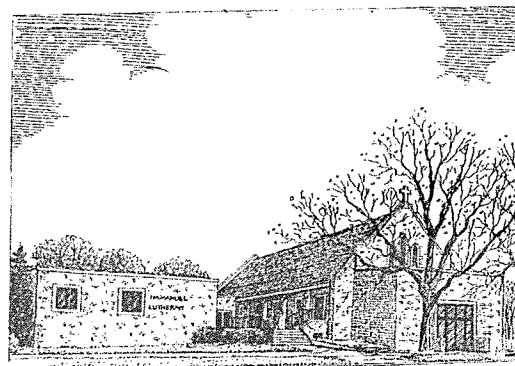


**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Alliance, Nebraska

762-4663

Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard C. Mueller
email doulos63@gmail.com
Head Teacher: Mrs. Jill Mueller
School E-mail: office.ielschool@gmail.com
Church E-mail: immanuelevlcms@gmail.com



IMMANUEL
Yesterday,
Today,
and Forever
God with Us

July 

2020

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

“Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15).

So many thoughts are running through my head right now. What is happening in our society? The racial issue, people tearing down statues, the Supreme Court’s Bostock ruling. What does this all mean for us Christians. It brings to my mind the thought of our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus. We may think that we are trapped and can not do anything, but we are free, free in Christ. So if things look terrible for us, we turn to the freedom we have. Not matter what is happening, we need to remember all the Christ has done for us.

There is a great freedom that we have as God’s children—the freedom to serve the LORD. July brings to our minds the freedoms that we have in our country, freedom of speech, freedom to vote, freedom of religion, freedom to bear arms, etc. But we do not have any of the freedoms in our country without our Triune God making those freedoms possible for us. So as we celebrate our freedoms here in the United States, let us not forget our freedom that Christ has earned for us on the cross through His death and resurrection. Freedom from sin and freedom to serve God our Father.

As a leader of the Israelites, Joshua was challenging the people of Israel to remember what God had done for them (*the ten plagues, the crossing of the Red Sea, the manna, the quail, the Ten Commandments, the miraculous victories, the*

in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family, and society. We are members of all three of these by birth.

- We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from either our birth into the church or the birth of others by Baptism into it.
- We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from either our birth into that family or the birth of others into our family.
- Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are is to be pressed into service for the church, the family, and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and our duties toward them would falter.

So consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You provide food, clothing, and shelter for the members of your family. You save for college for your children.

But the one station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and

society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits – the best from off the top – even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

This requires forethought and intent. It means that you sit down and make a plan for what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems there are other more immediate and pressing things.

This is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time while giving is low due to high unemployment or restrictions on meeting in church to give. If we love God, his gifts of forgiveness given through the means of grace we receive at church and only at church, then we will support the church just as we love our country and our family.

For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious and giving God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son into death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What is more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of the church, the family, and society, are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three by birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be ignored or even an afterthought. The church is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation by Word and Sacrament for eternal life.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION has a food pantry and emergency services available in Alliance and multiple other locations in the Panhandle. Please go to the website at ncap.info, go to the bottom of the page and click on the COVID-19 Updates page for the latest information. Here is the direct link <https://www.ncap.info/programs-and-services/emergency-and-community-services/covid-19-updates.html> There is a simple inquiry form to click on for food or services. Once we receive it we will reach out to that family. Our mission is to alleviate poverty and our staff is working hard to reach those in need.

JC PLAY ZONE is a Lutheran Hour Ministry Program on line for children. There are games, music, crafts, Bible stories, devotions, recipes, card making and coloring pages. Go to : JCPlayZone.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The Board of Parish Education is beginning to plan for next year's Sunday School and we would like to invite your children to join us! We are also looking for one more Sunday School teacher. We will start up Sunday school again beginning on September 13th. Sunday school begins at 9:00 with opening devotions and concludes at 10:15. If you would like more information, please contact Samantha Steinman, Tammy Lore, or Jennifer Foster.

fact that they had traveled for forty years in the desert and their clothes nor sandals wore out, etc.) As a wise leader, Joshua was very aware of the ever present danger—the danger that the Israelites would forget what the LORD had done for them and was doing for them and follow the godless ways of their neighbors.

In his wisdom, Joshua realizes that it's really a family thing, "Chose this day whom you will serve...But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." So this important "family thing" keeps happening today. The passing on of the Christian faith is something that most effectively happens within the circle of the family.

We ourselves must have some idea of why we believe the Bible is true and the importance of that truth for our lives. Then, and only then, will we have something to pass on to our children. I am convinced that we will have spontaneous opportunities to pass on what we believe. When the TV, smart phones, I pads, computers get turned off, when we find ourselves riding along in the car with one of our children, when we're walking somewhere or even over the phone when they are many miles away—those unplanned opportunities will present themselves and we must bare our souls to our spouse, our children and tell them what we believe. Don't you sense that Joshua did this? "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

As your pastor, I am challenging you to remember what God has done for you (*the birth, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, His*

Stewardship Corner

"Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, "You know the commandments." And the ruler replied, "All these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." (Luke 18:18–22)

As we listen to this, one question is raised in our minds: Is Jesus speaking to us also or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor? As good

ascension to the right hand of God the Father Almighty, His promised return, the amazing gifts and opportunities that you have). I am also aware of the dangers that surround us. We have godless neighbors too. Faith is passed from generation to generation when each generation shares what it believes with the next generation. "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17).

Part of that sharing the Gospel of Jesus is that you and your children, your family is in the Divine Service on Saturday night or Sunday morning. Receiving the gifts that God gives to you in His Word, forgiveness of sins and eternal life in heaven. Part of that sharing is attending Bible classes and Sunday School where we study God's Word and again receive God's gracious gifts.

Part of that sharing is happening in our school. Where the students hear about God's plan of salvation for them, about Jesus Christ's sacrifice for them that they may be forgiven and are His children. Again we are reminded that "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). We come together to hear and to share God's Word. Our world needs to hear God's Word, especially today with all that is going on. We turn to Christ.

May the word of Christ be a part of the message you share with one another in your household and to those around you.

Pastor Mueller

Lutherans, we answer: No! But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor?

The simplest explanation is this: If we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't mean it isn't to be used for the purpose God intends.

Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres

RETURN TO SENDER: A reminder to notify the church office of any address changes. *We are required to pay a fee for undeliverable mail.*



Pastor and Diane Schnare's new address

237 Hamel Ave.
PO Box 493
Hamel, IL 62046

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES...

Adult Bible Study - Sundays, 9 am Fellowship Hall.

*****WE WILL RESUME ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL ON JULY 12th!!*****

MONTHLY LWML BIBLE STUDIES:

RHODA CIRCLE - Will meet again starting in September

LYDIA CIRCLE - Will meet again starting in September

MARTHA CIRCLE - Will meet again starting in September

TABITHA CIRCLE - Will meet again starting in September

QUILTERS meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9:30 am.



MONTHLY COFFEE SCHEDULE

July	5 - Shirley DeVoogd
	12 - Deb Moore
	19 - Kari Narjes
	26 - Becky Herian

MITES SUNDAY will be the last Sunday in July, the 26th.

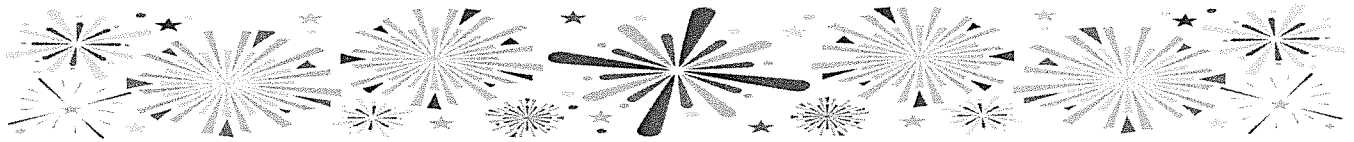
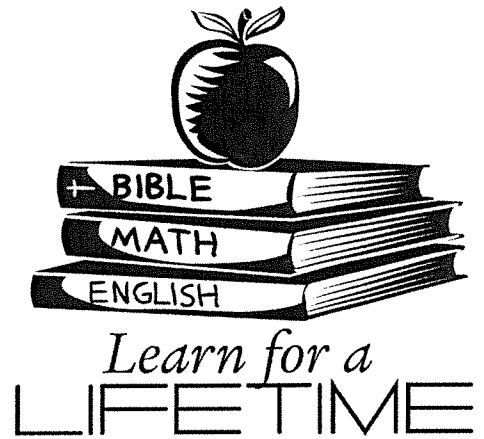
ONGOING MISSION PROJECTS: Used bedding is needed by the quilters. Canceled postage stamps are needed for mission projects. Old eye glasses and outdated hearing aids are useful to others. Bedding may be left in the quilting room. Other items can be left in the cupboard under the guest book.

RAISING DISCIPLES total receipts to date as of June 25th, 2020 are \$559,906.79.

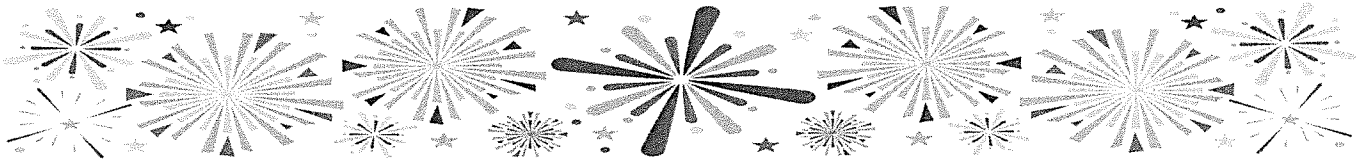
GREETING CARDS: If you plan to send greeting cards for any occasion please consider cards from our LWML. We have birthday, get well, sympathy, anniversary, thinking of you and others. **There's a brand new selection of cards that include graduation cards and money holder cards, confirmation cards, congratulations on your achievement cards that may be used as retirement cards, and a new baptism card suitable for an adult.** These are nice and all have Scripture text. Check them out in the lower level of the narthex of the church.

SCHOOL TIDBITS

IMMANUEL EV. LUTHERAN SCHOOL ALUMINUM CAN DRIVE is an ongoing year-round fund raiser. This helps fund the operational costs of our school. Please ask everyone to collect and save all aluminum cans and bring them to the east side of the school and place in the bins that are labeled "Aluminum Cans." We appreciate your help in this ongoing effort.



IELS will have their firework fundraiser again this year! The tent is located in the Alliance Plaza (old Alco parking lot). It will be open June 25th thru July 2nd from 9:00am to 10:00pm and July 3rd and 4th from 9:00am to Midnight! This is a wonderful fundraiser for the school.



8th Grade Essays:

Joshua 1:9 speaks to me a lot. "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be discouraged for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." It is important to me because it tells me God wants me to be strong and He is always with me wherever I go. This verse can help me later in life because I know He's always there and willing to help. My 8th grade year at IELS brought me closer to God than I thought I ever would be. I am so thankful for that. I made new friends and had amazing teachers.

Aiden Bolek

Have you ever dreamt about going to IELS? If you have, then you are in for a treat because the teachers are really great. They will treat you like one of their own kids. Miss Jill, our principal, is super nice, except to us 8th graders because she can't wait until we leave (just kidding Miss Jill, we all love you).

This school year has been pretty awesome, except the time I broke my thumb, and that time I broke my shoulder, but besides that the school year has been great. I always loved how the school had fun Christian

activities. My bible verse comes from the book of John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He sent His only Son for whoever believes in Him will be saved, but whoever does not believe will perish."

My favorite part was the house. I really enjoyed them. I hope the school will keep all the houses except the house of Miss Jill.

I really do appreciate all the time and effort that you teachers have given us so that we are prepared for high school. I hope the rest of your guy's school career goes well, and that God may watch over you and protect you. I'd also like to thank all the middle school children for being great friends. I can't wait to see you guys at high school.

Tallan Ackerman

"But you O Lord are a shield about me, my glory and the lifter of my head," Psalm 3:3. This verse is important to me because it reminds me that God is always with me and will always be with me even through the bad times. When I go to high school, I want to remember that verse if something bad happens. I hope that when I get to high school, I can use Psalm 3:3 to help myself and help others who need some uplifting. I want to be able to spread God's Word there.

I am glad I got to go to IELS for my middle school years. I got to spend some of that time learning more about God than I ever would have if I had gone to the Middle School. I am grateful for my teachers, they helped me to do my best and maybe pushed me more than I wished, but now I see that helped me to be a better student. I love my teachers. I love how Mrs. Heckman is so patient with everyone and how Mrs. Soriano let me play around on the piano after school. And, of course, I could never forget Miss Jill. You got that Miss Jill? Don't forget my extra credit. Ok? Ok.

I will miss this school and I am really sad that I had to spend my last days at my house instead of at the school. I hope that I will do well in high school and I can trust the 7th graders to be good examples for the younger kids next year. I know they will be. If I'm going to be honest, I am a little scared to go into high school and I hope I do well. I want to say I love you guys and I want to thank you for all you did for me.

Carlie Schneider

My eighth grade year was a memorable one. I remember being so scared to be apart of the oldest class. I didn't want all the responsibility of being the example and role model. But I got through it. I got closer to my whole class and had the time of my life. I hate that I didn't get to spend those last few months with them. This year was by far the best because our class is a family. We are so lucky to have the best teachers ever, who tolerate my awesome dance moves and joke around with us. I've never enjoyed learning more than I have this year.

"Do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in training and instruction of the Lord," Ephesians 6:4. This school has helped me succeed more than I thought I ever could. I've grown closer to God and we have learned so much about Him. My goal for this year was to prepare for high school. I am proud to say I'm ready. But it breaks my heart that I won't be able to see all the seventh graders and Mrs. Heckman and Mrs. Soriano every day anymore. All things have to come to an end. This whole year I've been not so patiently waiting for the next step of my life. But now that it's here, I can't even imagine leaving. I love you all so much. I will never forget this year or how much you guys mean to me. I love each and everyone person who works in or attends this school. God bless you all.

Elli Kimmel

7-1 - Attley Bolek
 7-2 - Madisen McCance
 7-3 - Shelby Leisy
 7-3 - Karson Leisy
 7-3 - Doug Edwards
 7-5 - Cody Henderson
 7-7 - Teresa Thies
 7-7 - Johana Wills
 7-10 - Sophia Collett
 7-11 - Camden Gorsuch
 7-11 - Chloe Loomis
 7-11 - Shelly Pfeiffer
 7-13 - Alvina Lehl
 7-12 - Tara Gibson
 7-13 - Mark Vaughn
 7-14 - Trey Neeley
 7-14 - Sharon Tiensvold
 7-15 - Evelyn Green
 7-15 - Corey Parkhurst
 7-15 - Alexandra Stich
 7-16 - Angela Kaiser



7-16 - Louie Leisy
 7-17 - Barbara Nielson
 7-18 - Gary Trenkle
 7-18 - Ellen Christensen
 7-19 - Justin Grant
 7-19 - Lisa Softley
 7-19 - Chris Bartels
 7-19 - Vincent Sheldon
 7-21 - Teresa Dye
 7-21 - Lori Rowley
 7-21 - Jakob Herian
 7-21 - Katie Huston
 7-21 - Laney Wills
 7-21 - Lexey Wills

7-22 - Banyan Stark
 7-22 - Zachariah Narjes
 7-23 - Jace Ballard
 7-23 - Richard Toedtli
 7-24 - Evert Smith
 7-24 - John Aquallo
 7-25 - Joni Hudson
 7-26 - Kris Childers
 7-26 - Diane Schnare
 7-26 - Frank Dye
 7-27 - Brooklyn Crowley
 7-27 - Kyle Kaman
 7-29 - Michael Eggink Jr.
 7-29 - Desilee Hinman
 7-30 - Georgia Krebs
 7-30 - Norma Romick
 7-30 - LaShayne Kolle
 7-30 - Wanda Kruckenberg
 7-31 - Austin Stanec
 7-31 - Larry P. Schnell
 7-31 - Sharon Ditsch



Baptism's

7-1 - Gene Nerland
 7-2 - Kelsey Peterson
 7-5 - Becky Herian
 7-6 - Bailey Gorsuch
 7-7 - Mark Fritzler
 7-7 - Kimberly Eggers
 7-10 - Becki Heusman
 7-10 - Betty Bush
 7-11 - Dylan Peterson
 7-12 - Ryan Schledewitz

7-12 - Marian Holmes
 7-13 - Kendyl Oestman
 7-13 - Knox Oestman
 7-14 - Caleb Korth
 7-14 - Conor Schnell
 7-14 - Tyler Foster
 7-15 - Jeff Herian
 7-15 - Brad Schnell
 7-17 - Aaron Korth
 7-17 - Annabelle Lynn

7-18 - Ron Mischnick
 7-18 - Jamie Pope
 7-19 - Justin Grant
 7-19 - Nathan Grant
 7-20 - Lucas Weber
 7-22 - Jerry Iossi
 7-25 - Aaron Tiensvold
 7-26 - Dustin Thies
 7-31 - Austin Stanec