

Immanuel Lutheran Church
229 11th Ave W
Grinnell, IA 50112

November 2021 Newsletter

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
HOME- 641-260-8394
CELL PHONE- 507-829-3901

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 Louden, 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 Louden

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)



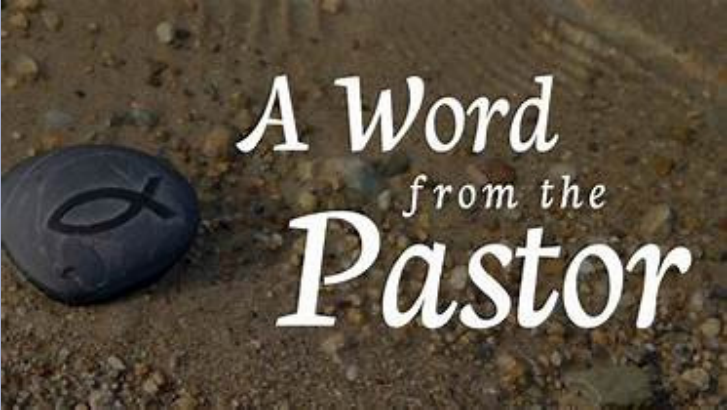
Hello November

NEWSLETTER FOR

November 2021

In this issue...

Pgs 5-8	Letter from Pastor
Pgs 9-10	President Saunders Piece for Peace
Pg 11	Thanksgiving Service
Pg 12	District Life Coordinator-All Saints Day and Unborn Babies
Pg 13	IDE Senior High Retreat
Pg 14	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
Pg 15	November Confirmation Schedule
Pg 16	November Missions: Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization
Pg 17	Lutheran Family Services
Pgs 18-19	LCMS Stewardship Ministry Article
Pgs 20-21	September Council Minutes

A photograph of a dark, circular object with a fish symbol on it, resting on a textured, brownish surface. The text "A Word from the Pastor" is overlaid in white, with "A Word" in a large serif font, "from the" in a smaller italicized serif font, and "Pastor" in a large serif font.

A Word from the Pastor

As we move through November, there seems to be one, large goal through this month. There is an anxiety raised to bring the harvest, to celebrate the bounty given by God, and then of course, my favorite part—eating. I encourage you to read through the Fourth Petition from the Large Catechism, and use this to shape your prayers this month.

The Fourth Petition

71 *“Give us this day our daily bread.”*

72 Here we consider the poor bread-basket—the needs of our body and our life on earth. It is a brief and simple word, but very comprehensive. When you pray for “daily bread” you pray for everything that is necessary in order to have and enjoy daily bread and, on the contrary, against everything that interferes with enjoying it. You must therefore enlarge and extend your thoughts to include not only the oven or the flour bin, but also the broad fields and the whole land which produce and provide for us our daily bread and all kinds of sustenance. For if God did not cause grain to grow and did not bless and preserve it in the field, we could never take a loaf of bread from the oven to set on the table.

73 To put it briefly, this petition includes everything that belongs to our entire life in this world; only for its sake do we need daily bread. Now, our life requires not only food and clothing and other necessities for our body, but also peace and concord in our daily business and in associations of every description with the people among whom we live and move—in short, everything that pertains to the regulation of our domestic and our civil or political affairs. For where these two relations are interfered with and prevented from functioning properly, there the necessities of life are also interfered with, and life itself cannot be maintained for any length of time.

74 Indeed, the greatest need of all is to pray for our civil authorities and the government, for chiefly through them does God provide us our daily bread and all the comforts of this life. Although we have received from God all good things in abundance, we cannot retain any of them or enjoy them in security or happiness unless he gives us a stable, peaceful government. For where dissension, strife, and war prevail, there our daily bread is taken away, or at least reduced.

75 It would therefore be fitting if the coat-of-arms of every upright prince were emblazoned with a loaf of bread instead of a lion or a wreath of rue, or if a loaf of bread were stamped on coins, to remind both princes and subjects that through the office of the princes we enjoy protection and peace and that without them we could not have the steady blessing of daily bread. Rulers are worthy of all honor, and we should render them the duties we owe and do all we can for them, as to those through whom we enjoy our possessions in peace and quietness, since otherwise we could not keep a penny. Moreover, we should pray for them, that through them God may bestow on us still more blessings and good things.

76 Let us outline very briefly how comprehensively this petition covers all kinds of relations on earth. Out of it one might make a long prayer, enumerating with many words all the things it includes. For example, we might ask God to give us food and drink, clothing, house, home, and a sound body; to cause the grain and fruits of the field to grow and yield richly; to help us manage our household well and give and preserve to us a good wife, children, and servants; to cause our work, craft, or occupation, whatever it may be, to prosper and succeed; to grant us faithful neighbors and good friends, etc.

77 Again, to ask God to endow the emperor, kings, and all estates of men, and especially our princes, counselors, magistrates, and officials, with wisdom, strength, and prosperity to govern well and to be victorious over the Turks and all our enemies; to grant their subjects and the people at large to live together in obedience, peace, and concord.

78 On the other hand, to protect us from all kinds of harm to our body and our livelihood, from tempest, hail, fire, and flood; from poison, pestilence, and cattle-plague; from war and bloodshed, famine, savage beasts, wicked men, etc. 79 It is good to impress upon the common people that all these things come from God and that we must pray for them.

80 But especially is this petition directed against our chief enemy, the devil, whose whole purpose and desire it is to take away or interfere with all we have received from God. He is not satisfied to obstruct and overthrow spiritual order, so that he may deceive men with his lies and bring them under his power, but he also prevents and hinders the establishment of any kind of government or honorable and peaceful relations on earth. This is why he causes so much contention, murder, sedition, and war, why he sends tempest and hail to destroy crops and cattle, why he poisons the air, etc.

81 In short, it pains him that anyone receives a morsel of bread from God and eats it in peace. If it were in his power, and our prayer to God did not restrain him, surely we would not have a straw in the field, a penny in the house, or even our life for one hour—especially those of us who have the Word of God and would like to be Christians.

82 Thus, you see, God wishes to show us how he cares for us in all our needs and faithfully provides for our daily existence.

83 Although he gives and provides these blessings bountifully, even for wicked men and rogues, yet he wishes us to pray for them so we may realize that we have received them from his hand and may recognize in them his fatherly goodness toward us. When he withdraws his hand, nothing can prosper or last for any length of time, as indeed we see and experience every day.

84 How much trouble there now is in the world simply on account of false coinage, yes, on account of daily exploitation and usury in public business, trading, and labor on the part of those who wantonly oppress the poor and deprive them of their daily bread! This we must put up with, of course; but let exploiters and oppressors beware lest they lose the common intercession of the church, and let them take care lest this petition of the Lord's Prayer be turned against them.

766 Our Father, Who from Heaven Above

LSB 766



1 Our Fa - ther, who from heav'n a - bove Bids all of us to
2 Your name be hal - lowed. Help us, Lord, In pu - ri - ty to
3 Your king - dom come. Guard Your do - main And Your e - ter - nal
4 Your gra - cious will on earth be done As it is done be -



live in love As mem - bers of one fam - i - ly And
keep Your Word, That to the glo - ry of Your name We
righ - teous reign. The Ho - ly Ghost en - rich our day With
fore Your throne, That pa - tient - ly we may o - bey Through -



pray to You in u - ni - ty, Teach us no thought - less words to
walk be - fore You free from blame. Let no false teach - ing us per -
gifts at - ten - dant on our way. Break Sa - tan's pow'r, de - feat his
out our lives all that You say. Curb flesh and blood and ev - 'ry



say But from our in - most hearts to pray.
vert; All poor de - lud - ed souls con - vert.
rage; Pre - serve Your Church from age to age.
ill That sets it - self a - gainst Your will.

**5 Give us this day our daily bread,
And let us all be clothed and fed.
Save us from hardship, war, and strife;
In plague and famine, spare our life,
That we in honest peace may live,
To care and greed no entrance give.**

6 Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore,
That they may trouble us no more;
We, too, will gladly those forgive
Who hurt us by the way they live.
Help us in our community
To serve each other willingly.

7 Lead not into temptation, Lord,
Where our grim foe and all his horde
Would vex our souls on ev'ry hand.
Help us resist, help us to stand
Firm in the faith, a mighty host,
Through comfort of the Holy Ghost.

8 From evil, Lord, deliver us;
The times and days are perilous.
Redeem us from eternal death,
And, when we yield our dying breath,
Console us, grant us calm release,
And take our souls to You in peace.

9 Amen, that is, so shall it be.
Make strong our faith in You, that we
May doubt not but with trust believe
That what we ask we shall receive.
Thus in Your name and at Your Word
We say, "Amen, O hear us, Lord!"

Tune: Public domain

Text (sts. 1, 6, 8-9): Public domain

Text (sts. 2-5, 7): © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001879

+Soli Deo Gloria+

Rev. Dr. Joel G. Koeppe

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

I was scanning my library recently and found a book I have had for many years but haven't looked at for quite some time. It was written and published in 1936 by Walter Maier I. It is so old there is no ISBN number but it was published by CPH. The title is *For Better Not For Worse*. As you may guess from the title the contents of the book are all about marriage. I have been looking at it again more closely since the institution of marriage is under attack in our society. This book has remarkable application showing us that time does not dilute the content and meaning of the Eternal Word of God. I want to share one section of this book with you to show you just how current the Word of God makes all times and all places.

The Church's Marriage Code

"What are these Christian pronouncements on marriage? A large library of conflicting interpretations clamors for recognition; but if the clear statements of the Scriptures are accepted, the code which the Church gives us young people demands the definite endorsement of these basic truths: (there are actually twelve points in this code but I am sharing with you the pertinent ones of interest today).

- 1. Marriage is a divine institution established by God Himself. It is not a social evolution (construct) or a heritage from any alleged brute ancestry. As the gift of God, sex, marriage, and family life are holy; and even though disfigured by sin, they should be honored by all men as divine bestowals.*
- 2. Christian marriage is a blessed ordinance, which leads to multiplied benedictions both for those in wedlock and for the race in general. Faithfulness to its requirements, under God, promotes individual and national well-being and progress.*
- 3. Christian marriage is monogamous, the union of one man and one woman. Forsaking all others, the Christian husband and wife are to cleave only and always to each other.*
- 4. The marriage union is lifelong, and termination, except by death, always involves a transgression of the divine Law by either husband or wife or both. Divorce is permitted only in the case of marital unfaithfulness. Malicious desertion breaks the marriage relation.*
- 5. In the choice of companion for life the decisive factor should not be wealth, physical attraction, higher education, and social position, but common devotion to the one Lord and Savior, the harmony of religious oneness. With the exception of the close degrees of relationship within which a Christian may not marry, there are no restriction in the choice of husband or wife. A general compatibility of age, culture, and race is normally essential for sustained happiness.*
- 6. In the Christian family the husband is the representative head before God and man; the wife is the helping companion. The sphere of her highest activity is the home.*
- 7. Christian marriage must have a spiritual basis in the reverent acknowledgment of Jesus Christ, the Savior of all men and in the abiding presence of His comforting and sustaining Spirit. The family altar is to be the effective pledge against shattered promises and broken hearts.*

“The family altar is to be the effective pledge against shattered promises and broken hearts.”

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

8. Christian marriage must be marked by an intensity of self-sacrificing love. Wedded life characterized by frigid aloofness is not only greatly displeasing to God, but also soon becomes a caricature of the true conjugal devotion.

9. To prepare themselves for these blessings and to meet these high requirements, young people should ask the help of God in leading clean, courageous lives and avoiding all concessions to impurity. Sin poisons their happiness and will rise up later as a specter of reproach. Only after a careful and prayerful selection of the future helpmate, when all uncertainty has disappeared, should the mutual promise be given in engagement.

Every statement in this marriage code has been fiercely attacked, hotly denied, mercilessly criticized, or serenely disregarded by our modern sophistication. Attempts to amend and to broaden are being made every day; but the only standards that have been weighed without being found wanting and that proves their abiding power even in the swift rush of the passing moment are God's ordinances."

I found these codes to be very interesting given our current climate of cultural attack on the institution of marriage. Read them through and use them for discussion in your various classes and conversations. I pray they are fruitful for you and your students and congregation.

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President



Day of Thanksgiving/Harvest

Wednesday, November 17

Supper at 5:30pm

Service following at 6:30pm

Join Us!

District Life Coordinator - All Saints Day and Unborn Babies

Friends in Christ,

The Christian Church used to give thanks to God for His saints on the day of their martyrdom. But under early Roman persecution there got to be so many martyrs that they couldn't each have their own day on the calendar. So by the 300s A.D. churches celebrated a day for all the saints. By the 700s the date was set for November 1st. And during the 800s this observance was decreed for the whole Church.

All Saints Day can be a wonderful day to give thanks to God for the unborn babies, God's precious unseen saints. During the Prayer of the Church we'll give thanks for each saint who died in the faith this past year and is now at rest with Christ awaiting the resurrection. Include in those prayers all mothers and fathers who miscarried this year. Pray for peace and repentance for parents who sacrificed their children through the violence of abortion. Ask that God help us to defend and speak up for those who have no voice, those tiny embryonic and fetal saints whom our Father knits together in mom's womb.

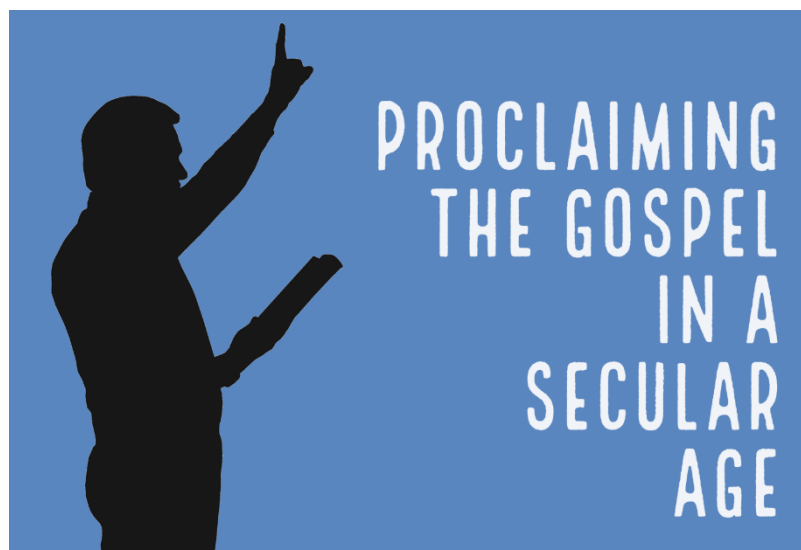
We pray that God will bring His unborn saints to the washing of water with His Word in Holy Baptism. And in every case where this isn't possible, and temporal death comes before new life from above, we beg God to remember His unborn saints with His mercy. Our Father hears our prayers on behalf of those who can't yet vocalize their own prayers.

All Saints Day includes those saints we never met, never saw, who are known only to God. Many of them have no name, no tombstone, no memorial or eulogy or photos or memories shared. But their names are written in the book of life. For Jesus knows them. He suffered and died so that they won't suffer and die in eternity. He rose from the dead so that they will rise too in glory with their bodies when He returns.

Blessed All Saints Day. Remember Christ's unborn saints.

Pastor Alex Post
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Marshalltown Iowa
Iowa District East Life Coordinator





IDE Sr. High Retreat November 19-20

As God's children in Jesus Christ we are called to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed. Today's culture is not unlike that in which the early Christian Church began to grow. Basic biblical knowledge can no longer be assumed. In some places the proclamation of the Gospel will be met with hostility and anger. During the 2021 IDE Sr. High Retreat, we will consider how the early Church proclaimed the Gospel in a secular and hostile culture, and how we might utilize their approach today. We will study illustrative biblical texts and the methods utilized by early Christians to help others discover their soul's longing for themselves and then guide them to finding fulfillment in Christ.

Registration

\$50 per student, **\$30** per chaperone

Register online through lcmsside.org, or send your completed order form with a check for \$50 to the district office:

IOWA DISTRICT EAST - LCMS
1100 BLAIRS FERRY RD
MARION IA 52302-3093

Forms

All student will need to bring a completed [Health & Photo Release](#) form with them to camp. This can be found on our district website, along with a [packing list](#), at lcmsside.org

Questions

Visit our district website online for information about the event, or contact the district office: dsanchez@lcmsside.org / (319) 373-2112.

lcmsside.org

Camp Presentations

Would you like to know more about Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca? Camp Director Daniel Sanchez is available to speak to congregations and groups about Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca's mission, facilities, and programs. Call 319-848-4187 to schedule a speaker!



THRIVENT CHOICE

In 2020, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca received over \$9,000 in Thrivent Choice contributions! Thank you donors for making this program a success for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Will you help make 2021 an even better year in Thrivent Choice giving?

Go to <https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/> or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice" to designate your choice dollars for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca today.

Thank you for making Thrivent Choice a valuable stream of revenue for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca!



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

Needs List

Paper Towels; Toilet Paper; First Class Postage Stamps; Batteries: 9v, AA, AAA; Cleaning Supplies: disinfecting wipes, window cleaner, all-purpose cleaner. **Please see our web site for a complete list: www.campiodiseca.org.**

Important Dates

October 4-5
IDE Fall Pastors' Conference

October 8-9
IDE Fall Confirmation Retreat

November 5-6
IDE Pastors' Wives Retreat

November 5
Fall Workday

November 19-20
IDE Sr. High Retreat

January 14
Summer Camp Registration Opens

January 28-29
IDE Middle School Retreat and Snowlympics

From the Kids, For the Kids

Each year the camp collects an offering called From the Kids, For the Kids. It's a way that we buy new program equipment here at camp so that kids can have a more enjoyable experience.

In just the past few years we've been able to replace all of our canoes at the camp pond, buy new lifejackets and paddles, put in new basketball hoops and paint the basketball court, and improve our rec field and challenge course! THANK YOU for your help in making Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca a more enjoyable facility! On average, our campers donate over \$1,000 per summer.

This year, we're going to focus on rebuilding our disc golf course! We think having a great disc golf course is another solid activity not just for summer camp, but year round! The other neat thing is that we'll share a portion of these donations with another children's ministry in Eastern Iowa. After all, it's from the kids, for the kids!

THANK YOU!!!!



3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web www.campiodiseca.org

email office@iodiseca.org

November

Confirmation Schedule Reminders

5th & 6th Grades Confirmation Classtime 4:00pm -- 5:30pm

November 3

Baptism: What does such baptizing with water indicate?

November 10

Baptism: Where is this written?

November 17 *Classtime 4-5pm

Confession:

What is Confession?

What sins should we confess?

Which are these?

November 24

No Class

8th Grade Confirmation Classtime 5:30pm -- 7:00pm

November 3

Lord' s Prayer: 6th Petition & Meaning

November 10

Lord's Prayer: 7th Petition & Meaning

November 17 *Classtime 5-6pm

Lord' s Prayer: Conclusion & Meaning

November 24

No Class

IOWA LUTHERAN SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION
Check out the new website: iowalutheransto.com



\$211,000

Total amount donated in 2021 to ILSTO. Thank You!

Please consider a gift today to help families attend a Lutheran School.

We are currently at 33% of our 2021 goal!

The '21-'22 financial assistance need for Lutheran School children will exceed \$1 Million.

Our goal is to raise \$814,860 in 2021 through the ILSTO 75% tax credit program. Students and families need your help.



Elementary & Secondary Lutheran Schools in Iowa:

Trinity, Boone

Clarinda Lutheran

St. Paul, Fort Dodge

Zion-St.John, Paullina

Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran, Spencer

Valley, Cedar Falls

Trinity, Davenport

St. Paul, Latimer

Community, Readlyn

Lutheran Interparish, Williamsburg

Trinity, Cedar Rapids

Zion, Denison

Central, Newhall

St. Paul, Sioux City

RESILIENCE: Got some?

Resilience. We all need it. Some of us have more of it than others. Where do we get it and how can we get more?

These questions were part of a project that Lutheran Family Service staff, led by counselor Amber Dopler, LISW, prepared and presented over seven weeks to 6th through 12th grade students at Valley Lutheran High School in Cedar Falls. Some of the students—just like students in every one of our Lutheran and public schools—were struggling under the weight of all the change, uncertainty and stress of the past year.

Amber helped students learn to identify stress in their lives, and taught them coping skills and stress prevention techniques. They learned how internal biological changes as well as external influences—both good (exercise, relaxation, prayer and Bible study) and bad (too much screen time, social media messages) effect mood and feelings. She shared examples from Bible stories the demonstrate resili-



ency and strength. The students also learned Scripture verses which Amber encouraged them to go to when they struggle with anxious or depressive thoughts, so they can remember God's promises during stressful times.

Students aren't the only ones who are stressed and testing their resiliency these days. Experience and recent studies show that many church workers, parents, college students, elderly and just about every identifiable segment of society is stressed.

Each one of us will have difficulties in life, but some have a greater propensity to "bounce back" than others.

We know that resilient people are:

- Involved in healthy relationships.
- Able to adapt better in the face of

difficult life events and tragedies.

- Likely to experience more positive emotions.
- Happier and more efficient at work.
- At a reduced risk of, and better able to recover from mental health struggles, including trauma, grief, anxiety and depression.
- Likely to have healthier immune systems and heart health.
- More satisfied with life.

Does this describe you? If not, here's good news: it's possible to become more resilient—to learn about the body's response to stress, and discover solutions for managing it. That's one of the things LFS counselors do every day in the counseling room or through telehealth sessions.

If you need help building resiliency to deal with tough times, don't hesitate to reach out to Lutheran Family Service. Counselors are available in person and through telehealth to help you. Our Congregational Services team is also available to speak to a group of students about this or other topics related to healthy family life.

Contact LFS for help with marriage, family or individual mental health challenges, unplanned pregnancy & adoption services, and teaching that is consistent with your faith and values.

www.LutheranFamilyService.org



Lutheran
Family Service

For Nothing is Impossible with God



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article

Sometimes people don't like it when pastors talk about stewardship. For some, it hits too close to home. It is easier to talk about bad people in Washington, in history, or wherever than it is to think about what our daily life in Christ is supposed to look like and how we are supposed to love our neighbor.

The fact that we don't like it certainly means we ought to face it. So, here are a few simple and practical realities.

God calls us to first-fruits, sacrificial giving. That means that we should give off the top. We should set a percentage of our income as a deliberate gift for the work of the Church and then give that first. We write the check to the Lord's work in the Church before we pay the mortgage or pay for our medicine or pay for anything else. We don't pay for all the stuff we need – and stuff we think we need – and then give from what is left over. That is the first-fruits idea. It is hard because we think we need all sorts of other things first. But that is the point of "sacrificial."

Next, how could the starting point for Christian generosity and sacrifice really be anything less than a tithe – 10%? The ceremonial law of the Old Testament was never arbitrary. In the Old Testament, the Levites received this tithe so that they could be full-time ministers.

Does the New Testament have a ministry that is larger or smaller? It is far larger: "Make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19). And we are still to have a full-time ministry: "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel" (1 Cor 9:14). So if 10% is what it took in the Old Testament, and we have a bigger mission need in the New Testament, how can we expect the Lord's work to be done on less than a tithe?

By first-fruits, sacrificial, and generous giving – that’s how. We shouldn’t fool ourselves into thinking that we’ve outgiven God’s goodness or that we’ve given plenty. We might be tempted to think that way, but consider that no one in the Church has given plenty because no one has given all. No one has died for his sins. Only the sinless Son of God did that.

St. Paul brought the Good News of Jesus into the discussion of our giving to support the Lord’s work in the Church when he wrote: “I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich” (2 Cor. 8:8-9).

As you can see, what the Bible commands about our stewardship can sting. It’s Law, and the Law shows our sins. It calls us to repentance. The Law is meant to expose and accuse for the sake of showing us Christ and His fulfillment of the Law. So if first-fruits, sacrificial giving has you squirming, that’s the point.

In Mark’s account of the feeding of the 4,000, Jesus took the disciples’ seven loaves and blessed them. It was nothing among so many, but, of course, it was plenty. Jesus makes something from nothing. Mark doesn’t say that all the disciples gave Jesus all the bread they had. It is quite possible that some of them held something back. But even if they did, that didn’t stop Jesus from blessing them. Jesus makes something out of nothing. He, who fed His people in the desert with Manna every morning, doesn’t need their bread.



But they need to give it. And what they give – however little it might be and however grudgingly they do so – He blesses. He not only blesses those whom He feeds with it, but He blesses them – the givers. He blesses the givers not just in that they wind up with a basketful for each loaf, but they are blessed by learning to trust and rejoice in Him.

The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. The Lord gives abundantly, or He asks us to fast. We do not know what will happen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord. He does all things well, and He works all things together for good. The disciples don’t give their bread to Jesus because it is a good investment. They give it because He is good, because they love Him, and because they trust Him. Let us go and do likewise.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Monthly Meeting of the Church Council
Sunday, September 12th, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Church Council was held on September 12th, at 8:00 AM. Present: Pastor Koeppe, Steve Haase, Joel McDonough, Chris Christinson, Ken Mergen, Kevin Schultz, Diane Schultz, Markie Koeppe, Dianna Kelting, Darlo Kelting and Kathy Stanek.

President Steve Haase called the meeting to order and Pastor Koeppe opened with prayer. Minutes from the August council meeting were presented approval. With 1 name correction Chris motioned to approve and Ken 2nd. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Board of Elders: Joel McDonough

- Continuing to work on the non-members list.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Christinson

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

Board of Trustees: Kevin Schultz

- Parking lot repairs will start on Monday 9/13/21 and will take approximately 3 days.
- Getting bids to paint inside walls and ceilings of sanctuary.

Board of Evangelism: Dianna Kelting

- Drake Library is resuming their after school "Story Time" program but have not determined if treats will continue to be provided by churches and other sponsors.

Board of Education: Markie Koeppe

- New digital Sunday school curriculum is being implemented.

Board of Stewardship: Diane Schultz

- Envelopes for 2022 arrived and will be distributed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Koeppe

- Pastor's report provided listing official acts and Pastoral Duties.
- Windsor Manor is not allowing visitors due to Covid.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Ken motioned for the church to cover the cost for Immanuel confirmands to attend the Confirmation Retreat at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Darlo 2nd. Motion carried.
- Asking Immanuel members to consider becoming a nominee and join the Board of Officers for 2022. A slate of candidates will be posted the 1st week in October with elections held October 17th 2021.

With no other business to discuss Steve adjourned the meeting.

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer.

Council Meeting: October 10th, 2021 - 8:00 AM

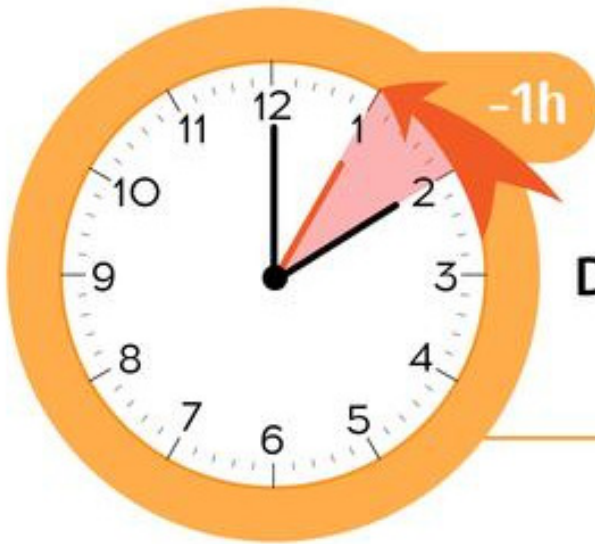
Voters' Meeting: October 17th, 2021 - 10:30 AM

Submitted by:

Kathy Stanek
Church Council Secretary



**DON'T FORGET TO
FALL BACK**



FALL BACK
Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 7, 2021



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 19th

10:30am