

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK  
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066  
[www.immanuel-lcms.org](http://www.immanuel-lcms.org)

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577  
Korean Missionary: Pastor Patrick O'Neal

Organist: Sara Sorenson  
Acolyte: Elyse Kliever

Last Sunday in the Church Year

November 25, 2007

**"Seek First His Kingdom"**  
**Stewardship Emphasis Week #5**  
**Building Pledge Dedication Sunday**

**VISITORS - WE WELCOME YOU** to this house of prayer this morning.  
May you feel at home among friends as we worship together. We invite  
you to sign your name in the guest book in the back of the church and  
hope you will return again soon.

Prelude

Welcome

Ringling of the Bell

Opening Hymn: "Thine Forever, God of Love" #687

Call to Worship/Invocation

P: In the name of the seeking Triune God:

**C: You seek us, O Lord!**

P: In the name of the Triune God, the only one in whom we have  
salvation:

**C: You are first, O Lord!**

P: In the name of the Triune God, gracious Giver of all good gifts:

**C: I am Yours! Everything I have is Yours!**

P: In the name of the eternal Triune God:

**C: Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory.**

P: In everything by prayer, supplication and thanksgiving, let your  
requests be made known to God.

**C: Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness!**

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Confessional Litany

P: Jesus said, "Do not be anxious about what you will eat or drink or  
wear, for life is more than food and the body more than clothing." Let  
us come before the Lord, confessing our preoccupation with material  
things and our needless anxiety.

**C: O Lord, help us remember to seek first Your kingdom!**

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination)*

P: Holy and gracious God:

**C: I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know.  
But some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I  
implore Your forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may seek  
first Your kingdom.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and  
remission of all your sins.

**C: Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: "All Glory Be to God on High" #947

Collect of the Day

First Reading ..... Malachi 3:13-18

Second Reading ..... Philippians 4:10-20

Hymn of the Day: "Seek Ye First" #712

Sermon: "Seek First His Kingdom"

Offertory Prayer, spoken in unison

**Lord God, our heavenly Father, we Your servants now bring to  
You offerings of tribute, freewill offerings, and offerings of  
thanksgiving. Bless us that our hearts would first be consecrated  
to You and Your service. Help us grow in the grace of generosity  
and liberal giving. Amen.**

Offering

Offertory Hymn: "We Praise You, O God" #785

Apostles' Creed ..... back cover of the hymnal

Prayer of the Church

P: ....let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

Dedication of 2008 Pledges for the Building Project

Dedication Hymn: "Lord of All Good"

Text: Albert F. Bayly #786

Tune: Old 124th, abbr. #682

1)

Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;

Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill.

Tokens of love and pledges they shall be

That our whole life is offered to Your will.

2)

We give our minds to understand Your ways;

Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great design;

Hearts with the flame of Your own love ablaze –

Thus for Your glory all our pow'rs combine.

3)

Father, whose bounty all creation shows;

Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;

Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows;

To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

Dedication Prayer

Lord's Prayer ..... back cover of the hymnal

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "Take My life and Let It Be" #783

Announcements

Postlude

### **Flood Relief Offering Today**

This morning a basket has been placed at the entrance of the sanctuary for those who would like to make a donation to help aid those in our MN South District who are struggling to rebuild after the damage of the floods. Please consider giving generously to help the brothers and sisters in Christ who have confronted major losses to their homes and church buildings. How has God blessed you to be a blessing to others?

### **Christmas Scrip Order**

The annual Christmas Scrip order will be placed on **November 27<sup>th</sup>** with delivery expected the following week. Because of the high volume of sales at this time, all orders must be pre-paid. A list of participating merchants can be picked up from the Scrip table.

### **Thrivent Work Day in Minnesota City – Saturday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>**

Thrivent is helping sponsor a work day on December 1<sup>st</sup> to help homeowners who were hit hard with flood devastation in Minnesota City (north of Winona on Hwy. 61). Volunteers are needed to help with insulating, sheet rocking, and other related activities. If you would be interested in volunteering your time and talents to help, contact Karen Stemmann, 388-6629. Thrivent will be providing lunch for the volunteers. Thanks for your consideration.

### **Snow Shoveling**

Now that it is getting cold out, it is time to think about snow shoveling! Anyone in the congregation is welcome to help. Check the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Thanks for any help you are able to give.

### **Red Wing Area Food Shelf Collection**

New Horizons will be sponsoring a collection of food and money for the Food Shelf again this year. Please bring food items to the church by December 12<sup>th</sup> or leave your donation of money in the box.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK**

Today:	After Service	New Horizons potluck and church decorating
	5:30PM	LLL Fall Workshop – St. John, Stewartville
Monday:	9:00AM	Ladies Quilting Project
Wednesday:	5:30PM	7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation
	7:30PM	Choir
Thursday:		No Women's Bible Study
Friday:		St. Andrew, Apostle: Ezek. 3:16-21; Rom. 10:8-18; Jn. 1:35-42a
Next Sunday:	9:00AM	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00AM	Fellowship Time
	10:30AM	Worship with Holy Communion

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

Today	- M/M Bill Langhans
Monday	- Amanda Dupre, M/M David Dressen, M/M Ronnie Stumpf

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Pastor Lyle Kath (undergoing cancer treatment); Margie Stumpf (healing); Harold Augustin (healing); Tom Kolberg (healing); Paul Nystuen (resurgence of bladder cancer); Syvilla Madsen (healing); Dorothy Bremer (for strength and peace as she faces terminal cancer); Dolores Rossbach (Sara Sorenson's grandmother, experiencing kidney problems); Donald Rossbach (Sara Sorenson's grandfather, recovering from an intestinal blockage); Karen Gusa (sister of Jan Langhans, struggling with lung cancer); Marian Burkard (recovering from a broken arm); Mary Jo Arndt (recovering from surgery); Jacob Diercks (recovering from rodeo injuries).

### **Life Quote – November 25**

"Adoption can be a beautiful solution for a child who needs a stable, loving home; for birthparents who want the best for their child which they are not able to provide; and for adopting parents who are ready in every way to parent but are unable to give birth to a child. It is true that God can take what seems like the worst of all circumstances and turn them into the best. A healthy adoption is a shining example of this miracle!" *Janette Clause, LBSW, Director of Pregnancy Counseling and Adoptions, Lutheran Family Service of Iowa.* **A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life.**

### **"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, December 2**

**8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)**

**"Getting it Partly Right"**

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus**

Who is Jesus? Too many people get the answer partly right. Next Sunday's Lutheran Hour message considers the things the Lord wants us to do today. (Matthew 21:10-11)

**Advent Midweek Series: “Longing for the Lord”**

Based on a concept by Rev. L. Lloyd Behnken, our midweek Advent focus will be “Longing for the Lord.” Advent Midweek services will be held, God-willing, on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM. Come earlier at 6:30PM for an Advent Supper in the Fellowship Hall! The themes for the individual services are:

Dec. 5: “Longing for the Christ of Heaven” Rev. 22:20

Dec. 12: “Longing for the Courts of the Lord” Ps. 84:1-2

Dec. 19: “Longing for the Christ of Christmas” Hag. 2:6-9

**Advent Midweek Suppers**

Would you be interested in providing a light soup and sandwich supper before one of the Advent Midweek services? IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE SOUP AND SANDWICH!! It can be whatever you would like to provide! The remaining dates to be filled are December 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The meal would be at 6:30PM. Plan on roughly 40 people. Coffee and punch will be available from the church’s resources. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board for those interested in volunteering. Feel free to ask other people to volunteer along with you for one of the remaining dates. Questions? Talk to Pastor Sorenson.

**Habitat for Humanity**

It is important that Goodhue County Habitat for Humanity continue to build affordable homes in our communities, giving help to families who cannot own homes without our support. Our intention is to build three homes in 2008. We are looking for qualified partner families for homes to be constructed on lots already purchased in Zumbrota and Kenyon, and we are in the process of purchasing additional lots in Red Wing. If you would like to contribute to Goodhue County Habitat for Humanity (you can donate property and materials as well as money), or would like to volunteer at a construction site, call our office at 388-9360, ext. 32. If you would like to send a check, make it out to “Goodhue County Habitat for Humanity” and send it to 480 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Red Wing, MN 55066. Estate planning and deferred gifts are also options for you to consider. Thank you so much!

**Thank You**

We would like to thank the Immanuel softball team for the wonderful tree they have planted by the new addition in memory of Duane. He always enjoyed the softball games with all of you. We thank our Immanuel family and friends for your thoughts and prayers through the last five years. May God bless all of you.

Sue and Ben Domagala