

Immanuel's News and Notes ~ December 21 & 22, 2024

Welcome to worship! Like Mary and Elizabeth, we share the anticipation of what God is birthing—through Jesus, and in all our lives always. “Some of us are exhausted already, Lord, others—especially children—are excited for the celebration of Your birth. Keep us all in Your peace and security as we worship You and as we go to live in Your name. Amen.” We welcome our visitors and ask you to please sign our Guest Book in the Narthex and join us again!

Please Remember in Your Prayers: Bonnie Teut (recovering from foot surgery), Bruce Namanny (recovering from back surgery), Glenda Bryson, Ryan Kragel, Tayten Kline, Lila Bubke, Bonard Christiansen, Laurie Ricke and Susan Kaiser. *If you have a concern for which you would like us to pray, please call the Church Office 712-676-2235 or send an email to: immansch@iowatelecom.net.*

For You in the Narthex: Offering envelopes for 2025 are on the table, please pick up yours and also those of any family members. Please take a moment and check your church mailbox for any other correspondence that may be in it.

There will be no Bible Study this week Wednesday morning or Thursday evening, no confirmation class on Wednesday or no quilters on Thursday. Merry Christmas!

“Thy Strong Word” every weekday morning at 6:25 a.m. on KDSN radio, 104.9. This week, Dec. 23-28, Pastor Mahnken is scheduled for the daily message. Pastor Merrill will lead worship today at Denison Care, Silveridge and Gracewell.

Readings for Christmas Eve: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 110:1-4; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-20.

Readings for Christmas Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20.

Readings for next Sunday: Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15; Psalm 111; Col. 3:12-17; Luke 2:22-40.

To be included in your giving statements for 2024, gifts must be received in the Church Office by December 30, 2024.

Record Updates: A current membership list will be printed soon for our Annual Report. If you or a family member has a change of address or phone number, or would like to receive the monthly *Immanuel Messenger* by e-mail rather than hard-copy USPS, please let the church office know. Year-end reports for your group or board should be turned in also.

In case of inclement weather: please check our website www.immanuel Schleswig.com, Facebook page or listen to KDSN 104.9 FM for any weather-related service updates. We apologize to those of you last week that didn't know services were canceled on Sunday.

Missing! Could everyone please check your cupboards for (2) missing glass Pyrex pans. These have been missing since the church Harvest Dinner. If you took these home by accident, please return to the Church Office. Thank you!

Our Angel Tree in the Narthex has suggestions for us to give in donation in support of the Sioux City Gospel Mission. Items needed include: socks, underwear, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, coats, large cans of fruit, large cans of vegetables, any kinds of soup, canned meats, coffee, pastas, blankets, quilts, and devotionals. Thank you!

We will be collecting items for TAP in Denison during the month of December. At this time TAP is particularly in need of: sugar, flour, soups, crackers, cooking oil, tuna, canned tomatoes, tomato juice, macaroni, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, hamburger helper, tuna helper, complete pancake mix and syrup, laundry soap, dish soap, and personal hygiene products. Cash donations are also very helpful! Donations can be sent to PO Box 121, Denison, IA 51442.

The Lutheran Hour: “Does it Matter if Jesus is God?” by Speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can't help dead people. Only God's Son can make us alive again. (Luke 2:10-11) Listen to *The Lutheran Hour* every Sunday morning on Denison's KDSN 104.9 FM at 6:30 a.m. and KDSN 1530 AM at 10:30 a.m., and anytime at www.lhm.org.

BASIC Fund, Inc. Tree of Lights. A contribution to the BASIC Fund Tree of Lights in memory of someone entitles the donor to be listed in the paper and around town. Funds from the Tree of Lights will be used to support worthwhile community projects. Forms can be found around town or contact Kathy Weiss, Lila Bubke, Barb Moeller, Anne Abbe, Nancy Bielenberg, Larry Grill or Leisha Kragel for more information.

“Merry Christmas! And may the certainty of God's love for you in Jesus Christ give you strength, comfort, and confidence this day to face whatever comes tomorrow. For, nothing can overpower the persevering power and blessing of Christmas.” *Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty—A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life*

Talk Radio and Podcasts for Thinking Christians: You can listen 24/7 to sacred talk and music for the 12 days of Christmas at issuesetc.org, lutheranpublicradio.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, TuneIn, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

Building Healthy Families: What do you do in your home to keep your family focused on the true meaning of Christmas? Time spent together without technology, taking turns reading aloud the “original” Christmas story from Luke 2 is one great idea. Praying together is another. Perhaps at Christmas dinner, invite your family to read a Christmas song as a prayer before the meal, with each member given a verse to share. The text from Martin Luther's “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” (LSB #358) would be a beautiful family prayer. A blessed, peaceful and joyful celebration of Jesus' birth this Christmas to you and yours from your friends at Lutheran Family Service! **Lutheran Family Service**

Word of Hope: *Lutherans for Life offers help, healing, and forgiveness for anyone who bears the burden of overwhelming guilt through our 24-hour Word of Hope hotline (888-217-8679). This free service is available to men, women, and youth for information, referrals, and Scripture-based spiritual care to address life issues such as surprise pregnancy, abortion recovery, suicide, doubting salvation, and physician-assisted suicide.* **word-of-hope.org**

A life goal for every Christian should be to read the entire Holy Bible.

We are providing a reading plan to guide you through the entire Bible in two years.

You can start at any time. The entire reading plan is available in the Church Office.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MONDAY: Ecclesiastes 3:1—4:16 | <input type="checkbox"/> THURSDAY: Ecclesiastes 9:1—10:20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TUESDAY: Ecclesiastes 5:1—6:12 | <input type="checkbox"/> FRIDAY: Ecclesiastes 11:1-12:14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WEDNESDAY: Ecclesiastes 7:1—8:17 | <input type="checkbox"/> SATURDAY: Song of Songs 1:1—3:11 |

Gifts:
Church Plate: \$ 4,830.00
Sunday School: \$ ~~
Adult Bible Class: \$ ~~
Midweek Advent 12/11 \$ 611.00

Attendance:
Sat., Dec. 14 4 p.m.: 111
Sun., Dec. 15 9 a.m.: 21
132
Midweek Advent 12/11: 100
Sunday School: **canceled**
Adult Bible Class: **canceled**

Acolytes today:
Isla and Reed Meseck

~ The Week Ahead in Ministry ~
December 22-29, 2024

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship
December 22 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
1:00 p.m. Denison Care Worship—Pastor Merrill
1:40 p.m. Silveridge Worship
2:15 p.m. Gracewell Worship
Monday: No Preschool
Tuesday: ~~Church Offices Closed~~
Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship w/HC
8:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship w/HC
Wednesday: *Merry Christmas!*
Christmas Day 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship w/HC
Thursday: No Preschool
No Bible Study
Friday: ~
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Saturday Worship w/HC
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship
December 29 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

About the Cover: The Old Testament sacrifices and offerings were always given in order to point forward to Christ. Christ has come to fulfill the Law, not merely with the outward observance of sacrifices and offerings, but with His whole body. For Christ as has accomplished what we could never do. By taking on human flesh, He has redeemed and sanctified us, going all the way to the cross. He has become the one-time and eternal sacrifice for us.

**Immanuel
Lutheran
Church**

501 Glad Street
PO Box 27
Schleswig, IA 51461

Pastor

Rev. Merle F. Mahnken
Home Ph.: 712-676-2242
Cell: 712-269-6364

Assisting Pastor

Rev. Kurt Kaiser
Phone: 712-269-8452

Church Office:

Ph. 712-676-2235

Website:

immanuel Schleswig.com

E-mail:

immansch@iowatelecom.net
markey@iowatelecom.net

Worship:

Saturday ~ 4 p.m.
Sunday ~ 9 a.m.

Communion:

Every Saturday and
First & Third Sundays
Sunday School &
Bible Classes~10:15 a.m.

Worship Services are
streamed live,
recorded, and can be
accessed at any time by
clicking on Facebook,
YouTube or our website.

***“Together in
Christ, we grow
through the Word
and Sacraments,
serving our Lord
and sharing
His saving grace
with all people.”***

