

# September 2020 The Caller



## Upside Down

“Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for that is how their fathers treated the false prophets.” (Luke 6:22,26)

It is clear that Jesus never took a Dale Carnegie course. By the way we do things today, he didn't know much about how to win friends and influence enemies. He probably wouldn't have been a very appealing motivational speaker for a meeting or banquet. Though he was provocative; entertaining he was not, for there's nothing entertaining about the Kingdom of God. Satisfying? Yes. Life-giving? Yes. But entertaining? No. Jesus did not come to make us feel good. He came to make us over again, into something entirely new, and all of this by turning our world upside down.

Ordinary thinking cannot grasp what Jesus is preaching here. It seems upside down to us, but that's just the point. Our lives must be turned upside down if we are to be saved. In our world the rich are blessed, and the poor are pitied. Jesus goes to the innermost sanctum of our hearts. “What's most important to you?” he asks. “Is your heart fixed on the possessions of this world or on God himself?” If the most important things in life are our

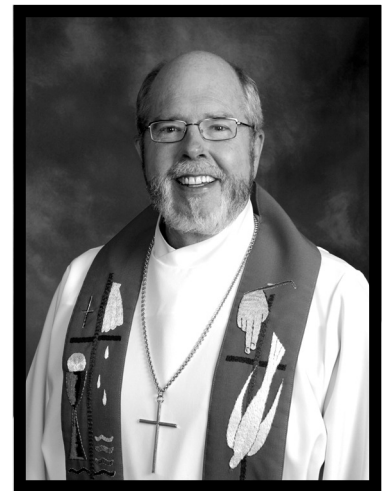
glorious God and the gracious gifts he gives us- the forgiveness of our sins for the sake of Jesus Christ, the life and the salvation he brings- then we have a grip on life that endures to all eternity. “Blessed are the poor,” says Jesus, and he means you.

Our world is upside down, you see. Death has gained the upper hand. In Adam, all have sinned and therefore all have died. But in Jesus Christ, mercy is given, life is restored, and God sets us right again. So you are not to fear or be dismayed as a Christian. Should you sense some emptiness and longing deep inside, God is beginning to turn you right side up. It is a sign of grace. Blessed are those who hunger, for those who hunger will be satisfied now with the good things of God's own house. Do not be dismayed if your hearts are gripped with sorrow; those tears of yours are good. Those who weep are blessed if they belong to Christ. Do not be surprised if life isn't always rosy. “Blessed are you when men hate you,” Jesus says. It's a bad sign if everybody always speaks well of you in this world of sin. False prophets are always popular, but God's true servants are not.

When you live, act, and speak as a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ, you will be swimming against the stream; you may not always be admired. Sometimes people will mock you and insult you. But remember, God works in

ways upside down; in heaven things will be right side up again. Until then we wait, confident and full of hope, trusting the word preached in Jesus' name, being fed with his live-giving body and blood. We believe what we cannot see with our eyes. And believing, we rejoice!

Blessings in the name of the risen Savior- Jesus Christ!  
Pastor Reed



**SERVANT**  
QUILTING SINGING  
TRANSPORTATION ALTAR  
THANK YOU GUILD  
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER  
ACOLYTE

**LEADER**  
SERVING OTHERS  
YESTEAMWORK  
READER  
GIVE

**VOLUNTEER**  
YOU USHERING GREETING  
MENTORING  
WORKING TOGETHER BEING AVAILABLE  
THE HEART OF EVERY CHURCH EVERY WHERE  
ANSWERING THE CALL  
GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS  
STEPPING UP  
ASSEMBLING SCHOOL KITS  
DISCIPLESHIP  
FOOD PANTRY  
THANK YOU FOR SAYING YES

## **CHANGE WILL BE HAPPENING SOON!**

It has been decided, our monthly newsletter, *The Caller*, will be accessible **ONLY** on our Facebook page and also our website: [www.immanuellutheranbrownnton.org](http://www.immanuellutheranbrownnton.org)

If you do not have accessibility to either one of these and would still prefer a hard [printed] copy, **YOU MUST** call the church office [320.328.5522] *to let that be known!*



### **Ways for you to continue your contributions!**

Online Giving: access our website [www.immanuellutheranbrownnton.org](http://www.immanuellutheranbrownnton.org) you will notice Home Staff Services Education Gallery Events Online Giving and Ministries—click on the online giving and a form appears for you to fill out and indicate where you wish your contributions donated. There is a small fee for this but if you indicate a monthly contribution, it is more cost effective.

While you are there, on our website, more is accessible for you! The church calendar and *The Caller for you to click on and access under the Events tab*. Also any information that is posted on Facebook Live is also entered on our website for you to be able to keep informed.



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Please be at church: 15 minutes before service.

*IF* you cannot find anyone to help you out by exchanging, you may call our church office: 1.320.328.5522.

### **Ushers & Acolytes**

#### **September**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Kaleb Templin, Alyssa Zellmann; Acolytes, Savanna Sweely, Landon Matheny
- 13<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Evan Battcher, Michael Headlee; Acolytes, Ava Hoffman, Jackson Mackenthun
- 20<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Megan Becker; Cadance Knick; Acolytes, Aubrey Lindeman; Kiley McDonald
- 27<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Heather Benson; Abigail Radke; Acolytes, Noah Say; Kamrie Mauer

#### **October**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Christian Chmielewski; Brysen Sondergaard; Acolytes, Kiera Schuette; Bradlee Nordby
- 11<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Michael Headlee; Alyssa Zellmann; Acolytes, Ethan Berge; Autumn Schuette
- 18<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Cadance Knick; Morgan Chmielewski; Acolytes, Nicole Duehn; Savanna Sweely
- 25<sup>th</sup> Ushers, Abigail Radke; Jessica Headlee; Acolytes, Haley Korson; Ava Hoffman

### **Mission Statement of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Brownnton**

“Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church is a fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ seeking to nurture individuals and families in their Christian faith, teaching them a caring ministry to each other, our community and the world by sharing the message of Jesus through word and deed.”

# Confirmation Family Service

We will finally be confirming our young people on September 20th with a special service for family only at 11:00am.

Those getting confirmed with Holy Communion are:

Mason Ryan Bussler, son of Nathan and Jill Bussler  
Callie Leila Klabunde, daughter of Jason and Diana Klabunde  
Caleb Ronald Lindeman, son of Jason and Melanie Lindeman  
Brianna Marie Matheny, daughter of Lance and Andrea Matheny  
Dylan Michael Rennecke, son of Wayne Rennecke and Lori Korson  
Levi Alexander Silfverston, son of Leif and Angela Silfverston  
Taryn Ann Zellmann, daughter of Nathan and Stacy Zellmann



## Immanuel Lutheran Church 2020 Sunday School

This year things will start out a little different than in the past. We will start out with some take home lessons that will be available for pickup on Saturday, September 12th (northeast entry of the education building).

We are excited to be starting a new program, BIBLE BUDDIES ! What are Bible Buddies? It is a pen pal type program where elders and children of the church are paired up and write letters to each other. We will have names and ages of the Sunday school students posted on the bulletin board in the hall near the church offices. Congregation members are encouraged to choose a student on the board and start correspondence. Some suggestions and topics will be provided. It is our hope for the students to form new connections through Christ! (Please let us know if you prefer your child not partake.)

The first "In-Person" classes will occur on October 4th and will continue the first Sunday of every month until further notice. For the once a month classes we ask each student to provide the following supplies that will be kept at the church:

\* Pencil Box \* 2 Pencils \* 24ct box of crayons \* 2 glue sticks \* 10ct Markers \* age appropriate scissor

### Important Dates:

September 13th - Rally Sunday - Please pray for the education of Immanuel's children.

September 27th - First Graders receive Catechisms

October 4th - Third Graders receive Bibles

October 4th - In-Person Sunday school classes begin in church basement 10:00-11:30

November 1st - In-Person Sunday school class in church basement 10:00-11:30

December 6th - In-Person Sunday school class in church basement 10:00-11:30

Sunday School Food Drive \* September 6th-October 4th (boxes near narthex entry doors)

Operation Christmas Child \* Shoeboxes will be packed on December 6th  
(start bringing donations at anytime, lists posted by drop boxes near narthex entry doors)

Blessings in Christ,

Angie Silfverston, Stacy Zellmann, Melanie Lindeman, Marie Zimmerman



**Gardening members of Immanuel:  
remember the  
Thrivent and Food Shelf Garden Project.**



**Currently, there is an opportunity to purchase garden items Sunday mornings, by our South entrance to our Education Building, before and after worship—free-will donations accepted. Then, at any time, in our East entrance from our parking lot to the Education Building, a collection tub is available for any other Food Shelf donations. You may leave donations at any time because the first entrance doors are unlocked. Thanks everyone!**

**Driver/Distribution Coordinator Wanted**

**McLeod Emergency Food Shelf is looking for up to 6 Mobile Outreach Program Driver/Distribution Coordinators. This part-time position is available 10 scheduled days (M-F) per month; up to 8 hours/day. A valid Class D driver's license is required with a clean driving record. Job share will allow flexibility in scheduled shifts. If you would like to be a part of this new opportunity and have heart for making a difference, call Lennie at 320-864-2088.**

**Volunteer Community Liaisons are also needed at each mobile distribution site. Maximum commitment is two hours per site. This is a fantastic opportunity for hands-on support within your own community! For schedule and complete details, please call Lennie at 320-864-2088. Thank you, Lennie Albers**



**LHM Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**



September 6

**"Jesus in the House"**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Messy prayers, loud tables, open doors—three signs of a spiritually vibrant household.

(Luke 19:1-10)

September 13

**"Fireplace Spirituality"**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Our relationship with God is not something to "set and forget" like a thermostat

(Acts 2:37-47 )

September 20

**"I Stand at the Door"**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

New Series "Households of Faith"

(Luke 24:13-35 )

September 27

**"Room at the Table"**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge

New Series "Households of Faith"

(1 Peter 4)



## **Stewardship “A Church Family”**

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod defines stewardship: “Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes.”

*Maturing stewards do the right thing for the right reasons.*

*“Maturing stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do.”*

September is thought of by many as a month of new beginnings. Children and youth (and some adults) are back in school, vacations are pretty much over, and many church activities start up again after the summer break.

God has entrusted all of his stewards with special gifts, talents and abilities. He also provides them with opportunities to use these gifts, talents and abilities within the home, the workplace, the church and the community. No deed, regardless of what one may think, is insignificant. Each one is important in its own way. That’s part of why God has gifted each of us differently, so that we can complement each other as members of the body of Christ to get ministry done.

St. Paul, in writing to the Romans (12:1-8), encouraged them, in view of God’s mercy, to offer their bodies as living sacrifices. He went on to explain that they should not all seek to do the most visible and praiseworthy things, but rather consider who they are, how they have been gifted, and what they can do very well—and then do it!

Consider these words: “We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.” (Romans 12:6-8)

This is by no means a complete listing of all the things God’s people can do, but it is a large enough list to let us know that we can all contribute something of value as God’s stewards. The key is to make ourselves available to do what we can do and love to do to build up the body of Christ. Find something that needs to be done and do it, with joy and enthusiasm, ***because maturing stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do!***

## **Noah's Ark Preschool Adopt-A-Student Program**

The Adopt-A-Student program provides financial and spiritual assistance for families who want the Christian preschool education but are unable to make full or partial tuition and or transportation payments. At Noah's Ark we want to ensure that no child is turned away due to the family's financial inability to pay. Some families are in financial need because of factors such as unemployment, illness in the family, large family size, etc. Your gift benefits not only a needy family but also our preschool.

We ask that if you can afford to do so, please consider helping a student with tuition, transportation, snack fees and or supplies (backpack, binder etc). Any donations are accepted for this worthy cause.

If interested in being a part of the program, please fill out the attached questionnaire and return to the director via mail or the preschool box in the church office.

Thank you for your interest in the Adopt-A-Student program. Your gift will enable a child to Grow and Learn as they Discover God's Love!

All gifts are tax deductible.

Our tuition rates for the month and year are as follows:

2 days a week	\$70/month	\$630/year
3 days a week	\$90/month	\$810/year
4 days a week	\$110/month	\$990/year (this is a new option!)

Transportation depends on how many days a week they attend class and how often they ride. Fees for a month range from \$15.00-\$50.00/month.

Other expenses a family may incur?

Students must have a full-sized backpack, and a 3 ring binder.

We ask for donations of food and or money for the German Dinner and Lenten Suppers

The preschool supplies each child with the following:

Plastic folder, composition notebook, scissor, glue sticks, and numerous other supplies!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Our gift is in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Our gift is in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We wish to remain anonymous (please check if applicable)

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We ask for donations of food and or money for the German Dinner and Lenten Suppers

The preschool supplies each child with the following:

Plastic folder

Composition notebook

You may choose to make a one-time donation, pay their monthly tuition or transportation, and/or purchase needed supplies. Please return this form to the director and he/she will contact you regarding your support!

Thanks for helping those in need!



Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church  
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
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Brownton, MN 55312-0147

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# 2020 September *The Caller*

A **Monthly** Newsletter of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church  
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