

THE VOICE OF IMMANUEL

SERVICES WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON FACEBOOK AND IMMANUEL'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL. (A link may be found to YouTube on Immanuel's Website www.flatvillechurch.com) All Sunday Services will be broadcast on WPXN live each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. Additionally, live broadcasts on Facebook, every day of Matins at 8:00 a.m. and Vespers at 5:00 p.m. They are also uploaded to YouTube. April 2020



Until two months ago, coronavirus was an unknown term. Now, we are washing our hands and staying home. Washing hands is always a good

thing. Staying at least six feet away is much more difficult. And staying home except for groceries and medical needs is beyond our experience. It is like turning back the clock to a time when a trip to town was a less than once a week event. If that were our current practice, we would be far better off.

Now we have to learn a new way. That may be a blessing. We have become accustomed to great mobility and dependable schedules. Drop the kids here; go to work there; meet for lunch somewhere else. Pick up the grandkids, get them to practice, grab something to eat, and crash onto the Lazyboy. One could say that our lives are running in an intricate web of gears like a Swiss watch. But they are more like a Singer sewing machine doing embroidery on automatic pilot. It is faster than the eye can see. Now, suddenly, the breakneck schedule screeches to a halt. And we have time. How will we use that?

See this as a gift of God to be used to draw closer to Him. You could read scripture. You could sing hymns. You could reflect on a piece of art. You could "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) You could visit with another Christian about the faith. You could read stories about the saints of old or the Church Fathers. Different people use different ways to draw closer to God. The one common factor is time. These things take time. Use this imposed situation productively by finding a way to grow in faith. Our lives are lived in obedience to God. To be faithfully serving God, we must know Him. It's not enough to know about God. We must know Him.

This is a Lent like no other I've known. The idea of fasting is that doing without something stirs a hunger, a longing for that thing. May this imposed separation from the worshipping community cause a hunger for communal worship. May this imposed fasting from the Eucharist cause a longing for the Meal of Christ.

May this experience carry a true blessing that will last.

Pastor



COUNCIL MINUTES March 10, 2020

Pastor's Report- Plans are still in the works for the Brazil Mission trip which will be sometime in January or February 2021. Details will be confirmed in June. Royce and Sheila Baier were approved as Associate members. Vicar Henkel has been approved for Ordination. He may now begin the call process and search for a church. Hope Overflow extends their thanks to the congregation for hosting them. \$600 was raised in cash and food donations which was dispersed to the Rantoul Food Bank.

Property - Diedam project is finished in the sanctuary. We are looking at April for church-wide work day.


Parish Education - The theme for our 2020 VBS is "Knights of the North Castle."

Next Meeting: May 12th at 6:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
The newsletter deadline is April 15th.

Please email any submissions to the church at flatvillesecretary@gmail.com with any submissions or send to:
Immanuel Lutheran
2498 County Road, 2100 East
Thomasboro, IL 61878

HYMN SING
 Hymn Sing at Country Health will be on Sunday, April 26th is **CANCELED**

DEVOTIONS 
 Devotions with Pastor Barbara Busboom will be on Sunday, April 26th at Country

MARCH ATTENDANCE

	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Sun.</u> 8:00 a.m.	<u>Sun.</u> 10:15 a.m.	<u>Totals</u>
2/26		Ash Wednesday		86
3/1	45	121	86	252
3/4		Lenten Worship		112
3/8	28	86	75	189
3/11		Lenten Worship - CANCELED		
3/15	20	67	40	127
3/18		Lenten Worship - CANCELED		
3/22		CANCELED		
3/25		Lenten Worship - CANCELED		
3/29		CANCELED		

HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

- 4/8 Bernita Harms
- 4/8 Eugene Schmidt
- 4/14 Eldon Huls
- 4/16 Edgar Busboom
- 4/30 Erika Loeschen
- 4/30 Marie Reitmeier



EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg hunt that was scheduled for Sunday, April 5th has been **CANCELED**.

HOLY COMMUNION

Country Health and Brookstone will not have Holy Communion in April due to COVID19



LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

The men of Immanuel will meet on Saturday, April 4th at 7:00 a.m. has been **CANCELED**.

SPECIAL DATES

- Holy Week, April 14 - 21, 2019
- Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14, 2019
- Maundy Thursday, April 18, 2019
 - Good Friday, April 19, 2019
 - Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019

EUCHRE - MARCH 15, 2020

- High Score:** Lois Harms
- Low Score:** Nicole Crites
- Most Pokes:** Nicole Crites
- Most Loners:** Lois Harms



Vernon William Loeschen

Vernon Loeschen completed his baptismal journey on March 1, 2020 at home in Paxton. His funeral was March 6, 2020 at Immanuel officiated by Pastor James T. Lehmann, STS and assisted by Vicar Ryan Henkel. Committal was at Beckman Cemetery.

Erika Loeschen

Erika Loeschen completed her baptismal journey on March 26, 2020 at Country Health Nursing Home, Gifford. Her private graveside service was on March 31, 2020 at Beckman Cemetery officiated by Pastor James T. Lehmann, STS and assisted by Vicar Ryan Henkel.



CHILD: Michael Olin Grussing
PARENTS: Amber Grussing and Thomas Lowry
DATE OF BIRTH: December 13, 2019
BAPTISM: March 1, 2020 by Pastor James T. Lehmann

CHILD: Cane Michael Juday
PARENTS: Clark and Carson Juday
DATE OF BIRTH: November 27, 2019
BAPTISM: March 8, 2020 by Pastor James T. Lehmann, STS and assisted by Vicar Ryan Henkel



Jamie Buck and Adam Schluter
 were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday,
 March 14, 2020 at Immanuel officiated by
 Pastor James T. Lehmann, STS
 and assisted by Vicar Ryan Henkel.

SHUT-INS

Keep our homebound and shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers. They would all enjoy calls or visits:

Accolade of Paxton

Bill Reitmeier

Brookstone Estates

Marie Duitsman

Dora Ehmen

Lela Huls

Emilie Steffey

Carriage Crossings

Leo & Judi Studer

Country Health Nursing Home

Gesina Erdman

Dorothy Fruhling

Esther Kopmann

Berl Peavler

Holly Brook, Savoy

Norma Reitmeier

Supportive Living of Washington

Donna Flessner

Autumn Fields

Joan Gordon

Home Bound

Anne Duitsman - Florida



SUNDAY SCHOOL / VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We would like to let all the families know how much we are missing sharing the Sunday School time with their children. We are all aware of how quickly things have been changing in our community, state, and world. At times like this, it is so important to continue our connections with our church family. Daily family devotions are shared on facebook, and the Sunday School Lessons are being posted on the Sunday School Face book page also.

The regular Sunday School Classes will end on Sunday, May 17th from 9:15-10:05 because it is our last Sunday with two church services. However, we are exploring options on providing opportunities for continued learning through part of the summer too.

Updates of activities & learning opportunities will be updated on the church website under the Youth Education tab:

<http://flatvillechurch.com/youth-education>

Vacation Bible School 2020-Knights of the Northern Castle

Bible Verse of the Week -- "Be Strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power" (Ephesians 6:10)

North Castle is hidden in a frozen land. The King's valiant Knights are on a quest in search of King's Armor. But the armor isn't what they think it is. Cokesbury's VBS 2020, Knights of North Castle: Quest for King's Armor, invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids will take on the role of brave Knights and begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book.

They'll explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor - the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the Shoes of Peace, the Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation - at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters, and explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

Join us as we take up the gauntlet this summer and accept the challenge to "armor up" and be strong by remaining with God. VBS 2020 will be held Monday, June 1 through Friday, June 5 from 8:30-11:30AM with the VBS program on Sunday, June 7th at 10:00am. There will be a cookout following the program. Updates & registration may be found on the church website under youth education tab:

<http://flatvillechurch.com/youth-education/vacation-bible-school>

FEBRUARY 2020 TREASURER'S REPORT

Fund Balance Information

GENERAL FUND				BUILDING FUND			
Fund Balance	1/31/2020		\$ 208,987.94	Fund Balance	1/31/2020		\$ 121,627.15
Offerings		\$ 20,125.49		Offerings		\$ 6,632.60	
Dedicated & Other Fund Receipts		2,746.97		Total Income			\$ 6,632.60
Total Income			\$ 22,872.46	Building & Repair		\$ 11,761.50	
Pastoral Ministry		\$ 15,263.09		Utilities		4,330.29	
Worship & Service		3,249.86		Total Expenses			\$ 16,091.79
Our Church Home		3,238.16					
Dedicated Fund Expenses		1,044.68					
Total Expenses			\$ 22,795.79				
Total Fund Balance	2/29/2020		\$ 209,064.61	Total Fund Balance	2/29/2020		\$ 112,167.96
Less Dedicated Fund Total			87,752.48	<i>Building Fund Invested as:</i>			<i>Checking \$ 112,167.96</i>
Total Unobligated Balance			\$ 121,312.13				
<i>General Fund Invested as:</i>				Other Fund Balances			
<i>Money Market</i>	<i>\$90,165.74</i>	<i>CD</i>	<i>\$44,411.08</i>	Endowment Capital	\$ 24,367.17	Memorial	\$ 41,161.85
		<i>Checking</i>	<i>\$ 5,400.19</i>	Endowment Common	\$ 37,748.40	Endowment Interest	\$ 0.48
		<i>CD</i>	<i>\$ 34,993.33</i>				

Dedicated Fund Totals

General Fund General Fund General Fund Memorial Fund

Offering & Attendance February 2020

By Category

General	\$ 20,125.49
Benevolence	6,150.75
Building	6,632.60
Total	\$ 32,908.84

February Attendance

838
Average Weekly Attendance
210

Benevolence Offering Includes

General Benevolence	4,823.75	Lutheran CORE	40.00
Rantoul Food Bank	642.00	Men's Shelter	30.00
Marion Medical Mission	40.00	World Hunger	25.00
NALC Seminary	550.00		

Additional Offerings Received

Sunday School	448.94	Parking Lot	250.00
LYO	30.00	Altar Flowers	140.00
JOY	10.00	Radio Broadcast	280.00
VBS	15.00	Lutheran Brotherhood	24.00
Bible Study Books	50.00	Initial Offering	15.00
Valentine Boxes	10.00	Sock Project	5.00

Stewardship Progress Year to Date

	Budgeted	Received	Ahead/(Behind)
General	\$ 52,764.00	\$ 43,788.08	\$ (8,975.92)
Benevolence	20,000.00	15,986.25	(4,013.75)
Building	19,418.00	14,244.10	(5,173.90)
TOTAL	\$ 92,182.00	\$ 74,018.43	\$ (18,163.57)

	Expenses	Ahead/(Behind)
General	\$ 52,045.71	\$ (8,257.63)
Benevolence	14,126.25	1,860.00
Building	28,675.78	(14,431.68)
	\$ 94,847.74	\$ (20,829.31)

