

# Immanuel Newsletter      June 2024

## *Words from Pastor Joe*



Brothers and Sisters at Immanuel Lutheran, You all have a wonderful fellowship here and you anticipate a great future in Jesus' love. I am blessed that you have welcomed Gracie and me into your congregation. This spring and summer (so far) have reminded me that circumstances can change quickly. I find that I have to adapt to different expectations in my family. To help me I have used Five Developmental Tasks of the Congregation which I received by participating in the Intentional Interim Ministry Program of LCMC. They are meant to help develop the future in which you want to live! I shared this with the Council in June. If you have any questions, personally or in community, please talk to me or one of the council members. Keep everything out in the open so that together we can walk in the light. And here is a short thought (which is usually all I can handle) that keeps me focused: "Take small but always in the right direction." The direction is always toward Jesus.

Keep it in mind as you read on.

### **The Five Developmental Tasks of the Congregation**

#### **TASK 1: COMING TO TERMS WITH HISTORY**

The time of pastoral change is an opportunity for a congregation to wrestle with its history, its story, and its identity. A pastor's leaving precipitates grief among the members. This must be dealt with. The better the congregation works at this developmental task of coming to terms with history, the more likely it will be to free itself to go on building a new future. They will be more likely to be able to use the strengths of the past to get some perspective and power over their weaknesses. They will be more able to choose an appropriate pastor for a new life together.

#### **TASK 2: DISCOVERING A NEW IDENTITY**

This is a time for taking a fresh look at reality and making adjustments in self-image.

#### **TASK 3: ENABLING NEEDED LEADERSHIP CHANGE**

During the time of the vacancy, members of the congregation can be aware of special opportunities to open doors to new leaders and to be appreciative and understanding of those who have been leaders in the past.

#### **TASK 4: RENEWED CONNECTEDNESS TO OTHERS AND MISSIONS**

Pastoral change is a time for a congregation to rethink and renew its relationship with local congregations, LCMC districts and the national LCMC association. Go to [LCMC.net](https://www.lcmc.net) to help connect you to local, district, and national LCMC resources.

#### **TASK 5: COMMITMENT TO NEW DIRECTIONS IN MINISTRY**

Having come through this time together, the congregation has discovered a new sense of self. They have a sense of confidence that the new person selected fits the needs of the congregation's ministry and mission.

As we always seek to be a blessing to each other, thank you for your prayers, fill your summer with the Joy of Jesus life, and let's see each other at worship! (bring the kids)

+ 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.*

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## Upcoming VBS Meeting

Our upcoming VBS planning meeting is scheduled for July 8th and 15th 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 22-25 6:15 pm to 8:00 pm.

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## 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](mailto:kbadberg@gmail.com)

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## 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!

# JULY 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	3	4	5	6
7 9:00 am Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	8 6:30 pm VBS Mtg	9	10	11	12	13
14 9:00 am Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	15 6:30 pm VBS Mtg	16	17	18	19 Heartland LCMC annual Gathering	20 Heartland LCMC annual Gathering
21 9:00 am Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	22 6:15 VBS	23 6:15 VBS	24 6:15 VBS	25 6:15 VBS	26	27
28 9:00 am Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee and Fellowship	29	30	31			

## JULY USHERS

July 7 Leroy & Barb Hanson  
 July 14 Jon & Janis Bible  
 July 21 Kerry & Deb Meyer  
 July 28 Fran Freeman

## JULY LECTORS

July 7 Kory Ball  
 July 14 Janis Bible  
 July 21 Isaak Fredrickson  
 July 28 Fran Freeman

## July Food Pantry

Peanut Butter  
 Jellies & Jams

## PRAYER LIST



Gracie Lambert (Health)  
Julie (Health – Bible)  
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