

SEPTEMBER 2018 IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER



Work as Worship

Some thoughts from Pastor Scott

As followers of Jesus, it's sometimes easy to separate the "sacred" from the "secular" when it comes to our jobs, careers, and callings. We might think that only pastors, counselors, and missionaries do "ministry" but a person who goes to work from 9 to 5 in the secular workplace isn't also a servant of God. Sometimes it is easy to feel like we cannot worship God while we are working at a cash register, changing diapers, selling real estate, answering phones, or driving a grain truck. But, whatever line of work we might be in, the fact of the matter is that God can be honored and His kingdom can be advanced as we do our jobs.

There's only one pastor at Immanuel to shepherd all of the members and friends of our church. But, it's not just the pastor who's serving God throughout the week, it's all of us. How we live our lives and how we do our work is our chance to worship God and glorify Him. Each of us has the opportunity to find joy in the places to which God has called us, and we all have a chance to bring God glory wherever we might be each day.

In Ecclesiastes 3:9, King Solomon asks, "What profit is there to the worker from that in which he toils?" Do we only work to earn money for money's sake? If so, we will be disappointed. Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 5:10, "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity." When God is factored into the equation work can take on its right and full purpose. God has made work for us. Even before sin entered the world, God gave Adam a garden to tend. (Genesis 2:15). *Work plays a certain role in how we interact with God, and the only way to understand the purpose of work and to enjoy our work and the fruit of our labor is by also enjoying God as we work* (Psalm 16:11).

Doing our work in love and holiness is important (John 13:34-35, Hebrews 12:14). When possible, we should seek to share the gospel of Jesus with co-workers by sharing His love and grace with them as well as inviting them to Sunday worship (Acts 1:8).

(cont'd)

Our factory, shop, or vehicle is our mission field. Colossians 3:23-24 says, "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."

The best thing we can do is to live as sacrifices that please Him even as we work (Romans 12:1-2).

This month, as we celebrate Labor Day, may God teach us and enable us to honor Him in and through our work, whatever our specific line of work might be. Next time we go to work, let us go to worship.

God is with us...

Pastor Scott



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF, WORSHIP AND A POTLUCK LUNCH AT MATT & APRIL OTTO'S HOME (4646 DAVEY ROAD) – Sept. 9th

We're kicking off the new Sunday School year in a different way this month by having our Sunday School activity for all ages at the home of the Otto's. Here's our schedule for Sunday, September 9th:

9 a.m. Sunday School Kick-Off activity

10:15 a.m. Outdoor Worship

11:15 a.m. Potluck lunch in Matt & April's machine shed, plus a discussion about Immanuel's new church constitution that we will be voting on September 16th.

Please bring whatever food you wish to share for the potluck lunch on September 9th. April and Matt have lots of electrical outlets in their machine shed for crockpots and other kitchen appliances.

Beverages (soda, coffee and water) plus plates and silverware (actually, plasticware) will be provided. Chairs and tables from Immanuel will be set up at the Otto's but you are welcome to bring your own folding chairs for the outdoor worship service.

In case of bad weather, we will be at Immanuel that Sunday. Please check the church phone message (402.665.2270) if the weather looks questionable to find out where we are gathering on September 9th.

Thank you, Otto family, for opening your home and acreage to Immanuel on September 9th!



Join the choir...

**You'll Be Glad
You Did!**

COME, JOIN THE IMMANUEL CHOIR...

This Fall, Immanuel will be forming a choir to share special music during our worship services. Those of you who remember Immanuel's choir of the past remember upwards of 20 voices who celebrated sharing God's gift of music with the congregation. Even if you have never sung in a choir before, you are welcome to join the Immanuel Choir as we prepare for the Fall, Advent and Christmas seasons ahead. Please let Leanne Pearson or Pastor Scott know you are interested and we'll get practice time information to you. Thank you!

CALLING ALL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT PLAYERS...

Whether you are young or old, if you can play the piano, trombone, saxophone, drums, or whatever instrument it may happen to be, we would love to have you share your music during our worship prelude (before worship starts) or during worship. Please let Leanne Pearson or Pastor Scott know if you would like to play your instrument and we'll make sure you have the opportunity to do so. We have some talented people at Immanuel and it would be nice to showcase the skills God has blessed them with.



NATIONAL LCMC CHURCH CONVENTION OCTOBER 7-10, 2018 DES MOINES, IA

This Fall, the LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) will hold its 18th annual convention. Immanuel is part of an association of almost 1,000 Lutheran churches worldwide which seek to study and live out God Word in our communities and world. For more information about the convention please go online to https://www.lcmc.net/images/files/18_ag_registration_FINAL.pdf



September 2018

calendar-download.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SEPTEMBER CHURCH CALENDAR:

Sunday, September 2 – 9:30 a.m.: Final Summer schedule worship at Immanuel

Wednesday, September 5 – 6:30 p.m.: Confirmation class meets at Cici’s Restaurant (5100 North 27th Street, Lincoln). Class will be done at 8 p.m. tonight.

Sunday, September 9 – 9:00 a.m.: Sunday School Kick-Off at Matt & April Otto’s home (4646 Davey Road)

10:15 a.m. Outdoor Worship service at Otto’s

11:15 a.m. Potluck Lunch and Discussion about Immanuel’s new Constitution at Otto’s

Monday, September 10 – 7 p.m.: Church Council meeting at Immanuel

Wednesday, September 12 – 5:45 p.m. Confirmation class and supper at Immanuel. Class is done at 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, September 16 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at Immanuel

10:15 a.m. Worship service

Wednesday, September 19 – 5:45 p.m. Confirmation class and supper at Immanuel. Class is done at 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, September 22 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. “Women of the Word” women’s Heartland District (LCMC) gathering. Theme: “I Once Was Lost But Now Am Found”. At Cornerstone Lutheran Church in Beatrice (2342 E. Hoyt Street)

Sunday, September 23 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at Immanuel

10:15 a.m. Worship service

Wednesday, September 26 – 5:45 p.m. Confirmation class and supper at Immanuel. Class is done at 7:15 p.m.

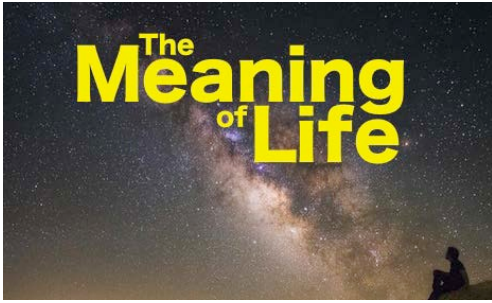
Sunday, September 30 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at Immanuel

10:15 a.m. Worship service



NEW CHURCH CONSTITUTION TO BE DISCUSSED AND VOTED ON BY IMMANUEL

Immanuel’s Church Council, LeRoy Hanson, Ray Otto and Pastor Scott have been working on our new church constitution. A copy has been drafted and the Church Council will be discussing it with the congregation on Sunday, September 9th during a lunch after our outdoor worship service at Matt & April Otto’s home (4646 Davey Road). Immanuel will be voting on approval of the new church constitution the following Sunday, September 16th after our worship service at church. Copies of the new proposed Church Constitution have been sent by e-mail to members and friends of Immanuel and print copies are available at the church.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES BEGINS SEPTEMBER 16TH – ECCLESIASTES

Come join us during the Sunday School hour (9 a.m.) at Immanuel as Pastor Scott leads us in a study the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. This book is loaded with wise teaching about how to live life and make the most of the time God gives us on this earth.

The book of Ecclesiastes contains proverbs, maxims, sayings, and is largely an autobiographical story of King Solomon. Solomon wrote it late in his life, around 935 B.C. He had become aware of the mistakes that he made throughout his life and began to write about them. The purpose of Ecclesiastes is to spare future generations the suffering and misery of seeking after foolish, meaningless, materialistic emptiness, and to offer wisdom by discovering truth in seeking after God.



OUR 'CHURCH OF THE WEEK' TO KEEP IN PRAYER

During September, please pray for the following LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) churches and their pastors in our Heartland District as, together, we serve Jesus Christ and share His grace and love with the world through our association of churches:

September 2nd - Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbus, Nebraska

September 9th - Peace Lutheran Church of Deshler, Nebraska

September 16th - Bluffs Trinity and Peace Lutheran Churches of Fremont, Nebraska

September 23rd - First St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hastings, Nebraska

September 30th - Bethel Lutheran Church of Holdrege, Nebraska



The Nebraska Brass is coming to Immanuel Thursday, Oct. 25th at 7:30 p.m.

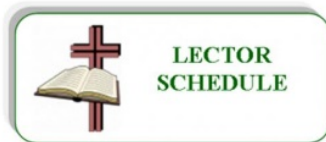
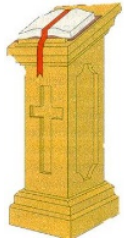
We are privileged to host the Nebraska Brass in October as they share their gift of music with the greater Ceresco and north Lincoln community at our church. Tickets will be \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (65+) and children are free.

More information will be made available to Immanuel's members and friends as we get closer to the date of their performance. Please spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors to this event.



Prayer List

Jerry Eastin (Health - Congregation)
 Andrea Christensen (Health – J Christensen)
 Zach Creger (Health – J Boden)
 Raegan Love (Toddler cancer – Rudeen)
 Heather Lucht (Health – Hanson)
 Calvin Liess (Health – Fredrickson)
 Jason Arensdorf (Health – Fredrickson)
 Julie Hart (Health – Bible)
 Kim Pearson (Health – L Pearson)
 Kurth Deland (Health – Fredrickson)
 Christ the King Lutheran Church in Dodge City KS. with Pastor Groethe
 The Ceresco Methodist & Covenant Churches



September Lectors

September 9 – Fran Freeman
 September 16 – Jodi Boden
 September 23 – Fran Freeman
 September 30 - Shawn Rudeen



September Food Pantry

Hot and Cold Cereal



September Ushers

September 9 – Fran Freeman
 September 16 – Ken Sherwood & Jodi Boden
 September 23 – Fran Freeman
 September 30 – Doug & Shawn Rudeen



September Acolytes

September 16 - Isak Fredrickson
 September 23- Wyatt Hanson
 September 30 - Mason Kreikemeier