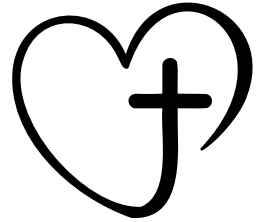


Church

TALK



AUGUST 2026

Growing Together

It is hard to believe that I have already been here just over a month. Time has passed so quickly, and I want to thank each of you for the warmth, kindness, and hospitality you have shown my son and me. From the very beginning, you have welcomed us with open arms, and because of that, it already feels as though we are becoming part of this wonderful community. We are truly grateful for the many conversations, smiles, invitations, and acts of kindness that have helped make this new beginning feel like home.

As I drive through the countryside, I find myself paying close attention to the fields. Since my arrival, I have watched the crops grow taller and stronger. The soybean fields have filled in, and the corn seems to stretch a little higher every time I pass by. It has been a beautiful reminder of God's faithfulness and the steady work that often happens quietly, one day at a time.

Perhaps that is why the Gospel readings throughout July have spoken to me in such a meaningful way. Week after week, Jesus has used the language of seeds, fields, weeds, harvests, yeast, treasure, and fishing nets to teach about the kingdom of God. Living here, those images are no longer distant illustrations from another time and place. They are right outside our windows.

When I see the soybean fields growing alongside the rows of corn, I cannot help but think to myself, This is the Scriptures in progress. God's Word comes alive in what we see every day. We know that growth is not immediate. Seeds are planted long before anyone sees what is happening beneath the soil. Roots develop in hidden places before green shoots ever appear. The work of growing takes patience, trust, and time. Faith often grows the same way.

God is constantly at work in our lives, even when we cannot see it. Sometimes spiritual growth is quiet and almost unnoticed until one day we look back and realize how much God has been shaping us all along. The kingdom of God rarely appears in dramatic moments. More often, it grows through ordinary acts of love, faithful worship, shared meals, prayers offered for one another, and neighbors caring for neighbors.

As I continue to get to know this congregation and this community, I am excited to see what God is growing among us. Every congregation has seeds that have been planted by faithful people long before a new pastor arrives. My prayer is that together we will continue to nurture those seeds, trusting that God will bring the growth in God's own time.

Thank you again for welcoming my son and me into your lives. We are grateful to be here, and we look forward to continuing this journey of faith together. May God continue to bless the work of your hands, the fields that surround us, and the faith that is growing within each of us.

In Christ's peace,
Deacon Brandi Painter



Jun 2026

Income

IMMANUEL MONTHLY GIVING

As of 06/30/2026

Bank Interest			
Cemetery Checking Account	13.75		
Cemetery Improv CDs	34.12		
Church CDs	110.84		
NOW acct	21.70		
Total Bank Interest	180.41		
Donation			
Cemetery	9,450.00		
Total Donation	9,450.00		
Offering			
General	5,299.55		
Total Offering	5,299.55		
Total Income	14,929.96		
Gross Profit	14,929.96		
Expense			
Benevolence			
Mission Share	666.67		
Total Benevolence	666.67		
Our Church Home			
Cemetery Improvement	29.72		
Contract Labor Cemetery	2,125.00		
Insurance	1,061.46		
Maintenance	401.68		
Utilities	531.38		
W-2 Wages - FICA Withholdings	404.44		
W-2 Wages - Net Earnings	1,368.69		
Total Our Church Home	5,922.37		
Our Pastoral Ministry			
Car Expense	326.98		
Furniture & Fixtures	0.00		
Health & Adm	1,109.38		
Housing Equity	1,173.00		
Pars Improv-Maint.	1,619.95		
Pastor Share or Pension Contrib	-379.65		
Pension (Add Pastor Contrib)	368.79		
Professional Exp.	717.54		
Salary	4,512.52		
SS Allow	11.00		
Utilities	506.98		
Total Our Pastoral Ministry	9,966.49		
Our Worship Service			
Office Expenses	935.50		
Total Our Worship Service	935.50		
Total Expense	17,491.03		
Net Income	-2,561.07		

	2025	2026
JAN	\$13,802.67	\$ 4,990.80
FEB	\$15,085.30	\$ 12,455.30
MAR	\$8,635.57	\$ 24,294.10
APR	\$15,677.16	\$ 8,241.24
MAY	\$5,487.31	\$ 7,570.95
JUN	\$12,372.66	\$ 5,299.55
JUL	\$6,036.30	
AUG	\$9,469.30	
SEPT	\$4,839.10	
OCT	\$6,526.83	
NOV	\$7,094.65	
DEC	\$18,774.27	
TOTAL	\$123,801.42	\$62,851.94
6/30/2026		

CHECKING ACCOUNT	
General Account	\$23,723.47
Specified Memorial	\$1,595.57
Unspecified Memorial	\$3,323.17
Immanuel June Acct. balance	\$18,627.15
Bank statement bal.	\$ 18,736.16
Outstanding Checks	\$109.01
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	
Immanuel CDs	\$100,320.83
Cemetery Improvements Check	\$20,968.69
Cemetery CD	\$ 58,713.99

WONDER ON THE GO

Sunday School Returns

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Deacon Brandi Office Hours

Subject to change:

Mon - Thurs

8:30am - 4:00pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays you may find that I am making visits or attending Cluster meetings. Friday will be my day off. Please feel free to stop by and chat as needed.

Cell Phone: 832-362-2886

Email:

DcnBrandiP@gmail.com

Exciting Things Are Happening!

There are some exciting things happening behind the scenes in the church office! We are in the process of implementing a new church management system that will help us better organize and care for our member information. We will also be refreshing our church website to make it easier to find information, stay connected, and share our ministry with the community.

And yes...there really is an app for everything! Soon, our congregation will have its own church app, making it simple to access announcements, events, giving, worship resources, and more—all from your phone or tablet.

These updates are all part of our commitment to strengthening communication, supporting our ministry, and making it easier for everyone to stay connected. We look forward to sharing more details as these exciting improvements come together!

August 2026 Worship Servers

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>COMMUNION SERVER</u>	<u>LAPTOP</u>
August 2, 2026		Dallas & Becky Graham	George Hefner	Sheri Krei	Charlotte Hall
August 9, 2026		Mike & Denise Olsen	Lori Arduser		Kevin Krei
August 16, 2026		Dakota & Linnea Heitman	Terry Wilkerson		Austin Hall
August 23, 2026		Craig & Terry Ebberson	Angie Hall		Michael Wolfe
August 30, 2026		Keith & Lynell Fiscus	Axel Sudbeck		Ron Brodersen
September 6, 2026		Steve Nordby & Dan Kock	Alisha Stone	Brenda Hefner	Aric Hall

- Reminder cards will also be sent in the mail when you are asked to serve. Thank you.

--As in the past, if this service doesn't work for you, it is your responsibility to find a sub.

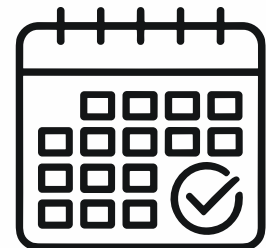
We have communion scheduled for the rest of the year. Please use this as your serving schedule for Communion Servers 2026. Thank you

Communion Server Schedule 2026	
August 2	Sheri Krei
Sept. 6	Brenda Hefner
Oct. 4	Alisha Stone

Nov. 1	Charlotte Hall
Dec. 6	Lynn Papenhausen

Save the Date!

Sunday, August 23
Immediately Following Worship



Parents of Sunday School-age children, as well as anyone interested in helping with our Sunday School ministry, are invited to join us for a planning meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, August 23.

Together, we will discuss possible Sunday School schedules to find a time that best serves our families. We will also introduce Wonder on the Go, our new curriculum designed to help children grow in faith through engaging, Christ-centered lessons and activities.

Whether you are a parent, grandparent, or simply someone with a heart for sharing God's love with children, your ideas and participation are welcome. It truly takes the whole congregation to nurture the faith of our youngest disciples.

We hope you will make plans to attend as we dream together about the coming Sunday School year!

Immanuel Lutheran Congregation Legal Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Present: Deacon Brandi Painter, Josh Jorgensen, Lori Arduser, Karla Hansen, Denise Olsen, Annette Sudbeck and Wanda Durham.

Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Josh Jorgensen.

Josh led devotions.

Consent Agenda items reviewed.

Secretary Minutes: Accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Two CD's were renewed in June. MSC to approve Treasurer's Report.

Property Report: The basement at the parsonage was retested for radon. New sliders put on kitchen sliding door. A new vacuum cleaner was purchased with memorial funds for the church.

ILCW: Seven quilts were sent to Camp Carol Joy Holling for the quilt auction to be held on Saturday, July 25. Stewardship project for July and August is school kits.

Luther League Report: None

Office Report: None

Evangelism Committee: None

Deacon's Report: Discussed a new curriculum entitled "Wonder On The Go" and viewed a lesson from this on video. Also discussed confirmation classes, applying for a grant through the Immanuel Vision Foundation for improvements to the Ember's Chapel, Christ In Our Home booklet, Sunday and Seasons subscription and technology resources for a centralized data base for the church. MSC to initiate tithe.ly church software program.

Chairman's Report: Photos updated of Pastors in the church entryway. Discussed cleaning of Sunday School rooms.

Parish Ed Committee: Discussed sending postcards out for Sunday School Meeting.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

MSC to adjourn at 8:20.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Wanda Durham.

August 2026 Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 B-day: David Grimm
2 10:00 am Worship w/ HC* B-day: David Eisenhauer, Aaron Olsen	3 Anniv.: Dave & Karla Hansen	4 B-day: Alice Franzen Anniv.: Jeff & Amy Hall	5 B-day: Alisha Stone	6 B-day: Jeremy Stone	7	8 B-day: Linda Olsen
9 10:00am - Worship B-day: Andy Hahne, Marlene Pick, Noah Stone	10	11 1:30pm – Circle of Hope	12 B-day: Carol Hefner Anniv.: Terry & Jacie Burbach	13 Anniv.: Robert & Betty Colwell	14 Anniv.: Landon & Shelly Jansen	15
16 10:00am - Worship Anniv.: Dallas & Becky Graham, Kirk & Sharon Olsen	17	18 7:00pm- Council meeting B-day: Janice Hefner, Sheryl Kalin, Janice Wilkerson	19 B-day: Brian Eddie	20 1:30pm - Park View Haven worship 2:15 + Embers Worship B-day: Mike Olsen	21 CHURCH TALK DEADLINE B-day: Brenda Brummels Anniv.: Rod & Charlotte Hall	22 B-day: Jacie Burbach Anniv.: Jeremy & Heather Hall
23 10:00am - Worship SS mtg following worship B-day: Dale Bartling	24 B-day: Harold Brunssen	25 B-day: Syndi Vogle	26	27	28 Anniv.: Keith & Lynnel Fiscus	29
30 10:00 am Worship B-day: John Burmester	31 2:00pm -Love Thy Neighbor Quilt Circle B-day: Brenda Hefner, Tyson Fiscus					

Church Office Hours: Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu 8:30-11:30 am

Email address: ilccoleridge@gmail.com

*HC- Holy Communion

Church Council, 2026

- Josh Jorgenson - Chairperson
- Terry Wilkerson - Vice Chairperson
- Randy Papenhausen - Treasurer
- Lori Arduser - Financial Secretary
- Wanda Durham - Secretary
- Thomas Brummels
- Karla Hansen
- Denise Olsen
- Annette Sudbeck

As the new school year begins, may
God bless each day with wisdom,
courage, and peace.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
304 S. Main Street
PO Box 88
Coleridge, NE 68727