

Immanuel Newsletter June 2024

Words from Pastor Joe



Sometimes, when I say or write something that also seems a good way to break into something new, just to get started, I repeat myself. Last month's newsletter was about developing a relationship. It's a fairly new relationship among people who already share the most important relationship. Based on words that promise forgiveness, life and salvation. And words that promise victory over sin, death and evil. Jesus is the source and the goal of all those words of promise and the focus of the relationship for which we are destined from before the foundation of the world. You all have invited me and my family in. Thank you. (Here's the repetitive part.) I suppose, if you continue deepening your relationship with Jesus through the ministry of Immanuel Lutheran in Ceresco, you will also get to know me and my family better. I am hoping the converse is also true. That I will also get to know Jesus better through this ministry. And I will also get to know you and your families. Please, come and worship and study and share God's peace and eat and drink at his table. Learn what it is to have confidence in the true master of the wind. It was the wind that helped define April and it may well be the rain that defined May of 2024. I have grown to expect long stretches of dry weather in Nebraska these past few years – and a lot of reports about drought and shortages of water. 2023 may have been the driest May in recorded history. If it rains again tomorrow, May 2024 will be the wettest May in recorded history in Nebraska. The strange part is that it's all normal – but not average. Between last year and this – Nebraska's average! Another thing about Nebraska: if we (UNL) are fighting for a conference championship in the BIG 10, thousands of fans drop everything and head to the championship venue and game. I've seen it happen in Volleyball. I've heard that there have been championship football games but I've never seen it. The BIG 10 championship baseball game was fun to watch last Sunday. I did have to record it though as they played at 10:00 on Sunday morning. How about a prime time game so everybody can be there?

We in the church are going into the season of Pentecost once again – as we always do about this time of year. Easter is planted (and sprouted!) and the day of Pentecost has blown through powerfully. The season of Pentecost is growing time. Growth is tedious and takes patience and persistence. You can't really know how it is all working out until it's time for the harvest and the market. All we know is that many things need to happen at the right time and in the right proportions and growth happens and ensures that there will in fact be a harvest.

When I was in grade school in Anamosa, Iowa, I thought baseball was my game. I played first base and outfield and was a pretty good hitter. On the last day I remember in Anamosa, my team was playing but I had to leave early – the family was moving to Clear Lake! Everyone in the car except my brother who was visiting my grandparents. News came at that moment that my grandpa (Dad's dad) had died of a heart attack. Really sad and somber ride to Manchester where my grandma was waiting. My 90-year-old great grandfather had seen the last and youngest of his children die before him. I don't remember much of that week or the funeral but I do remember that the old man, in the living room of my grandparents' house, asked me, "Do you ever read your Bible." And I replied, "Not much." I had a Bible, but it wasn't the most interesting thing my 12 year old self possessed. So, he told me through some tears, "Well, you should." It was one seed I remember being planted in my walk with Jesus.

I would encourage you, my friends and family at Immanuel, to listen carefully as voices speak to you as you walk with Jesus. Each one who speaks from faith will plant a word in your life that God will bless to bear fruit for his kingdom. The Bible, being the source and norm in all matters of faith and life, is the means the Spirit has of leading you into all truth! Come to Jesus!

See you at worship this week! Bring the kids!

Pastor Joe

Faith and Family Days



Faith & Family Days At The Ballpark!
MAY 19 • JUNE 23 • JULY 14 • AUG 28

Join us for Faith & Family Day at Haymarket Park on the following dates: **May 19, June 23, July 14 & August 28***! We have a variety of entertainment planned for the dates including:

- **11:15 AM:** In-Stadium Chapel with the Players
- **12:00-12:30 PM:** Catch in the Outfield
- **12:00-12:30 PM:** Player Autographs
- **12:00-12:30 PM:** Live Church Band on the Concourse
- **12:00 PM - End of the Game:** Bake Sales & Merchandise Booths on the Concourse
- **1:05 PM:** Lincoln Saltdogs Home Game

*Times will differ for August 28.

Thank You from Pastor Dennis

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ at Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Donna and I want to thank all of you for the prayers and well wishes over these past few months. We are so grateful for all of your support, meals, and treats during my surgeries and recovery. You of all been such a blessing. I especially want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your intentional interim pastor. I have been so humbled and honored by your love and support. Immanuel is truly a blessing to the people of Ceresco and the surrounding communities. Again, thank you and may God continue to pour out his greatest blessings upon all of you.

Pastor Dennis and Donna Reich

Upcoming VBS Meeting

Our upcoming VBS meeting is scheduled for June 3rd at 6:30 pm.

We are still looking for volunteers to join us. It's a great opportunity to make a meaningful difference. VBS will be July 17-20 6:15 pm to 8:00 pm.

ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Scholarship program was founded by the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Ceresco, Nebraska. Immanuel Lutheran Church established this special scholarship program to benefit students of the congregation.

ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible candidates must be members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and must be attending, or plan to attend, an accredited institution of higher education (academic, technical or vocational).
- Candidates may reapply in successive years for scholarships available from this program.

Application available on our website: <https://immanuelceresco.org/>

Deadline is July 30th, 2024

Questions? Contact Kristi Badberg kbadberg@gmail.com

UPDATING CHURCH PHOTOS

When it comes to updating the congregational picture board, attention to detail is key. To ensure your photo is current and captures your essence, reach out to Jennifer Schultz at (402) 202 –7055. Let's capture your best side!

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1
2 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	3 6:30 pm VBS Mtg	4	5	6	7	15 8:00 am Church Council
9 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	10	11	12	13	14	15 8:00 am Church Council
16 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship HAPPY FATHERS DAY	17 6:30 pm VBS Mtg Boundary Water	18 Boundary Water	19 Boundary Water	20 Boundary Water	21 Boundary Water	22 Boundary Water
23 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship						

PRAYER LIST



Gracie Lambert (Health – member)
Alyza Neuberger (Burn – Fredrickson/Otto)
Suzy Fredrickson (Biblical Initiative)
Jon & Janis Bible (Safe Travels)
Josh Otto (Border Patrol – Otto)
Heather Lucht (Health – Hanson)
Scott Negley (Cancer – Tetley)
JoAnn Koepke (Cancer - Bibles)
Judy Koepke (Health - Bibles)
Lora & Randy Rohde (Crash – Hedges)
Shannon Maly (Health – Rudeen)
Tammy Morse (Cancer – Fisher)
Kim Pearson (Health – Pearson)
Rene & Sharon Remillard (Health – Hanson)
Jayson Boden (Jodi's Son)
Gracie Wilcox (Blood Disorder – Bevington)
Steve Martz (Stroke – Bevington)
Christie Bevington (Health – member)
Roger McGinnis (Health – Countryman)
Dawn Buss (Health – Fran's Daughter)
Benedikte Ehlers (Cancer – Fran's Tour Guide)
Ron Weltruski (Bone Cancer – Hedges)
Zack Emerson (FCA Mission)
Adam Johnson (Convincing Proof)
Wade Family (Missionaries – Bible Translation)
VBS Planning Committee
Grace Lutheran Church in Walton
Persecuted Christians around the World
People in War Torn Areas
Health & Protection of Everyone

JUNE USHERS

June 2 Doug & Shawn Rudeen
June 9 Dane & Hailey Drahota
June 16 Fran Freeman
June 23 Jim & Roxann Countryman
June 30 Aaron & Crystal Haake

JUNE LECTORS

June 2 Shawn Rudeen
June 9 Hailey Drahota
June 16 Fran Freeman
June 23 Crystal Haake
June 30 Aaron Haake

June Food Pantry

Canned Fruits
Peaches, Pears, Pineapple, etc.