

Immanuel's News and Notes ~ December 7 & 8, 2024

Welcome to worship as we continue to prepare our hearts for our celebrations of the coming of Jesus our Savior. "Lord, without Your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay, so daily cleanse my life from sin and prepare and enter with Your blessing until Your beauty springs everywhere in my heart and life. Amen." (from LSB #344). 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: Glenda Bryson, Ryan Kragel, Tayten Kline, Lila Bubke (recovering from knee replacement), Bonard Christiansen, Laurie Ricke and Susan Kaiser (wife of Lutheran Bible Translator Jim Kaiser and sister-in-law of Pr. 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.*

We Pray For God's Comfort for Jac Friedrichsen, her family, and all who mourn the death of Jac's father, Kent Johnson, who died November 28. Kent's funeral was held December 5 in Oakland, NE.

We Pray For God's Comfort for all who grieve at the death of Pastor David Viggers of Trinity, Odebolt, who died suddenly this past Wednesday morning. The visitation for Pastor Viggers will be Sunday, Dec. 8 from 2:30-5:30 pm. The funeral will be Monday, Dec. 9 at 11:00 am. The visitation and funeral for Pastor Viggers will be held at Trinity, 612 Dewey St., Odebolt.

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.

Poinsettias Needed! The church will be purchasing the poinsettias for our memorial poinsettia "tree". If you would like to donate one and/or have it in memory of someone, please call the Church Office, 676-2235. Cost is \$12 each.

The LWML Mite Box is in the Narthex today for your donations.

Library Potluck Supper: Tuesday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome!

Midweek Advent Services continue December 11 at 5:45 p.m.; supper will be served at 6:30. Invite a friend or neighbor to join us! Supper this week is served by the Board of Education and will be our Confirmation Prayer Team supper.

The Quilters will meet on Thursday, December 12 at 9 a.m. Anyone is welcome to help.

"Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart." Our Thursday night Bible Study will not meet during the month of December. Classes will resume on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Sunday School Christmas Program "*Star of Love*" will be Saturday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. There will be practice for grades 5-8 on Wed., Dec. 11 from 5:00-5:30 p.m. and all students Saturday morning, Dec. 14 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. A soup supper will follow the service on the 14th.

Readings for next Sunday: Zeph. 3:14-20; Psalm 85; Phil. 4:4-7; Luke 7:18-28 (29-35).

New and Gently Used Toys will be collected under the Christmas tree in the lower Narthex through Sunday, December 15.

"Thy Strong Word" every weekday morning at 6:25 a.m. on KDSN radio, 104.9. This week, Dec. 9-14, Pastor Torreson is scheduled for the daily message. Pastor Torreson will also lead worship today at Denison Care, Silveridge and Gracewell.

Budget Update: At the end of November, our giving for 2024 is \$6,264.10 behind our expenses for the year. Please prayerfully consider God's blessings to you as you plan your giving for the end of this year. 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.

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.

Christmas Open House: The Schleswig Public Library invites everyone to come to their Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 14th, from 9-11:30 a.m.

The Lutheran Hour: "Completely Ordinary Human" by Speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Everyone has a story to tell and yours can be one through which Jesus is working to make the world new again. (Malachi 3:7) 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.

"If heaven had been our home, would we have wanted to enter a world of grief and pain, of evil and death? Yet enter it Jesus did to give us His home to be ours forever. So, He loved us in undeserved grace. And so will we sing in the heavenly Jerusalem a refrain like that of our choirs: Hail, thou ever blessed morn, Hail redemption's happy dawn, Sing through all Jerusalem: 'Christ is born in Bethlehem.' Alleluia." *Richard Gurgel, President, Martin Luther College, New Ulm Minnesota—A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life* · lutheransforlife.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.

MONDAY: Proverbs 10:1—11:31

THURSDAY: Proverbs 16:1—17:28

TUESDAY: Proverbs 12:1—13:25

FRIDAY: Proverbs 18:1—19:29

WEDNESDAY: Proverbs 14:1—15:33

SATURDAY: Proverbs 20:1—21:31

Gifts:
 Church Plate: \$11,730.00
 Sunday School: \$ 19.00
 Adult Bible Class: \$ 18.00
 Thanksgiving Eve 11/27 \$ 1,982.50

Attendance:
 Sat., Nov. 30 4 p.m.: 30
 Sun., Dec. 1 9 a.m.: 117
147
 Thanksgiving Eve 11/27: 69
 Sunday School: 26
 Adult Bible Class: 25

Acolyte today:
 Morgan Jepsen

~ The Week Ahead in Ministry ~
December 8-15, 2024

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship
December 8 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
 1:00 p.m. Denison Care Worship—Pastor Torreson
 1:40 p.m. Silveridge Worship
 2:15 p.m. Gracewell Worship

Monday: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Preschool

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Preschool
 8:00 a.m. Pastors' Conference @ Battle Creek
 6:30 p.m. Library Potluck

Wednesday: 6:30 a.m. Bible Study
 11:45 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Preschool
 3:30—5:00 p.m. 5th/6th Grade Confirmation
 5:00—5:30 p.m. 5th-8th Grade Program Practice
 5:45 p.m. Mid-week Advent Worship
 6:30 p.m. Advent meal served by Board of Education
 6:30—8:15 p.m. 7th/8th Grade Confirmation

Thursday: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Preschool
 9:00 a.m. Quilting
 6:30 p.m. No Bible Study

Friday: ~

Saturday: 9:00—11:30 a.m. Sunday School practice (All grades)
 4:00 p.m. Sunday School Christmas program
 "Star of Love" with soup supper to follow

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship w/HC
December 15 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

**Immanuel
 Lutheran
 Church**

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Pastor

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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."***



About the Cover: The cries of John in the wilderness for a Baptism of repentance prepared the way of the Lord's first coming. For His second coming, Paul's deep desire is that we will be "pure and blameless for the day of Christ" (Philippians 1:10). The Lord has accomplished this for us by His abounding love that went all the way to the cross. So, it is by faith today that we are counted as pure and blameless because He is the pure, blameless, and spotless Lamb of God who has taken away our sin (see John 1:29).