

## Immanuel's News and Notes ~ January 1 & 2, 2022

**Welcome to worship.** As the shepherds and magi worshiped the Word-made-flesh, we too gather to worship the Lord. "God, you are always doing 'a new thing' (Isaiah 43:19) in the world and in my life. On the cusp of this new year, open my heart to Your grace and good plans for me. Amen." A special welcome to our visitors, please sign our guest book in the Narthex, and come again!

**As We Gather:** When the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, everyone was surprised and troubled. Few in Israel remembered God's promise through Isaiah that other nations would be attracted to them. They had forgotten that Gentiles would come bearing gifts to a future just and righteous King. Through St. Paul God clearly announced that all people share in the promise of Christ. Today, God's Word calls us not only to see the light of God's love in Christ but also to emulate the Magi. With joy, our faith moves us to follow where God leads and to worship our Lord, in whom alone we have boldness and access with confidence to the grace of God. That is, Epiphany is not only a celebration of the past but also a call to shine God's light in our lives today.

**Please Remember in Your Prayers:** Gordon Quandt, Marie Peters, Gary Meseck, Rachel Mentink, Duane Jacoby, Evan Bral, Sam Lee, Diane Taylor and Adam Burns. *If you have a concern for which you would like us to pray, please call the office, 676-2235, or send an email to: immansch@jowatelecom.net.*

**Poinsettias** may be taken home following our services this weekend. The bags in which the plants arrived are in the box in the Sacristy. Please ask Pastor and he will show you where they are. We thank you for helping to add to the beauty of our Poinsettia Cross for our Christmas worship.

**This Sunday** our Christmas decorations will be taken down after Bible Class at 11:15 a.m.

**Confirmation** classes will resume this Wednesday, January 5 at 3:30 p.m.

**Our Hope When Your Heart Breaks** study will resume this coming Thursday, January 6. We meet in the Fireside Room on Thursdays from 10-11 a.m. with Pr. Kaiser and from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with Pastor Mahnken. God's Word provides what we need the most in the midst of grief and loss—hope. You are always welcome.

**Next Sunday, January 9** our officers and board members will be installed at our 9:00 a.m. worship. The quarterly Voters' meeting will follow at 10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Also Next Sunday, January 9** our Board of Education will have its annual planning meeting at 11:30 a.m.

**Our LWML** meets at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 6. All ladies are welcome.

**Our Church Council and Voters' Meetings** are coming up. Our Council will meet Thursday evening, January 6 at 7:30 p.m. The Voters' Meeting will be next Sunday, January 9 at 10:15 a.m.

**Readings for Next Sunday:** Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22.

**"Thy Strong Word"** every weekday morning at 6:25 a.m. on KDSN radio, 104.9. This week—Jan. 3-8, Pastor Trunkhill is scheduled for the daily message. Pastor Kaiser will lead worship at Denison Care, Silveridge, and Eventide today.

**The Lutheran Hour:** "Gospel Power for Personal Patience" by Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz. No one likes to wait! Hear God's promises for impatient people. (Luke 2:40-52) Listen to *The Lutheran Hour* every Sunday morning on Denison's KDSN 104.9 FM at 6:30 a.m. and KDSN 1530 AM at 10:30 a.m.

**Thank You** to everyone who remembered us with cards and/or gifts as we have celebrated our Savior's birth! We are richly blessed to be a part of our Immanuel family. We praise God for the many kindnesses He showers upon us through you. We pray He will continue to guide us and bless us as we continue together in the service of Jesus our Savior in the coming year. Pastor and Chris Mahnken and Pastor Kaiser

**"Friend of Jesus,** no matter what painful or wonderful endings you marked in the past year, please watch for the early signs of new beginnings. Seize them as opportunities for you and God to develop together. Think about what the Bible teaches about life, appreciate God's love for you, gather up bits and pieces of experience, and put them in a file named 'lessons learned.' Then keep it handy." *Jason Nelson, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life.*

**Building Healthy Families:** Our culture encourages us to see the world and our relationships through a lens of individualism, in which we make decisions based on the question: "How will this effect ME?" How would our world be different if we returned to a faith, family and community-centered lens, in which decisions are instead based on this question: "How will my actions effect my children, my spouse, my parents, my congregational family, my community?" Give it a try this week! **Lutheran Family Service.** [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org).

### **Biblical Resolutions:**

Hold firmly to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)  
Assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)  
Pray and thank God earnestly (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)  
Petition God for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)  
Yield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

Notice opportunities to serve others (Galatians 6:10)  
Examine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)  
Work diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Yearn for righteousness (Matthew 5:6)  
Exercise godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)  
Aim for sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)  
Redeem the time, living wisely (Ephesians 5:15-16)



—Gus Nichols (adapted)

**Gifts:**  
 Christmas Eve: **\$5,094.00**  
 Christmas Day **\$1,292.00**  
 Church Plate: **\$2,821.00**  
 Adult Bible Class: \$ **9.00**

**Attendance:**  
 Christmas Eve 4 p.m.: **151**  
 Christmas Eve 8 p.m.: **73**  
 Christmas Day 9 a.m.: **53**  
 Sunday, Dec. 26 9 a.m.: **62**  
**339**

**Acolytes today:**  
 Linkin & Charlie Beeck

Sunday School: No class 12-26  
 Adult Bible Class: **16**

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

501 Glad Street  
 PO Box 27  
 Schleswig, IA 51461

**Pastor**

Rev. Merle F. Mahnken  
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**Assisting Pastor**

Rev. Kurt Kaiser  
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**Website:**

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**Worship:**

Saturday ~ 4 p.m.  
 Sundays ~ 9 a.m.

**Communion:** Every  
 Saturday and First &  
 Third Sundays

Sunday School &  
 Bible Classes~10:15 a.m.

**Worship Services** are  
 streamed live,  
 recorded, and can be  
 accessed at any time by  
 clicking on Facebook,  
 YouTube or our website .



## ~ The Week Ahead in Ministry ~ January 2-9, 2022

**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m. Worship w/HC  
*January 2* 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class  
 1:00 p.m. Denison Care — Pastor Kaiser  
 1:30 p.m. Silveridge Worship  
 2:20 p.m. Eventide Worship

**Monday:** ~

**Tuesday:** 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Preschool resumes

**Wednesday:** 6:30 a.m. Bible Study  
 11:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Preschool  
 3:30-5:15 p.m. Confirmation resumes for all grades

**Thursday:** 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Preschool  
 10:00 a.m. Hope When Your Hearts  
 1:30 p.m. LWML meeting  
 6:30 p.m. Hope When Your Heart Breaks  
 7:30 p.m. Church Council meeting

**Friday:** ~

**Saturday:** 4:00 p.m. Worship w/HC

**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m. Worship  
*January 9* 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class  
 10:15 a.m. Voters' meeting  
 11:30 a.m. Board of Ed meeting

**About the Cover:** Frantically searching parents finally found Jesus where He said He was to be found. Jesus is about His Father's business. Jesus is always found right where He promises to be. Years later, when the disciples were greatly concerned about the empty tomb after Jesus' death on the cross, they found Him risen from the dead and in Galilee, just as He promised. We have no need to be frantic in our search for Jesus. He is right where He has promised to be: in His Word and Sacraments.

***"Together in  
 Christ, we grow  
 through the Word  
 and Sacraments,  
 serving our Lord  
 and sharing  
 His saving grace  
 with all people."***