# THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER



# SEPTEMBER 2024

Volume 39, Issue 1



#### From Your Pastor

God has created us in a marvelous way. In this article I want to focus a bit on God's creation of our minds, how He wants to fill them and guide them.

The human mind receives, stores, and processes information. From even before birth, at a certain stage of development, even the unborn child is receiving and processing information. The human mind thinks, feels, perceives, imagines, remembers, and wills to action or inaction in so many ways.

When I was a young person, still living at home, I knew of a young couple whose language was filled with cursing, swearing, and profanity. They had a son. The son, from the earliest days of his mind's functioning heard that language. When he began to talk, he began to curse, swear, and use profane language. His parents and their friends thought it was cute and actually encouraged it! I cannot imagine what it was like when that child began school and used that language, without even thinking about it, without even knowing it was sinful and wrong.

Of course, what fills our minds—the information we take in—greatly affects the way we feel about ourselves and others. Our thinking also greatly affects the way we behave. Dr. Stephen M. Saunders, a clinical psychologist and psychology professor at Marquette University, Milwaukee writes, "Our feelings and behavior can greatly influence how we think, but thinking tends to be a greater influence on the other two. The way we think is the predominant determinant of our feelings and behavior" (Martin Luther on Mental Health, pages 31-32). For example, a friend encourages Mary to join the church choir. Mary thinks people will mock her singing ability, and she feels anxious about joining the church choir, so she does not join the choir.

The point is the information and messages that our minds take in and our mixed-up (and often wrong) feelings based on what the sinful world tells us fill our minds, and these have a powerful impact on our belief system and our behavior.

Our loving and faithful God has a message for

you and me, given to us in the Bible, His Word for us. It is a message to shape our hearts and minds and behavior according to His desire. God loves each one of us perfectly and unconditionally. God's love for us does not depend on whether the world around us thinks that we are attractive. God's love for us does not depend on our mental or physical ability. He has made us and we are His. Our sins had separated us from Him. Our sins had so messed up our thinking, our feelings, and our behavior that we had turned away from Him.

God loves us so much that He came searching for us to bring us back! He sent His own Son, Jesus, to live and die for us for the forgiveness of our sins. He rose from the dead to break the power of sin and death over us. God has sent His Holy Spirit into our lives to convict us of His truth and to bring us to faith in Jesus that we might receive His love and so with the Psalm writer we pray, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10). Renewed by God's forgiving love, we also pray, "Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation," (Psalm 25:5), and "Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in Your commandments" (Psalm 119:66).

This is also why it is so important for us to bring our children and grandchildren to Sunday School, so that they may learn what God wants to teach them about His love and life with Him. This is why it is so important for us to keep reading our Bibles and coming to Bible Class, so that God can renew our minds to shape our beliefs about ourselves and our world and behave in a way that is pleasing to Him and good for us. This is also God's answer to all our anxiety and fears—to let Him teach us and reassure us in who He is for us, the One in whom we have the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, [He will] guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

Your fellow servant for Christ.

Pastor Mahuken



September 1Kevin Clausen
Myla Streck
Adam Vandevanter
September 2Michelle Anderson
Richard Hanlin
Gerald Pedersen (99)
Kathryn Sands
September 3Suzann Ibach
September 4Colten Rogers
Tyson Stoppel
September 5Leroy Fredericks
Pastor Merle Mahnken
September 6 Megan Ellerbeck
Spencer Schultz
Donovin Shafer
Alan Weiss
September 7Joel Bubke
Shannon Henningsen
September 8Carol Neddermeyer
September 9Diana Schultz
September 10Everleigh Mallinger
September 11Jac Petersen  Matt Petersen
Bobbie Weber
September 12Travis Aldag
September 12Gaylen Jepsen
Trevor Ransom
Landon Struble
Cristine Velasquez
September 14Lois Rothe
September 15Linkin Beeck
September 17Jill Andresen
Tayten Kline
Marie Peters
September 18Anne Abbe
Heather Aldag
Stacy Lindgren
Roger Walde
September 19Tara Jepsen
Marian Stockfleth (90)
September 20Karlon Bubke
September 22Marlene Bachman
September 23Tiffany Friedrichsen
Randy Jensen
Neal Nahnsen
September 24Larry Jensen
Todd Schultz
September 25Kyle Andresen
Ryan Jepsen
DeWayne Schultz
Maverick Walker
Brian Zavitz
September 27Roger Schneider
Sandy Wittorf
September 29Beckham Caldwell
Cody Segebart
Cory Thies
Troy Voss
September 30Jazlyn Beeck
Jeremy Jepsen



Ronnie & Evelyn Streck	September 2, 1969
Michael & Dianna Jepsen	September 4, 1971
Ross & Malory Wood	September 4, 2004
Ryan & Rhonda Kragel	September 5, 1981
Randy & Lori Segebart	September 5, 1987
Jeff & Sandy Hummel	September 6, 1980
Jason & Angela Nielsen	_
Jeff & Cori Kragel	September 7, 2013
Brad & Sarah Lundell	September 8, 2001
Curtis & Angela Korner	<b>September 11, 1999</b>
Leroy & Marlene Hight	<b>September 14, 1968</b>
Darwin & Julie Petersen	_
Scott & Stacy Lindgren	_

Please notify the office of any omissions or corrections.

#### 

# From the Church Record Book



Baptized: "Let the little children come unto Me...."

Cove Emma Riessen, daughter of Nick Riessen and Haley
Miller was baptized on August 3, 2024.

Dismissals: "May God continue to bless you."

Angela Roesner, Ashley, Sara and Jenna were released by personal request on July 7, 2024.



*Come Join Us* under the big tent uptown on Sunday, September 15 at 9:00 am for a community worship service as we finish celebrating Schleswig's quasquicentennial! All are welcome to join!

Immanuel will still have our regular Saturday evening worship with Holy Communion at 5:00 pm in the church on September 14. On Sunday, in lieu of traditional Sunday school, there is a children's event being planned. Stay tuned for more details.

Immanuel Lutheran Congregation 501 Glad Street, Schleswig

INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL

# **Calf Show Dinner**

Saturday, September 14, 2024

After the Parade — until 1:30 p.m.

Schleswig Community Building



Age 11 to Adult: \$15.00 Children 10 and under: \$10.00

#### Serving:

Staley's Broasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Roll, Beverage, and Homemade Desserts

<u>Carry-outs can be picked up</u> in the City Building next to the Community Building.

For deliveries, please phone the Church Office before Saturday, at 676-2235 during regular office hours.







#### Water Damage at Camp Okoboji

Camp Okoboji sustained water damage to buildings following the significant weather event at the end of June. Also, many of our docks will need to be replaced.

Please consider making a special donation for water damage repairs by sending a gift to Camp Okoboji, 1531 Edgewood Dr., Milford, IA 51351 or going online at campokoboji.org/donations.php.



Senior Youth Gathering October 5 & 6 Camp Okoboji

**Deadline** to register: Sept. 3

Junior Youth Gathering October 19 & 20 West Des Moines **Deadline** to register: Sept. 11



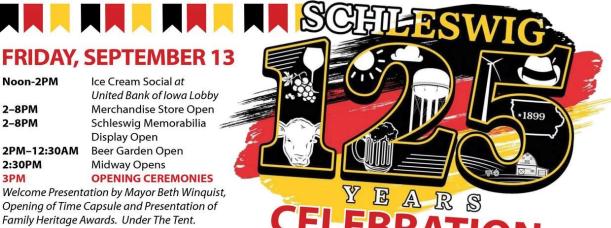
Registration deadlines are approaching for both gatherings. For more information, please contact Pastor Mahnken or the Church Office.



Would you believe the bunker room at Orphan Grain Train is EMPTY?

We need good used clothing of ALL sizes, good used shoes, belts, purses, caps, gloves, warm scarves, sheets, pillowcases, blankets, quilts, comforters, medical equipment. NO pillows. We are open at our

headquarters in Ida Grove on Tuesday mornings from 8-11 a.m. Sharon Ann Irwin, Iowa West Branch Manager, 712-660-1380



**3–9PM** Basket Raffle Tickets Open Food Trucks Open

**4-9PM** Schleswig School Food Stand Open **4:30PM** Pedal Pull Registration, *Ages 3-12* 

5PM Pedal Pull

Noon-12:30AM Beer Garden Open

### **CARNIVAL - Friday and Saturday**

Rides & Games for All Ages!
Presale: 10 tickets for \$7

During the Celebration: 10 tickets for \$10 McDermott Family Midway

Chance for a Bike Drawing with pre-sale of 10 tickets

5-6PM Holstein German Band

**5–9PM** Hammerschlagen in the Beer Garden

5:30-9:30PM Bingo

5:30-6:30PM Registration for Beer Stein Holding

Contest -Men, Women

**6–8PM** Guided tours at Schleswig School **6–8PM** Guided tours at Under The Son

Childcare Center

**6:30PM** Beer Stein Holding Contest **9PM–12AM** Not Quite Brothers Band

Garden Giants Contest - 2nd and Birch - Entries in by Noon on Saturday. Contact John Cassens, 712-269-7401

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

6:45AM	Registration 2 Mile Fun Walk & 5K/10K	1-9PM	Bingo		
	Fun Run at the Schleswig Park on	1:30-3:30PM	Barefoot Becky & the Ivanhoe		
	Birch Street, Start time 7:30AM		Dutchmen		
7:30-9:30AM	Parade Line up (Enter at Willow off of Hwy 59)	2-5PM	Guided Tours at Schleswig School		
8:30AM-2:30PM Craft Show at Community Building		2-5PM	Guided Tours at Under The Son		
8:30AM	Coffee & Rolls by Immanuel Lutheran		Childcare Center		
	Church Preschool at Community Building	2:30-4PM	Come and Go Sign Painting		
9AM-9PM	Basket Raffle Open		at United Church of Christ		
10AM	PARADE (Cedar, Maple, Hickory)	<b>ЗРМ</b>	Cribbage Tournament in		
After Parade til 1:30PM Staley's Broasted Chicken Dinner			Community Building Basement		
	at Community Building	3:30PM	Register for Best Dressed German		
After Parade til 9PM Schleswig School Food Stand Open			Contest; Men, Women & Kids Welcome		
11:30AM	Midway Open	4PM	Best Dressed German Contest		
Noon	Schleswig German Band	5PM	Schleswig All-School Reunion		
Noon-3PM	Tractor Show in FAC Hoop Building		at the Community Building		
Noon-5PM	Iowa National Guard Rock Climbing Wall	5-9PM	Hammerschlagen in the Beer Garden		
Noon-7PM	Meyer Petting Zoo	5:30-7:45PM	Tami Hall Band		
Noon-8PM	Merchandise Store Open	8:15PM	VFW Gun Raffle Winner Announced		
Noon-8PM	Schleswig Memorabilia Display Open	9PM-12AM	Decoy Band For More Information,		
Noon-10PM	Food Trucks Open		For More Information,		

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9 AM Community Church Service under the big tent uptown10 AM-Noon Free will offering Pancake Breakfast by Chris Cakes



#### ~ THE LWML INVITES ALL LADIES ~



We are making plans for the Calf Show Dinner coming up on September 14th. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex for food donations and for those willing to work. We appreciate all of your help.

Other events coming up are the LWML Fall Rally in Dow City on September 19th and the Fall Retreat at Mission Central on September 28th.

Chris Mahnken and Sue Schulz will be attending the Pastor's Wives Retreat at Camp Okoboji October 11 through 13.

We continue making monthly visits to our Immanuel members in Gracewell, Silveridge and others.

Submitted by Donna Harm, Secretary



At our August meeting we recognized three women who have given **50** years of service to Immanuel's LWML/Ladies Aid.

Pictured above are Loretta Reimers, Joyce Miller and JoAnn Clausen.

# From Your library . . . "Have we got a book for you!"



### A Warrior's Heart By Misty M. Beller

In September of 1814 in the Rocky Mountains of Canada, Brielle Durand is out hunting meat for her family when a man rides into her sights ready to charge thru the opening in the rocks.

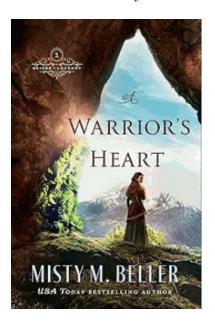
Since her 18th birthday she's finally been allowed to fight with the warriors. She swore an oath every morning to protect her village. Never again would an Englishman enter her inner circle. Many were hurt, one of the people killed was her mother. She prayed the arrow would find its mark.

Evan MacManus was wounded, not killed, what was his mission in those mountains? His mission was to see if the northern mountains contained an explosive mineral that might help America win the War of 1812.

Brielle had a prisoner she had to learn to trust and the prisoner had a new awareness of what a family is and how it revolves around them.

This book was good from page 1 to the very end. I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

—Submitted by Carol Neddermeyer



#### AFRICAN RADIO MINISTRIES-NEWS

#### **Ethiopia Updates**

#### July Kingdom Growth:

◆New Converts: 81 ◆Baptisms: 36 ◆Callers: 84

◆Listening Groups: 4 ◆Inmates in Confirmation Class: 256

◆Confirmed: 106 ◆Bibles Provided: 80

#### My chains are gone, I've been set free.

Mr. Asefu spent years locked away in Ambo Prison, not just behind bars, but imprisoned by sin, death, and the devil. But then something incredible happened — he found freedom in Christ, even in the midst of captivity. Now, he can't help but share his remarkable story with everyone he knows. The joy of his Salvation is overflowing, and he's spreading that joy to all his friends and family.

#### Ambo Women's Prison—Blessing the Kingdom!

Before, most of the female inmates were Orthodox. After the women's chapel was built, all but two women accepted our Lord Jesus Christ as their personal savior and now worship together.

The women used to take the Lord's Supper outside in the sun and the rain. But now they study God's Word, pray, and worship in the chapel built for them. A sewing machine was bought for them, allowing them to earn a small income. The women prisoners are so zealous in their faith, they begged to contribute gifts to the evangelist who has diligently taught them.

During this trip, 36 inmates were confirmed, 80 Bibles were distributed, and seven people were baptized.

#### **Liberia Updates**

# Foya District, Liberia: The Power of Healing, Believing and Sharing!

In 2018, two individuals from an isolated village had the opportunity to listen to the Gospel message on the radio in their native language. Intrigued by the teachings, they invited the radio pastor, Rev. Ezekiel Saah, to visit so they could learn more.

72 individuals, including men, women, and children, were baptized in 2020. A foundation for the church building was laid and prayed over for God's provision on that same joyous day.

Two years later the church structure was completed. Seeing the need for education as the nearest school was a two-hour walk, the members rallied together to open a small Nursery School. Today, the Mah-Custom Lutheran Church has 150 regular worshippers and the Lutheran School serves 120 students from Nursery-Grade 4. Glory to God!!

#### New Preaching Point Needs Prayer!

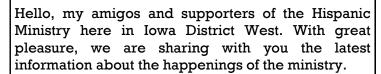
In July, Rev. Emmanuel Tengbeh, co-manager of ARM, received an invitation to meet with a new listening group in Kpakutasu. Upon his arrival, the people were very excited. The villagers asked Rev. Tengbeh to lead worship that Sunday and arranged a location. He is nurturing the new believers, and remarkably, the church is steadily attracting more villagers who are interested in learning about Jesus. Last Sunday, 36 people attended. Please keep this village in prayer.

Your partners in the harvest.

John & Kathy Duitsman and Missionary Linda Kurtz

#### !AMIGOS EN CRISTO and GRACIA!

News from Las Iglesias Evangélicas Luteranas Amigos en Cristo in Denison and Gracia in Storm Lake Pastor Pedro Lopez



The Taco Sale event during RAGBRAI at Trinity Lutheran Church in Atlantic was a success! We served over 1,500 tacos and helped more than 450 participants! Many people helped during this event. Volunteers from around 8 churches made this possible. We had the opportunity to meet new friends from many District congregations. The tradition of working together brought an opportunity to the members of Trinity to support the ongoing Hispanic Ministry at large. Gracias to all who participated!

Plans for the new ESL are set. Beginning the last week of September till the middle of December, we will be having this program again in Hartley and Carroll. This program always gives us opportunities to help our Spanish and other ethnic groups to hear English and also to share the Gospel of Jesus and about our church programs. As always, volunteers are welcome.

The ministries at Storm Lake (Grace/Gracia) continue to take place every Wednesday with Bible study starting at 6:30 pm and Sunday worship service at 10:30 am.

In Denison, the ongoing ministry every Sunday at 2:30 pm and individual and family Bible studies are taking place. Several prospect members and new friends have been reached in a personal way.

In Hartley, our Wednesday and Friday studies continue to happen under the leadership of Deacon Noel and our supervision. Future members are getting instructed here.

In Carroll, the ministry continues to get stronger. New friends are coming to study the Word of God, and they are getting involved in the life of this ministry. At this ministry, I have been able to meet other community leaders and work together to make this town a more welcoming place for ethnic groups.

Like always, gracias for your continued support and prayers. Please remember us always and feel free to come and join us at any time of our events around the District Hispanic Ministry.

Gracias and bendiciones to all, Pastor Lopez



Do you hear that noise? No, well perhaps by the time you are reading this I've caught my breath and the gasping has ceased! It's been very busy around here the past couple of days and there is no immediate end in sight. It's okay. We'll rest later!

One of the major accomplishments (along with a 12 hour day with the job still in process) has been the purging of excess items from the preschool storage. While we've tried over the years to organize and relocate items, there comes a time when we just have to let things go. I have a friend who is amazing with organization who came to assist and it was very helpful to have an outside perspective. As I type today and reflect upon how it feels to have it gone, I confess a warring of emotions. Gratitude. Freedom. Grief. Fear. Oh, I know. We don't think of grief or fear when we think of a much needed task accomplished. However, as much as we appreciate the order and freedom, there is that underlying fear that we might just need those items before the year is over. But just as with life, we cannot live in the past.

Isn't it just the way of life? God has so much for us. Freedom being one of those things. Yet, how often do we pass up a life of loving boundaries for our own will. We try to rearrange hurts, bury unforgiveness, tuck unneeded anger back in the corner of the shelf just in case we need it again in the future. However, carrying those things around (even stuffed in the corner or neatly boxed on a shelf in our spirit, isn't doing anyone any good. Because if we're carrying around all of the yuck, we're taking up room that God wants to fill with amazing fruits of His Spirit. He wants us to live

in love, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control. He wants us to abound in the freedom which comes from abiding in Him.

Let's face it. We can't always do it alone either. Oh for sure God will walk with us through our surrendering process. But let's face it, just like I appreciated my friend who was especially gifted and emotionally unattached to any of the items sorted through yesterday, sometimes we benefit spiritually by seeking out the help of another in the body of Christ who can offer an outside perspective. Equally as important, we can BE that friend for someone else in their time of purging (or does God call it refining)?

I am looking forward to the upcoming year. Just as I will enter our storage space with a new level of peace and calm (which I am going to appreciate each time I need to go in that room), I know God will faithfully meet myself, staff, and the children in that same place as we begin growing to new levels in our spiritual lives. I pray that God will continue to equip us as we journey with the littles this year. We will offer ourselves to Him (as a staff) and pray we are part of the freedom process God has for His littles. After all, "it is for freedom that Christ has set us free..."

And just as God tells us to "...stand firm and not be burdened again by the yoke of slavery..," I will do my best not to put any unnecessary things into storage. Smile.

Thank you for your prayers, Mrs. Gustafson



**National POW/MIA Recognition Day** was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

A national-level ceremony is held on every National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Traditionally held at the Pentagon, it features members from each branch of military service and participation from high-ranking officials. In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities.

No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.



### **Area POW/MIA List**

#### **WWII**

Lyle W. Stepanek Dow City March 9, 1944

Herman C. Kiepe Ute March 28, 1944

#### <u>Korea</u>

James L. Houston Dow City February 14, 1951

Freeman D. Satterlee Denison May 14, 1952

#### Vietnam

Robert F. Rex Odebolt March 9, 1969

Donald Sparks Carroll June 17, 1969

Daniel W. Thomas Danbury July 6, 1971





# SEPTEMBER 2024

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Schleswig, Iowa



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
9 a.m. Worship w/HC	Church Office Closed	Preschool	6:30 Bible Study	Preschool		
10:15 SS & BC	No Preschool		p.m. Preschool	1:30 p.m. LWML		
	Labor Day		Confirmation	6:30 p.m. Bible Study		5 p.m. Worship w/HC
8 Grandparents Day	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14
Rally Sunday	Preschool	Preschool	6:30 Bible Study	Preschool		squicentennial Weekend—>
9 a.m. Worship 10:15 SS & BC			p.m. Preschool	No Quilting	Can Snow	Craft Fair
Rally SUNDAY	HAPPY Grandparents DAY!	6 am—9 pm Voting polls open for Schleswig special election	Confirmation  9/II  PATRIOT DAY  WE WILL NEVER FORGET	No Bible Study	SCHILE SWIC	10:00 am Parade Immanuel's Dinner til 1:30 pm 5 pm Worship w/HC
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9 a.m. Community Worship Service uptown under the big tent  10am—Noon Pancake Breakfast	No Preschool	Preschool  Messenger Deadline for October issue	No Bible Study p.m. Preschool Confirmation	Preschool  9 a.m. LWML Zone Rally @ Dow City  6:30 p.m. Bible Study		5 p.m. Worship w/HC
at Comm. Bldg.	Pastor Conference @ Concordia STL					
22 Fall Begins	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 a.m. Worship 10:15 SS & BC 11:30 Elders Mtg.	Preschool  District Pastor	Preschool rs Conference	6:30 Bible Study p.m. Preschool 8:45 a.m. Newsletter Assemblage Confirmation	Preschool 9 a.m. Quilting 6:30 p.m. Bible Study		8:30 a.m. LWML District Fall Retreat at Mission Central 5 p.m. Worship w/HC
29	30				0.1	hon
9 a.m. Worship 10:15 SS & BC	Preschool	Wed.: 11: <u>Confirm</u> 5th & 6th o	ol: s., Thurs.: 8 a.m.—7 45 a.m.—3 p.m. ation: Wednesday grade: 3:30 p.m.—5 6:15 p.m.—8:00 p.r		1 2	V T F S 2 3 4 5 9 10 11 12 6 17 18 19 3 24 25 26

# IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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#### THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

#### **IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Preschool: Leslie Gustafson
Organist: Marlene Hight
Janitor: Jolene Whiteing
Snow Removal and Lawn Care:
Ryan Jepsen; 712-790-1603
Loren and Janice Jepsen



OUR MISSION STATEMENT: "Together in Christ, we grow through the Word and Sacraments, serving our Lord and sharing His saving grace with all people."