams from each pore.  
sore a - bused You And caused You all Your woe?  
mul - ti - ply - ing As count - less as the sands.



The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly  
Through grief be - yond all know - ing From His great heart came  
We all must make con - fes - sion Of sin and dire trans -  
I caused the woes un - num - bered With which Your soul is



giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.  
flow - ing Sighs well - ing from its deep - est core.  
gres - sion While You no ways of e - vil know.  
cum - bered, Your sor - rows raised by wick - ed hands.

- 5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,  
Your head with thorns surrounded,  
You died to ransom me.  
The cross for me enduring,  
The crown for me securing,  
You healed my wounds and set me free.
- 6 Your cords of love, my Savior,  
Bind me to You forever,  
I am no longer mine.  
To You I gladly tender  
All that my life can render  
And all I have to You resign.
- 7 Your cross I place before me;  
Its saving pow'r restore me,  
Sustain me in the test.  
It will, when life is ending,  
Be guiding and attending  
My way to Your eternal rest.

*Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.*

*Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

+ Soli Deo Gloria +  
Rev. Dr. Joel G. Koeppe



I have a distant relative who had some kind of a struggle in his LCMS congregation. He became frustrated and then angry, so much so that he left the church and joined a reformed congregation. This took place a few years ago. I did have a chance to chat with him about that move and asked him if he missed the Lord's Supper. I asked that because the Reformed deny the real presence of Jesus' Body and Blood in the Sacrament. He said he missed the frequency of it, but he still believed it to be the Lord's Supper since he, himself, believed in the real presence. I had to inform him that, in the Lord's Supper, he does not determine what is served, the doctrine inscribed in the altar does. The inscription on a Reformed altar says that the bread and wine symbolize the body and blood of Jesus but there is no real presence. The recipient receives nothing but bread and wine.

In a few weeks we will enter Holy Week of Lent. One of the prime services of that week is Maundy Thursday when Jesus gathered His disciples into the upper room for the Passover Meal. When that meal was finished, Jesus then instituted the Lord's Supper. In the words of Institution Jesus makes it abundantly clear "this is my Body, this is my Blood." There is no other way to understand Jesus words than what they say. With His divine power He joins His Body and Blood to the bread and wine for us to eat and drink. We really do receive Jesus' Body, we really do receive His Blood. His Word says so.

***The Supper of our Lord is not for us to merely commit to memory. It is for us to participate in the victory Jesus won for us while earning our redemption on the cross.***

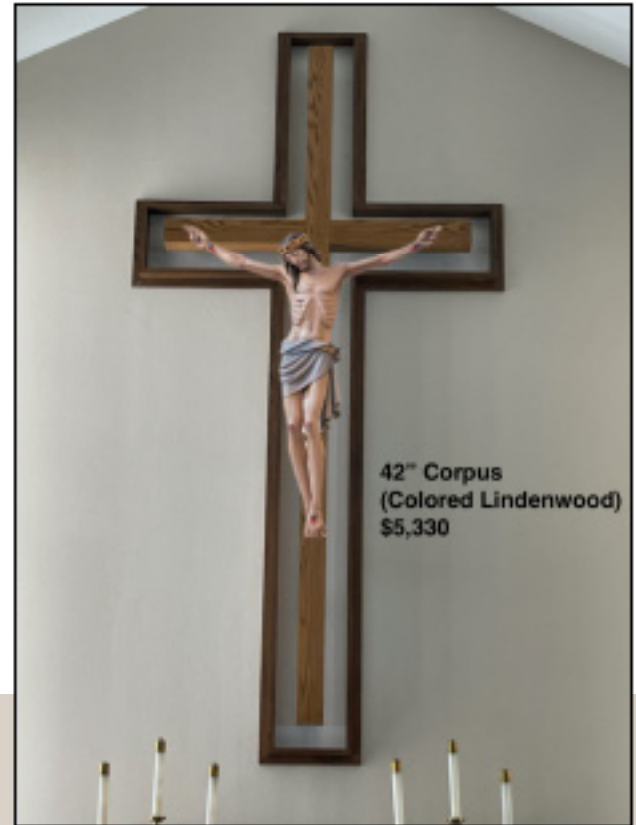
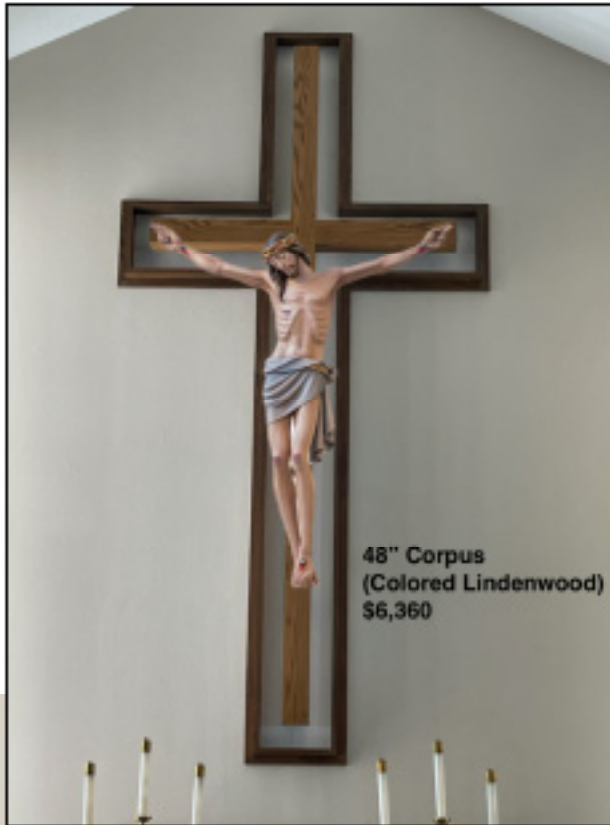
Along with the reception of the Supper, our Lord delivers us His heavenly treasures. He really delivers them to us. Those treasures are forgiveness of our sins, strengthening of faith in Him, and confirming the promise of everlasting life with Him. Like Simeon of the Gospels says after seeing the baby Jesus, "Let your servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation." It didn't get any better than that for Simeon. It doesn't get any better than that for us either in the Supper.

How sad to miss out on such a gift. It is equivalent to looking at pictures of the tropics in the middle of winter compared to actually being in the tropics in the middle of winter. The Supper of our Lord is not for us to merely commit to memory. It is for us to participate in the victory Jesus won for us while earning our redemption on the cross.

This Maundy Thursday I pray we relish what the Lord's Supper is. I commend us to the Words of Holy Writ that inform us clearly what Jesus gives in the Supper, His real Body and His real Blood. It is a pure gift and brings us comfort by the forgiveness we so desperately need. We will have spent six weeks reflecting on the darkness of our sins and the inability to compensate for them. We will have spent six weeks with the words of the confession wringing deep to the heart. On Maundy Thursday we will celebrate with great joy what Jesus has bequeathed to His precious Bride the Church. It was His last will and testament before His death. The words cannot be changed. Thank God for that.

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders  
District President

# Proposed Corpus Project



## Proposal

One of our younger congregational members has presented a proposal to turn our main cross into a crucifix by adding the Corpus of Christ onto our pre-existing cross.

Why: A cross can represent anything nowadays. Many people wear it just as something to match their outfit without really knowing what it is meant to represent.

By putting the Corpus on our church's cross, we could better represent our shared belief in Jesus's crucifixion, sacrifice and fulfillment of the covenant.

- Has been approved by Board of Elders
- Has been approved by Church Council
- Is under discussion by Church Voters
- Needs congregational consideration and approval
- Will be reviewed and voted upon by Church Voters at the next quarterly meeting in April 2024

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Pastor Koeppe or a church elder.



## **The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article**

### ***Cherish What God Has Given***

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God's fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God's purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)



**MEMORY WORK  
FOR THE  
MONTH OF  
MARCH**

**7th & 8th Grades Memory Work**

March 6: Questioning Books

March 13: NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK

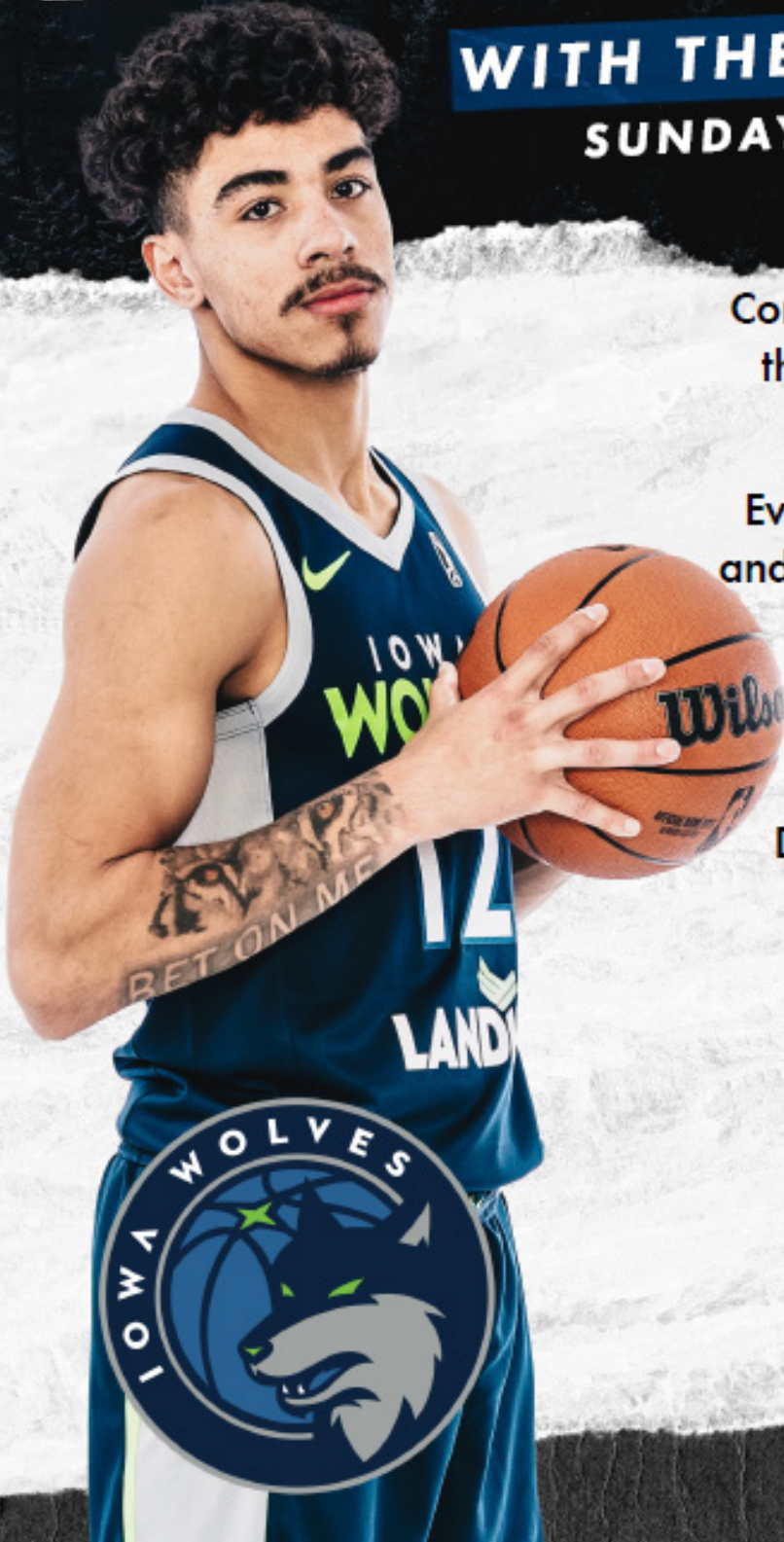
March 20: Questioning Books

March 24: Palm Sunday – Confirmation

# FAITH & FAMILY DAY

WITH THE IOWA WOLVES

SUNDAY MARCH 17TH | 3PM



Come join the Iowa Wolves as they take on the Mexico City Captives at Wells Fargo Arena!

Every purchased ticket comes with a meal and attendance to our post game concert by Jordan St. Cyr.

If you have any questions:

Contact for event:

Duncan Shay, Sales Account Executive  
515-707-1420

[Duncan.shay@iawolves.com](mailto:Duncan.shay@iawolves.com)



## Registration Information

(Lay People Welcome)

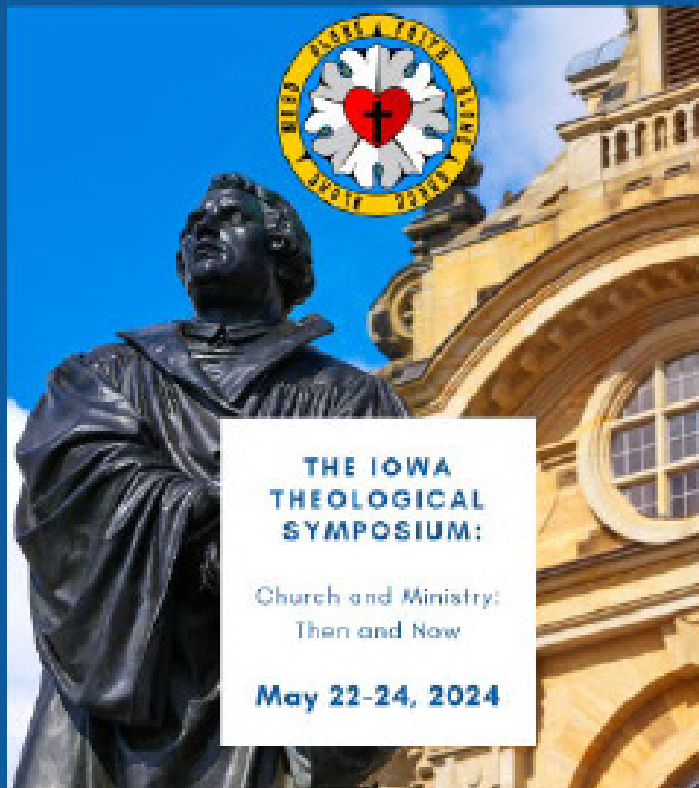
### With Lodging:

Preaching Workshop and Symposium with  
2 Nights of Lodging & Meals **\$85**

Symposium with 1 Night of Lodging &  
Meals **\$65**

### Without Lodging:

Preaching Workshop and Symposium with  
Meals (stay off site) **\$65**



Camp Io-Dis-E-Co  
3271 Sandy Beach Rd NE  
Solon, IA 52333

Daniel Sanchez: [dsanchezelcmlside.org](mailto:dsanchezelcmlside.org)

### Questions?

Contact Rev. Sam Beltz: 870-476-0028

**MAY 22: PREACHING WORKSHOP**  
**"YES, YOU DO NEED A THEME"**

**MAY 23-24: THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM**  
**"CHURCH AND MINISTRY:**  
**THEN AND NOW"**

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## GUEST PRESENTERS

REV. DR. MATTHEW HARRISON

REV. MICHAEL HOLMEN

REV. DR. BRIAN SAUNDERS

REV. DR. JOHN STEPHENSON

REV. DR. LUCAS WOODFORD

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## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Please send donations to:

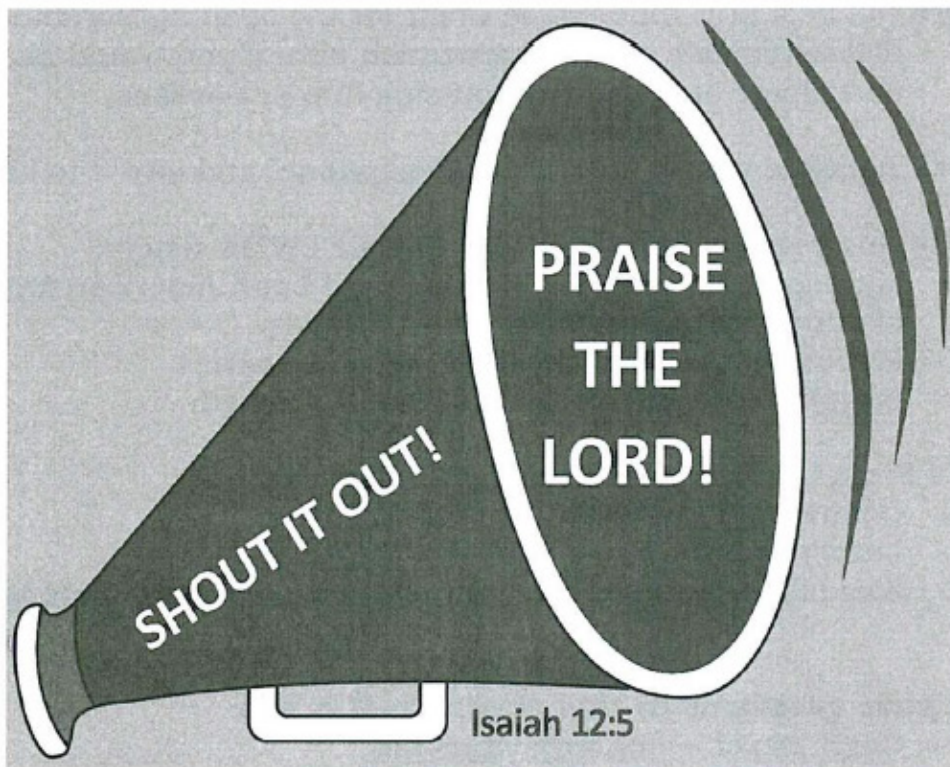
Camp Io-Dis-E-Co  
3271 Sandy Beach Rd NE  
Solon, IA 52333

Checks should be made out to "Camp  
Io-Dis-E-Co" with a memo line of "ITS"

## LWML—IOWA EAST DISTRICT NEWS

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**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE  
2024 LWML - Iowa East District Convention  
June 21-22, 2024**



*Sing praise to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;  
let this be made known to all the earth (Isaiah 12:5 ESV).*

**\*Registration packets are on the entryway table**



## Good Shepherd Preschool—Main Teacher



### School Description

Good Shepherd Preschool is part of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Eldora Iowa. The preschool serves students ages 3-5 in three classes, including one class that is part of the “Four Year Old Voluntary Preschool” in collaboration with the Eldora New Providence Community School District. The goal of our preschool is to help the children in our care to develop and mature physically, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. We hope that each child will know that Jesus is their Good Shepherd, Savior and Friend. Our desire is that each boy and girl in our Preschool will reach their full potential and someday grow to become a happy, productive, creative, Christian adult. Good Shepherd Preschool has been part of our congregation and community for 47 years.

### Job Qualifications

- An Early Childhood Education degree
- A member in good standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and/or willingness to join St. Paul Lutheran Church (an LCMS congregation)

### Job Responsibilities

There are many responsibilities as the main teacher, here are some of those responsibilities:

- Provide planning and execution of the appropriate early childhood education experiences with a variety of materials in the fields of art, music, literature, science, math, physical development, language development, social studies, and health.
- To promote and supervise activities which promote the healthy, spiritual, emotional, social, intellectual and physical development of each child.
- To maintain records of progress, supervise all activities, complete forms required by the Department of Health and Human Services, and help maintain the classroom spaces and materials.
- To attend in-service training or conferences whenever possible- at least ten hours a year.
- Work with the pastor to help with the students spiritual growth.

The teacher we hire will also train to become the preschool director. Some of those duties include:

- Evaluate and report conformity for state and federal regulations.
- Keep records of attendance and tuition, recruit and supervise staff, prepare and spend within the budget and prepare monthly financial reports, promote and advertise the program and contact agencies to help students with special needs.
- Work with the pastor, Board of Education, and other boards of St. Paul Lutheran Church to prepare chapel, mission projects, and provide information about the program.

Please submit a cover letter, resume and contact information to the church office by email or letter.

Address: St. Paul Lutheran Church  
1105 Washington St.  
Eldora, IA 50627

Email: [godshous1@heartofiowa.net](mailto:godshous1@heartofiowa.net)

**Two bus trips** June 10-14 and December 2-6 to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter are planned for 2024. Two trips are basically the same. However, the December trip also includes a Christmas dinner in the cafeteria and the spectacular Christmas lights.

Currently, there are still seats available. A \$100 deposit per person is required to reserve your seat on the bus. A deposit can be mailed to Roger Bauer, 806 Juhl Avenue, Waverly, Iowa, 50677.

The 56 passenger Windstar bus leaves from the Waverly Walmart parking lot at 6:00am Monday morning. We make pickup stops in Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, and Iowa City on the way. The bus ride is edu-tainment to help you understand what you will be seeing. Monday is a travel day, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Creation Museum, Thursday at the Ark, and Friday we travel home.

Check out their websites at [creationmuseum.org](http://creationmuseum.org) or [arkencounter.com](http://arkencounter.com)  
For additional information: 319-610-2623 or [bauerr@mchsi.com](mailto:bauerr@mchsi.com)

## **ROGER & ELLEN BAUER**

806 Juhl Ave  
Waverly, IA 50677

[bauerr@mchsi.com](mailto:bauerr@mchsi.com)

Home: 319-352-5435  
Roger's Cell: 319-610-2623

For more information visit:  
[creationmuseum.org](http://creationmuseum.org) and  
[arkencounter.com](http://arkencounter.com)

## **TRIP ITINERARY**

### **DEPARTURE**

Date: Mon, June 10, 2024  
Time: 6:00 a.m.  
Initial Pickup: Waverly, IA

### **DAYS AT THE MUSEUM**

Date: Tue, Wed, June 11 & 12, 2024  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **DAY AT THE ARK**

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **RETURN HOME**

Date: Friday, June 14, 2024

# Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca



March 2024

## Summer Camp 2024: **GEARING UP!**

### *Registration*

Registrations for the 2024 summer camp season have been pouring in! They came in especially quickly for Horse Camps and Projectile Camp! We're on pace for another great year overall, and would love to have you be a part of it if you're not already!

### *Staff*

In order to ensure that all those registered get to experience camp this summer, we need to fill some key roles on our summer staff. We need both male and female counselors to serve in these roles. Becoming a counselor at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca provides a great opportunity to serve others, share the Christian faith, and be a role-model for all the kids who attend camp! It is also a great way to develop professional skills such as working and communicating with people of all ages, being able to adapt, and making quick and sound decisions in a variety of situations. **We anticipate needing up to 10 more counselors to accommodate the amount of campers getting registered! PLEASE HELP!!!!**

We're primarily looking for LC-MS college-aged young adults over the age of 18 to serve as counselors in overnight and day camp settings. If you're wondering if you or someone you know is camp staff material, don't! We'll train you in all you need to know for leading campers in a rewarding work environment. Just look at what some of our evaluations have said about our camp staff.

*"Thank you for the Christian examples you are to our children!"*

*"The camp staff were all very polite, friendly, caring, and helpful."*

*"The counselors' enthusiasm with the kids was greatly appreciated."*

Young people today need Christian role models in their lives, and year after year our summer staff provide our campers with summer camp experience filled with safety, fun, friendship, adventure, and Christian learning. For more information or to begin your application process, please see the bottom of the next page. We look forward to assembling a great team for 2024!



### *Facilities*

Our staff have been busy working on various projects to improve our lodges this winter. This includes shampooing the carpet in all of the high comfort rooms and Fireside Room in Alpha Lodge. We also stripped and waxed the tile floor in the Fireside Room as well as the dining and activity halls. In Omega Lodge, the basement floor and the walls in the summer staff apartment got repainted. Thanks to the warm February weather, we were also able to clear branches and brush from around the barn area and pastures! If you'd like to see more pictures, head to our social media pages!



*Midweek*

**Lenten**

*Service*

**Wednesday, March 6**

**Wednesday, March 13**

**Wednesday, March 20**

***Meal served at 5:00pm***

***Evening Prayer Service follows at 6:30pm***



*Holy  
Week  
Services*

**March 24**

**9:00am Palm Sunday/Confirmation**

**March 25, 26, 27**

**12:00pm Prayer Service**

**March 28**

**6:30pm Holy Thursday Divine Service**

**March 29**

**6:30pm Good Friday Divine Service**

**March 30**

**12:00pm Holy Saturday Prayer Service**

**6:30pm Easter Vigil Service**



Easter  
Sunday

## ***EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES***

**March 31**

**Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Dawn Divine Service**

**6:30am**

**Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Day Divine Service**

**9:00am**



Join us for  
Coffee hour!



***We are offering a Senior Coffee Hour for seniors in the area. This event is free and is every Monday 8:30-10:00 am. We serve coffee and donuts.***

***Windsor Manor Assisted Living- Grinnell***

***229 Pearl Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112***

***[www.windsor-manor.com](http://www.windsor-manor.com)***

***“Excellence In Senior Care, Every Day!”***

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Monthly Meeting of the Church Council**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Church Council was held on January 21st at 8:00 AM.

Present: Pastor Koepp, Joel McDonough, Keith Thorpe, Chris Christinson, Diane Schultz, Kevin Schultz, Sherri Baker, June Routier, and Kathy Stanek.

Joel called the meeting to order, and Pastor Koepp opened the meeting with prayer.

Keith motioned to approve the December 11th, 2023, minutes - Diane 2nd. Motion carried.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS**

**Board of Elders:** Joel McDonough

- Continue monthly devotions and prepare for Lent 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 – Nothing to report.

**Board of Evangelism:** June Routier

- Collection for MICA food pantry was a success.

**Board of Education:** Sherri Baker

- The Christmas program was ‘GREAT’ and Sunday school is back on track.

**Board of Stewardship:** Keith Thorpe

- Giving is steady with no issues to report. Year end statements have been distributed.



**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Koepf

- 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:**

- Chris shared the 2024 budget that will be presented to the members at the voters meeting.

**New Business:**

- Finn McDonough, (Immanuel youth member) created and shared a presentation “Why We should put the Corpus of Christ on our Cross”. He provided multiple reasons, prices, colors, sizes, and material choices for discussion. Joel said the Elders approve the presentation and agree this is an item they were pleased to take to the board and voters. Kevin motioned to support putting the Corpus of Christ on the sanctuary cross and present the information to the voters at today’s meeting. Sherri 2nd. Motion carried.

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

Council Meeting: February 11th, 2024 8:00 AM

Submitted by:

Kathy Stanek, Council Secretary