

GAME N!

Thoughts from Pastor Scott...

“God’s Math”

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14.

On July 22nd, Immanuel welcomed about 80 children to four days of Vacation Bible School (VBS). We had no idea how many children would come to a time of celebrating being on “God’s Team” and having fun with games, crafts, and learning more about what it means to be a part of God’s faith family. For a number of reasons, we had VBS at only Immanuel and most of this year’s VBS helpers were friends and family of Immanuel.

As I watched the week progress, I saw God’s Spirit alive and working in the lives of so many people who are a part of Immanuel’s faith family. The dedication, commitment of time, money and love for kids, and overall enthusiasm came through from Immanuel. It made me think about “why we do what we do”.

As followers of Jesus, we give our time, talents and treasure to help share the joy and love of God with our community and world. We have a choice – we can either keep our God-given gifts to ourselves or share them with others. When we hold back on giving we only make a difference for one person – us. But, when we give for the sake of others, God has a way of multiplying that gift many times over.

The day after VBS was done, one of Immanuel’s members spotted two girls riding their bicycles in Ceresco. They had their “Gods Team” t-shirts on. What a great witness for those kids to keep letting our community know that God cares about Ceresco and our world.

Thank you for being the people of God that you are. It is a real blessing to be called your “pastor” as we live and give as the children of God. We are all a part of “God’s Team” and what a great team it is!

God is with us... Pastor Scott



Vacation Bible School 2019 – “Game On”



Our “pep rally” opening time



Game time on the church lawn



Some of this year’s leadership team



Craft time in the Fellowship Hall



Snack time in the courtyard

This year’s Vacation Bible School (VBS) had about 80 children from the Ceresco, Valparaiso, and Davey area involved in learning what it means to be a part of God’s team. Thank you to everyone who made this year’s VBS a great success! God’s Spirit moved in a great way through the Ceresco Community VBS at Immanuel.



We’re a part of God’s team!



WE SURPASSED OUR IMMANUEL CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE!

Once again, Immanuel came through in meeting a challenge. We set out to collect 100 items for Adult & Teen Challenge of the Midlands and blew past our goal - well over that amount of paper products, soap and other items to support this ministry. To the right is a photo of Pastor Scott delivering Immanuel's gift to Teresa Barnes, co-director of the women's ministry in Beatrice.



We are excited to see what God is doing through this ministry! Adult & Teen Challenge exists to be a catalyst for 180-degree life change in a person who is addicted. If you know someone you know is struggling with a life-controlling problem, please contact Teresa today. She can put them in touch with those who can help them become free from the power of addiction because of God's Spirit. Teresa can be reached at 402.250.2628 (Teresa's cell phone).

Beginning in August we will be collecting items for children for "Samaritan's Purse" as we continue our "Immanuel Centennial Challenge" in serving others in the name of Christ.



Yezidi Genocide Commemoration – August 3rd 3 to 5 p.m. at Lincoln Berean Church

You are invited to learn more about our neighbors of the Yezidi community and their loss and hope for the future.

Pastor Scott & Carla have been involved with the Yezidi population of Lincoln for the past few years. Thousands of Yezidis, a religious minority in the Middle East were killed by Islamic State (ISIS) fighters in northwest Iraq on August 3rd, 2014. Many of those who survived came to Lincoln as refugees. Lincoln is believed to be home to the largest Yezidi population in the United States.

To mark the 5th anniversary of the genocide, the Yezidi community will host an event on August 3rd in the Youth Complex on the Lincoln Berean Church campus (6400 South 70th Street) to remember this tragic event. The public is invited to attend.

Please note that part of this program may not be suitable for children and could evoke strong emotional feelings from the audience.

LCMC GATHERING

July 12th & 13th 2019

Pastor Scott and I arrived at 8:20 AM on Saturday July 13th to check in at Morningside Lutheran Church in Sioux City, Iowa for the LCMC Gathering. We had refreshments downstairs, then returned to the Sanctuary for devotions. Pastor Tom Sahl from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Palmer, Kansas read the 23 Psalm. He had a stuffed sheep under his arm, and described how a shepherd took care of his herd while comparing Jesus as our shepherd. It made for a very interesting and thoughtful devotions. Pastor Perry Fruhling is the Coordinator for Pastoral Ministries for LCMC and was our speaker on "Pastors & People: Proclaiming the Gospel Together". This was a good conflict resolution format. We were given a handout, and as he worked with us, we could fill in the blanks. We discussed emotional systems thinking, triggers for anxiety in congregations, church council effectiveness & team formations, and relationships between church council & Pastors. We talked about communication and feelings, communication patterns vs feeling avoidance. There is a huge vocabulary of words that describe feelings. We broke up into small groups off & on to roll play situations. Conflict resolution is a win – win situation where we all benefit when an agreement is reached. Whether it is a congregational conflict, or Pastor – congregational conflict; we all need to be in a reconciling relationship. What he taught us can be used in any form of conflict\resolution situation. Since this took hours to go over and discuss, it was done in sessions with short breaks and lunch in between the sessions. LCMC wants all of us in a good communicating reconciling relationship so we can proclaim the gospel together. Next, we had our business meeting. Reports from the treasurer, service coordinator, and the president were given. We had an election of new board members, and installed all board members for the upcoming year, Pastor Scott being a board member again. Next year, the LCMC Gathering will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Holdridge, Nebraska. I had an opportunity to meet and talk to a lot of new people on the breaks and during lunch (which was fantastic by the way). I carried away knowledge & fellowship.

Submitted by Fran Freeman delegate

August 2019 Immanuel Calendar

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
4 9:30 am – Worship	5	6 YOUTH	7 BOUNDARY	8 WATERS	9 CANOE	10 TRIP
11 9:30 am – Worship	12 7 pm – Church Council meeting	13	14 7 pm – Centennial Committee meeting	15	16 Youth Lock in	17 Youth Lock In
18 9:30am – Worship	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 9:30am – Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31



Youth Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) trip – August 6th through 10th

Pastor Scott and Jamie Fredrickson will chaperone a wilderness trip with Immanuel youth to northern Minnesota in early August. We'll be staying overnight at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church in Foley, Minnesota where Pastor Scott served as pastor 30 years ago. The church in Foley is providing supper and breakfast for our group before we head through Duluth to be in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area for four days and three nights. An outfitter will be providing the transportation to the drop and exit points as we travel down the Island and Isabella Rivers onto Quadgo Lake, Bald Eagle Lake, Gabgro and Little Gabbro Lake. We'll stop for lunch at Pastor Scott's parents' home in north Minneapolis on our way back to Ceresco.

Youth who are unable to attend this year's BWCA can plan on us going again in the summer of 2020. We'll be sure to schedule next year's trip to not conflict with the Raymond Central school athletic schedule.



Youth Lock-in
Friday night, August 16th – 9 p.m.
to Saturday, August 17th – 8 a.m.

All area youth in 7th through 12th grades are invited to an overnight lock-in at

Immanuel in mid-August as we kick-off the new school year. ***There is NO COST for this event and friends are invited to attend.***

Our theme this year is “Ghostbusters: No Fear”.



Like last year’s lock-in, we’ll have games, lots of snacks, and a time for midnight devotions.

Invite your friends and let Pastor Scott know if you or your friends are coming to the lock-in.



Needed:
Volunteers at the International Annual Gathering
September 29 - October 2, 2019 | CHI Health Center
Omaha

Want to attend the LCMC International Gathering for free and get to experience what the annual gathering is all about? This year, the annual international LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) Gathering will be in Omaha!

Would you consider being a volunteer for a few hours during the conference time and share your gift of hospitality and caring? Please take a look at the areas below and see where you best fit.

Prayer Chapel Volunteer:

All during the Gathering, the prayer room is occupied with prayer people. Prayer is the key for a great Gathering. One of the LCMC Board members will be there with you most of the time.

Saturday:

We need a bunch of folks to put materials into the attendee bags. This is a great way to meet people for sure. You don’t have to be registered for the Gathering to help on Saturday. Start the day a 9:00AM putting materials into the participant bags.

Sunday through Wednesday:

Be a greeter! Welcome people with a smile and a greeting. You will be the first people folks see when they come in. Sets the tone for the entire Gathering. You will be strategically placed to share your smiles and information.

The Merchandise table needs volunteers to sell t-shirts and things.

“Stand-by Helpers” is a team that is willing to go anywhere and do anything. It's really fun to be a servant...you never know where you will end up.

Ready to join the Volunteer team? Do you have any questions?

Contact Pastor Wilson Metz, Volunteer Coordinator

Pastor@LCMC-LM.net Phone: 402-650-1417 (Ashland, Nebraska)

PRAYER LIST



Christie Bevington (Health – Member)

Andrea Christensen (Health – J Christensen)

Richard Benes (terminal cancer – Fredrickson)

Bob Knuth (Health – Otto)

Pam Beckman (cancer – Otto)

Heather Lucht (Health – Hanson)

Sandy Mcloughlin (Health – Badberg)

Craig Boden (Health & work – J. Boden)

Angie Bible (Health – Bible)

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)

Sydney Kenning (Health - Badberg)

Blaine & Jessica Kaiser (Safety while traveling – Kaiser)

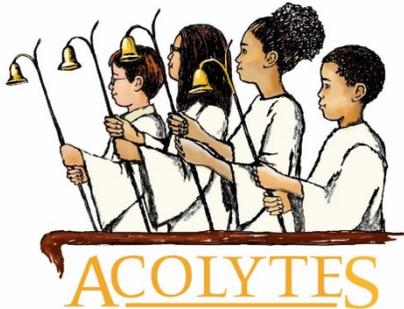
The Ceresco Methodist & Covenant Churches



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AUGUST USHERS

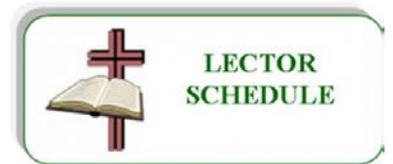
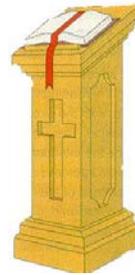
August 4 Leroy & Barb Hanson
August 11 Justin & Christy Badberg
August 18 Fran Freeman
August 25 John & Janis Bible



ACOLYTES

AUGUST -SEPT. ACOLYTES

August 4 - Jace Badberg
Sept 1 - Taylor Oldfield



**LECTOR
SCHEDULE**

AUGUST LECTORS

August 4 Tim Wehland
August 11 Christy Badberg
August 18 Fran Freeman
August 25 Janis Bible



**Food
Pantry
Needs**

AUGUST Food Pantry

Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Dental Floss
Mouthwash