Immanuel Newsletter May 2019

A generous church

Recently, I asked Immanuel's seventh and eighth graders during a Confirmation class about the nature of God. The teens listed off attributes of love, mercy, forgiveness and many others. Then, one of them said "generosity". That got me thinking about Immanuel and the spirit of our faith family. We are a faith family of generosity and giving.

In his second letter to the church in Corinth a bit less than 2,000 years ago, the Apostle Paul wrote these words:

[1]And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. [2]In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and **their** extreme poverty welled up in rich **generosity**. [3]For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, [4]they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the LORD's people. [5]And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the LORD, and then by the will of God also to us. [6]So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. [7]But since you excel in everything-in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you-see that you also excel in this grace of giving. **2 Corinthians 8:1-7**

Our giving is an act of worship and witness to the world around us. Too often, it's easy to take the money we earn or have invested and only spend it on ourselves. Yet, God gives us the opportunity to freely give away what He has blessed us with so that others are blessed. Some of you have asked me about how we can help with flood relief in Nebraska. Other times, our faith family has given special offerings to provide beds for children, care for women struggling with addiction, and help people in many other ways.

We give because God has given us all that we have. It's God's nature to give and as people created in the image of God, it's a part of who we are and what we do. Our giving is a witness to the Ceresco area that we serve and celebrate a generous God.

Thank you for being a generous community of faith and for all the ways you give – not only through Immanuel but in your many gifts of time, talent and treasure to those around you.

God is with us... Pastor Scott

LCMC Regional Leadership Conference

Peace Lutheran Church in Fremont, Nebraska
2102 North County Road 26

Friday June 7th and Saturday June 8th.
6:00-8:30pm Friday - 8:00am-12:00pm Saturday

The LCMC Conflict Resolution Seminar is designed to help you learn about yourself in conflict as well as steps to forgiveness and reconciliation from a Biblical perspective. The workshop is fast-moving, hands-on, and includes information on:

•Biblical Rational for Reconciliation

•Understanding Emotional Systems

•Feelings and Anger

•Steps of Conflict Resolution

•Peacemaking Solutions

•Bowen Brain Theory (Dealing with Anxiety in Congregations)

This leadership conference is intended for LCMC pastors and church council members. However, the conference is open to all members and friends of Immanuel who wish to learn more about dealing with conflict in relationships. Leaders and church members from Nebraska and Iowa will be attending this conference. Please contact Pastor Scott if you have questions or want more information.

LCMC Heartland District Conference

Our Partnership in the Gospel

Pastors & People: Proclaiming the Gospel Together
Philippians 1:3-6

Morningside Lutheran Church of Sioux City, Iowa
700 South Martha Street

Friday July 12th and Saturday July 13th.
6:00-8:30pm Friday - 8:00am-2:00pm Saturday

Mark your calendar for the 2019 Heartland District Annual Conference to be held at Morningside Lutheran Church in Sioux City, Iowa. This year's conference will provide a time for members of our district's congregations to gather for worship, Bible study, and make decisions in common mission for Christ. More information will be in July's newsletter.

The Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) has a Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund, which offers grants of up to $10,000 to help congregations and individuals affected by natural disasters, such as the flooding that has recently affected Nebraska and Iowa.

To contribute to this fund, please send checks or money orders to:

Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund
c/o St. Mark's Lutheran Church
8300 C Avenue NE
Marion, IA 52302

Gifts of any size are appreciated. Thank you for your support of families and individuals affected by flooding in our Heartland District of the LCMC.

Confirmation Sunday – May 5th

On May 5th, we will celebrate as Isaak Fredrickson, Wyatt Hanson, and Mason Kreikemeier confirm their faith during the 10:15 a.m. worship service. This year's class Bible verse is Proverbs 3:5-6… "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

A reception in the Fellowship Hall will follow worship as we celebrate Confirmation plus the high school and college graduates of Immanuel. Please plan to attend for cake, coffee and other refreshments on May 5th.

This year's graduates are:

High School: XXXXX

College/University: XXXXX

Remember… May 12th is Mother's Day. It's also the Sunday that we begin our summer worship schedule at 9:30 a.m. until this Fall.

We resume our Fall Sunday School and worship schedule on Sunday, September 8th.

May 2019 Immanuel Calendar

Sunday	*Monday*	*Tues*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*	*Saturday*
			1 **5:45pm** – Confirmation Supper & Class **7:00pm –** Women of the Word (WOW) Bible Study	**2** **6:30am –** National Day of Prayer at Sheridan Lutheran Church (Lincoln)	**3**	**4**
5 **9:45 am –** Choir Practice **10:15am** – Confirmation and Worship **11:15am –** Reception in Fellowship Hall	**6**	**7**	**8** **7:00pm –** Centennial Committee meeting	**9**	**10**	**11**
12 **9:30am** – Worship ***Our summer worship schedule begins today*** ***MOTHERS DAY***	**13** **7:00pm** Church Council meeting	**14**	**15** **7:00pm –** Women of the Word (WOW) Bible Study	**16**	**17**	**18** **<u>8am to lunch:</u>** Work Day at Camp Carol Joy Holling **<u>9:30am</u> –** Pastor Scott at Heartland District (LCMC) meeting in Omaha
19 **9:30am –** Worship **1:30 & 2:30pm** Pastor Scott leads worship at Wahoo Care Center & South Haven	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**
26 **9:30am** – Worship	**27** ***MEMORIAL DAY***	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**	**June 1**

Prayer List

Christie Bevington (Health – Member)

Andrea Christensen (Health – J Christensen)

Heather Lucht (Health – Hanson)

Jason Arensdorf (Health – Fredrickson)

Craig Boden (Health & work – J. Boden)

Julie Hart (Health – Bible)

Kim Pearson (Health – L Pearson)

Kelly Hamilton (Health – Bevington)

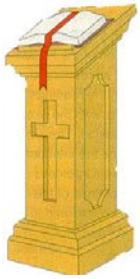
Sandi Wendell (Health – Wilson)

Briggs Gushard (Health – Rudeen)

Evelyn Beck (Health - R. Wilson)

Blaine & Jessica Kaiser (Safety while traveling – Kaiser)

The Ceresco Methodist & Covenant Churches



MAY LECTORS

May 5 - Shannon Black

May 12 - Fran Freeman

May 19 - Tim Wheland

May 26 - Janis Bible

MAY USHERS

MAY 5 - Scott & Shannon Black

May 12 - Fran Freeman

May 19 - Tim Wheland

May 26 - Jon & Janis Bible

MAY ACOLYTES

May 5 - Reid Otto

May 12 - Owen Kreikemeier

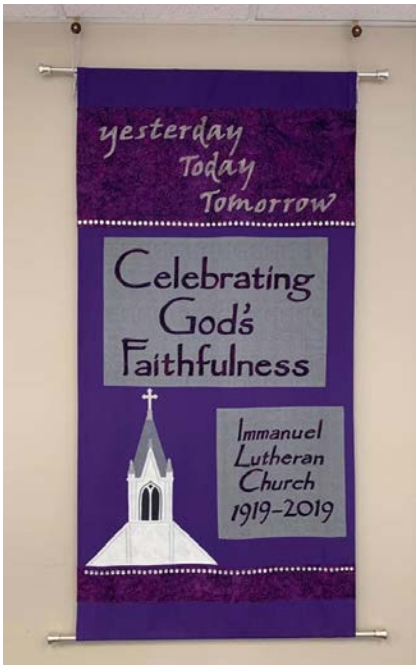
May 19 - Taylor Oldfield

May 26 - Kyle Peterson

May Food Pantry

Boxed Jello

and Pudding



Immaunels 100 Year Anniversary Celebration

Pastor and Mrs. Buch