



C.S. Lewis 1942

Satan: "I will cause anxiety,
fear and panic.
I will shutdown
business, schools,
places of worship
and sports events.
I will cause economic turmoil".

Jesus: "I will bring together neighbours,
restore the family unit,
I will bring dinner back
to the kitchen table.
I will help people slow down their lives
and appreciate what really matters.
I will teach my children to rely on me
and not the world.
I will teach my children to trust me
and not their money and material resources."

Don't Waste a Pandemic **Thoughts from Pastor Scott**

I recently had coffee with some of my friends who were once part of the "Mens Fraternity" group from Lincoln Berean Church I belonged to. One of them said to the rest of us "don't waste a good pandemic". We thought that was strange for him to say but it got us all talking about what has been happening in our lives and world these past three or four months.

The need for social distancing, wearing masks, washing hands often, as well as making some big adjustments in our personal and family schedules has really

changed our lives, hasn't it? Now, as some things are beginning to re-open slowly (including our church building) there is a tendency for us to want to just quickly return to "normal" and get on with our lives. But, we're hearing that "normal" could be some time away.

So, it begs the question "what are we going to do with THIS time?" We can fill our time up with catching up on projects around the house, spending time online with friends and family, or countless other things. We also have another option that Immanuel is taking on this summer... giving God's words of encouragement and a reminder that THIS is God's time to teach us something about life and life's purpose.

On July 20th, from 6 to 8 p.m., we will have the most unique Vacation Bible School (VBS) experience I can think of – a "drive by" VBS. It's exciting to see Immanuel come together in a great way to share a message of encouragement to the Ceresco area. Using the theme verse of Joshua 1:9, we are sharing the message that people have always faced difficult times but God can teach us lessons of resilience and spiritual growth and strength. Those times also gave God's people the opportunity to share that message with others so that they, too, could draw closer to God.

So, let's use this month as a time to ask ourselves, "How can I make the most of THIS time... for God and for others?"

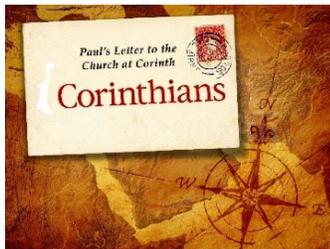
"Only one life will soon be past... Only what's done for God will last"

God is with us..... Pastor Scott

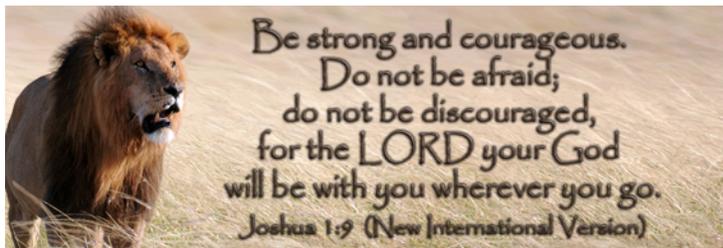
RE-OPENING

Beginning July 5th, Immanuel is re-opening its building to those who wish to physically gather together for worship. We will have social distancing protocols to follow and we ask that you please bring a mask to wear while you're in the building on Sunday mornings (we'll provide masks if you forget one). Our ushers will help guide you through the process of how we'll be seated and be sharing Communion.

If you choose not to be in the church building for worship, we will also continue our online option to join by Zoom at 9:30 a.m. like we've been doing for the past three months. If you join us for worship online, remember that **all** of our church worship gatherings on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. plus some other meetings can be accessed by clicking on this online link <https://zoom.us/j/8780165113>



This month, join us in Sunday morning worship at 9:30 as Pastor Scott walks us through First Corinthians, Chapters 7 through 9. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us online or at the church building as we learn more about what it means to live like Christians in this present time.



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

Mondays, July 6th & 13th at 7 p.m.

Meetings are at Immanuel. There is no online option these evenings.

We've been busy working on the yard displays for our "drive-by" Vacation Bible School. The "driving tour" will take place the evening of Monday, July 20th and begins at Immanuel. Participants will get to see things from their vehicles like Noah's Ark, drive through Jonah's whale, and watch Goliath fall in a dunk tank. Children ages 3 through grade 6 will receive a craft and snack bag until supplies run out.

Please contact Suzy Fredrickson (402.499.3211) or Pastor Scott (402.499.4444) if you have questions. Invite your friends of all ages to take the VBS "driving tour" on July 20th.



Please remember Immanuel's homebound members in your prayers:

Barb Basel (Barb is living with her daughter and son-in-law now)

27765 County Rd. 14 – Hooper NE 68031
402.719.4596 (Home) 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



Immanuel Youth Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) trip next month – August 3rd through 8th

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, our annual Immanuel youth trip to northern Minnesota is still on! This year we are entering the BWCA through two different entry points close to one another since our group will be larger than last summer's.

All youth need to have a completed parental consent and medical form to Pastor Scott by July 15th for us to plan how many are attending. Mail the form to Pastor Scott at Immanuel (P.O. Box 210 – Ceresco, NE 68017). If you need another one, let Pastor Scott know and he'll get one to you. Cost for the trip is only \$125 and includes all food in the BWCA, canoe rental, overnight lodging at the outfitters' and travel. This year's trip will involve **NO** travel on rivers and we'll have lots more time for fishing, swimming and just enjoying God's great outdoors.

We leave Immanuel at 6 a.m. on Monday, August 3rd staying overnight in the outfitter's bunkhouse at Ely, Minnesota before putting our canoes in the water the next morning. We'll return around back to Immanuel around 10 p.m. on Saturday night, August 8th.

Contact Pastor Scott if you have questions (402.499.4444).



Heartland District Annual Meeting – July 11th at Immanuel - 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This year, we have a great way for you to see what an annual district meeting is all about as all our LCMC churches meet together online.

No need to pre-register... just arrive at Immanuel by 9:30 Saturday morning, July 11th. We'll have a laptop computer linked to the Fellowship Hall's TV monitor so that everyone can see the other churches that will be attending. The district meeting will last three hours or less and we'll have time to share how our churches have been dealing with COVID-19 and encourage the other churches in our district during this challenging time.

July 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>

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day!
5 9:30 am Worship at Immanuel and Online with Communion. Visiting time follows	6 7pm Vacation Bible School planning meeting AT IMMANUEL	7	8	9	10	11 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Heartland District Gathering online. Join us in Immanuel's Fellowship Hall.
12 9:30 am Worship at Immanuel and Online with Communion. Visiting time follows	13 7:00pm Church Council meeting (ONLINE ON ZOOM) 7pm Vacation Bible School planning meeting AT IMMANUEL	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship at Immanuel and Online with Communion. Visiting time follows	20 6 to 8 p.m. "Drive By" Vacation Bible School in Ceresco	21	22	23	24 Teens Encounter Christ weekend Sioux City	25 Teens Encounter Christ weekend in Sioux City
26 9:30 am Worship at Immanuel and Online with Communion. TEC in Sioux City ends	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1