



Building strong relationships in Christ and making Him known to all.



2025 IMMANUEL COUNCIL & BOARD MEMBERS

CHURCH OFFICERS

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

As summer winds down, we're gearing up for an exciting season of ministry and connection.

Sunday School, small groups, youth nights, and more are all starting back up in August and September.

There's a place for everyone—come grow, serve, & belong!









FALL 2025 SERMON SERIES

BASED ON JIM CYMBALA'S

CARRY THE FLAME

...BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND...

ROMANS 12:2

"DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN
OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE **TRANSFORMED**BY THE **RENEWING** OF YOUR MIND.
THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST
AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—
HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND **PERFECT WILL**."

ROMANS 12:2

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

CARRY THE FLAME

by Pastor Andrew Potratz

We are continually in need of renewal. Our bodies, spirits, and minds take a toll each day due to the pressures, stressors, and pitfalls of our world.

When we are hungry, we eat. When we are thirsty, we drink, When we are tired, we sleep. So, what do we do when we are Spiritually hungry? Thirsty? Tired?

This fall we are kicking things off with a series called "Carry The Flame." Originally written as a small group discussion, this material by Jim Cymbala will serve as the framework for our Fall Sermon Series for 2025. Last school year, we spent 33 weeks in "The Story" giving us a large overview of the greatest story ever told, and we learned much about context, timelines, and the overarching Gospel message displayed in the Bible.

This Fall, we will dig deeper. Beginning with this series, and continuing with a three-section series diving deeper into Faith, Hope, and Love, we are intentionally seeking the answer to how to address our spiritual hunger, thirst, and fatigue.

Why should we seek renewal from God? Because our lives in Christ are a journey. We haven't "arrived" until we are reunited with Jesus in the New Heaven and New Earth of Revelation. This means that now, in the flesh, we need the direction, wisdom, and power of God to rule in our lives. Not just for our sake, but for the sake of the world.

Renewal in us as individuals and families will lead Immanuel to renewal - and perhaps even revival. If you look closely, revivals are happening here in this country. Mainly, we see pockets of revival on college campuses - many tracing their roots back to the Asbury Revivals a couple of years ago (look it up if you don't know what I'm writing about!). Here in Story City, we desire the same things. To see God MOVE. To experience Jesus' GRACE. To be saturated by the presence of God's Holy Spirit.

This is what we desire, and this is what we will pursue. We invite you to join us! Dig into "Carry the Flame" this fall - and get plugged into a small group or study group to dig deeper! Ask questions and commit yourself to growing in Christ with us this fall. It's what you were made for!

What Can I Pray About?

We pray that God would bless the ministries that are launching in the fall at Immanuel and that all would grow deeper in faith as they connect with God and one another.

- We pray for discernment as Immanuel's Deacons, Trustees, Board of Education, Council, and all other leaders plan and develop new ministries and outreach opportunities for our community and association.
- MY PRAYERS

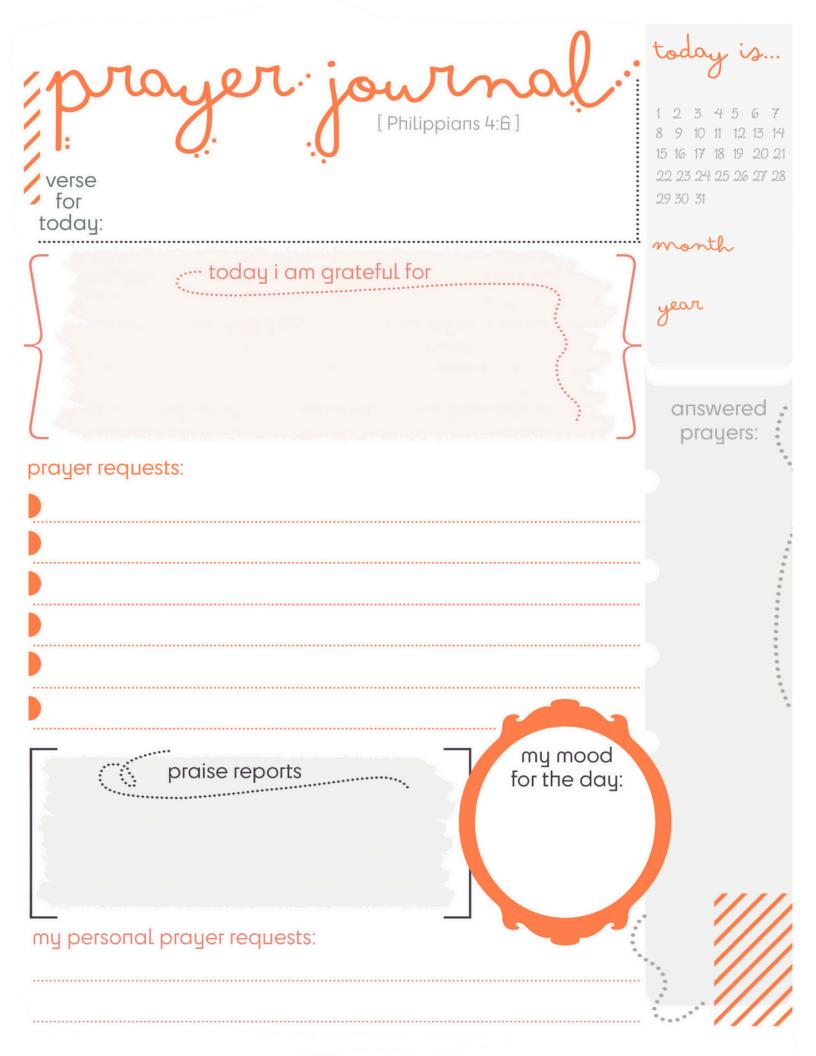
- We pray for the Lord to provide all that Immanuel needs from the time, talents, and support of our church family. May the LORD teach us to be faithful stewards of what He has blessed us with.
- We pray for our fall sermon series: Carry the Flame. Would the Holy Spirit revive us at Immanuel and lead us to follow the call of the Holy Spirit to "carry the flame" as we witness to a dark world.



- We pray for Kerrville Texas as they heal and rebuild after tragic floods that have taken many lives. Bring peace and comfort to them Lord Jesus!
- If you have prayer requests that you would like to share, please reach out to one of our pastors or Milianna in our office.









attendance

SUNDAY IN- PERSON

June 1: 126

June 8: 115

June 15: 107

June 22: 91

June 29: 90

July 6: 89

July 13: 97

July 20: 105

July 27: 116

SUNDAY IN-PERSON AVERAGE: 104

*SUNDAY ONLINE (FACEBOOK) AVERAGE: 30

*THIS ACCOUNTS FOR THOSE WATCHING LIVE - NOT THOSE WHO VIEW THE SERVICE AFTER THE LIVESTREAM HAS ENDED.



deaths & memorials

N/A

Other Pastoral Acts

Baptism of Hazel Rae Nordeen. Daughter of Kyle & Ashley Nordeen. Sponsors: Doug & Briana Goodenbour, and Alex Cunningham.



To see the church's current financial report, check the lobby slatwall for paper copies.

Questions regarding the church's financial status can be directed to financial secretary, Carol Lake, or church treasurer, Chuck Carlson.



in our prayers

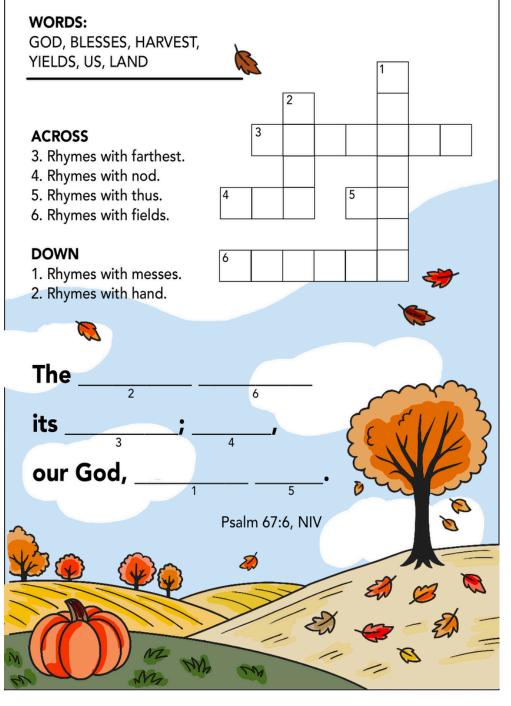
- our President and administration
- Tim & Paula Tjernagel as they transition to new ministries
- those impacted by natural disasters
- those fighting or recovering from illness, chronic illness and diseases and cancer
- our congregation as we navigate new expansions to our ministry
- our government and our military leaders
- law enforcement, healthcare workers, teachers and students

Please call or <u>email</u> our church office to share your prayer requests and praises. If you would like to talk to a pastor about your concerns, please ask! You may remain anonymous if you'd like. You can also join our email prayer chain to receive a notice when someone requests prayer.

How can we pray for you?

Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle. Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.





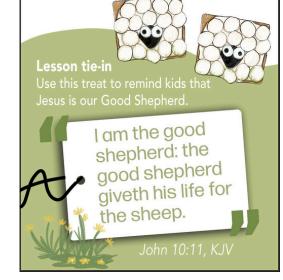
Create adorable sheep using graham crackers, marshmallows, and a little imagination!

What you need:

- Graham cracker squares
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Mini marshmallows
- Large marshmallows
- Candy eyes or mini chocolate chips
- Black gel icing or mini Oreo cookie

What you do:

- 1. Spread white frosting or marshmallow fluff on each graham cracker square.
- 2. Stick mini marshmallows all over to make the sheep's wool.
- 3. Cut a large marshmallow in half and stick it near the top for the head.
- 4. Add candy eyes and a dot of black gel for the nose. Or use a mini Oreo cookie half for a more defined face.
- 5. Let kids decorate their sheep however they'd like!



August = 2025=



weekly events

month at a glance						
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

DAY	TIME	EVENT				
TUESDAYS	8:30 A.M. 10 A.M.	Women's Bible Study Staff Meeting				
SUNDAYS	8:00 A.M. 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	Radio Broadcast Worship Coffee Fellowship				

Church activities are subject to change. Check out our fully updated calendar on our website: <u>immanuelstorycity.org</u>

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sat., Aug 2		Riverside's 5K & Quilt Auction Day
Sun., Aug 3		Communion Sunday
Wed., Aug 6	6:30 P.M.	Adult Bible Study with Pastor Allison
Thurs., Aug 7	9 A.M Noon	Quilters (Social Hall)
Sun., Aug 10	6 - 8 P.M.	EPIC Youth Water Night on the Church Lawn
Mon., Aug 11	6:45 P.M.	Made to Crave Bible Study (Cornerstone Room)
Tues., Aug 12	10 - 11:30 A.M.	Myrtle's Closet is open for shopping
Wed., Aug 13	6:30 P.M.	Adult Bible Study with Pastor Allison
Thurs., Aug 14	6:30 P.M. 7:45 P.M.	Deacons & Trustees Meetings Church Council Meeting
Sun., Aug 17		Service of Holy Communion after worship
Sat., Aug 23		We Heart Roland-Story Day (RS Ministerial Association with RSCityServe)
Sun., Aug 24	9:30 A.M.	Back to School Blessing during worship
Wed., Aug 27	6:30 - 8 P.M.	EPIC & Confirmation Drop-In Registration Night
Sun., Aug 31	11 A.M.	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting



birthdays

8/1: Maliyah Zerr

8/2: Kevin Amundson Ashley Edens Wendell Graber Sharon Moore

8/4: Blake Winecoff

8/6: Em Quang Norma Sexe Greg Voga Dan Wheeler

8/7: Milianna CarlsonKamryn LandeGwen TebbenKaren Waline

8/8: Kenadi Lowe Logan Voga

8/9: Kenneth Stock

8/12: Nancy Sargent

8/14: Lisa Handeland Chris Hill Jerry Severson

8/15: Chance Christian
Rita Frette
Dave Morris

8/19: Dave Amensen

8/21: Thomas Halverson

8/22: Roger Oakland

8/23: Florian Tebben

8/24: Marsha Taylor

8/26: Eustace "ER" Lake Kari Schaufenbuel Sabrina Schaufenbuel

8/28: Charlotte Loots
Duane Wheeler
Branch Whipple

8/29: Corine Nordeen Trent Whipple

8/30: Laura Carlson

8/31: Clark Thompson



onniversaries

8/1: Doug & Lori Ostrem David & Donna Teigland

8/2: Dallas & Patricia Kray

8/3: John & Colleen Johnson

8/8: Erik & Alaina Christian John & Patty Rathmacher

8/15: Eric & Courtney Mensen

8/16: Greg & Kathy Thompson

8/17: Mike & Mary Ness

8/18: Don & Lori Olson

8/19: Ryan & Stephanie Charlson Willard & Janet Oppedal

8/26: Todd & Tiffany Janes Jason & Kari Schaufenbuel



Are we missing your birthday or anniversary on our calendar?

Contact the church office to update your records so we can celebrate with you!

September 2025



weekly events

month at a glance						
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

29 30

DAY	TIME	EVENT			
MONDAYS	8:30 A.M. 10 A.M.	Women's Bible Study Toddler Music & Story Time			
TUESDAYS	10 A.M.	Staff Meeting			
WEDNESDAYS	6 - 8 P.M.	EPIC Youth Program			
SATURDAYS	8 A.M.	Men of Immanuel			
SUNDAYS	8:00 A.M. 8:30 A.M. 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	Radio Broadcast Sunday School Hour Worship Coffee Fellowship			



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DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon., Sept 1		Labor Day - Church Office Closed
Tues., Sept 2	8:30 A.M.	Women's Bible Study with Pastor Allison
Wed., Sept 3	6 - 8 P.M.	EPIC KickOff Night
Thurs., Sept 4	9 A.M Noon	Quilters (Social Hall)
Sat., Sept 6	8 A.M.	Men of Immanuel KickOff
Sun., Sept 7	8:30 A.M. 11 A.M. 1 - 4 P.M.	Communion and Rally Sunday Social Hall Reserved for Mechaelsen Family Immanuel-sponsored Carousel Rides!
Mon., Sept 8	8:30 A.M. 10 A.M. 10 - 11:30 A.M.	Women's Bible Study Fall KickOff Toddler Music & Story Time KickOff Myrtle's Closet is open for shopping
Thurs., Sept 11	6:30 P.M. 7:45 P.M.	Deacons & Trustees Meetings Church Council Meeting
Sun., Sept 14	11 A.M Noon 4:30 - 6:30 P.M.	My Bible Class for 2 nd Graders Women's "Faith, Flannel and Fellowship" @ She Shed
Sun., Sept 21		Service of Holy Communion after worship





9/1: Mike Anderson Sue Uthe

9/2: Ben Haberl Kyle Nordeen

9/3: Hannah Larsen

9/4: Sue Valen

9/6: Gloria Hill Josie Reifschneider

9/7: Laura Mcllrath Mary Mechaelsen

9/9: Aiden Mensen Lane Rickerl

9/11: Jessica Reinert

9/13: Hannah Larsen

9/14: Meredith Mullenbach

9/15: Veda Voga Asher Whipple

9/16: Kim Mathison Gene Reinert

9/18: Michael Hill

9/20: Greg Jacobson Jodie Rickerl Evan Skartvedt

9/24: Kay Billings

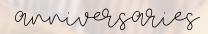
9/25: Camden Harriman Lyla Palmer

9/26: Paul Gallagher Georgia Voga

9/27: Elly Thompson Berniece Voga

9/28: Dallas Kray





9/1: Brad & Julie Skaar

9/2: Dave & Carol Ann Morris

9/3: Dick & Arlene Willis

9/5: Dan & Mayumi Oakland

9/8: Chris & Kelly Dahl

9/12: Bob & Gayle Tate

9/17: Lee & Jodie Rickerl

9/22: Duane & Shirley Wheeler

9/24: Jeff & Charlotte Loots

9/25: Larry & Claudia Fuhrman

9/27: A.J. & Amber Christian



Are we missing your birthday or anniversary on our calendar?

Contact the church office to update your records so we can celebrate with you!

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month at a glance

weekly events

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11		WONDATS	10 A.M.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	The state of the s	TUESDAYS	10 A.M.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		WEDNESDAYS	6 - 8 P.M.
26	27	28	29	30	31	41.	2		8:00 A.M.
	VIII I	E	1				The second	SUNDAYS	8:30 A.M.

DAY	TIME	EVENT		
MONDAYS	8:30 A.M. 10 A.M.	Women's Bible Study Toddler Music & Story Time		
TUESDAYS	10 A.M.	Staff Meeting		
WEDNESDAYS	6 - 8 P.M.	EPIC Youth Program		
SUNDAYS	8:00 A.M. 8:30 A.M. 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	Radio Broadcast Sunday School Hour Worship Coffee Fellowship		
SATURDAYS 8 A.M.		Men of Immanuel		

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DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed., Oct 1	6 P.M.	First Communion Class for 5 th Graders (during EPIC)
Thurs., Oct 2	9 A.M Noon	Quilters (Social Hall)
Friday, Oct 3		Annual Report Articles, Pictures and Minutes Due
Sun., Oct 5		Communion Sunday First Communion for 5 th Graders
Oct 5 - Oct 8		LCMC National Gathering in Minnesota
Thurs., Oct 9	6:30 P.M. 7:45 P.M.	Deacons & Trustees Meetings Church Council Meeting
Mon., Oct 13	10 - 11:30 A.M.	Myrtle's Closet is open for shopping
Wed., Oct 15		Winter Quarterly Newsletter Submissions Due
Sun., Oct 19	9:30 A.M. 10:45 A.M. 11:30 A.M.	Pastor Appreciation during worship Annual Meeting (after worship) Coffee Fellowship
Sun., Oct 26	10:30 A.M.	Em Quang's 50 th Anniversary Coffee Fellowship Time





10/1: Jessica Blomberg

10/3: Don Hoffmann Halli Oberender Rick Richie

10/4: Jacob Eilers

10/6: Jake Edwards

10/7: Treanna Richie

10/8: David Teigland Danni Whipple

10/10: Joel Halverson Karsyn Lande

10/13: Eli Dahl Masen Wright

10/14: Sara Anderson

10/15: Wyatt Lelis Natalie Whipple

10/16: Mike Valen

10/18: Luke Wyatt

10/19: Amber Christian

10/21: Ann Lelis

10/22: Sandra Kowalik Greg Thompson

10/24: Caimin Edens

10/26: Keira Wright

10/27: Will Halverson

10/28: Parker Mullenbach Dick Willis

DICK WIIIIS

10/29: Lily Rathmacher Merlin Wendt

10/30: Josiah Potratz

10/31: Brooks Christian



owniversories

10/2: Nate & Carrie Horman

10/4: Mike & Linda Anderson

10/5: Merlin & Clara Wendt

10/9: Eric & Jocelyn Lowe

10/11: Edgar & Jaynee Christian

10/21: Ben & Kayla Haberl

10/25: Don & Cathy Braathun

10/28: Brent & Wana Johnson



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Contact the church office to update your records so we can celebrate with you!

Summer 2025 Adult Education Study with Pastor Allison

CULTURES IN CONFLICT

5-week class || July 16 - August 13 || Wednesdays @ 6:30 P.M.

Cultures In Conflict: Paul Proclaims
Jesus as Lord - Part 2. This video study by
Ray Vander Laan will immerse the group
into the times and places where Paul's
missionary journey was lived out. We'll
meet in the Immanuel Social Hall. Each week
will include a video and discussion and will
last 60 to 90 minutes. Contact Pastor Allison
if you have questions!



Thanks to our quilters for also donating a quilt for the Riverside Quilt Auction!

(fitted & bottom sheets, 80 - 100% cotton) and

fabric can be dropped off to the church office.

We are in need of someone to transport quilts to Fort Dodge in September (tentative date is Sept. 20) - these quilts will then be sent to those who need them!

If you're able to drive some quilts to Fort Dodge, please contact Julie Thompson.



PLEASE RSVP TO CONNER BY SUNDAY, AUGUST 3!



FALL 2025 DATES

(10 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1



SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER WITH MYRTLE'S CLOSET!

Help parents shop for baby clothes & diapers! Training available for new volunteers.



Back to School Blessing SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Join us for Back-to-School Sunday on Sunday, August 24! We'll pray over students, teachers, school staff and administrators, and families as a new school year begins.







We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion on the **first Sunday of the month during worship**, and the **third Sunday of the month after worship** (in a more intimate setting).







As we look towards the fall, we are excited to announce that we will be using a new curriculum throughout all children and youth ministries.

Grow is designed to help kids and teenagers grow closer to Jesus. Every week they'll hear directly from God's Word, taught in engaging and age-appropriate ways. Grow provides weekly lesson plans that are customizable to fit each church's needs, teaching videos that provide an introduction to each lesson, and discipleship activities.

Grow provides series on identity, evangelism, friendship, spiritual habits, wisdom, and doubt.



One of our goals as a church is to foster a place where kids can grow in their faith, express their doubts, learn their identity in Christ, and take what they believe and be able to share it with others. Here are a few goals that we have set for using **Grow**:

Spiritual Growth

- Help youth develop a deeper understanding of Scripture in ways that connect to their everyday lives.
- Strengthen their personal relationship with God through prayer, worship, and meaningful reflection.
- Encourage the practice of spiritual disciplines, such as personal Bible study and serving others.

Community Impact

- Inspire youth to serve others in church, school, and the Roland-Story community.
- Build strong friendships and a sense of belonging among youth through shared learning and activities.
- Equip youth to confidently and respectfully share their faith with peers.

Personal Development

- Help youth discover their God-given talents and spiritual gifts.
- Encourage Christ-centered decision-making in relationships, school, and life challenges.
- Empower them to take ownership of their faith and grow into future leaders in the church.

Life Application

- Teach youth how to apply biblical truths to real-life situations, such as navigating friendships, family dynamics, and school challenges.
- Foster resilience by helping youth rely on their faith during trials and uncertainty.
- Encourage them to integrate Christian values into their everyday decisions and actions.







Immanuel delivers meals via Heartland Senior Services of Ames every September.

- · Sign up online or with the church office!
- Pick up meals at Immanuel at 10:45 A.M.
- One driver is needed. Allow 1 hour for meal pickup, delivery, and bag return to the church.

If you have any questions regarding this volunteer opportunity, contact Milianna in the church office.



While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

(Genesis 8:22, NASB)

The Lord gives a wide array of talents and knowledge to us all so we may serve one another through both paid and unpaid work. Thanks be to God!



We're excited to announce a new discipleship opportunity just for high school students! This fall, we're launching a trial year of our **Youth Discipleship Mentor Program**—a small group-based experience designed to help students grow deeper in their faith through intentional, Christ-centered relationships.

This isn't a large group or a class. Students who sign up will be placed into pods of 3–4 with a trusted mentor, where they'll meet regularly to talk about life, faith, and what it means to follow Jesus in today's world.

Who Is This For?

• Male High School Students (Grades 9–12): If you're ready to grow in your relationship with God and want to be part of a tight-knit group that encourages you in your faith, this program is for you.

What to Expect:

This discipleship mentor program is all about **real connection**, **real growth**, and **real-life faith**. Here's a closer look at what students can expect when they sign up:

Small Group Pods

Each student will be placed into a pod of 3–4 high school students, led by a trusted young adult mentor. These pods are intentionally small so everyone can share, grow, and be known in a safe, supportive environment.

Regular Meetings (Twice a Month)

Pods will meet every two weeks at a time and place that works best for the group. Meetings can happen at church, a coffee shop, or someone's home, whatever fits your schedule and keeps things consistent.

Faith-Focused Conversations

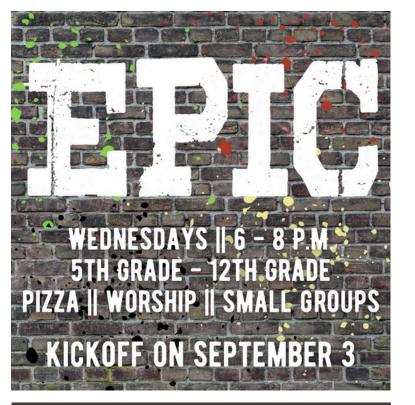
Each meeting will center around discussion topics rooted in Scripture and real life—covering things like identity in Christ, how to read the Bible, prayer, friendships, handling pressure, dealing with doubt, and more.

Prayer & Encouragement

Each meeting includes time for prayer—sharing requests, praying together, and learning how to talk to God honestly. Students will also be encouraged to check in with each other between meetings, helping their pod feel like a faith family.

This program is about more than just attending—it's about **investing** in your spiritual life and learning what it looks like to follow Jesus with others who are doing the same.

Students who are interested in learning more about this program, please reach out to Conner Freerks via email.



THRIVE Community Internship Program Overview and Fall News

Our internship program is growing! The THRIVE Community Internship Program is part of Immanuel's contribution to equipping and raising up church leaders and pastors for the next generation. Last year, we had two interns on staff, and a third adjunct intern. This fall we welcome back Conner (Youth Minister) and Isaac - and we add Grant Severson to our internship team!

Conner will continue to serve in our Youth Ministry and to develop our video and online connections. Grant and Isaac will serve in leading Bible Studies, assisting with EPIC, and stepping into our visitation ministry! All will be given opportunities to serve in worship and preach on occasion.

We ask that you continue to pray for this ministry and those immersed in it!



ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO VOLUNTEER FOR WORSHIP & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES!

SIGN UP IN THE LOBBY, ONLINE, OR WITH THE CHURCH OFFICE.

We will be adding a kiosk in the lobby so that you can sign up to volunteer, donate online, and register for church activities without having to use a phone!

We hope this will be something useful for years to come. Our plan is to have it up and running by Rally Sunday!





Sunday School SUNDAYS @ 8:30 - 9:15 A.M.

There are Sunday School classes available for 3-year-olds through 5th graders starting September 7th! Each week, kids will have music time and a lesson time with their teachers.

Kids' Sunday Music Groups

Kingdom Kids

(3-year-olds through 1st grade)

Young Disciples

(2nd graders through 5th graders)

Rally Sunday SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Our Sunday School year begins on Rally Sunday! We've booked a juggler for the Sunday School hour and invite all kids, families and adults to join us in the Social Hall that morning at 8:30 A.M.!

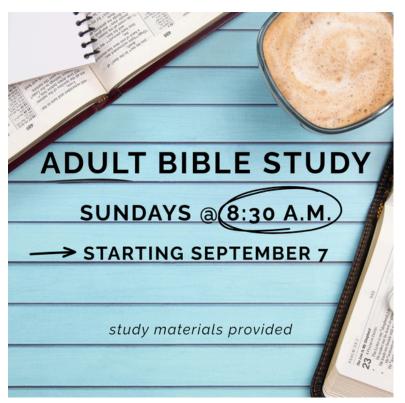
Dan Kirk, The Juggler With The Yellow Shoes, is a Christian, a comedian, a husband, a father, a fisherman, a balloon guy, a unicyclist, a teacher, a plate spinner, and a jack of all juggling, master of fun! We will be collecting a special offering to support Dan's ministry during Sunday School.





Register for the Sunday School year with your Sunday School Teacher on Rally Sunday or contact Jaynee Christian, Sunday School Superintendent, with questions.

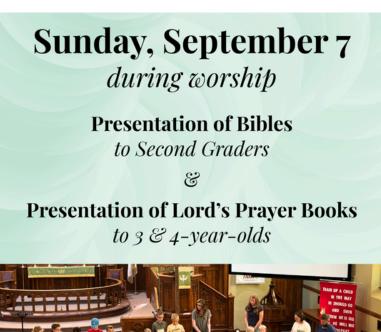


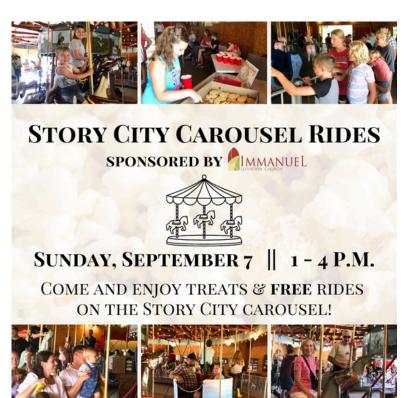


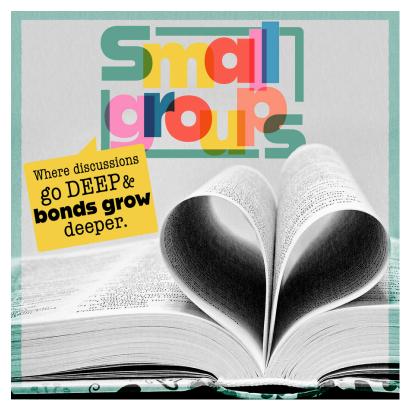
Adult Bible Study BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

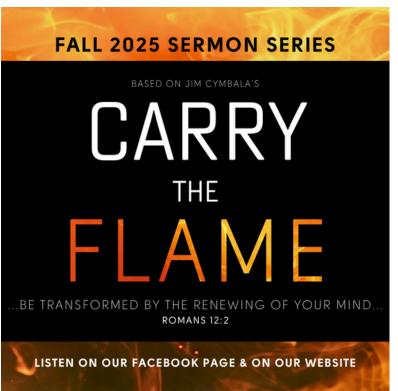
This fall for our adult Sunday School, we will be doing a Bible study around the main passages for that Sunday's sermon. These studies will be led by a team of people, including a couple of our seminarians. Each week is designed to be independent enough that you can join us at any time and not feel like you're missing something big!

Join us each Sunday, *beginning Rally Sunday*, for this time to dig DEEPER into Faith!











Small Groups at Immanuel JOIN ONE OR START YOUR OWN!

Ready to reconnect? Small groups and Bible studies are starting back up soon! Find your circle and grow in your faith this fall.

Contact one of the pastors for more information about joining a small group, or start your own! We have a full library of small group materials ready to use!

Our 2025 Fall Kickoff is "Carry the Flame." This is a study that we will be digging into in our sermon series, but it is also designed to

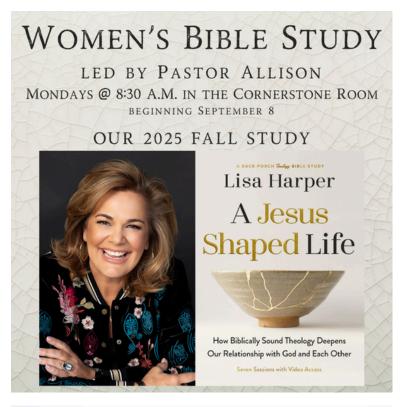
facilitate small group needs with videos and discussion questions. "Carry the Flame" is about renewing our hearts and reviving the world.

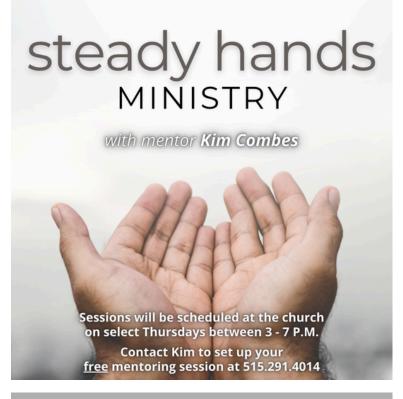
From the Publisher:

"Do you ever feel like you need to be "qualified" to effectively share the gospel and help build God's kingdom?

God is seeking and equipping ordinary men and women whose greatest qualification is that they make themselves available to him. In this video Bible study (streaming code included), bestselling author and long-time pastor Jim Cymbala inspires followers of Jesus to follow the call of the Holy Spirit and to carry the "flame" of our witness to this dark world.

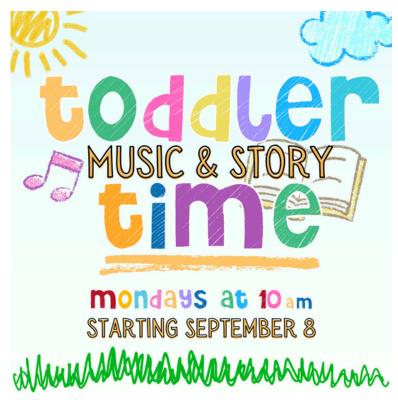
A rallying call and Bible study both, Cymbala draws on examples of ordinary people in the book of Acts—as well as modern-day testimonies—to show how God can use anyone and everyone who simply submits to him and obeys his call. As you go through this study, you will be challenged and empowered to take that first step of faith for God . . . and see where it leads."





Immanuel offers a mission outreach (funded entirely by the Tom & Myrtle Johnson Funds) named "Steady Hands Ministry", based on Exodus 17:12.

This mentoring service with Kim Combes is offered to anyone in our congregation and community completely free of charge (you may gift a thank you gift to Kim directly).



All toddler and preschool-age children & their caregivers are invited to join Pastor Allison for some fun games, music and stories each Monday in the Immanuel Chapel!

If you would like to volunteer and help this program grow, reach out to Pastor Allison.

CARE & VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM



We continue to experience the blessing of having many people helping with our care & visitation ministry - thank you for answering God's call to "be the church" to each other!

We are always open to adding more people to our care and visitation ministry team! If you have questions or would like training, please contact Pastor Andrew for more information.



Sunday, September 14

during worship

Installation of

teachers EPIC leaders other educational leaders

We will also pray for our educators as they begin the school year.

Women's Fall Get-Together

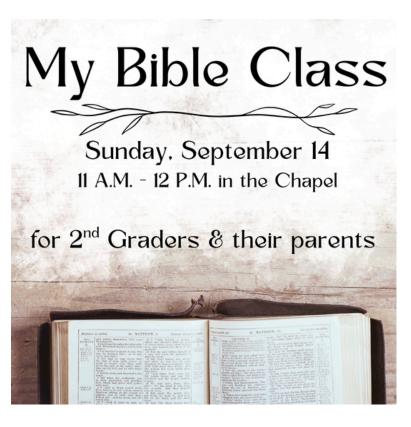
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

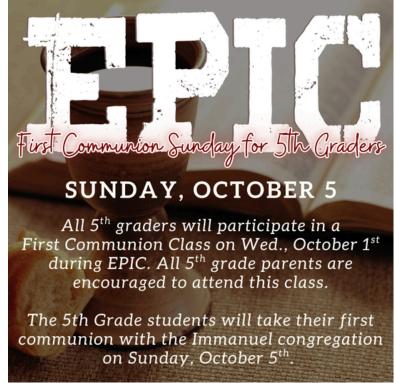
4:30 - 6:30 P.M.

@ JAYNEE CHRISTIAN'S "SHE SHED"

faith, flannel & fellowship

Wear your favorite fall flannel & bring a fall finger food to share!





"The truth is that people always act according to what they believe. It may not be what they say they believe, but deep down it's what they really believe.

And false beliefs lead to false actions."

-E. Chris Curvin



Many members of our Immanuel staff (and our seminary interns) will be attending the LCMC Annual Gathering in Minnesota in October.

We ask for prayers concerning their travel and discussions they will have with other LCMC church leaders.



OCTOBER IS

Thank you, Pastor Andrew and Pastor Allison, for all that you do for Immanuel and God's kingdom!

We will acknowledge our pastors on Sunday, October 19.



Church Newsletter SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Any articles, pictures, or other newsletter submissions for our **WINTER Quarterly Newsletter** (November - December - January) are due to the church office by **October 15th**.

Contact Milianna with questions.

ANNUAL

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 AFTER WORSHIP

All confirmed, active members are encouraged to attend and vote. Items on the agenda include:

- election of council, committee members & delegates
- · ministry highlights
- · missions commitment
- Endowment Fund update
- pastoral compensation for 2025

All articles, reports, pictures, and financial statements for the Annual Report are due to the church office by Friday, October 3.







All are invited
to a special fellowship
time after worship on
Sunday, October 26th
to celebrate
Em Quang's
50th anniversary
of her family's
arrival in Story City!







We are excited to announce that **Trevor Rubenstein** from Chosen People Ministries

will return to Immanuel on Sunday,

November 2 to share more about the

circumstances in the Middle East.

More details to come!

"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love."

-Hamilton Wright Mabie





SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
Christmas Luncheon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 Sunday School Christmas Program during worship

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve Worship Services

Minutes of the Joint Council Meeting: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church July 10, 2025 7:45 PM In Person in the Social Hall

Present: Pastor Allison, Lori Whipple, Dion Whipple, Julie Skaar, Grant Severson, Steve Skartvedt, Steve Olson, Chuck Carlson, Sean Edens, Lily Rathmacher, Patty Rathmacher, Jaynee Christian, Joel Danielson, Ben Haberl, Brian Wakefield

President Joel Danielson called the meeting to order at 7:55 PM.

- 1. Devotions were given by Steve Skartvedt.
- 2. Approval of previous meeting minutes. Jaynee moved that the minutes be approved as submitted and Steve O. seconded. Approved unanimously.
- 3. Treasurer's Report was given by Chuck Carlson using the documents submitted to council. Grant moved that the Treasurer's report be approved and Lily seconded. Approved unanimously.
- 4. Report of Boards (see below for full reports)
 - a. Deacons: Patty Rathmacher
 - b. Board of Ed: Pastor Allison
 - c. Youth Board: Pastor Allison reported that they have not met since last council meeting.
 - d.Trustees: Ben Haberl
- 5. Old Business
 - a. Nominating Committee. Steve O., Joel, Dion, and Rachel Winecoff agreed to serve on the nominating committee. Brian moved and Ben seconded to approve the four individuals who agreed to serve. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Choir Director. Joel will look for the job description sent to him earlier.
 - c. Quarterly Newsletter. A financial report can be made available monthly for the congregation on the slat wall. August 1st will be the first quarterly newsletter that will cover August, September, and October. This will require that all boards look in the future for get dates submitted timely.
- 6. New Business
 - a. Church Calendar. With the change to the quarterly newsletter a discussion was held regarding the fact that we do need to make decisions on dates as early as possible.
 - b. Historical Files. Items had been placed in a fire safe and now the combination has been found. Some discussion was held regarding what we should keep. No decision was made.
 - c. Fundraising Account. Jaynee asked if we could use some of the fundraising account to improve the small closet in the basement used for storage.

Joel adjourned the meeting at 8:51 PM. Lily moved that the meeting be adjourned and Brian seconded. Next meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2025. Devotions will be given by the Board of Education and lunch by the Deacons.

Those present prayed the Lord's Prayer together.

Respectfully submitted, Lori Whipple, Secretary

Board of Trustees

- Treasurer Report
 - Sean moved to approve
 - o 2nd by Brian
 - Motion carried
- Bills approved
 - Brian moved to approve
 - 2nd by Sean
 - Motion carried
- Brian moved to approve the purchase of an individual man lift \$4k
 - Ben 2nd
 - Motion carried

Action items

- Air conditioner for Sanctuary is getting looked at
- Steve is going to follow up on tuckpointing

Immanuel Deacons Minutes 7.10.2025

Present: Kelly Dahl, Dion Whipple, Grant Severson, Julie Skaar, Patty Rathmacher Pastor Allison also attended our meeting

Call to order and Opening Prayer and prayer requests: Grant.

We approved the previous minutes and heard ministry updates.

- Myrtle's Updates: averages 10 clients when open. Will try to coordinate openings this fall with Immanuel Story times for clients' kids' participations
- Steady Hands Update: Kim will speak at Immanuel August 3rd and preach as it ties in well with the Steady Hands mission.

Old Business discussion of the following:

- Ministry Fund Balance & Dhnson Fund balance reviewed.
- Summer Preaching help:
 - July 13 Kayla Cook
 - July 27 Grant
 - August 3 Kim Combes
 - August 10 Allison
 - August 17 Tim Tjernagel
 - o August 24 Allison
 - August 31 Andrew
- Small groups / Adult Ed review
- Summer Options:
 - Allison will lead a 5-week Video Series beginning next week on July 16th.
 - For 6 weeks "Made to Crave" Monday nights have 11 participants

Old Business:

Approved the Immanuel Conference Registration Assistance Policy

New Business discussions:

- Approved giving \$1000.00 to the Texas LCMC district for recent flood relief. A free will
 offering will also be taken this Sunday July 13th.
- Discussed how Deacons can best help, encourage and monitor the tasks of the interns at Immanuel as they are working towards becoming fulltime ministry workers in God's plan for them.

Board of Education July 10, 2025 (via email)

PRESENT

Allison, Rachel, Lily, Jana, Jaynee, Brandi

OPENING PRAYER

Thank you Jesus for a restful summer for our ministry. We pray for the families and children that are busy with summer activities and those who are traveling. Keep them safe and connected to you. We pray for the upcoming fall that you would fill our church and Sunday School again with the sound of children. In Jesus name we pray, Amen

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes from the previous meeting approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current balance - \$11,223.75

Allison purchased the gift cards for adult day camp leaders. It was around \$160. She plans to get one for the Seversons.

RECAP OF LAST MONTH

Day Camp-had around 50 kids between preschool and 4th grade. 18 were preschoolers/kindergarteners. Riverside did a great job and Conner did great leading music! Lots of youth volunteers. Next year we should have 5th graders attend instead of volunteering. Good crowd for the closing program! We do not need to pay a deposit for next year yet, Riverside will reach out again and let us know when we can register.

UPCOMING EVENTS / REMINDERS FOR MILIANNA

Rachel will reach out to 1st grade (going into 2nd grade) parents to order Bibles soon. Back to School Blessing August 24th Rally Sunday September 7th



OTHER

- Rally Sunday Plans
 - Allison filled out a request form for Dan Kirk, The Juggler With Yellow Shoes (Christian Juggler)
 - We are unsure if we should do a BBQ after worship or not.
 - Jaynee is working on putting together the new curriculum plans.
 - Classes
 - 3 and 4 year olds (incoming 3 year olds?)
 - PreK and Kindergarten
 - 1st Grade
 - 2nd Grade-Keely Oberender
 - 3rd Grade
 - 4th Grade
 - 5th Grade-Conner
 - Confirmation-Allison
 - Kingdom Kids Music-Nicole?
 - Young Disciples Music-Need a leader!
 - Teachers
 - Rachel and Lois team teach (Kindergarten or 1st and 2nd Grade).
 - Keely will teach again (Finley's age group, is that 2nd grade?)
 - Conner will teach again
 - Jaynee would like to float and not be in a group.
 - Allison reaching out to Haberl's.
 - Teacher meeting-Let's discuss at our next meeting.

CLOSING PRAYER

Say the Lord's Prayer on your own

Why Christian community is key

Jesus' followers aren't meant to pursue faith by themselves. In fact, that's impossible! A family and the body signify plural members. It is among brothers and sisters in Christ that we:

- experience our Savior's presence, living and incarnate;
- unite in worship, confess our sins, hear the gospel and receive Communion;
- accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- learn through other people's examples and experiences — what it means to live a life of discipleship;
- and lovingly serve together as Jesus' hands and feet.









Do you know what lowa's go-to comfort food is? According to the article, "Dig In! Classic Comfort Food from All 50 States" in this month's **Reader's Digest** it's the cinnamon roll. We all have our own ideas about what qualifies as comfort food, but just as comforting as the actual food itself are the relationships we associate with it. Two new books that have recently been added to the library have to do with that very idea.

In <u>The Amish Cooking Class Trilogy</u>, <u>The Seekers</u>, <u>The Blessing</u>, and <u>The Celebration</u>, by Wanda E. Brunstetter, a young Amish wife, looking to keep herself busy and reach out to others, decides to share her cooking talent by offering classes in the art of Amish cuisine. As she gets to know each of her students she quickly realizes that God has provided her with the opportunity to not only help them satisfy their physical hunger, but also their spiritual needs. Recipes and Bible verses included!

Do you have a favorite recipe that was your grandmother's or great-grandmother's? Author Sara Brunsvold in **The Divine Proverb of Streusel** uses the idea of sharing recipes and food to connect generations and heal broken relationships, discovering along the way that no matter how difficult the recipe - or the relationship - if you want to move forward, you have to take the next step.

New nonfiction: They Turned the World Upside Down by Charles Martin. Subtitled "A Storyteller's Journey with Those Who Dared to Follow Jesus", Martin explores how the early followers of Jesus were able to effectively change the course of the world, and then asks what we as believers today are doing to show that we live with that same power.

For young readers: Two books about one of the pivotal events and best loved stories in the Old Testament, Noah and the great flood.

Naamah and the Ark at Night, a lullaby by Susan Campbell Bartoletti, illustrated by Holly Meade. Meet Mrs. Noah, whose name means "great singer", as she makes the rounds singing the animals (and her family!) to sleep.

The True Story of Noah's Ark by Tom Dooley, illustrated by Bill Looney, includes audio CD. Though categorized as juvenile nonfiction, adults and young readers alike will find much to learn and think about as they explore the many facets of this amazing story.





Neighborhood News

Have something to share?
Contact the church office!



loavesnfishessc@gmail.com

NORSEMEN FOOD PANTRY

Located at the RS Middle School; Open Every Sunday 4 -5 P.M.; Call (515) 388-4348 to donate or with questions.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Located at 510 Pennsylvania in Story City & open 24/7! Take food or give food (non-perishable!)

All area churches take turns serving the pantry on Saturdays. If you would like to know more about donating or helping Immanuel serve, contact Brad & Karen Waline or the church office.

ART WORKSOP & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

AUGUST 3RD 1 - 3 PM. 619 GRAND AVE

Help us fill the Art House with art for our next exhibit!

Bring your kids to the museum to learn about pointillism (painting with dots). Artworks will be displayed for one month in our mini art museum on the Bartlett Museum property. Stop by for a cold treat and create some art!











ONE DAY, MANY CHURCHES SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025

10-NOON: BLESSING THE COMMUNITY 3-GPM: FREE CAROUSEL, GOODIES, AND ACTIVITIES AT NORTH PARK

FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN UP TO HELP Visit RScityserve.org/WeHeartRS

PRAYER TRAINING CLASS

Are you ready to step out in faith and pray for others? This training is for youth (8th grade+) and adults who are interested in praying for people at our upcoming RS CityServe event and learning how to share the love of Jesus with those who may not know Him.

Training is at the RS City Serve Building (403 Broad St.):

Option 1: Wednesday, August 6 (6 - 8 P.M.)

Option 2: Saturday, August 16 (9 - 11 A.M.)

Participants do not need to bring anything. Refreshments will be provided for attendees.

Sign up via the QR code.





Join us at the Story City Municipal Pool for an evening of food, fun, and feathers. Come early for a delicious BBQ dinner, then cheer on your lucky duck as they race to the finish line! Purchase your Quackers online or at the GCC Office (\$5 per duck or a "6-quack" for \$25).

Don't miss your chance to win great prizes and support a great cause—this is one quacky tradition you won't want to miss!



Calling All Artists and Young Entrepreneurs!

We're gearing up for one of the most colorful and creative days of the year. Mark your calendars and get ready to join us for this incredible community celebration of art, creativity, and local talent. Whether you're a seasoned artisan, a first-time vendor, or a young entrepreneur ready to shine, we'd love to have you be part of the fun!

Artist & Vendor Registration is now OPEN on the Story City GCC website!

Secure your booth space and share your work with hundreds of attendees!

NEW this year: "Mini-Maker" Youth Vendor Program!

Young creatives ages 5 to 16 can now register to sell their handmade goods at the event. It's a fun and inspiring way to spark entrepreneurial spirit and support youth talent in our community.



FALL EVENTS AT RIVERSIDE

SK & QUILT DAY

Saturday, August 2





If interested in joining our sponsor list for our 5K Run/Walk, please contact us at rlbc@riversidelbc.org.

Join us this August for all sorts of fun for the whole family at Riverside with our 5K Run/Walk, open pool time, an outdoor chapel service, quilt auction, and a delicious turkey lunch! All proceeds from this day support our general ministry fund, which supports our camperships, ministry team, and continued care of our property and grounds. **Donating a quilt?** Find the 2025 Quilt Auction Form online. The online auction will open on Monday, July 28.

We will also have a 25 item live auction in the Chapel on the day of the event!

5K participant registration is OPEN NOW on our website. Final itinerary for the day will be determined and shared in early July.













GOLF CLASSIC

Friday, September 19, 2025 at Coldwater Golf Links in Ames

Join us out on the links for a day supporting Riverside's Christ-centered ministry through golfing with friends! We pack in plenty of good times in our today together — lunch, golf, fellowship, ice cream and prizes to conclude the day! Golfers can register as a four-person team, or single player to be placed in a team. All donations from the event will go directly to our general fund to continue to ensure that every camper who wants to come to camp is able to, regardless of their financial situation.



Scan to register







WOMEN'S RETREAT

September 27-28 (Friday the 26th is optional)

If you've been to Riverside for a Women's Retreat before, you know that this is a cherished weekend for many — we want you back this year, and we want you to bring a friend! This ladies-only retreat is designed to deliver exactly what YOU need in a weekend away — restoration, rest, fellowship with others, and fixing our eyes on Jesus. We expect God to meet you right where you are. Enjoy the speaker who is sure to deliver a joyful, helpful message in the company of other women from all around the Midwest. Our team is delighted to host you for this unforgettable retreat. Several attendance options are available to satisfy a variety of needs. Add the Friday option for a fun evening of fellowship and a deliciously-impressive charcuterie spread.













from school/church to be in a cabin with you & register online today!

ONE OVERNIGHT:

Cost: \$100

October 17-18 Juniors (Grades 3-6)

November 7-8

Junior High (Grades 6-9)

CHARGE

FALL RECHARGE

Our Fall Recharges are a great opportunity for students to do just that – get recharged! Our time together will be jam-packed and full of worship, free time, Bible study, God time, fun outdoor activities, great food, and more!

TWO OVERNIGHTS:

Cost: \$130

November 21-23 High School (Grades 9-12)









RIDE WITH THE KING

Mother-Daughter & Family Overnight

NEW IN 2025: FAMILY RIDE WITH THE KING!

This memorable weekend retreat includes trail rides, horsemanship lessons that apply to our walk with Jesus, delicious food, and fellowship time with others. Camp is beautiful in the fall, and will include many opportunities to enjoy it! Our mother-daughter Ride with the King event has always been popular, but new in 2025, we are adding an additional Ride with the King event for families. So if you want to bring dad or big brother this year, do it! Register soon, as spots to fill up quickly!

Mother-Daughter Options:

Friday-Sunday, October 3-5 Friday-Sunday, October 24-26

Family Option:

Friday-Sunday, October 10-12

Fees:

\$165/adult \$110/youth

See website for how to register your group.

YEAR-ROUND EVENTS

HORSE LESSONS

We offer once-a-week riding lessons during the spring and fall choose from private, semi-private, or group lessons. The minimum
age requirement is seven years old. Must be able to attend designated
dates/times of lesson. Make-ups scheduled only for weather-related
cancellations. Contact us for more information & to schedule.
515-733-5271 | rlbc@RiversideLBC.org

Spring Session: March 25-May 1 (Six-week session)

Fall Session I: September 9-October 2 (Four-week session)

Fall Session II: October 21-November 11 (Four-week session)

TRAIL RIDES & ARENA RIDES

We invite you to enjoy our beautiful trails for a horseback ride or an arena ride for our younger cowgirls and cowboys!

Trail Rides: Minimum of four participants. All riders need to be at least 10 years old and weigh under 250 pounds.

Arena Rides: All riders need to be at least four years old and weigh under 250 pounds.





604 LAFAYETTE AVE STORY CITY, IOWA 50248

BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS IN CHRIST



AND MAKING HIM KNOWN TO ALL.

CALL: 1-515-733-4972

TEXT: 1-515-357-6982

OFFICE@IMMANUELSTORYCITY.ORG

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