

**NEWSLETTER OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, VIROQUA, WI
OCTOBER, 2009**

**...where in Jesus Christ, God gathers all generations to serve, witness,
and pray for our church, our community, and the world.
*We are now on the web! www.immanuel-lc.org***

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12)

On September 13th, we celebrated the confirmation of baptismal vows of 15 of our sophomores. Part of that process is for them to write faith statements, which are available on the welcome table – the packets with yellow covers and some fun photographs! As I read their statements, I felt that I, like Moses in the presence of the burning bush, should remove my shoes, because I was standing on holy ground. I don't mean that their lives are any more holy than any other confirmands I have taught; but their sense of the presence of God is amazing,

They write of their past – their baptisms, their sponsors, their parents and grandparents. They write of their gifts and their love of sports, music, the outdoors, time with friends. They write about this church with great tenderness – how they have been affirmed, how they have had fun, even how they haven't been so sure about God or the confirmation process at times, what they have learned and how they have participated and plan to participate in life here in the future.

They write of how they have served, and how the needs of others have touched their souls – especially the Christmas gift buying and giving for needy families they do each year, after raising the money through a dinner they organize and serve. They write of joy they have experienced and pain which has hurt them and their families, but also has brought them closer to God. They write of their assurance of salvation in the cross of Christ and their hope of eternal life.

The most powerful thing for me is when the confirmands write about what they have learned from others about prayer and the power of God's Word and facing adversity and enjoying God's creation. I am a little part of that; but it is much more about mentors, sponsors, siblings, parents and grandparents, other Christian youth. They are our children, together; we are being watched and imitated. I can't ever stress that enough.

Congratulations to Brittany Becker, Samantha Felde, Nicholas Kirking, Brandon Lee, Ethan McGregor, Abbey Melcher, Karlee Mikkelson, Melissa Munyon, Jacob Nordberg, Ryan Schmidt, Trevor Sidie, Michael Stalsberg, Kathryn Thompson, Dylan Tollefson, and Brittany Young!

**MORE ON THE ELCA CHURCHWIDE
ASSEMBLY**

A time with Bishop Arends of our La Crosse Area Synod has been scheduled at Immanuel on Tuesday, October 27th at 7 pm to discuss the churchwide assembly decisions on human sexuality and ministry standards. All are welcome!

I have prepared a packet of materials (on the welcome table, with a pink cover sheet) which I thought it would be good to share with you. There is a guide for your own thinking about the ministry standards changes and their implications, followed by my own reflections. The rest of the pages include "frequently asked questions" about the human sexuality statement and the ministry standards change, along with letters from our national and synodical bishops, Mark Hanson and Jim Arends. I ask you to please share with me any materials with me that you have found helpful.

May God bless you in your faith journey!

Pastor Kathy Ingbritsen

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 17, 2009**

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Council met on August 17, 2009 at 6:30 pm. The following members were present: Rick Volten, Kevin Schlicht, Marcia Davig, Erma Erickson, Marilyn Forde, Rick Raatz, Konna Spaeth and Lisa Andresen. Also present was Pastor Kathy Ingbritsen. President Rick Volten called the meeting to order. Pastor Kathy welcomed us and led us in devotion and prayers.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the last meeting were presented and reviewed. There was a correction in the July minutes. The men's ministry will be meeting on August 15, 2009 instead of August 3, 2009. Erma Erickson made a motion to accept the Secretary's report with corrections, seconded by Lisa Andresen. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Andresen made a motion to designate \$200.00 from the parish assistant salary to pay Wayne and Karen Sherry for the New Orleans Trip. Erma Erickson seconded this motion. Motion carried. A motion was made by Kevin Schlicht to accept the Treasurers report and seconded by Lisa Andresen. Motion carried.

Education: Vacation Bible School has ended for this year. The kids had a great time thanks to many wonderful volunteers. There were 55 kids at VBS. Preparation is under way for Sunday School and Confirmation.

Music and Worship: Rescheduling

Property: The Men's Ministry met on Saturday. The trees were trimmed and they will contact someone to see about doing the higher parts of the tree. They plan to meet the 2nd Saturday of each month to do project. Rick Volten purchased the "No Overnight Parking Without Permission" Signs for the church and they will be put up in the near future. Thank you, Rick. The Immanuel Lutheran Church sign on Highway 14 will be taken down by the state. We were offered \$1500 to do this. The sign is in bad shape. Lisa Andresen made a motion to accept the \$1500 and use \$1000 towards benevolences and \$500 to go to the property committee for projects. Erma Erickson seconded this motion. Motion carried.

Stewardship/ Finance: Update on giving, budget, line of credit pay down and benevolences.

Personnel: Pastor Kathy will be meeting with Erma Erickson and Trudy Wallin. M/S/P to go into closed session. Erma Erickson made a motion to go back into open session and Lisa Andresen seconded this motion. Motion carried. The council agreed by majority to have DA purse criminal charges against xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.

Fundraising: Haven't met but the Doll House and Quilt raffle is going well. It was brought up that maybe a

pancake supper on Wednesday nights might be a good idea. Something to think about.

Constitution and Bylaws: Discipleship Committee and **Executive Committee:** Have not met.

Unfinished Business: The Scholarship committee met. Tom Weston is getting information for example board; a point system will be implemented for the High School Senior Scholarship. The Personnel Committee posted on ad for a youth and family administrator for 10-15 hours per week. They broke down the job description for this part time job. They are hoping to get many youth involved as well.

New Business: Lisa Andresen would like to start a fundraiser for the next youth gathering with a Garden Walk and pie auction. This would be held next summer. A motion was made by Erma Erickson to adjourn and seconded by Lisa Andresen. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer

The next council meeting will be on September 21, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Davig- Church Council Secretary

ADDITIONAL MINUTES AUGUST 30, 2009 9:45 am

The Leonard Pivet Scholarship money for graduating seniors was discussed. Tom Weston, Barb Solverson, Elaine Fjelstad and Council Representatives Erma Erickson are on this scholarship committee. Tom Weston has been designated as the primary contact person. Erma Erickson made a motion to allow the Scholarship Committee to invest the money in growth funds with council's approval, with the committee being allowed more time to get the rules and guideline to council when those decisions have been made. This motion was seconded by Kari Amrhein. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Davig, Church Council Secretary

COUNCIL

Council will be held on *Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 pm*. Please note the change from the calendar.

MEMORIALS FOR SEPTEMBER

World Hunger

Kate Hunt Mortenson \$10

Land

Kate Hunt Mortenson \$10

Community Emergency Fund

Kate Hunt Mortenson \$25

Total

\$45

BUDGET & GIVING UPDATE

Through September 20: \$119,634 has been given
of \$158,499
(75% of budget for 38 of 52 weeks)
Difference: - \$38,865 Line of Credit used -
\$18,887

Please remember this is the time of year that materials are purchased for confirmation & Sunday school, and the heating season begins. Please stay faithful in your giving to keep our ministry strong!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Special thanks to all who responded to Pastor Kathy's world hunger appeal "birthday challenge" (for a total of \$365) – add this to the piggy bank, hunger box, and VBS offerings, and our late summer world hunger appeal total gift was \$767.

USHERS FOR OCTOBER

8:30 am- P & L Schmidt
4th, 18th, & 25th -11:00 am- D & D Bolstad
11th - 11:00 am- T & S Dobbe

OCTOBER READER/WORSHIP ASSISTANT

4th-8:30 am- Kari Amrhein
11:00 am- OPEN
11th-8:30 am- Peter Amrhein
11:00 am- Karen Laabs
18th-8:30 am- Lilas Moy
11:00 am- Marilyn Forde
25th-8:30 am- Marlene Favor
11:00 am- Erma Erickson

**PLEASE WEAR RED ON OCTOBER 25TH,
REFORMATION SUNDAY!**

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS FOR OCTOBER

October 4th- Alan & Joyce Solverson
All other dates are open for fellowship!

STEWARSHIP AND FINANCE

We will be meeting on Tuesday, October 20th
before council, at 5:30 pm.



MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Ministry will be meeting on Saturday,
October 10th at 7 am for their monthly breakfast
and fellowship meeting.

CIRCLE NOTE

Ruth and Martha Circle will be meeting on
October 13th, 2009 Ruth at 9:30 am and
Martha at 7:00 pm.

NO MAKE NO TAKE BAZAAR

We will be having our annual No Bake No Take
Bazaar for the month of October. Please use
the enclosed envelope to send you donation to
the church or place in the Sunday offering
plate.

W-ELCA



Kits for Lutheran World Relief
items are needed for school,
health, layettes and sewing
kits. There are several bags, all
ready made, to fill for school
kits. Kits and quilts will be sent
in mid- October. Please leave donations on the
first left table in the fellowship hall. Info on
items for kits is in the W-ELCA handbook and
on the welcome table.

QUILTERS NOTE

Quilters will be meeting on the 6th and 20th at 9
am for the month of October.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will be meeting on
Monday, October 5th at 6:30 pm.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We would like to announce our 2009-2010
Sunday School teachers and helpers:
Ami Dregne; Samantha Felde; Kathy Cade;
Kirsten Runice; Payton Yahn; Wendy & Holly
Froiseth; Kim Eitland; Janie Felton; Danielle
Hanson; Kari Yttri; Janice & Abbey Melcher;
Danielle Vold; Karen Laabs; Kari Amrhein;
Dean Saner; Tracy Solverson; Jody Kyser and
Sheila Olson.

October 4th 3rd graders receive their Bibles and
enjoy breakfast with Pastor Kathy, also on the
3rd, 6th grade acolyte training.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We are currently seeking volunteers to help with our 5th and 6th grade after school program. Please contact the church office if you would be available to help.

CONFIRMATION

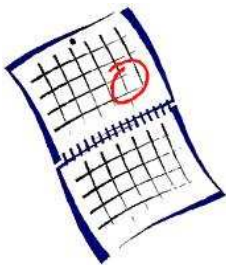
As we begin our confirmation program, we thank those who will be assisting as “parent guides” for the 7th and 8th grade classes: Dean Saner, Vickie Van Blarcom, Michelle Felton, Lisa Andresen, and Ann Skaaland.

We also thank the confirmation families for providing meals for 7th, 8th, and 9th grades, and the 9th grade parents who will be assisting Pastor Kathy’s teaching transition between the classes by serving the meal and starting the discussion with the students each week.

Confirmation will be meeting all Wednesdays in October except the 28th due to long weekend off in Viroqua school schedule. 7/8th meet at 4:45 pm and 9th meets at 5:45 pm. (Official starting times).

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Watch for more information on High School Ministry and Sunday night dinners.



MARK OUR CALENDAR

Annual Baked Potato dinner on Wednesday, November 4th. Proceeds for confirmation service project- purchasing gifts for needy families.

CHOIR

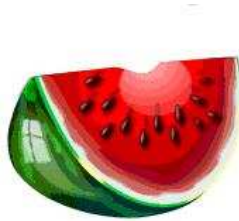
Choir will meet all Wednesdays in October at 6:45 pm except the 28th.

RAFFLE WRAPS UP

Drawing will be held Sunday, September 27th. Quilt in honor of Eunice Schmidt. Donated by Dick and Luann Schmidt, given to raffle by the Immanuel Lutheran Quilters. Doll house “Log Cabin” given by Alan and Joyce Solverson. All proceeds for debt reduction.

VERNON MANOR SERVICE

Pastor Kathy is scheduled to lead the Sunday service at Vernon Manor at 2 pm on October 11th. Anyone is welcome to join her, to visit our residents there and join in the worship!



WORLD HUNGER BOOTH

Immanuel will be running the World Hunger food booth on Oct. 3rd. Any cleaned vegetables & fruit are greatly appreciated. Baked goods are always a popular item, especially donuts and mini

fruit bread loaves (e.g. banana, zucchini, etc). Half of the proceeds go to help local people in need and half will go to the World Hunger organization. Drop off at church by 7:30 am or bring to the market as early as possible – WTC parking lot.

QUILT SHOW



Maplewood Terrace
Saturday, October 3, 10:30 am - 3 pm. Admission \$3 includes program booklet & two quilting workshops at 12:30 & 1:30 pm. Please note: The Immanuel anniversary quilt will be part of the show!

SUGAR CREEK

Blue Grass Festival- October 2nd & 3rd. Many singers will perform and the cost is \$8 for Friday evening (5:30 pm- 8 pm), or \$15 for Saturday & evening (9:30 am – 8:00 pm). 14 & under free!

Yesterday's Youth- October 5th 9:30 am – 3 pm. Come out for a great day of senior fellowship, great food and wonderful programming.

3-5 grade retreat-
October 17-18th.

Join us to play in the leaves, go hiking, and meet some wonderful new friends! Cost is \$40 per person.



For info. call Sugar Creek at (608) 734-3113.



Woman's Retreat
October 16-18 \$75.00
Theme: "Sabbath Living" Explore ways that we might let God lead us in rest, delight and renewal throughout our week & beyond. Take some special time for you to relax! For more info call (608) 734-3113.

6-8 grade retreat- Sin Boldly November 6-8th
Come and learn who Martin Luther was and his calling from God at this 3 day retreat. Cost is \$55 before October 19th and \$60 per person there after. For info call Sugar Creek at (608) 734-3113.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers to help out to swing a hammer, paint, and other tasks at the house they are building in 415 Coon Prairie Rd in Westby for the Landis Family. Please call Penny Lindstrom at 608-606-5959 or email plpr@frontiernet.net.



VOLUNTEER DAYS WE NEED YOUR HELP
October 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 or 30.

MEMORY WALK

October 3rd at Eckhart Park the Alzheimer's association is holding a memory walk. Registration begins at 10 am and the walk at 11 am. Sign up today by calling 1-800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org.



FREE CONCERT

Peder Eide will be holding a free concert at the Westby Methodist Church on Saturday, October 10th at 7 pm. A chili supper will begin

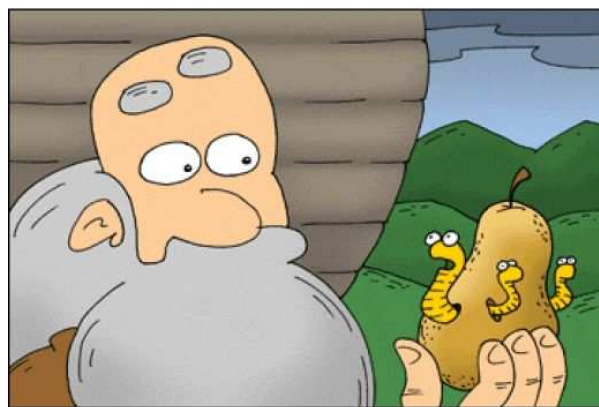
the event at 5:30 pm, followed by Chord of 3 performances from 6-6:30 pm. Free will offering! All are invited!

HUNGER WALK

Viroqua Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, October 11th. Registration at 1 pm and the walk begins at 1:30 pm at St. Mary's. 25 % of your pledges go to local food pantries and 75% to national hunger appeal organizations. See the welcome table for a pledge form or call Pete Beckstrand at Zion & Franklin churches 637-7145.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Immanuel Lutheran Church is looking for a person who would help create a family-friendly atmosphere in our congregation by providing a balance of faith-building learning activities and experiences. This position would help the Pastor coordinate and teach **Wednesday** confirmation, younger youth and family activities and participate in **Sunday** worship. This is approximately 10 - 15 hours per week. The ability to convey a spirit of hospitality and warmth, organizational skills, and be a self-starter is a must. Salary negotiable. Send resumes to Pastor Kathy Ingbritsen; imm04@frontiernet.net; or call [608-637-3983](tel:608-637-3983) for more information.



Thanks to Stephen Illich (See Genesis 6-8) 05-19-2005

WE WERE TOLD YOU WERE TAKING CREATURES
THAT CAME TO YOU IN PEARS