

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH LC-MS

229 11TH AVENUE WEST

GRINNELL, IA 50112

OFFICE- 641-236-6691

EMAIL- immanuellutheran@iowatelecom.net

WEBSITE- www.immanuelgrinnell.org

REV. DR. JOEL G. KOEPP CONTACT INFORMATION

EMAIL- koeppj@hotmail.com

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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 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.

2022 Immanuel Officers/Board Members & Contacts

President

Joel McDonough

Vice President/President Elect

Steve Haase

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

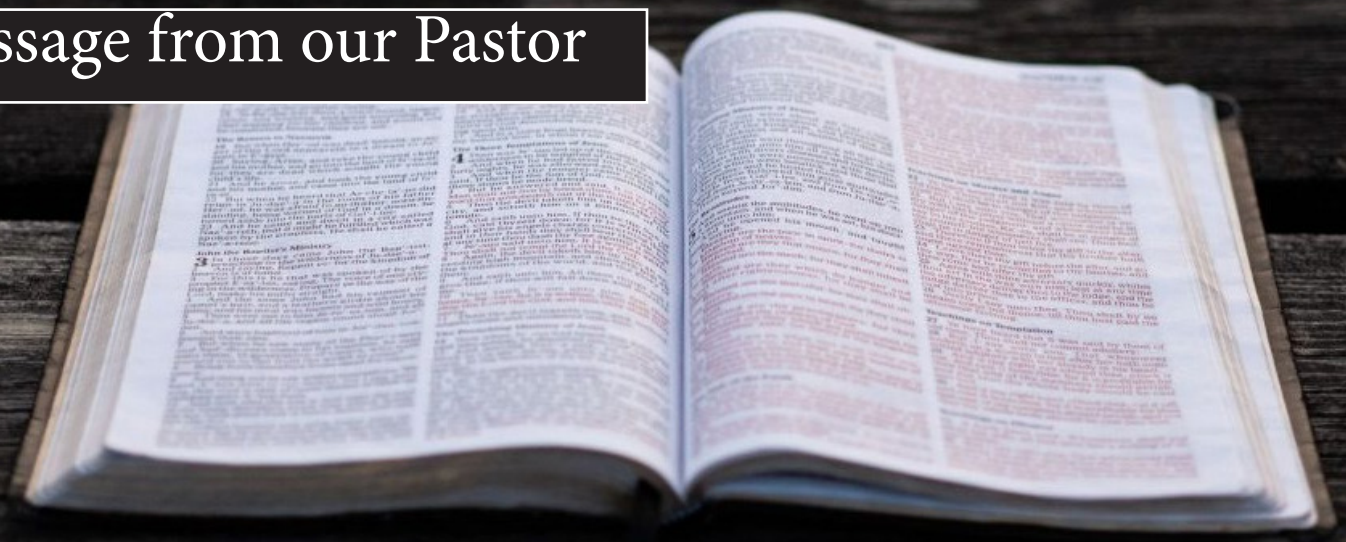
Esther Huedepohl (Backup)



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A Message from our Pastor



“What Do Your Clothes Say?”

Alleluia! Christ Is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

As we walk through Easter and approach both Ascension and graduation, I have thought a lot about clothing. If I wanted to make a good first impression, what should I focus on first? What is the first thing that you take notice of when you see someone? For many, it is clothing. Clothing is such a worry for so many, that Jesus speaks to the silliness of worrying about clothing over righteousness, that is Christ Himself, in Matthew 6.

For those of you in school, not having the right clothes can put you in a different group. For those in the work force, there is a certain dress code, is there not? It might be uniforms, or dressy, or dress casual, whatever. This is also one of the first questions that gets asked when you are invited to a party; what should I wear? For those of you that are graduating, there is a special robe that signals them out as a group to the rest of the crowd that they are somebody special at this school.

We even have certain expectations of what types of people should wear what types of clothes. You would not expect a beggar to wear a tuxedo, nor would you expect the president to wear grungy, tattered clothes. Why? Because, they are witnessing to something!

Every house has a dress code, whether you are aware of it or not. It could be strict or very loose, but there is some element of what is acceptable and what is not. The television sitcom world is full of jokes and situations where a child will come into the room and one or both of the parents say, “You are not wearing that!” Just by the clothes you wear, you bear witness about something. A destination you have been to, a place you like to shop, a color you like, a favorite sports team, a relative at a different school, where you work, how you want people to see yourself, or even how you see yourself. Everything you do bears witness to something, so how do you bear witness to your Heavenly Father?

Your heavenly Father has a dress code also. It is a very strict dress code. Just by what you are wearing will determine if you are welcomed into the heavenly kingdom of life everlasting or not. In the parable of the Merciful Father (often mislabeled as the parable of the Prodigal Son), when the son returned, what did the father call for? A robe to put on the son. What did Joseph have that made his brothers so angry? A robe given to him by his father that no one else had. Clothes are so important that even the guards who crucified Jesus would not tear Jesus robe after they had stripped Him. The instead cast lots so it would remain in one piece.

What is the dress code for our Heavenly Father? Your garments, your body and soul, washed in the blood of the sacrificial Lamb, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus, before His ascension into heaven declares to His disciples, “I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” Jesus clothes them for the work they must do. They are clothed with His forgiveness, His promise to be with them wherever they go; and with His assurance in the power of His Word. You know the story of the apostles in Acts. At Pentecost, they received that power of the Holy Spirit and they did what? They were clothed from on high, they received the Holy Spirit, and they bore witness to the very reality of Jesus death and resurrection in their lives. They bore witness. They proclaimed the wonders of Him who called them out into the marvelous light. They bore witness to the ever present reality of forgiveness that was truly theirs in Christ.

You have been given the same clothing. At every baptism, you are reminded of these words that were spoken to you, “Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ’s righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

You have been washed clean. You are clothed in the robes of the Son. You are clothed in the robe that declares you to be a child of the Most High God. Your clothing in this robe bears witness to those around you. To other family members, you are seen as a fellow heir of that eternal home with Christ. You have the wonderful blessings of forgiveness. You have the great joy of love. If you have not already read President Harrison’s *A Little Book on Joy*, I would encourage you do so; and if you have read it, I encourage you to read it again. Among the many gems is a beautiful second discussing Christ as our Anchor, “The secret to living a good news life in a bad news world is Jesus Christ, our eternal anchor—drawing us forward to the future, to an eternity in heaven. The foundational message of joy in the New Testament, as old as Easter itself, is the Gospel truth that, ‘He is risen! He is risen indeed!’ Christ is no anchor like the device sailors dragged through the stormy Mediterranean to slow their drift...Christ is no defensive device to slow the catastrophes of life.

Faith is no defensive tactic to blunt the hard blows of reality. In fact, Christians have lives full of accelerated pain and difficulty, with heightened sensitivity to the cold, hard fact of sin. All of this only drives us forward to Jesus. Christ is drawing us through life, through trial and cross to be sure, but drawing us purposefully toward eternity.”¹

Because you have been clothed in Christ, you can stand without fear. Wherever the Lord leads from day to day, you can stand without fear, clothed in the robe of Christ, washed in the blood of the Lamb. You are Christ’s witness to whomever you come into contact with. You bear witness to the very reality of Jesus death and resurrection in your lives. You bear witness and proclaim the wonders of Him who called you out into the marvelous light. You bear witness to the ever present reality of forgiveness that is truly yours in Christ. You have the best garment ever given, and it is yours.

In these clothes we just can’t help but to bear witness to the world, “Alleluia! Christ Is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

“Up through Endless Ranks of Angels”

LSB 491



1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph
 2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual
 3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,
 △ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the



in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,
 to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther
 prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure
 Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -
 As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our
 With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as
 Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.
 world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!
 You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.
 al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Tune: Henry V. Gerike, 1948 Text: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001879 Tune: © 1973 Henry V. Gerike. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001879

+Soli Deo Gloria+

Rev. Dr. Joel G. Koepp

1 Rev. Matthew Harrison, *A Little Book on Joy: Living a Good News Life in a Bad News World*, (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2011), 173-174.

President's Piece for Peace

As we enter into the marvelous celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, it is common for us both to preach, teach, and rejoice in the benefits that this offers to us. But before we ask the question of how this resurrection benefits us, let's first ask, *"What did the resurrection of Jesus from the dead do for Jesus?"*

That may sound like a strange question; however, it is essential for us to answer that question first so that we may rejoice in its benefits for us. To answer this question, we begin with the fact that Jesus is the same today, yesterday, and tomorrow. At the same time the resurrection made a change for Him in a most marvelous way. Jesus is the Son of God from eternity. He became the Son of Man at his incarnation. Jesus was God on earth, in the flesh. He demonstrated that over and over with miracles over nature, the physical body, and over the Devil. At the same time Jesus was subject to the consequences of the world's sin. Not that He Himself sinned, but He came to live and, *"dwell among people of unclean lips."*

As evidenced by the events of Good Friday we know that Jesus allowed Himself to be subject to death. He died because he bore the sins of the entire world, and the wages of sin is death. Jesus was subject to death. When He breathed His last and gave up His spirit, death had a hold on Him. Albeit for a few days but none-the-less, death had a hold on Jesus. St. Paul writes to the Philippians telling them that Jesus humbled Himself to the point of death. Then God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name. What is that name? The names of Jesus and His office are plenty. But this name is more than nomenclature. It is an office and authority to which everything is subject. At His resurrection Jesus is no longer subject to death. To quote Dr. Gibbs, *"It was a victorious change from mortality - indeed, from the thralldom of death - to immortality and incorruption and resurrection life. On Easter, the man Jesus was appointed Son of God with power. On Easter, he was given the glory, the office, the name that is above every name."*

Psalms 2 speaks an interesting prophecy. It quotes God the Father saying to Jesus, *"You are my Son, today I have become your Father."* That is not pointing to Jesus' baptism, it is pointing to the day that the name above every name is issued. It points to the day Jesus defeated death and the grave. On Easter Jesus proved that death cannot lay ahold of Him ever again. His flesh did not see decay. It couldn't if He were to master death and the Devil. His resurrection displays the body which will never see decay. While He was and is fully God, on that day He became holder of the office that is above all offices.

So, what does this mean for us? It is what we are baptized into. His victory has been given to us in those precious waters. It is confirmed in absolution and received in His body and blood. We wear and take into our ears and mouth the living One to whom death can no longer destroy. It is our hope and our promise. Since we are in Jesus, when we die and our bodies see decay, we will rise again by the power of He who defeated death and the grave. As the great hymn says, *"because He lives, we shall live too."* This time, never to be subject to death again. Praise be to God on High.

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders ~ District President

**IDE
THEOLOGICAL
SYMPOSIUM**

May 18-20, 2022

Registration Cost:
(Lay People Welcome)

3 Day Fee: \$45
(Includes 2 Nights Lodging and Meals Thursday/Friday)

2 Day Fee: \$35
(Includes 1 Night Lodging and Meals Thursday/Friday)

Location:

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
3271 Sandy Beach Rd NE
Solon, IA 52333
Daniel Sanchez: dsanchez@lcmside.org

Questions?

Contact Rev. Sam Beltz: 870-476-0028

Presentation A:

Location is Alpha Lodge (Orange Building)

Presentation O:

Location is Omega Lodge (Blue Building)

**LIST OF TOPICS
AND PRESENTERS:**

Equity and Patriarchy: Reclaiming these Terms (Rev. Andrew Preus)

Nietzsche was Right: Normal Nihilism in Western Religiousness
(Rev. Samuel Beltz)

Taking our Kids out of Public School
(Rev. Kevin Johnson)

Minds, Brains, Hearts, Souls: The Destruction of Body and Soul with False Teaching
(Rev. Dr. Kris Kincaid)

Should Our Children Serve in the Military?
(Rev. Brian Flamme)

Should Pastors Carry a Weapon and When? The Vocation of Shepherding and Protecting the Sheep. (Rev. Christopher Neuendorf)

Why Dichotomous (Republican/Democrat) Voting Helps Nothing. (Rev. Alex Post)

Obedying the Government in a "New" American Context: Lutheran Ruminations on Romans 13
(Rev. Michael Holmen)

The Great Awakening 2013-2017: Contours of a New Woke American Horizon
(Rev. David Ramirez)

Law-Gospel vs. Fivefold Use? The Contribution of R. Pieper's Homiletics
(Rev. Isaac Johnson)

Cohabitation Kills: Reasserting the Sanctity of Marriage (Rev. Matt Wurm, Brookings SD)

Closed Communion is Good For You
(Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, IDE District President)

Lutheran Education and the American Constitution

(Rev. Dr. Greg Schultz, Professor, Concordia Mequon)



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article

Living Sacrifices

Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church. It includes this, to be sure, but it is not limited to it. Stewardship involves our whole life – everything we have and everything we are.

Let us not, though, fall into the trap of thinking that because we give of ourselves in one area then we can neglect giving in another. Stewardship is not stealing from Peter to pay Paul. It is not a game that we play whereby we justify ourselves in not giving a tenth of our income because we have given in some other way.

This is why our Lord warns: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (Matthew 23:23) We are given to do both – tithe of ourselves and what we have.

And so it is that St. Paul makes his appeal to us: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1–2)

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. We are not to have the mind of the world, where we exchange equal weight of this for an equal weight of that and think that we have done what God has required. Our whole life is given over for service in and for the Church of God. This is to be done in thanksgiving for what God in Christ has accomplished for us. This is our spiritual worship, the reasonable response to what He has done for us. Not one for the other but all in all.

But what does this look like? St. Paul never lays down a general principle without also giving us some practical application of what shape that principle is to take concretely. He gives the general principle that our bodies are to be living sacrifices to God. And, after admonishing those who have been given particular gifts of grace to serve the church, St. Paul then speaks generally of what is expected of all. He says:

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”
(Romans 12:9–13)

This is what it looks like to present your bodies as living sacrifices. This is how we live out the grace of God here in time.

Let us then heed the apostle’s teaching. Let us present our bodies – everything that we have and everything that we are – as living sacrifices to God, our reasonable response to what God in Christ Jesus accomplished for us by His death and resurrection. Through this, we have forgiveness of sins, a new life in Christ, and eternal salvation. And through this worship, the grace of God is made manifest in His saints – for the church and the world.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Confirmation BLESSINGS



Congratulations to Joey & Lauren on their confirmation April 10

*Today is the beginning of an incredible journey through life with God at your side.
May you both be blessed with love and success as you continue forward.*

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca



Summer Staff Needed Counselors, Lifeguards, and Support Staff

Every summer, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca hires around 18 summer staff to lead key aspects of our summer camp program. Though summer camp is focused on a service to our campers and their families, the experience of being on camp staff is an unforgettable growth opportunity. Summer staff serve as Christian role models for youth while in an outdoor learning environment filled with faith and fun. Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca is looking to hire up to 4 more counselors, those responsible for directly caring for our campers. Weary about working with kids? We also need staff to help out with our horse program, lifeguarding, and kitchen/store. There's all kinds of roles to serve in! All staff receive training in their responsibilities, so if you don't have any experience, don't worry about it! We'll train you in all you need to know. The opportunity to serve at camp awaits. Go to www.nloma.org to start your summer camp service today! Please contact Program Director Andrew Folkmann by emailing programdirector@iodiseca.org for more information or to receive an application.



THRIVENT CHOICE

In 2021, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca received over \$10,000 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!

Important Dates

May 2
Discount Registration Deadline #2

May 7
Spring Cleanup

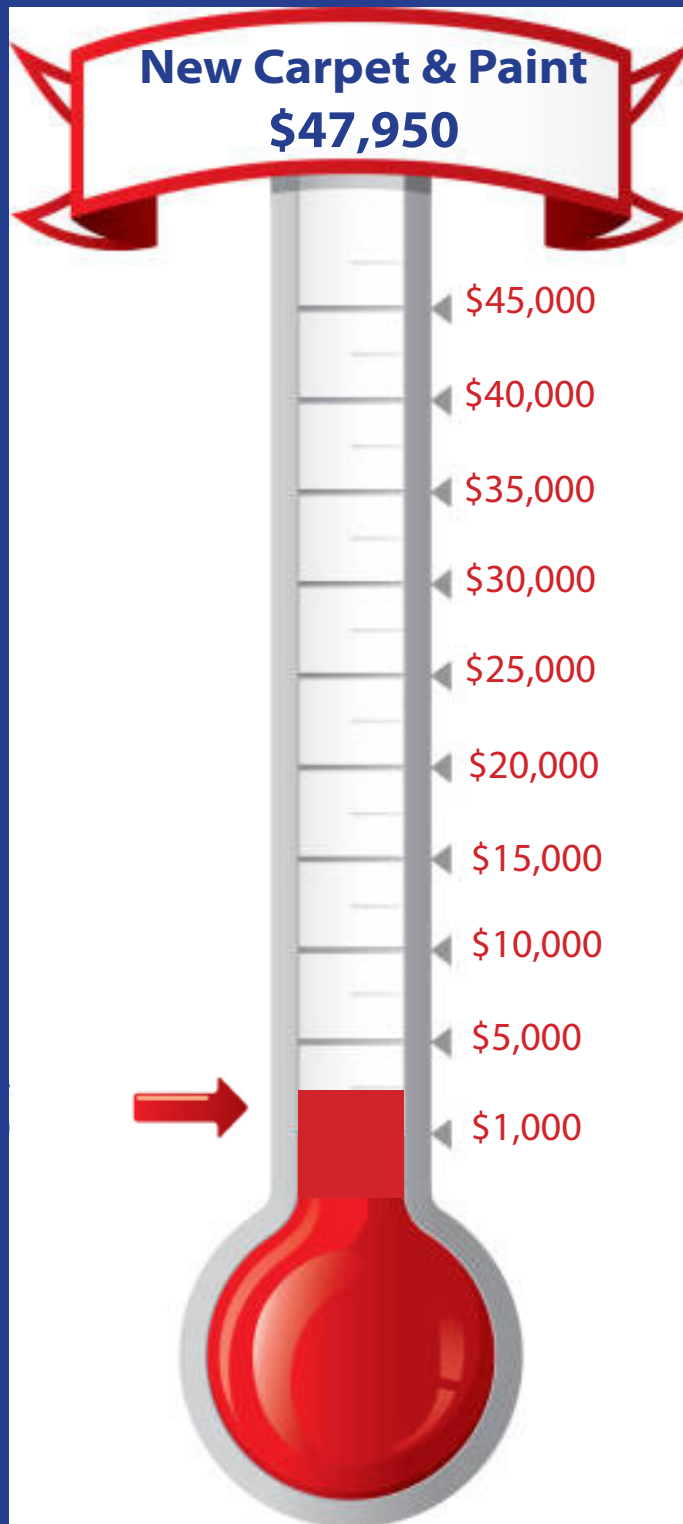
June 15
First Day of Summer Camp

July 30
I Believe in Camp Fundraiser Auction

August 2-5
Higher Things Confirmation Camp

October 3-4
IDE Fall Pastors' Conference

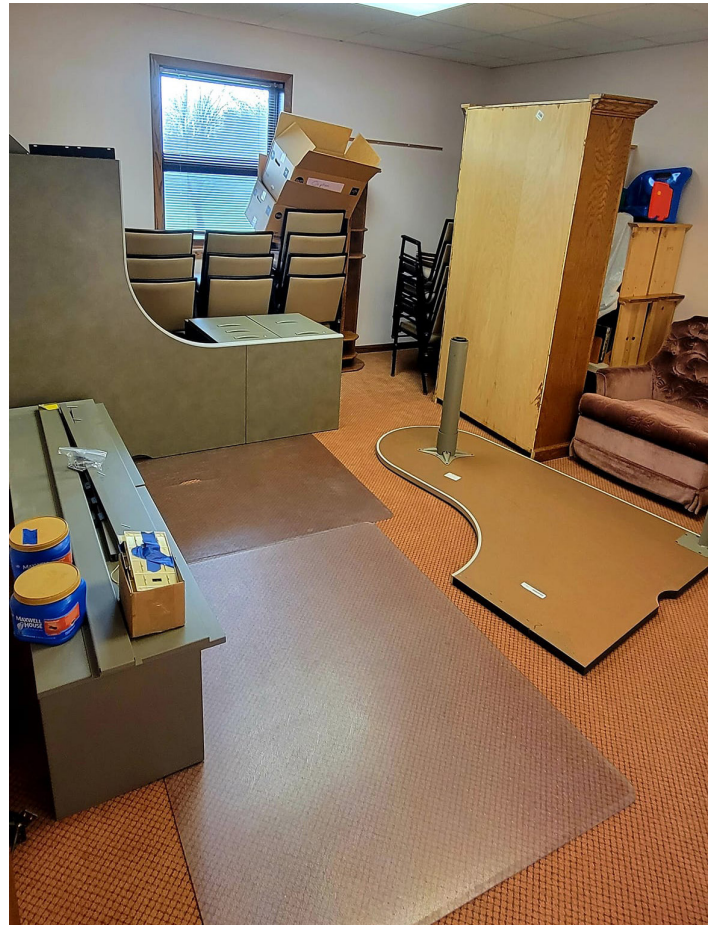
October 7-8
IDE Confirmation Retreat



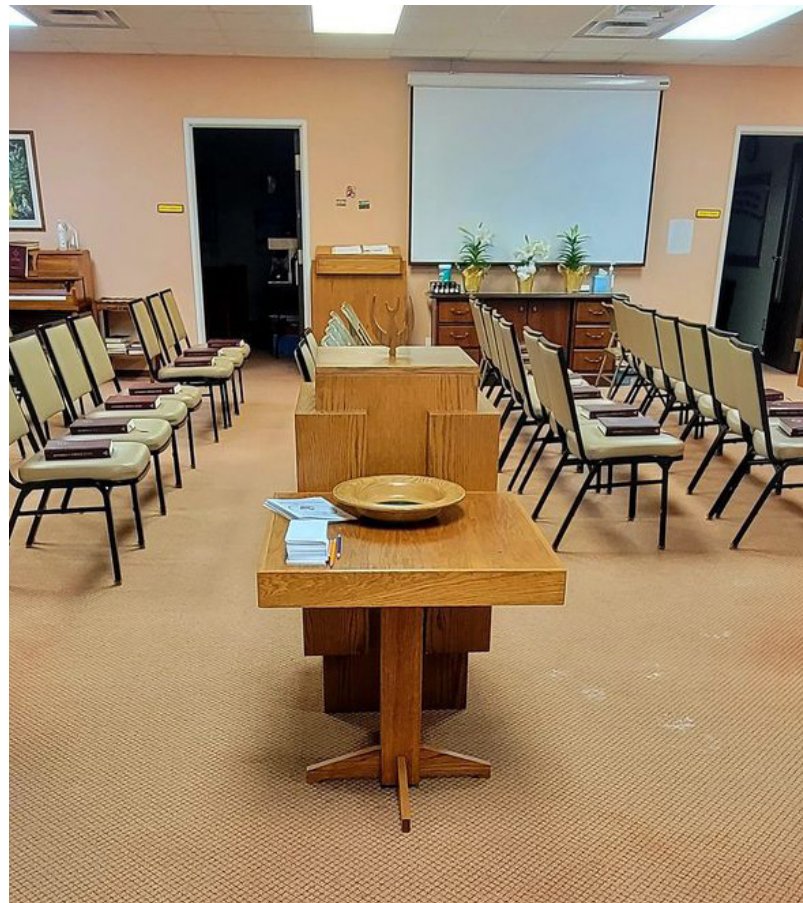
As a congregation, let us take a look at the gifts God has given us, and challenge ourselves to give to the Building Fund, as we are able.







**PARDON
THE MESS**
*We are getting a
makeover!*





UNDER RENOVATION

*****During the renovations for the remainder of April and for the month of May, there will not be a schedule for ushers, greeters, servers, crucifer and acolyte.**

*****Families scheduled to clean for the month of May will also be suspended.**

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Monthly Meeting of the Church Council
Sunday, February 13th, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Church Council was held on February 13th, at 8:00 AM. Present: Pastor Koepp, Steve Haase, Joel McDonough, Chris Christinson, Diane Schultz, Kevin Schultz, Keith Thorpe, Danielle McDonough, Darlo Kelting and Dianna Kelting, Darlo Kelting. President Steve Haase called the meeting to order and Pastor Koepp opened with prayer. Minutes from December 2021 council meeting was presented for approval. Pastor Koepp requested to remove the 2nd bullet on page 2. Chris motioned to approve and Diane Schultz 2nd. Motion carried. Minutes from January 2022 council meeting was presented for approval. Diane Schultz motioned to approve and Dianna Kelting 2nd. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Board of Elders: Joel McDonough

- Working on members list.
- Lent services scheduled.
- There will be 5 visiting Pastors during Lent and Wednesday evening services.
- Received request from Dewey Murken to be removed from Immanuel membership 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

- Signed painting contract with work to start May 2nd.
- Contacting CLK about storing pews.
- Church members will be asked to remove, mark, and replace pews. Pews and screws will be labeled and put back in the same spot they came from after painting is complete.
- A few samples of carpet flooring have been selected from Luther flooring to replace old carpet. Larger samples to view have been ordered before the final selection is made.
- Received a letter from "Trees Around Town" (Ahrens Foundation) offering Immanuel 5-6 fruit trees. The committee appreciated but declined their offer.

Board of Evangelism: Dianna Kelting – Nothing to Report

Board of Education: Danielle McDonough

- Sunday School curriculum is set for the rest of the year.
- Working on last Popcorn Sunday. The board is deciding what to replace it with.

Board of Stewardship: Diane Schulz

- BAU – Giving is steady

Pastor's Report: Pastor Koepp

- Pastor's report provided listing official acts and Pastoral Duties.
- Due to the Christmas program practice there will be no adult bible study until January 2022.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Keith stated new bulletin numbers have been made including one for TLH.
- Per Steve, bowling is scheduled in April. Teams of 5 can sign up on the link.

With no other business to discuss Joel McDonough adjourned the meeting and Pastor closed with prayer.

Next Council Meeting: March 13th, 2022 – 8:00 AM

Submitted by:

Dianna Kelting