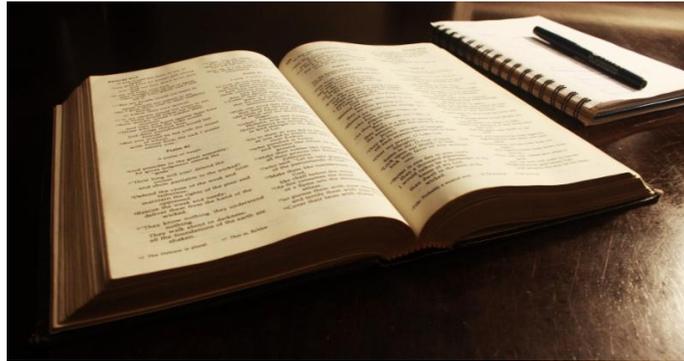


Immanuel Lutheran CHURCH

“God with Us” - Ceresco, NE

[Visit our
website](#)



Thoughts from Pastor Scott

“THANKSLIVING...”

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus”.- First Thessalonians 5:18

Easier said than done... Give thanks in ALL circumstances? When life is going well for us it's easy to give God thanks for the blessings we're receiving. But, what about when life's situations knock us down – the job loss, the loss of our health, the wayward child, or other difficult circumstances?

The Bible verse, above, was written by the Apostle Paul who often suffered for his belief in Jesus. He was thrown in jail, beaten, misunderstood by others, and faced other hardships for telling others about his God. Yet, he was thankful. In November, we enter the Holiday season with the celebration of Thanksgiving – a time for our nation to remember the blessings we've received and to thank God as the giver of those blessings. Many of us will likely gather around a table and enjoy good food and fellowship with those we love and are dear to us. There may be the turkey, potatoes and pumpkin pie (personally, it's the canned jellied cranberry sauce that I look forward to putting on my plate). But giving thanks to God is more than just a large meal with family and friends.

For us, as followers of Christ, we have the privilege of “living thanks” every day of our life. The difficult challenges of life give us the opportunity to grow in our trust in God's ways and to support others in need. Difficult times in life are never easy but they can cause us to stop and think about what our life is about. If someone else is suffering and we are not, those times allow us the privilege of helping support someone else in time of need through a phone call, sending a card, bringing a meal, stopping by to visit, or sharing some other act of kindness and caring.

During November, let's practice that art of “thanksgiving” as we turn our minds and hearts toward God and thank God for all the circumstances of our life – whether good or bad. Each day gives us an opportunity to grow in God's love and put our faith into action.

God is with us... Your partner in sharing God's love, Pastor Scott

Upcoming Events

During our November 5th worship service, we will celebrate the lives of Immanuel's members and friends who have entered the Church Triumphant during the past year. We will also thank God for all of those who have introduced us to Jesus Christ and have passed on.

Adam Johnson, far right, pictured with his family will share the message, during worship, on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 5th. He will also be at our Cross+Gen Sunday School hour at 9 a.m. Adam is involved with Ratio Christi, a Christian apologetics organization, at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He will share why it is important for us, as Christ's followers, to introduce others to Jesus.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY



Annual "Thanksgiving" Dinner Sunday, November 12th after worship

Come join Immanuel's family and friends for our annual "Thanksgiving" Dinner at the Fellowship Hall. This is a time to celebrate good food, friends and fellowship as a church family.

Youth Hayrack Ride and Bonfire November 12th!

Where? At the Fredrickson farm –
1518 County Road A, Ceresco

When? Sunday evening, November 12th from 5 p.m. to about 7 p.m.
(maybe a little later?)

Who can come? Youth from Immanuel and your friends

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN THE FUN...

Cost? Nothing... It's FREE. We'll have hot dogs, s'mores, and some other 'goodies'.

Please call or text Pastor Scott (402.499.4444) or Suzy Fredrickson (402.499.3211) if you and some friends will be coming



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22nd
7 p.m.

Come join us as we celebrate all that God has blessed us with during the past year. We will have the opportunity to write our blessings and others will share them during our time of prayer.



Special Upcoming Worship Events

November 5 – All Saints Sunday (Adam Johnson with Pastor Scott) at 10:15 a.m.
November 12 – Thanksgiving Sunday at 10:15 a.m. and dinner follows worship
November 22 – Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 7 p.m.
December 3 – First Sunday of Advent at 10:15 a.m.
December 17 – Sunday School Christmas Program at 10:15 a.m.
December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship at 5 p.m. (there is no worship Christmas Day)

Youth and Confirmation

FIVE GUYS AND A PASTOR... That's our Confirmation class for this school year. To kick off our first Confirmation class on Wednesday evening, September 13th, we meet at Five Guys Burgers at Gateway Mall in Lincoln. Our Wednesday evening Confirmation classes meet at Immanuel from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and this Fall we're learning about the Ten Commandments and how to apply them to our lives. If you are aware of any seventh or eighth graders who would like to join our group on Wednesday nights, please let Pastor Scott know. We're always open to welcoming more youth to learn about God and His desire for us to live life to its fullest.



[Congregation Life](#)

Cross+Gen Sunday School



Malvin and Delores of CrossMakers were with us as we kicked off our “Cross+Gen (Cross-generational) Sunday School at Immanuel on Sunday, September 10th”.

The CrossMakers is a group of volunteers, based out of Seward, who make palm crosses that people can hold as they pray or spend time reflecting and meditating on God’s Word and His presence in their lives.

Thousands of palm crosses have been made by this group of volunteers and the crosses have been sent all over the world.

It was a fun morning to celebrate the mystery of the cross and God’s unfailing love for us. At the end of our Sunday School hour, we made crosses by folding paper and tearing the corners and then writing our name on the paper cross and putting on a large wooden cross beneath the words,

“I AM FORGIVEN”.

Our Cross-Gen Sunday School is a different approach to Sunday School this year as we bring all ages together. A survey is currently being circulated among Immanuel’s members and friends to see how people like the program and what we can do to improve it for our children, youth and adults.

Cross+Gen Sunday School Theme for 2017-2018: “The Good News”

This year, during our 9 a.m. Sunday School hour, we’re learning about the life of Jesus through a “Reader’s Theatre”, activities, sign language, and memorizing the books of the New Testament. Cross+Gen is a time when all ages of Immanuel come together to learn more about Jesus and for all of us to see how God is working in our lives during the “high” and “low” points of our lives.

Please be sure to complete a Cross+Gen survey this month (they’re available at church) and leave your completed survey with one of the members of our Christian Education Committee (Kathi Johnson, Tasha Kreikemeier, or Tori Oldfield). We want to know what everyone thinks about this approach to Sunday School and how we can improve it for our faith family.

Other Church News



Big Daddy Weave Concert in Beatrice was on October 25

A group of us attended the Big Daddy Weave concert at Christ Community Church in Beatrice on Wednesday evening, October 25th. Among the band members are Jamie Fredrickson, Tim Wehland, Isaak Fredrickson, Wyatt Hanson, Suzy Fredrickson, Mason Kreikemeier, Jason Hanson and Pastor Scott.

After the concert, some of the guys got to hang out with another one of the guest musicians, Micah Tyler.





Immanuel Lutheran Church votes to affiliate with only LCMC at a special congregational meeting on Sunday, October 22nd

A special congregational meeting was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on October 22nd to decide with which national Lutheran church bodies our church will affiliate. Over 40 people attended the meeting after Sunday morning worship, with 37 voting members present. A vote was taken and 31 members voted for Immanuel to end its affiliation with the ELCA and remain a Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) congregation. Four members voted that Immanuel keep its affiliation with the ELCA and two members abstained from voting. Two representatives of the Nebraska Synod of the ELCA were present to observe the voting process. Over 66% of the vote needed to be in favor of leaving the ELCA for Immanuel's process of being only an LCMC congregation to proceed. Bishop Maas, of the Nebraska Synod of the ELCA will be meeting with the congregation before our next formal vote on this issue in early 2018. The second vote is a constitutional formality to confirm that Immanuel does indeed desire to end its affiliation with the ELCA and be an LCMC congregation. If Immanuel's second vote, in early 2018, is to be only an LCMC congregation, the Nebraska Synod Council of the ELCA will likely formally release the congregation from ELCA affiliation in the Spring of 2018.

Pastor Scott is an ordained LCMC pastor and will continue as our pastor at Immanuel. Please keep our church in your prayers as we seek to grow in our personal walk with God as a faith family and welcome others from the greater Ceresco area to join us on in faithfully serving others and loving Jesus Christ.



LECTOR
SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER LECTORS FOR WORSHIP:

- Nov. 5 - Ray Otto
- Nov. 12 - Suzie Fredrickson
- Nov. 19 - Fran Freeman
- Nov. 22 - Fran Freeman
- Nov. 26 - Shannon Black
- Dec. 3 - Kevin Olson
- Dec. 10 - Shawn Rudeen
- Dec. 17 - John Christensen
- Dec. 24 - Fran Freeman
- Dec. 31 - Jane Otto



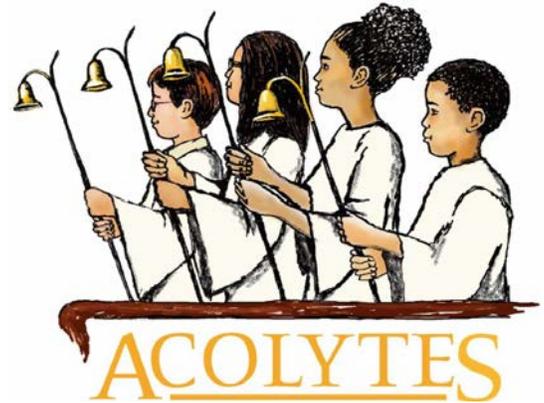
USHERS

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER USHERS FOR WORSHIP:

- Nov. 5 - Ray & Jane Otto
- Nov. 12 - Doug & Shawn Rudeen
- Nov. 19 - Fran Freeman
- Nov. 22 - Dean & Kathi Johnson
- Nov. 26 - Scott & Shannon Black
- Dec. 3 - Leroy & Barb Hanson
- Dec. 10 - Christie Bevington
- Dec. 17 - John Christensen
- Dec. 24 - Ray & Jane Otto
- Dec. 31 - Fran Freeman

ACOLTYES FOR WORSHIP:

- Nov. 5 - Conner Kreikemeier
- Nov. 12 - Andrew Otto
- Nov. 19 & 22 - Isaak Fredrickson
- Nov. 26 - Wyatt Hanson
- Dec. 3 - Mason Kreikemeier
- Dec. 10 - Conner Kreikemeier
- Dec. 17 - Andrew Otto
- Dec. 24 - Isaak Fredrickson
- Dec. 31 - Wyatt Hanson



Food Pantry Needs

Baking needs: baking powder - baking soda - granulated sugar - powdered sugar - brown sugar - flour - vanilla - canned fruit pie or pumpkin pie fillings - sprinkles for cookies

Immanuel Lutheran
CHURCH

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www.immanuelceresco.org



Scott Larson
Pastor