

A big 'thank you!' to our weekly worship service volunteers!

Servers for December 15: Advent Three

Lector: 10:00 Sheri Foster
Acolyte: 10:00 Natalie Nichols
Communion: 10:00 Linda Kress, Sheri Foster, Betty Giddings
Altar Care: Ron & Susan Oline
Ushers: 10:00 Hemsaths & O'Loughlins
AV/Tech: 10:00 Ron Giddings
Adv. Wreath: 10:00 _____

Wednesday, December 18: Advent Four

Acolyte: 6:15 Bo Smith
Readers: 6:15 Janny Budzine, _____

Servers for December 22: Advent Four

Lector: 9:00 Bonnie Nelson
Acolyte: 9:00 Dickson Frye
Communion: 9:00 Linda K, _____, _____
Altar Care: Ron & Susan Oline
Ushers: 9:00 Hemsaths & O'Loughlins
AV/Tech: 9:00 _____
Adv. Wreath: 9:00 _____

Wednesday, December 25: Office Closed – No Evening Worship

Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK

There will be no Sunday School on December 22, 29, or January 5.

Prayers for: Connie Engler, Marie Bushkofsky, Nancy Elliott, David McCollough, Klint Knutson, Cyndi Webb, Harold & Sandy Schneider, Kay Bisinger, Luann Gates, Louie Tudor, & Carrie Erickson.

Sympathies to: Neal Catt on the death of his mother, Anna Marie Catt, 92 years old, who passed away on Thursday, December 5, 2024. Services took place on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at White Funeral Home in Independence, Iowa, with burial in the Wilson Cemetery, Independence.

Sympathies to: Mike & Dorene Hulseberg on the death of his mother, Elaine Hulseberg, 86 years old, who passed away on Saturday, November 30, 2024. Services took place on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at the Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Military: SSG Ashley Clark & SFC David Clark (daughter and son-in-law of John & Kathy Tegler), 3071 Mondavi Crest, Schertz, TX 78154.

Youth Schedules

SWAG (5th/6th Grade)

- ◆ Wed, Dec 18, 3:30-5 pm, Christmas Party

BLAST (7th/8th Grade)

- ◆ Wed, Dec 18, 7-8:30 pm, Christmas Party

CONFIRMATION (8th Gr. & older)

- ◆ Wed, Dec 18, 7-8:30 pm, Christmas Party

FORCE (High School)

- ◆ Sun, Dec 15, 7-9 pm, Christmas Party

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS BREAK

All youth groups will take a break from Dec 19 through Jan 7. SWAG & BLAST resume on Wednesday, January 8. FORCE will resume on Sunday, January 12. Confirmation classes resume on Wednesday, January 15.

QUAKE 2025

If you would like to make a financial donation toward the QUAKE trip, you can do so through your regular offering envelope (note on the envelope it is for QUAKE) or online. Thank you all for your support of this ministry!

Confirmation Project & Planning Meeting

All 2nd year confirmation students and parents are required to attend the project and planning meeting on Wednesday, January 8, at 7pm. We will give out all the information about Confirmation projects and the Confirmation worship service. We will discuss the retreat and banquet. If you are not able to attend this meeting, please contact Pastor Kristi as soon as possible so other arrangements can be made.

ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Immanuel's Endowment Committee is now accepting applications for 2025 Educational Grants. Students are eligible for a maximum of 4 years. Forms are salmon in color & available in the Narthex display rack, on the board in the fellowship hall, or in the office. **Please turn forms into the church office by Jan 10, 2025, to be reviewed by the Endowment Comm.**

Poinsettias

The Worship & Music Committee will be selling poinsettias for \$15 each from **now - December 22** after Sunday worship. They can be purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Winter Weather Service Cancellation Policy

Please find weather related church cancellations on the Immanuel Facebook page, KWWL, or sign up for Remind text messages. Text the message “@immw” to the number 81010. If you need help signing up for these, please ask Cara Johnson or another Worship & Music Committee member, or ask the office. Church cancellation messages are separate from Youth activity messages. Cancellation of Sunday service will be announced by 6 PM the evening prior. *If Indee School District cancels school for the day, or there is an early out, there will be no Wednesday evening service. If Indee School District has a late start, there **will be a Wednesday evening service.*** Please do what is right for you! If there is church, and you do not feel safe, have a great Sunday, and we will see you the following week!

MID-WEEK ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Our final mid-week Advent service for this year will be **December 18 at 6:15 pm**. This is a *Holden Evening Prayer* service. **Our Christmas Eve Services will be at 5 pm & 11 pm this year.** There are signups on the office door for Worship Service Volunteers.

Praise the Lord with Music

We are starting to plan our prelude music for the **5 pm & 11 pm services on Christmas Eve.** Preludes start about 15 minutes before each service. We fill this time with special music of all kinds: singing, piano solos, duets, playing instruments, etc. Please let the office or Jody DeBoer know if you wish to participate in one or more of the prelude times.

Stewardship Statement

Yearly Offering Needed (7/1/24-6/30/25): \$372,940 (rev. after 12/8 mtg.)
YTD Needed (7/1/24-12/14/24): \$172,126.08
YTD Received (7/1/24-12/14/24): \$135,269.15

Raise the Roof Fund

After tallying up all the donations that came in through the Silent Auction, Soup Luncheon, and Giving Tuesday, adding in the \$10,000 challenge grant from an anonymous donor, and adding that all to what we had already brought in, we are SO GRATEFUL to announce that we have exceeded our goal for our Raise the Roof Fund! Thank you all for your generosity!!

Week of December 15, 2024

Sun 15: 9:00 am Fellowship
9:00 am SS Christmas Program Practice
10:00 am Worship & SS Christmas Program
7:00 pm FORCE Christmas Party

Mon 16:

Tues 17: 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study

Wed 18: 7:00 am Coffee & Conversation at Em's (Men)
9:00 am Coffee & Conversation at Em's (Women)
3:30 pm SWAG Christmas Party
6:15 pm Midweek Advent Worship
7:00 pm BLAST/Confirmation Christmas Party

Thurs 19:

Fri 20: 9:00 am Bible Study

Sat 21:

Sun 22: 9:00 am Worship
10:00 am Fellowship
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL



Giving Options

In Person: Place cash/check in the offering plate

Online: www.immanuelindee.com/giving or scan the QR code

Vanco Mobile App: get the free app & search for ILC of Independence

By Text: Text your donation amount to 844-201-8060, then follow the link

By Mail: 512 5th Street NE, Independence, IA 50644

Ways for YOU to Love, Live, & Give:

- ◆ Donate toward the youth QUAKE 2025 trip
- ◆ Provide special prelude music for a Christmas Eve service
- ◆ Purchase gift cards through the SCRIP program
- ◆ Contribute to the "Raise the Roof" Fund
- ◆ Serve as a Worship Service volunteer
- ◆ Donate your pop can/bottle refund to Immanuel Youth