



Now's the time to...

**BE  
THE  
CHURCH**

## Thoughts from Pastor Scott

Hello church! I want to let you know how grateful I am for you and to be a part of the Immanuel family as we continue to navigate these new waters during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are in this together. We are in the same storm, but not all of us are in the same boat. Some of you have been more deeply affected by this virus than others. If you have any need financially, emotionally or relationally, please let me know. We are all the church and we're all in this together.

Even though we've had to change how we gather together as a church, our mission as a church is still the same – we still gather, empower and send all people as disciples of the living Christ. During this time of social distancing, here are some ways we are staying connected as a church family during May. **All** of our church gatherings and meetings can be accessed by clicking on this one link <https://zoom.us/j/8780165113>

- ✓ Sunday morning worship at virtual coffee time at 9:30 a.m.
- ✓ Women of the Word (W.O.W.) Bible study series on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
- ✓ Telephone calls from Pastor Scott – not everyone is connected digitally

I am looking forward to the time when we can resume our face-to-face community, but for now, Immanuel is using technology the best we can. And, in some ways, we are reaching out to more people at this time.

During this economic downturn, you are living out your faith and continuing to put God first through your giving. I encourage you to continue giving either online by going to our church website's opening page ([www.immanuelceresco.org](http://www.immanuelceresco.org)) and scroll to the bottom of the opening page, click on the **Tithe.ly** button and complete the information. Or, you can mail your offering to our church address at **P.O. Box 210 – Ceresco, NE 68017**. Your generosity supports not only our church but also such things as our local Bible camp at Ashland, hunger and humanitarian efforts through Samaritan's Purse and Lutheran World Relief, Wycliffe Bible Translators, and other ministries.

Immanuel has applied for a Paycheck Protection loan – part of the government's economic stimulus strategy to keep people working. Our application was not processed by our bank before the available funds for this program were depleted. Another allocation of funding to this program has just been approved and we are in the application queue with our bank. This program provides a loan for small business, churches and other nonprofit organizations for use to cover compensation costs over an 8-week period. The amount of the loan proceeds we spend on compensation and utilities during this time is forgiven and essentially becomes a grant to the church. Immanuel is currently in a good financial situation. However, our Church Council felt

that it was prudent for us to apply for this loan in case the economic situation in our area does not improve for some time.

You are in my thoughts, prayers and plans every day. I know that the situation is different for every one of you. Some have lost jobs, been furloughed, or taken pay cuts. Others are juggling working at home while helping children with their distance learning. Some of you live alone and are feeling especially isolated. You are in my prayers. Please know that I am available to help you in this time – please feel free to reach out by calling or texting my cellphone (402.499.4444) or emailing me at [ilc.godwithus@gmail.com](mailto:ilc.godwithus@gmail.com).

God is with us in this challenging time...

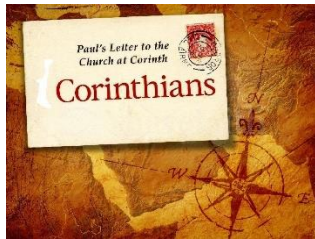
Pastor Scott

## Immanuel - Being the Church



It's been great to hear about the number of Immanuel's members and friends doing things during the COVID-19 pandemic. What a wonderful way to use your time and talents to serve people during this time! Immanuel has been sewing masks for Saunders County's first responders and for those who work at or are incarcerated at the Saunders County jail and courthouse. Some of you have been **VERY** busy at your sewing machines! There are other ways that Immanuel is sharing God's love during this challenging time. Above are photos we recently received of the Badberg family doing chalk drawing at Eastmont in Lincoln, to brighten the day of those who live there.

We would love to hear what you are doing. Please send stories and photos to [ilc.godwithus@gmail.com](mailto:ilc.godwithus@gmail.com) so that we can share them with the church.



**DURING MAY THROUGH THE SUMMER, PASTOR SCOTT WILL WALK US THROUGH THE APOSTLE PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS DURING OUR SUNDAY MESSAGES. INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN US ONLINE AS WE LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO 'BE THE CHURCH' AND LIVE IN LOVE.**



**PLANNING MEETING FOR THE CERESCO AREA COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)**

**Monday, May 18th at 7 p.m.**

**Location: At Immanuel's parking lot. If weather is bad, we'll meet on Zoom.com at <https://zoom.us/j/8780165113>**

Join us on Zoom.com for our May 18th planning meeting at 7 p.m. We're going with a jungle theme for this summer's VBS and we have some exciting fun surprises planned.

We plan to have folding chairs set up in Immanuel's parking lot to keep our distance from one another but still meet at the church.

VBS will be the evenings of Monday, July 20th through Thursday, July 23rd with the closing program on Thursday evening. Last year's closing on Immanuel's church lawn was a great hit and we'd like to plan something like it again for this summer.

Our VBS lessons will be led by Suzy Fredrickson and include;  
Monday, July 20th – Encounter with Jesus in the Temple  
Tuesday, July 21st – Encounter with Jesus at the River  
Wednesday, July 22nd – Encounter with Jesus at the Tomb

Pastor Scott will be leading the music. Snacks will be coordinated by Donna Hansen and Rachel Hedges. Crystal Haake will be coordinating registration and she and Sharon Sykes will be coordinating decorations. Shawn Rudeen is overseeing the T-shirt orders this year.

Two main areas we need help with for this year's VBS are someone to help oversee crafts (we have people willing to assist the craft leader), plus we need help with promoting and advertising VBS for this summer. If you can help lead either of these areas, please contact Pastor Scott (402.499.4444) or Suzy Fredrickson (402.499.3211).

We're collecting large cardboard tubes to make palm trees. If you have paper towel tubes and toilet paper tubes, please leave them at Immanuel for one of our VBS crafts.

We'd **LOVE** to have you join in the planning and excitement. Please invite your friends from the community to join us for VBS planning, too.



**Please remember Immanuel's homebound members in your prayers:**

**Barb Basel (please note Barb's new address change as of January 31st)**

Hooper Care Center – 400 E. Birchwood Dr., Hooper NE 68031  
402.654.3362 (Care Center) 402.480.2582 (Cell)

**John Christiansen**

1509 County Rd. B – Ceresco, NE 68017  
402.429.6475

**Marie Johnson**

2425 Folkways Blvd, #336 – Lincoln NE 68521  
402.438.5618 (home) 402.417.9537 (cell)

**Rose Nelson**

Saunders Medical Center Long Term Care, Room 114  
1760 County Road J – Wahoo NE 68066

**Dale Rexilius**

c/o Tabitha GracePointe  
4620 Randolph St, #203 – Lincoln NE 68510 402.484.9318



**WOMEN OF THE WORD (W.O.W.) ONLINE BIBLE STUDY RESUMES IN MAY**

During the month of May, we will be having the Women of the Word Bible Study **every** Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Pastor Scott will show the DVD video portion of our lesson and we will spend time together, online, to discuss God's promises of His protection in challenging times. Be sure to go to <https://zoom.us/j/8780165113> to join in. Our upcoming lessons are:

Wednesday, May 6th – The Promise of Peace

Wednesday, May 13th – The Promise of Confidence

Wednesday, May 20th – The Promise of Love

Wednesday, May 27th – The Promise of Grace

## May 2020 Immanuel Calendar

All Immanuel worship and meetings are online at Zoom.com unless otherwise noted. The online link is <https://zoom.us/j/8780165113>

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>3</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship (Note the change to summer worship time)  Virtual coffee time after worship (stay online)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7 p.m. – Online Women of the Word “W.O.W.” Bible Study – “The Shelter”	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship  Virtual coffee time after worship (stay online)	<b>11</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Church Council meeting <b>(online on Zoom)</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7 p.m. – Online Women of the Word “W.O.W.” Bible Study – “The Shelter”	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship  Virtual coffee time after worship (stay online)	<b>18</b> <b>7pm</b> Vacation Bible School planning meeting <b>AT IMMANUEL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7 p.m. – Online Women of the Word “W.O.W.” Bible Study – “The Shelter”	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship  Virtual coffee time after worship (stay online)	<b>25</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7 p.m. – Online Women of the Word “W.O.W.” Bible Study – “The Shelter”	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship  Virtual coffee time after worship (stay online)	<b>June 1</b>	<b>June 2</b>	<b>June 3</b>	<b>June 4</b>	<b>June 5</b>	<b>June 6</b>

### CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

**Logan Black** will be graduating from Raymond Central and will be attending the University of Wisconsin–Platteville where he will be playing baseball, in addition to majoring in Math and double minoring in Business and Statistics.

**Caitlyn Johnson** is graduating on May 8<sup>th</sup> from Bryan nursing school. Congratulations to Caitlyn on accepting a full time RN position at Bryan West Emergency Department.

**Jake Palensky** will be graduating from University of Kearney in May. Jake will be moving close to home to help his dad on the farm while pursuing a job with his degree in Ag Business.

**Mikayla Fredrickson** is graduating with high distinction from Nebraska Wesleyan with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. She will study for her CPA exams through the summer and will join KPMG at their Omaha location in the fall.

**Congratulations and best wishes to all the graduates on the next step in life's journey!**



## Prayer List

Christie Bevington (Health - Member)  
Barb Basel (Broke hip – member)  
Justin Badberg (Surgery on knee – member)  
Sharon Kaiser (Health – member)  
Jon Bible (surgery - member)  
Andrea Christensen (Health – J Christensen)  
Richard Benes (Terminal cancer – Fredrickson)  
Rob Bonow (Health)  
Heather Lucht (Health – Hanson)  
Ron Weltruski (Bone cancer -Hedges)  
Mike Pethound(EMT- Sherwood)  
Karen Hagood (Health – Newell)  
Paula Hanneman (Health- Rudeen)  
Kim Pearson (Health – L Pearson)  
Kelly Hamilton (Health – Bevington)  
Lora Robinson (Health – Freeman)  
Dawn Buss (Health – Freeman)  
David Sinn (cancer – Larson)  
Shelly Hanneman (Health)  
Mary Tvrdy (Health – Otto)  
Sydney Kenning (Strength & comfort for Sydney’s family)

### **MAY USHERS**

May 3 - Leroy & Barb Hanson  
May 10 - Fran Freeman  
May 17 - Jodi Boden  
May 24 - Christie Bevington  
May 31 - Justin & Kristy Badberg

### **MAY LECTORS**

May 3 - Donna Hansen  
May 10 - Fran Freeman  
May 17 - Jodi Boden  
May 24 - Issac Fredrickson  
May 31 - Kristy Badberg

May Food Pantry  
**CANNED VEGGIES**  
Corn, peas, beans