

GRACEVINE

June 2014



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

747 Ann Street – Chadron, NE 69337

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Pastor Ann Sundberg

Cell: (919) 475-9754

Where God is with us as we grow in faith!

Pastor's Message

God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross.
There with Christ to bear the cross. --ELW 400

What is this thing we call Pentecost?

The word Pentecost comes from the Greek word for “fifty.” This great feast comes 50 days after Easter. It has not become as big a celebration as Easter is, but it should be. Pentecost is the day that we remember the Holy Spirit poured out on Jesus’ first followers, gathering them together as the church and empowering them for mission. In that dramatic day, in wind and fire, the church – the community of faithful followers of Jesus – was born.

Sometimes we staid Lutherans can be suspicious of the Holy Spirit. We tend to be leery of worship that sends people into ecstatic dancing or weeping, of a force that throws people to the ground and causes them to speak in tongues. But the Holy Spirit blows and burns in every single child of God.

In your baptism, you were given the gift of the Holy Spirit. God put a spark of holy fire in you. God’s living breath blows that ember of faith until it catches flame and leaps up with light and warmth.



Pentecost is important because it established the church’s central role in doing God’s work in the world. In theory, the Spirit could have been poured out on Jesus’ followers as individuals. But the fact that the Spirit was given to a group who were gathered *together* means that we do God’s work in the world *together*, as the community of God’s people.

Pentecost invites us to consider how we live together in the body of Christ, and how we are called to use our gifts together with the gifts of others for God’s mission to the world.

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit empowered the believers to praise God and speak in a multitude of languages. This miracle means that the church is multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multi-racial. Pentecost challenges us to examine our own attitudes about who is included in God’s family. It challenges us to examine the various ways that we tend to separate ourselves, and to open our hearts to all people.

Pentecost is a time to ask God to fill us afresh with the Spirit so that we may join in the ministry of Christ with gusto. How do you live in the power of the Spirit? How are the fruits of the Spirit -- love, joy, peace, faith, patience, kindness, generosity, etc. – growing in your life? How is the Holy Spirit empowering you, calling you, blowing the divine spark in you?

Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – May 2014

Opening: We opened with a discussion about the Ten Commandments
10 Commandments/10 Words
How do they apply today?
Are consequences do you associate with the Ten Commandments?

Council Members Attending: Pastor Ann, Jane Darnell, Jeanie Mohr, Laurie Harris, Sharon Thurlow and Dave Coe.
Absent: Laurie Schmidt, Robyn Baquet, Lisa Briggs, Karleen Gramberg, Leo VanderMay, Walt Mays, Jarrod Briggs and Julie Duncan.

Secretary's Report was accepted as presented with Jeanie Mohr moving to accept.
Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Pastor's Report shows a very busy month. The month included Lenten services on Wednesdays, Holy Week services, worship services at Crestview and Prairie Pines, and attending various meetings. Pastor has also been active in the clerical community and the Chadron community.

Activities planned include vacation bible school, delivering altar to Pine Ridge Resource Center and Pentecost Sunday with the youth group participating in the Crazy Horse Memorial Volksmarch.

Marty Connealy is working on re-establishing the former Closer to Home lunch feeding program with a summer program at the Masonic Lodge on June 2. Pastor is inviting us to consider signing up for one week of lunch preparation and serving. The group decided to commit to the week of June 23-27.

Executive Committee: Jane is glad to be back with us. We talked about the Pine Ridge trip to deliver the altar and have a dedication service. The Prayer Garden arbor is ready to be placed.

Building and Grounds: The trim is being installed in the Fellowship Hall, the heat vents will be insulated and the trim will be painted. Many have noted a big difference in the sound or lack of sound. We are looking into getting the water heater replaced. Pruning looks good in the prayer garden. Thanks to the garden club.

Education: Vacation Bible School will be June 16 through June 19. Wednesday School will end next Wednesday until this fall. Pastor is looking into expanding Campus Ministry.

Evangelism: No Report

Fellowship: still working into going forward with Fair Trade Coffee. The compostable products are currently being used in the kitchen. The Graduation Recognition went very well.

Social Ministry: We are participating in "Undies Sundays" for people being released from prison. Bring a package of new underwear to be taken by Pastor and Laurie Schmidt to the Synod Assembly.

Stewardship: There will be a new poster going up for Pentecost. Be sure to check the bulletin board.

Worship: No report.

New Business: Lutheran Planned Giving. Looking into have Craig Sturtz come here to talk about this. Pastor is working on this.

We closed with prayer and the question...

'WHERE DO YOU SEE RESURRECTION IN YOUR LIFE?'

Vacation Bible School 2014

Planning for this summer's vacation bible school is underway. Summer Sparks VBS will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 15, 2014 through Thursday, June 19, 2014 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A light supper will be served each night. Vacation bible school is open to all children ages 4 through 11.



Volunteers are a crucial part of a successful VBS! So volunteers are needed to help with leading games, teaching bible lessons, and making crafts. In addition, volunteers are also needed to plan/organize the supper meals and snacks, as well as, preparing the supper meals and snacks. If you are available to help 1 night, 2 nights, or all 5 nights with any of the above areas, please contact Lisa Briggs (308) 430-3544 or the church office (432-5408).

Crazy Horse Volksmarch

High school youth and/or middle school youth are invited to participate in the Crazy Horse Volksmarch, Sunday, June 8, 2014. The hike is 6.2 miles in total length (round trip), and this is the only time the public can witness in such close proximity the nine story tall face of the Native American Chief. Hikers must register by 1:00 p.m. and be off the trail by 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$3.00 per person. We will leave right after church.

Getting to Know You

Grounded is the adjective that comes to mind when visiting with Dorothy and Bill Mohr. They are my last interviewees from our new member group, because they just returned to Chadron from their winter retreat in Texas. Yes, they're grounded to the roads in a 5th wheel that they tow with them. When in Chadron, they are parked at Eagle's Rest. June first they will head to Fergus, MN their summer retreat, which is a transition time as well, because they'll permanently park the 5th wheel there.

Their faith is grounded, too. When In Chadron they're with us. In Texas they are part of the West Mission Lutheran Fellowship. It's a unique church in that it is open from the Sunday before Thanksgiving until the first Sunday of April.

Farm and family grounded them, too. They farmed north of Omaha raising cattle and kids (three daughters including Jeanine and two sons), corn and soybeans, and alfalfa hay. Their progeny ten grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren get visited as the Mohrs transverse north to south a week here, two weeks there (Wahoo)...

What are their other joys - jet skiing, fishing and music jams.

Immanuel Lutheran church has a website and a Facebook page. We communicate in a variety of ways—through the printed Gracevine, over the phone, in person, by text messaging and via email.

In this world of many communication options, we are working to integrate all of the ways we stay in touch.

Please take a moment to visit the churches website, www.chadimmanuel.org. We want this site to serve YOU! Call the office at 432-5408 or return this form to make suggestions and leave feedback. Thanks.

Website Follow-up Survey

1 – Has the website been useful to you?

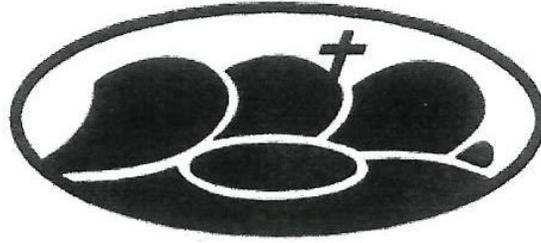
2 – What features on the church's website do you use most often? (signup sheets, links, news, events, calendar, etc.)

3 – On a scale from 1-10 (1 poor to 10 excellent) how would you rate the content on the church's website? Explain.

4 – Are there any features you would like to see added to the website? (online giving, different links, etc.)

Closer to Home Reopens

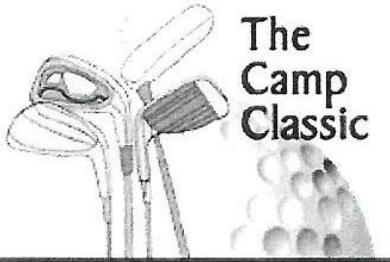
Closer to Home, Chadron's lunchtime feeding program, will re-open on June 2nd at the Masonic Lodge. We have been asked to coordinate one week of lunches, June 23rd-27th. 3-4 volunteers will be needed each day to prepare, serve and clean up. More information and sign-up sheets will be coming.



SULLIVAN HILLS CAMP

LOGEPOLE, NE

One HUGE Weekend of Events!



The
Camp
Classic

Sullivan Hills Camp

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FLIGHTED GOLF TOURNAMENT FOUR PERSON
SCRAMBLE

Saturday, June 21
11 a.m. registration • 12 p.m. shotgun start
\$65 per golfer

CHAPPELL GOLF CLUB • Chappell, NE

QUILT AUCTION, COMMUNITY WORSHIP & OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, June 22

Sullivan Hills Camp is located 10 miles north of Lodgepole.

Beautifully quilted and tied quilts donated by individuals and congregations.

The day promises good food, great fun and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of Sullivan Hills Camp. The auction and potluck will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends, family and lawn chairs! Please bring your own table service and a dessert, salad or vegetable to share.

Worship Service	10:30 a.m.
Quilts on Display	11 a.m.
Potluck Lunch	Noon
Quilt Auction	1:00 p.m.

WWW.SULLIVANHILLS.ORG • 888-656-6254

Treasurer's Report

May 2014

Beginning balance April 30, 2014	\$ 1,135.91
Income	
Weekly Offering	\$ 6,172.11
Thrivent	\$ 322.00
Other Income	\$ 351.00
Interest checking	\$.12
Total Income	\$ 6,845.23
Expenses	\$ 8,813.81
Ending balance as of May 22, 2014	\$ (832.67)

Worship Attendance

Date	Sunday Service
May 4	41
May 11	54
May 18	39
May 25	

Altar Guild Meeting

The Altar Guild will meet Wednesday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the church for their regular scheduled meeting. Please plan to attend.

Shepherd's Pantry

Sometimes we wonder if we make a difference for people, even though we know we do. Recently Pastor received a note with a money order for \$20.00 attached. The note said: "Thank you..I was hungry and you fed me' Matt. 25:35" . During that same week one of our clients called and said she had requested food but her circumstances had changed so she would not need it at this time. It is this sort of thing that makes us feel good about what we do. All of us from Immanuel should feel good.

Thrivent Action Team Grants

This past week Beverly Stitt requested a grant from Thrivent to help Hannah Norgard with her expenses and John Dagen made a request for help with Vacation Bible School. Both requests were granted so we will receive \$250.00 from Thrivent for each grant. Thanks to Beverly and John and a special thanks to Barb McCartney from Our Saviors who took time from her busy schedule to help us through the process. We have been notified that the money will arrive soon. When the process is over we will make sure Thrivent gets a thank you. We also have some ideas for other grants and may be asking for help from some of you Thrivent members.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
747 Ann Street
Chadron, NE 69337

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President - Jane Darnell
Vice-President - Leo Vander May
Secretary - Sharon Thurlow
Treasurer - Laurie Harris
Building & Grounds - David Coe
Education - Lisa Briggs
Evangelism - Laurie Schmidt
Fellowship - Karleen Gramberg
Social Ministry - Robyn Baquet
Stewardship - Jeanine Mohr
Worship - Julie Duncan
Youth/Young Adult - Jarrod Briggs
Youth/Young Adult - Walt Mays
Pastor - Ann Sundberg

Other Staff -

Financial Secretary - Lorrie Bauer
Custodian - Michelle Haynes
Church Secretary - Whitney Tewahade

Important contact information:

Nebraska Synod Website:
www.nebraskasynod.org, phone number
402-896-5311
ELCA Church wide Website: www.elca.org,
phone number 800-638-3522