

In Word & Deed

"God With Us"



Feb—Mar 2021

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LSI Updates



Members of Immanuel ...

For the next six weeks, we are encouraged to lay aside all that weights us down. Our miscalculations, regrets, slights, grudges and sins. It's not a time to beat ourselves up or wallow in our sorrows.

It's time to let God make room in our souls for his love, and there needs be some decluttering. I personally think that, human nature being what it is, only God can give us the grace to let go. So, for me, Lent is both a time of repentance and a time of receiving grace.

This is a spring when many of us are relying on God's grace in the face of our losses. This is the time to remember that God never abandons us, in life and in death. It is at time of new beginnings, and we will see these all around us in the coming months. New plantings, new leaves, new starts slide upward as earth lets go of the old and embraces the new life. I can't help seeing how Lent includes all those themes. It's not just an observance of the season. This is a necessary part of healing and a kind of spiritual springs as well.

This year we will worship in person on Ash Wednesday evening. Each Wednesday night in Lent, our services will be on Facebook. Holy Week is scheduled to be in person and Facebook - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

I want to thank all of you for your decision to offer me a call. No other congregational call is so good. Before I sign that letter, though, I want to finish the medical tests I am going though. When I get that sorted out, we sign. It's only right.

*Sincerely,
Pastor Charis*



**IMMANUEL
Lutheran
Church**

**305 2nd Ave W
Cresco IA 52136**

547-2108

**8:30-1:30 Mon-Thu
Closed Fridays!**

office@immanuelcresco.com

pastor@immanuelcresco.com

www.immanuelcresco.com

Confirmation

It is hard to believe that we have now been under this pandemic for a full year now! And though, we do see light at the end of the tunnel, we know that things will not be the same again for some time! That said, we are NOT rushing back to face to face lessons until perhaps April or May! We will send details out to let you know! So we continue to do things a little different with the same goals in mind; confirm our 9th Graders in October 2021!!! (Our 8th Graders right now!) We are currently planning on ***Sunday, October 31st for Confirmation***, so save the date!

We have added new lessons to the schedule so continue to **look on Facebook for the 20 minute lessons** that Pastor Charis has supplied...you should find them on our Immanuel Lutheran Church Page under GROUPS, Confirmation Lessons. **Please post a comment to let us know you've watched a video or worship service!!** You should be receiving new worksheets to fill out and remember to watch the church services loaded each week on Sunday so that you can fill out your sermon notes as well. We WILL be asking for those in the future so if you haven't started yet...you might want to...Hint Hint!!! Any questions, please call the office!!



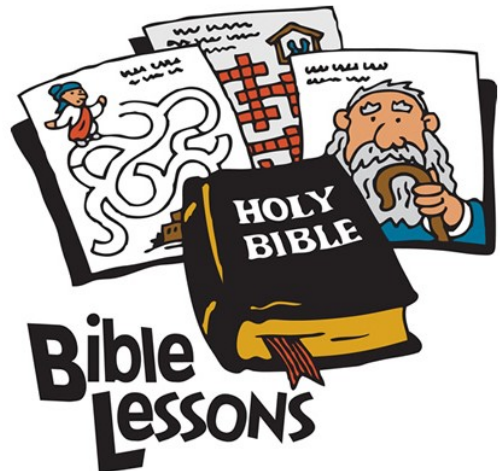
GLOW Lessons **(from your binders)**

Every GLOW child was given a binder with the lessons in them to follow along, read from the bible or watch pastors video clips on Facebook and then complete the worksheets located in your personal binder...there were activity bags sent home as well with crafts to complete along the way.

If you did NOT get a lesson binder or activity bag (and would like one) PLEASE let the office know (563-547-2108) and we will deliver it to you!

GLOW LESSONS:

The Ten Commandments—Exodus 20:1-17
The Battle of Jericho—Joshua 6:1-20
Naomi and Ruth—Ruth 1:1-22
David and Goliath—1 Samuel 17:4-11, 32-50
Elijah and the Widow—1 Kings 17:8-16
Jonah and the Big Fish—Joshua 1-4
A Child Called Immanuel—Isaiah 7:10-17
Angels Visit—Matthew 1:18-25
Jesus is Born—Luke 2:1-20
Wise Men—Matthew 2:1-12
The Disciples—Matthew 4:12-23; 9:9-13; 10:1-4
The Lord's Prayer—Matthew 6:5-15
Woman at the Wall—John 4:5-42
A Storm—Matthew 8:23-27
A Centurion's Servant—Matthew 8:5-13
Jesus Blesses the Children—Mark 10:13-16
Jesus Heals Two Blind Men—Matthew 20:29-34



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES – DECEMBER 7, 2020 - Page 1/3

President Kenneth Lueschow, Jr. called the Congregation Council to order December 7, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. Present were Pastor Charis Combs-Lay, Vice-President Bob Omar, Treasurer Bob Gast, acting Secretary Gary Johnson and board members Lewie Perkins, Steve Johnson, Cindy Yslas, Dick Holten, Martha Rasmusson and Al Voyna.

MINUTES: Motion made by Al Voyna and seconded to approve the minutes of November 2, 2020. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund ending balance \$15,929.13, Capital Improvement \$18,020.68, Benevolence year to date sent to ELCA \$12,762.52, Checking account balance \$46,149.28, Savings Account \$53,442.95, and ILC Miller Fund \$220,149.98. Question was asked about Board of Church Properties line-item Utilities-Parsonage. Synod guideline suggested that Immanuel Lutheran Church pay half of First Lutheran parsonage utilities expense since Pastor Charis has chosen to live at First Lutheran parsonage instead of Immanuel's. Utilities include gas, water and electricity. Expenses shown are for months of May – November. Currently, there is no signed agreement. Motion made by Dick Holten and seconded to receive the November treasurer's report subject to audit. Motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Charis said in November she had four Sunday worship services, no Mid-Month Communion service, has produced 3 Confirmation videos', has taken two COVID tests so spent 5 days in isolation, attended seven meetings: in-person Ministerial Alliance in Lime Springs, in-person meetings for Live Nativity, four, Bishop's Zoom Conference with Synod Pastors, Colleague group Zoom. Recorded contribution for Ministerial Thanksgiving Service. Thanks everyone for their contributions for this outreach service. Planned and recorded Christmas Eve Service for radio and Facebook. Wrote newsletter article. No in-person visits due to Co-Vid, but lots of conversations. Confirmation classes are no longer meeting in face-to-face small groups. Confirmation class and high school students are being recruited to help with Live Nativity. Pastor Charis asked to take the week between Sunday December 27th and Sunday January 2nd for vacation. Motion made by Cindy Yslas and seconded to grant Pastor Charis requested time-off Monday thru Saturday. Motion carried. Motion made by Bob Omar and seconded to grant Pastor Charis Sunday December 27th off with Synod providing a recorded sermon for the Church service. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Congregation President Kenneth Lueschow, Jr. participated in Church President's Synod Zoom Conference. President Lueschow, Jr. reported on discussion: majority time spent on COVID issues, some Churches have not opened, some Churches opened but since have closed, small Churches are experiencing severe financial losses, some Churches are having services in Church parking lot or outside on lawn, one Church has turned to electronic giving with incredibly positive results, suggested Churches need to be thinking out of the box, Synod Assembly will be first of June with assembly possibly being conducted virtually.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Cindy Yslas Church usage:

Cindy Yslas reported on requests for Church building usage.

December 9th Wednesday Cresco Elementary PTO fund raiser will use Community Room to distribute cupcakes for delivery. Friday and Saturday December 11th & 12th Community Action will use Community Room to setup display of toys and have families select toys who were not adopted by another Christmas program in the County such as CARE and NEICAC. Monday December 14th Crestwood Elementary PTO will use Community Room to distribute soup, pies and cookies. (PTO took over the former Lions' Club fund raiser).

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES – DECEMBER 7, 2020 - Page 2/3

b. Live Nativity

Cindy Yslas reported on the planning and preparation for the Live Nativity drive thru. Immanuel Lutheran Church is holding a Live Nativity for the entire community ... to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ on December 20, 2020 from 4:15 – 6:15 p.m. with a drive thru being conducted on the Church parking lot. An “At Will” and /or a non-perishable food item is being asked with all proceeds going toward the local Food Bank. Motion made by Bob Omar and seconded to grant approval to Immanuel Lutheran Live Nativity drive thru on December 20, 2020 from 4:15 – 6:15 p.m. Motion carried.

c. Tickets for Christmas services

Services will be 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Day. KCZQ Radio will air Immanuel Lutheran Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m. Motion made by Worship & Music Board and seconded that attendees will need to make a reservation with the Church office to secure a voucher to be picked up at Church office to be presented entering the Christmas service. Motion carried. At 11:00 a.m. Christmas service 100% masks required. At all services social distancing is highly recommended as well wearing masks usage is highly recommended. Motion made by Worship & Music Board and seconded that 60 persons will be given attendance at each service. Motion carried.

d. Plan of action if shut down

December 10th Governor Kim Reynolds will announce rules for the Christmas season. This may change Immanuel Lutheran Christmas services.

e. Gift to Todd at Sims

Todd installed our new sound system. Questions which arise during a Sunday Church service, Arlyn Grube has contacted Todd over the phone during the service to get corrective answers. Motion made by Cindy Yslas and seconded for the additional time Todd has given to answer questions that Immanuel Lutheran show appreciation with a \$100 gift card from Kwik Star. Motion carried. Bob Gast will purchase gift card.

f. Rent to First Lutheran

Included in the statement for utility expenses, was a request by First Lutheran that the rent received by Immanuel Lutheran from renting their parsonage, this rent be divided between the two churches. Motion made by Dick Holten and seconded that Immanuel Lutheran is not in agreement to dividing rent received from renting of Immanuel Lutheran parsonage. Motion carried. President Kenneth Lueschow will be in contact with First Lutheran concerning questions of concern expressed at this Church Council meeting.

g. Budget for 2021

Bob Gast presented proposed 2021 budget. 2021 budget is \$10,605 greater than 2020 budget. Motion made by Cindy Yslas and seconded to approve the proposed 2021 budget. Motion carried.

h. Set date for Semi-annual meeting.

Motion made by Cindy Yslas and seconded to set Semi-annual meeting for Sunday January 31, 2021. Motion carried.

i. Motion made by Bob Omar and seconded to grant a leave of absence for Church Council Secretary, Marlene Michel and to approve Gary Johnson as acting Church Council Secretary. Motion carried.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES – DECEMBER 7, 2020 - Page 3/3

j. Sam's Well Drilling submitting check

Sam's Well Drilling submitting a check for \$1500 honoring their employees who attend Immanuel Lutheran suggesting it be given to the Luther League. Motion made by Bob Gast and seconded to give the \$1500 to the Board of Youth Ministry for the upcoming Youth Gathering. Motion carried.

Board Reports:

Christian Education – Working to get Confirmation class and high school students along with their families to volunteer to fill needed positions for the Live Nativity being planned for December 20th 4:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Worship & Music – Need to scrape candles and other candle preparation needed for the Christmas Eve Service. Work to happen Tuesday December 15th. Poinsettia orders are needed by December 14th. Will arrange them. 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service to be broadcast on radio. A Christmas Day service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Take down of Christmas decorations will be January 10th.

Youth Ministry – Live Nativity has 10 -12 committee members working to find players.

Valentines Day dinner will be decided later. First Communion (2-3rd grades) will be decided later. Confirmation Lessons will continue in spring if possible.

Church Properties Would especially like to thank Curtis Trees and Gifts for the Christmas trees and decorations they donate each year for the beautification of our church at Christmas time. Renting of the Parsonage has no issues currently.

Evangelism – Delivering wrapped gifts from Giving Tree on December 15th. Delivered food from cart to Community Action Corp. Delivery of meals to shut-ins will occur the week of Christmas. Featherlite has contributed 14 unwrapped gifts.

Stewardship – November 11th Stewardship Board met with Josie Hrdlicka, CPA, about possible protections that may be used to uncover or prevent possible fraud of financial activities. For protection of various organization Treasurer's and protection of Church, receipts need to be placed in a file folder to match each check written. Consulting costed \$100. Presently, will continue using Church member Audit Committee to audit books on a yearly basis. 2020 audit to be conducted in January 2021.

Parish Fellowship – Still have coffee in kitchen. No activities currently.

K. Personnel activity

President Kenneth Lueschow, Jr. excused Pastor Charis for the purpose to discuss the additional stress and Pastoral time spent by Pastor Charis caused by COVID restrictions and physical health of Church members. Motion made by Executive Council and seconded to give a bonus of \$500 for extended work during COVID. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Bob Omar moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Minutes respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary Gary Johnson

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MINUTES – JANUARY 4, 2021

TREASURER'S REPORT: Financially the year ended on a positive note. Only \$45.00 had to be moved out of the General Fund to the Benevolence Fund in order to keep our pledge to the Northeastern Iowa Synod to send \$15,000.00 to the ELCA. It was the consensus of the council to again pledge \$15,000.00 to the ELCA for 2021.

General Fund ending balance \$32,151.39, Capital Improvement \$18,735.68, Benevolence year to date sent to ELCA \$15,000.00, Checking Account balance \$62,507.07, Savings Account \$53,458.91 and ILC Miller Fund \$233,222.96.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Charis said in December she had three Sunday worship services, three live Christmas Eve services, one live Christmas day service and recorded a Christmas Eve Service for Facebook and the Cresco radio station. She thanked Jim Hughes for conducting the December 27th Sunday morning service and thanked the council for the Christmas bonus. She recorded one confirmation lesson in spite of Internet difficulties. She made phone calls to members on the death of Peter Olsgard (funeral later).

Pastor had three meetings with the Living Nativity group and two meetings with the Education Board. She attended the Ministerial Alliance meeting at Lime Springs' St. Paul Lutheran Church and Zoom meetings with synod pastors and the Upper Iowa River Conference.

The ministry of the Living Nativity for the entire Cresco community was awesome. Cindy Yslas coordinated the event and Vicki Grube put pictures on Facebook.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The musical accompanists Sarah Holten and Karen Lefebvre have contributed a great deal to the Sunday morning services during Covid-19. Sarah, Karen and organist Rick Nance are willing to present the special music as long as the congregation wants it. Motion passed to continue paying Sarah and Karen through March, to re-evaluate the situation at the April 5th council meeting and to pay \$50.00 to the one singer/piano player each time they accompany Pastor Charis during Wednesday Lenten events on Facebook.

NEW BUSINESS: It was the consensus of the Council to have the Semi-Annual Meeting January 31st and to alert the congregation of the importance of attending in order to vote on whether or not to call Pastor Charis.

Motion passed to pay Cindy Yslas a \$300.00 bonus in appreciation of all the extra work she has done for the church.

BOARD REPORTS:

Worship & Music – All the following are subject to change due to the Covid-19 situation. The World Day of Prayer will be March 5th and Immanuel is in charge. Ash Wednesday is February 17th and the plan is to be in person. The following five Wednesdays will be on Facebook, and Pastor will give a Bible study and a musician will accompany her. Holy Week will be in person. This year the Good Friday service is at Immanuel. All the Sundays will be the regular format.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MINUTES – JANUARY 4, 2021
Page 2 of 2

Youth Ministry – There will be no Valentine's Day dinner. A postcard will be sent to the youth asking what service projects they are interested in. When Helen visits the shut-ins, she will take a postcard with a bulletin and ask the shut-ins if they need help. A letter regarding the July 2022 Youth Gathering will be sent to 7th through 11th graders. This is meant to determine the amount of interest there is in attending the gathering. Another letter will be sent to the families of 2nd through 5th graders in regards to First Communion. Via Zoom Pastor Charis will meet with confirmands (7th and 8th graders) to check the status of their confirmation studies and to see if they would help the younger children with First Communion.

Church Properties – The board did plumbing repairs.

Evangelism & Social Concerns – Holiday meals using food from the Fall Dinner were taken to shut-ins. Gifts from the Giving Tree and gifts through Community Action for an adopted family were delivered. The board will take the donated food to the Food Bank when the cart is full.

The board called the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center and reserved a spot in 2021 but the \$500 deposit was waived because everything is on hold due to the pandemic.

Stewardship & Finance – Al Voyna received council approval to join the church auditors as they audit the books in an effort to see how the treasurers of the various entities could facilitate the work of the auditors.

Parish Fellowship – The board will serve coffee and maybe treats in the sanctuary during the January 31st Semi-Annual Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The next board and council meetings will be either February 2, 2021 or March 1, 2021. It depends on the number of decisions that have to be made

*This is a summary of minutes of the January council meeting.
Full minutes will be available after formal approval by council at the next meeting.*



**MEETING
MINUTES**

Treasurers Report November 2020
Bob Gast, ILC Treasurer

| GENERAL FUND | November | Year to Date | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$14,063.70 | \$10,557.84 | General Fund |
| General Fund Income | \$22,033.40 | \$132,643.30 | Savings Account |
| Reimbursed Income | \$1,340.00 | \$31,272.20 | \$53,442.95 |
| Reimbursed Expenses | -\$5,282.04 | -\$23,151.25 | |
| Miscellaneous Income | \$51.68 | \$9,417.59 | Parsonage Rent |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$4,400.00 |
| Coffee Fellowship | \$0.00 | \$254.00 | |
| General Fund Expenses | -\$4,086.35 | -\$39,942.12 | ILC Miller Fund |
| General Executive Committee Expenses (Payroll) | -\$11,241.26 | -\$94,412.43 | Account Balance |
| GENERAL FUND | \$16,879.13 | \$26,639.13 | \$233,222.96 |
| Operating Loan | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 30-Nov-2020 |
| Savings income | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Savings expense | \$0.00 | -\$10,000.00 | |
| Debt Reduction Income / Fall Dinner | \$50.00 | \$290.00 | |
| Debt Reduction Exp /Op Loan / Savings / Payment | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| General Fund Ending Balance | \$16,929.13 | \$16,929.13 | |
| Men's Breakfast | | | |
| Beginning Balance | -\$531.00 | \$241.42 | |
| Men's Breakfast Income | \$270.00 | \$1,083.00 | |
| Men's Breakfast Expense | -\$415.00 | -\$2,000.42 | |
| Ending Balance | -\$676.00 | -\$676.00 | |
| Hands of the Master | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$592.17 | \$1,118.78 | |
| Hands of the Master Income | \$0.00 | \$30.00 | |
| Hands of the Master Expense | \$0.00 | -\$556.61 | |
| Ending Balance | \$592.17 | \$592.17 | |
| BENEVOLENCE FUND | | | Sent to the ELCA |
| Beginning Balance | \$3,042.69 | \$2,159.59 | November |
| Income | \$1,850.00 | \$18,978.71 | \$2,247.34 |
| Expenses | -\$1,290.00 | -\$17,535.61 | 2020 |
| Ending Balance | \$3,602.69 | \$3,602.69 | \$12,762.52 |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND | | | Pledged |
| Beginning Balance | \$17,655.68 | \$13,871.74 | \$15,000.00 |
| Income | \$365.00 | \$5,625.00 | |
| Expenses | \$0.00 | -\$1,476.06 | |
| Ending Balance | \$18,020.68 | \$18,020.68 | |
| Luther League Account | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$7,680.61 | \$6,349.28 | |
| Youth Income | \$0.00 | \$1,550.00 | |
| Youth Expense | \$0.00 | -\$218.67 | |
| Ending Balance | \$7,680.61 | \$7,680.61 | |
| Checking Account Balance | \$46,149.28 | \$46,149.28 | |

Treasurers Report December 2020
Bob Gast, ILC Treasurer

| GENERAL FUND | December | Year to Date | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$16,929.13 | \$10,557.84 | General Fund |
| General Fund Income | \$28,507.00 | \$161,150.30 | Savings Account |
| Reimbursed Income | \$256.87 | \$31,529.07 | \$53,458.91 |
| Reimbursed Expenses | -\$379.87 | -\$23,531.12 | |
| Miscellaneous Income | \$3,471.61 | \$12,889.20 | Parsonage Rent |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$6,000.00 |
| Coffee Fellowship | \$0.00 | \$254.00 | |
| General Fund Expenses | -\$4,465.54 | -\$44,407.66 | ILC Miller Fund |
| General Executive Committee Expenses (Payroll) | -\$12,167.81 | -\$106,580.24 | Account Balance |
| GENERAL FUND | \$32,151.39 | \$41,861.39 | \$241,521.97 |
| Operating Loan | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 31-Dec-2020 |
| Savings income | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Savings expense | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Debt Reduction Income / Fall Dinner | \$0.00 | \$290.00 | |
| Debt Reduction Exp /Op Loan / Savings / Payment | \$0.00 | -\$10,000.00 | |
| General Fund Ending Balance | \$32,151.39 | \$32,151.39 | |
| Men's Breakfast | | | |
| Beginning Balance | -\$676.00 | \$241.42 | |
| Men's Breakfast Income | \$91.00 | \$1,174.00 | |
| Men's Breakfast Expense | \$0.00 | -\$2,000.42 | |
| Ending Balance | -\$585.00 | -\$585.00 | |
| Hands of the Master | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$592.17 | \$1,118.78 | |
| Hands of the Master Income | \$75.00 | \$105.00 | |
| Hands of the Master Expense | \$0.00 | -\$556.61 | |
| Ending Balance | \$667.17 | \$667.17 | |
| BENEVOLENCE FUND | | | Sent to the ELCA |
| Beginning Balance | \$3,602.69 | \$2,159.59 | December |
| Income | \$9,997.41 | \$28,976.12 | \$2,171.70 |
| Expenses | -\$11,242.88 | -\$28,778.49 | 2020 |
| Ending Balance | \$2,357.22 | \$2,357.22 | \$15,000.00 |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND | | | Pledged |
| Beginning Balance | \$18,020.68 | \$13,871.74 | \$15,000.00 |
| Income | \$715.00 | \$6,340.00 | |
| Expenses | \$0.00 | -\$1,476.06 | |
| Ending Balance | \$18,735.68 | \$18,735.68 | |
| Luther League Account | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$7,680.61 | \$6,349.28 | |
| Youth Income | \$1,500.00 | \$3,050.00 | |
| Youth Expense | \$0.00 | -\$218.67 | |
| Ending Balance | \$9,180.61 | \$9,180.61 | |
| Checking Account Balance | \$62,507.07 | \$62,507.07 | |

February Calendar

February Calendar

March 2021 Calendar

March 2021 Calendar

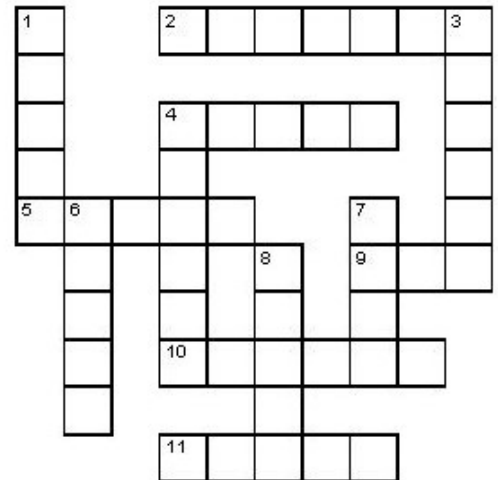
March Word Search

Topic: - Find the Given Words hidden inside the puzzle and circle them.

Words: saint, Patrick, rainbow, green, pot, bow, feast, parade, Ireland, pop, butter, salt.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | T | E | N | N | D | S | A | L | T | S | P | X |
| O | B | A | P | A | R | A | D | E | G | W | K | J |
| R | N | B | A | R | S | B | A | L | L | I | N | U |
| S | S | A | G | A | P | O | H | P | O | T | X | I |
| P | A | T | R | I | C | K | H | U | R | C | H | R |
| I | I | K | E | N | A | I | W | Q | U | I | K | E |
| P | N | E | E | B | Y | N | E | L | X | N | R | L |
| S | T | U | N | O | L | F | N | D | K | G | T | A |
| T | Y | B | O | W | L | E | N | G | Z | L | Y | N |
| F | E | S | T | I | V | A | L | B | O | W | N | D |
| C | O | L | Q | W | N | S | F | O | O | H | X | L |
| S | P | O | P | B | U | T | T | E | R | D | U | K |
| X | M | Z | C | R | I | B | R | U | N | C | H | M |

KIDZ KORNER



Across

2. April showers bring May _____.
4. In spring, farmers _____ crops.
5. The first month of spring.
9. Easter _____.
10. _____ blossom trees.
11. Spring _____; vacation



Down

1. Flowers _____ in spring.
3. The season after winter.
4. Let's go on a _____.
6. A month in spring.
7. An animal that wakes up in spring.
8. Birds that fly north in spring.



What's Happening at Immanuel & Around our Community?

The VFW Pancake breakfast is next Sunday, February 21st and March 21st at the VFW Hall...8:00 am – 12:30 pm – Stop by for pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee and milk...At Will Donations accepted!

February 24 - LIFE SERVE Blood Drive, Noon - 5:30 p.m. - VFW Hall

March 2 - Don't forget the **Mobile Food Pantry** at the Fairgrounds (the First Tuesday of the month!) Drive up style again and it starts at 5:00 p.m.; as soon as truck is unloaded!! Line up early & please pass this info on to anyone who could benefit from this program!!

March 4 - Cresco Area Red Cross Blood Drive, 1:00 - 6:00 pm - VFW Hall

March 11 - Lutheran Day on the Hill - Virtual Event 9:30 - 11:30 - If interested in "attending", see LSIowa.org/LDH to register!!! Fun to see what's being discussed!

March 14 - Day Light Savings Time begins...set your clocks AHEAD & Spring Forward!!!

March 17 - Happy St Patrick's Day!! Are you wearing your GREEN today?

March 20 - Spring Has Arrived!!!! Get out and Enjoy it (hopefully!!)

March 28. 2021 - Palm Sunday - After Worship we are planning a **PARADE** of cars waiving your **Palms!!!** Please plan to attend worship or join us right after, decorate your car if you wish, and let's drive by the care centers, the hospital and throughout town showing our joy of the Holy Season, waving our Palms and sharing this joy with out community!!

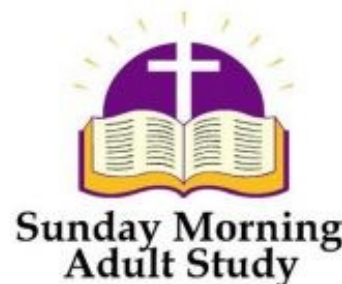
Reminder - The THRIVENT Choice Dollars are extending their ***Generosity Giving program*** through March 2021 to designate dollars to very worthy causes **of your choice**. If you are a THRIVENT member and would like to donate Choice Dollars to various causes both in the church and community, see the office for more details. With COVID this year, much of this money available has gone unclaimed! Lets put it to good use, \$250 gift cards at a time!!



"A bored person, means you're just not lookin hard enough for somethin to do!"

Adult Study Information!!

The Adult Class continues to meet at 7:45 Sunday mornings. We use the ELCA Faith Lens materials which includes a study of the weekly lectionary and a reflection using a news story from the week. We are following the CDC guidelines and have resumed meeting in the conference/library room. Copies of the lesson are made available in the entryway along with the weekly bulletin. Feel free to join us!



Daily Devotions



Circle of Grace - Making things happen!

The women of the ***“Circle or Grace”*** WELCA ladies meet on the 2nd Wednesday each month at 9:30 a.m. While they have cancelled at times due to COVID, the next meeting will be on **March 10th at 9:30 a.m.** All are invited to attend and share the fellowship, goodies, devotions and friendships.



The **WELCA ladies are still rolling bandages!!** They are now in need of any sheets but prefer **60% to 100% cotton white** sheets. Could you search your linen closets, ask relatives or look in 2nd hand stores in other towns? Just drop them off at the church or contact Sue Easler to see how you can assist with this very important project. Thanks!

Lutheran World Relief & the Circle of Grace WELCA ladies are once again collecting items for ***Personal Care Kits***. Please find the container in the Education Wing entrance to drop off your donations. Items they are in need of include: light weight (dark colored) bath-size towels, bath-sized bars of soap in original packaging, toothbrushes in original packaging, sturdy combs with large teeth & metal nail clippers. Thanks again for supporting this important and worthy cause.

Food collection for March - Continue to bring in Boxed Meals, but as usual, all donations are greatly appreciated and taken to the Local Food Bank regularly!! Reminder, Cat & Dog Food are always appreciated as well! Just a thought...

Peanut Butter Donations continue to come in regularly and we can not say ***Thank You*** enough to all the families, organizations, churches and community members who support this great cause. As you know, food comes from The North East Iowa Food Bank each week to send home additional items for the kids on free and reduced meals who may not have food at their homes over the weekend...the Peanut Butter we supplement a couple times a month is just one more way to send home needed support to those in our community!!! Thanks again for all the continued care and generosity by providing **16 or 18 oz CREAMY** jars each week.





Radio Broadcast Sponsorship!

February 2021 & March 2021

February 7, 2021

In loving memory and celebration of Leone & Arnold Ernst Wedding Anniversary of February 3, 1939, sponsored today by their daughters Helen Schmauss, Sandra Peter and Linda Bigalk.

February 14, 2021

In honor and recognition to Arlyn Grube, Al Voyna, Bob Gast and all those who played a part in bringing our new Sound System and Projection capabilities to life. Between that and Facebook, we have offered a more professional and enjoyable service each Sunday to our ever growing "online" viewing community and this would not have been possible without the hard work on their part.

February 21, 2021

In loving memory of their parents sponsored today by Rick & Karen Nance. Karen's parents are I.W. "Mike" and Doris Dietz. Mike was born September 3, 1927 and died on January 29, 2014 and Doris was born June 23, 1927 and died on September 23, 2013. Rick's Dad is Charles T. Nance and he was born on April 15, 1928 and passed away on September 12, 2019.

February 28, 2021

OPEN - Call office to sponsor!

March 7, 2021

In loving memory of Merlin Schmauss, sponsored today by his wife Helen Schmauss & Family. Merlin was born March 8, 1941 and died Feb. 1, 1995.

March 14, 2021

OPEN - Call office to sponsor!

March 21, 2021

OPEN - Call office to sponsor!

March 28, 2021

In loving memory of Walter Reis whose birthday was March 26th, sponsored by Arlene & Robert Falk of Wisconsin Rapids, WI.



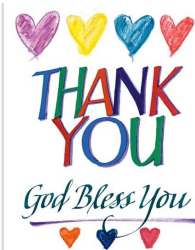
Red Hymnals & Bulletins Available!!!
Since we are now offering our worship services on line through Face Book and on the Radio (KCZQ), we would like to make the Bulletins & Red Hymnals available to you to



use for these "at home" services. Stop in to the church each THURSDAY prior to pick up that weekends bulletin and also check out a Red Hymnal to follow along with the song! We hope this helps you "join us in music & prayer!"



Altar Guild: Volunteers are always needed for children's busy bags, filling alter candles, cleaning alter linens, and replacing pew cards & pencils. Though we haven't had as many in person attendees at worship, we still have tasks that need attention. Please sign up if you are interested.



(Hot Pink) Sign up sheets are located on the bulletin board outside of the Conference Room. Any questions about any of these tasks, just ask!!

Assistance is needed with **Mid Month Communion** - If interested in setting up, bringing treats or "hosting" it in the Community Room, please see Cindy in the office for details ...

Tune in to **Pastor Charis** each **Wednesday during LENT** at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook to listen to her Lenten Service Themes each week; follow along and enjoy her beautiful message!

Wed, Feb 24 - For the Beauty of the Earth

Wed, Mar 3 - Jesus Remember Me

Wed, Mar 10 - Here I Am, Lord

Wed, Mar 17 - Healer of Our Every Ill

Wed, Mar 24 - In Christ Alone



Prayers of Healing, Comfort and Guidance

Yvonne Franks, Sue Fowler, Tom Stevenson, Dorothy Vagts,
SueAnn Ferrie, Rhonda Kalainoff, Becky Rix, Joan Hoppe,
Sammy Evenson & MaKiah Pierce



Loved Ones Serving Our Country

Joshua Kappes, Brady Vrieze (both deployed)
Cameron Krueger, Landon Nordby & Brandon Ludeman



Friends & Family in Long-Term Care

Al Schluter

Friends & Family in Assisted Living

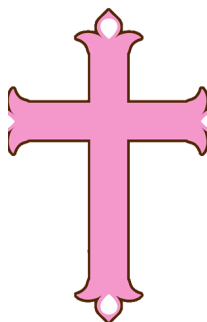
Perry Blaser, Al Sommer & JoAnne Kratz

Official Acts for December 2020 - January 2021

No Weddings or Baptisms

Funerals:

Peter Olsgard - 12.1.20
Wayne Carolan - 1.11.21
Ruby Schluter - 1.12.21
Shirley Lueschow - 1.18.21



February Mid Month Communion—Cancelled

March Mid Month

Mid Month Communion for March 2021
will be **March 11th - 2:00 p.m.** Unless
weather or COVID forces us to cancel!!

Let's hope for Spring Weather
to arrive soon!

March 2021, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

March is National Professional Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we are grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!



Maybe you have never had a social worker involved in your life. Yet, whether you realize it or not, you have had the benefit of their behind-the-scenes work in your community. Social workers help people help themselves by overcoming life's most difficult circumstances or managing challenges of everyday living: poverty, abuse, mental illness, depression, addiction, disability, and many other situations.

Iowa wouldn't be the same without the patience, guidance, and empowerment that social workers provide. Happy National Professional Social Work Month!

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

A Path to Hope and Healing

Mike remembers feeling angry and depressed, and his family was at risk of falling apart. When he decided to start Therapy Services with LSI, he questioned the decision. Therapy wasn't easy and when he missed an appointment, he didn't want to go back.

But through working with his LSI therapist, Sherry, for the past several months, he has found ways to grow and heal. During each session, Sherry is there to listen without judgement, and she provides a listening ear for anything Mike wants to talk about. At the end, Mike is always given a type of homework or a lesson to think about until they meet again.

While they originally began meeting in person, Sherry has continued to be available through virtual therapy throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual sessions ensure Sherry and Mike can continue meeting regularly, on a flexible schedule and from the safety of their own homes.

"Thank God for working through LSI in-person and through telehealth, and especially for Sherry, who helps people like myself who have been lost for years. If I hadn't chosen LSI, I wouldn't have met my therapist who has truly helped me keep my family and stay alive," Mike says. "I look back at the progress I have

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Spring Forward
with The Lord
so you won't
Fall back
into sin!

