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Coleridge, NE 68727
P. O. Box 88
Immanuel Lutheran Church

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CHURCH TALK

A monthly publication of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Coleridge, Nebraska; a member of the Lewis & Clark Cluster in the Nebraska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



Russell Lambert, Pastor
Immanuel Lutheran Church
304 South Main Street
P. O. Box 88
Coleridge, NE 68727-0088
Church Phone: (402) 283-4361
Parsonage Phone: (402) 283-2303
Pastor's Cell Phone: (402) 302-5999
Pastor's Email Address: pastorruss0530@att.net

Church Email:
immlc@nntc.net

Church Website:
<http://immanuellutherancoleridge.org>

Worship With Us
Saturday at 7:00 PM; Sunday at 10:00 AM

OUR COUNCIL

Herb Bose, Council Chairman Claudet Wege, Council Secretary Terry Ebberson, Treasurer
Dallas Graham, Vice-Chairman Sheri Krei, Financial Secretary
Claude Hofeldt, Alisha Stone, Jeff Hansen, Heather Loberg



FROM THE PASTOR'S KEYBOARD

I know that many of you love the “Last Supper” image on the back of our altar. Have you ever studied that picture? Thirteen guys sitting around a table —although in the painting all the guys are behind the table— eating a meal. In point of fact, they had gathered to celebrate the Passover Meal (Seder) together. Somewhere toward the end of that meal, probably just before the fourth of four glasses of wine served during that meal, Jesus grabbed a “teachable moment” to help them understand what he was about to do.

They had been eating “unleavened” bread during the entire meal. It was the “bread of haste.” It was made without yeast. Jesus held up a piece of that bread and said, “This —the bread— is my body GIVEN *for you*. Take it, eat it, in remembrance of me.” Remember that during this Seder meal, Jesus had dipped bread into the same bowl as Judas, tipping the rest off to the identity of the betrayer.

Then he took a cup of wine —there wasn't just one cup— and said again, “This cup —meaning the wine that the cup held— is the *new covenant* in my blood, poured out —SHED— *for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin*. Do this in remembrance of me!”

They were eating together! They were sharing a meal! I daresay that very few of you have your main dining table pushed against the wall. I bet when all the family is home, the table —if it is against the wall— gets put in the center of the room so that all the relatives can sit around it and enjoy both the food and the fellowship.

Somewhere after Jesus ascended into heaven, that Communion table got used for a different purpose. It became large and was a good place to bury “saints.” Then it was pushed against the wall and often got a glass front so you could see the bones of the “saint.” Then the altar/Communion table became “holy” because of those relics within them. The table symbolism was lost. Since the altar was against the wall, priests began “proclaiming” to the wall — as if God was there in the wall and the altar/wall was the “holy place.”

Except for one congregation, every place I have served has had a “*waltar*” (wall altar). I have always faced the altar during certain times but during the “dialogue,” the “Words of Institution,” and the “Lord’s Prayer,” I have always faced the congregation. I simply cannot, due to my own personal theology and piety, speak those words to the wall.

Recently, I was on the chancel —the area where the altar is— with President Herb Bose and Kevin Krei. I mentioned that I would rather have the altar away from the wall. We did some checking and it would be a simple thing to move the altar away from the wall so that I could stand behind it and preside over Holy Communion.

On Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, the altar will be moved forward so the front of the table is even with the top step at the back of the chancel. That is how I would prefer to keep it, but I would like to hear from you afterwards. Did you like it? If so, why? Did you hate it? If so, why? This is not “a hill I would die on,” but I would like for you to see how it would look (generally) and then let’s make a decision about the future of the altar’s placement together.

If we decide to leave it forward, there will be some minor changes that need to be made to the paraments for the altar. Altar Guild is well aware of those changes. Remember that many times changes become “the way we’ve always done it.” And keeping things the same “because that’s the way it’s always been” is not necessarily healthy. Please pray for me as your Pastor, and for the Council, as your elected leaders, as we move forward and shape the future of God’s Kingdom in Coleridge with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Dare to speak up to me! Dare to change when change is for the better. Dare to be heirs of God’s Kingdom. Dare to speak in Jesus’ name!

Thanks for “listening.”

In Christ...

-Pr. Russ+

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Special dates:

- **Palm Sunday**, April 9, 2017, First Communion, Service Time: 10:00 AM
- **Maundy Thursday**, April 13, 2017, Service Time 7:00 PM
- **Good Friday**, April 14, 2017, Service Time 7:00 PM
- **Easter Vigil**, April 15, 2017, Service Time 7:00 PM
- **Easter Sunday**, April 16, 2017 Early Service Time 6:30 AM, Easter Service Time 10:00 AM





Immanuel Lutheran Church Legal Meeting March 20, 2017 @ 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Claudet Wege, Council Secretary, pending approval @ the April Council Meeting

Those present: Pastor Russell Lambert, Chairman Herb Bose, Jeff Hansen, Heather Loberg, Claude Hofeldt, Alisha Stone, Sheri Krei, Claudet Wege & guest Angie Hall.

Chairman Herb brought the meeting to order & Pastor Russ led us with devotions. He gave each of the Council Members a book titled "I am a Church Member" by Thom S. Rainer. He read the

introduction: A Tale of Two Church Members & shared a prayer. He asked the group to read the first chapter for discussion at the April Council Meeting.

Secretary's Minutes: Correction under Property Committee: The parsonage garage door opener was replaced not the garage door. **MSC** to accept the Secretary's Minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: **MSC** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted.

Property Committee:

- Mowing Bids were reviewed & the following were accepted:
 - Church Cemetery - Jeremy & Heather Hall Family - \$425.00 per mowing
 - Church Property - Jay & Angie Hall Family/Austin & Aric - \$40.00 per mowing
 - Parsonage - Jeff & Amy Hall Family/Jackson & Delaney - \$45.00 per mowing
- Parsonage basement floor to have linoleum installed.
- Carpet in front of the Chancel buckling - needs repair.
- Flush valve replaced in big stall of the lady's restroom.

Cemetery Committee:

- Trees have been removed by Kyle Hochstein Hartington Tree LCC. They suggested to let the soil rest before replanting. There was discussion on what kind of trees, where they should be placed & how to pay for them. The cemetery grounds will need to be leveled before Memorial Day & the trees will probably not be replanted until after the holiday.
- The rock to be placed on the cemetery roads may cost slightly more than the \$1,400.00 estimate.
- Dan Kock & the Committee have been researching the cemetery names to find relatives of folks buried at Lawn Ridge. The relatives will be sent a letter asking for donations to assist in the maintenance & upkeep of the cemetery. The goal is to get the letters mailed before Memorial Day.

ILCW:

- Spring Gathering - Sisters in Christ - Bloomfield - April 29, 2017
- Kitchen items such as coffee pots & roasters will be purchased by the Kitchen Committee & paid for by the Immanuel Lutheran Church Women.
- The ILCW will be contributing \$50.00 to the American Legion Auxiliary for the Girl's State.
- Stewardship Quilts "Love Thy Neighbor" will meet Monday, March 27 @ 7:00 P.M. - Church Basement

Luther League:

- The League earned \$261.00 profit from the "Fat Tuesday" Soup Supper.
- Pastor is leading the group in Bible Study - the last session was on Acts 8.
- The League will be in charge of the Easter Sunrise Service. This will include a skit & breakfast.

Evangelism Committee: The Lenten Breakfast that was offered on Wednesday, March 15th @ 6:00 A.M. went well, however, small attendance. Suggestion was possibly to have more advertisement especially for the community next time.

Constitution Changes:

- Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Constitution will have changes to update bringing it in line with the ELCA Model Constitution of 2016 & to include changes from our Council & Congregation since the last adopted constitution of January 15, 2012.
- A Congregational meeting will be held on September 10th specifically to vote on the constitution changes. A copy of the new constitution will be sent to the Congregation Members in advance. September 10th is also "God's Work Our Hands Day".

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor presented a written report that included Visitations, Community, & Congregational activities & a long list of upcoming events.
- Council Retreat Saturday, March 25th - 9:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M. @ Immanuel.

Committee List: Changes: Mary Kock - add to Historian Committee, Remove Bev Brodersen - Kitchen Committee & replace with Terry Ebberson, Landon Jansen & Jeff Hansen add to Nominating Committee.

No Old or New Business.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next Council Meeting will be held Monday, April 17th @ 7:00 P.M.

April Circle News



Grace Circle will meet April 11th, the second Tuesday of the month, at 1:30 PM at the church.

Bible Study: Pastor Russell Lambert

Hostess: Sandie Stone

Peace Circle will meet April 12th, the second Wednesday of the month, at 1:30 PM at The Embers.

Bible Study: Pastor Russell Lambert

Hostess: Nelda Cautrell

Stewardship project for April will be Quilts- Monetary.

Women's Spring Gathering will be April 29th at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Bloomfield. Look for more information in weekly bulletins.

Prayer Concerns:

Laurie Wilson, Gary Jansen, Sandie Stone, Beverly Brodersen, Earl Hansen, Keith Goldfuss, Dora Hansen, Dave Nasland, Charles Rygiel, Myrna Collins, Gloria Brummels, Ashley Lynn Schmit, Jackson Graham, Virginia Avenell, Norma Janssen, Diane Frerichs, Orlyn Frerichs, Trevor Hallman, Trent Lueberstedt, and Janet Meyer, as they are dealing with health concerns.



If you would like to provide an Easter lily to adorn the altar for Easter Sunday and the weeks following, please leave them in the kitchen, beginning Holy Week. The Altar Guild will take care of putting them out. Thank you!!

April Birthdays

April 07 Michael Kock
 April 09 Berdine Brunssen
 April 09 Landon Jansen
 April 12 Nicole Dirks
 April 12 Allison Puppe
 April 13 Aaron Colwell
 April 13 Becky Graham
 April 16 Mark Hansen
 April 17 John Wood



April 17 Gary Frerichs
 April 22 Annette Sudbeck
 April 22 Jeremy Hall
 April 23 Todd Hahne
 April 25 Rachel Hanson
 April 26 Mary Kock
 April 26 Bob Yost
 April 30 Caden Heithold
 April 30 Donald Jorgensen
 April 30 Ron Jorgensen

Anniversaries

April 04 Terry & Sandy Wilkerson
 April 05 Clifford & Jean Peck
 April 07 Craig & Terry Ebberson
 April 15 Jerry & Marilyn Puppe

April 19 Wayne & Norma Jean
 April 20 Mike & Denise Olsen
 April 23 Paul & Shirley Korth
 April 26 Kelly & Denise Naslund
 April 28 Duane & Leona Heithold



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES



Fifth graders will be holding a first communion class on Saturday, April 8th. They will meet at 10:00 AM. They will take their first communion on Palm Sunday, April 9th.

Easter Sunrise Service Breakfast



The Luther League will be hosting the Easter Breakfast following the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday. As we rejoice our risen Lord, we can use this time to fellowship and warm our tummies with delicious food. Look for more information in the upcoming bulletins.

GOOD FRIDAY

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Coleridge Christians Caring will be sponsoring Good Friday Ecumenical Service will be at St. Michael's on Friday, April 14th at 1:30 PM. Refreshments to follow.



DAWG to Attend Circus

The DAWG group (Lily Fox, Aric Hall, Delaney Hall, Jackson Hall, Kayton Hall, Kennedy Hall, Kolby Hansen, and Daniel Puppe) will not have a regular April meeting. The group will be attending the Shrine Circus on Friday evening, April 7th in Sioux City. Please make sure Jacie Burbach or Nicole Benson know if your son/daughter will be attending.



Save The Date:

Confirmation Sunday will be held on

May 21st.

