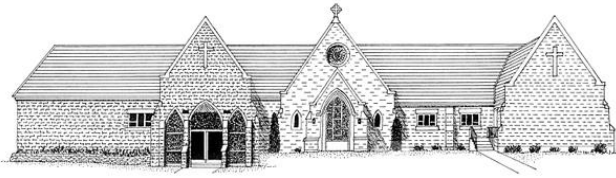


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

SEPTEMBER

2023



Worship and Church Picnic

Sunday, September 17th
8:00 worship at church
10:00 worship at Henes Park
with picnic to follow!
Pavilion #3

Hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and cookies will be provided. Water and coffee will be available. Feel free to bring your own non-alcoholic beverage and your own lawn chair.

Children's games with prizes!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to bring a dish to pass, those able to serve, and those able to help with clean-up.

Please let us know if you will be attending by signing up in the narthex, or calling/emailing the church office at 906-863-3431 or mail@e-mmanuel.com

In case of rain, the service and picnic will be at the church.

When the LORD brought back his exiles to Jerusalem,
it was like a dream!
We were filled with laughter,
and we sang for joy.
And the other nations said,
“What amazing things the LORD has done for them.”
Yes, the LORD has done amazing things for us!
What joy!
Restore our fortunes, LORD,
as streams renew the desert.
Those who plant in tears
will harvest with shouts of joy.
They weep as they go to plant their seed,
but they sing as they return with the harvest.

—*Psalm 126 NLT*

Psalm 126 was sung by pilgrims as they came into Jerusalem to worship at the temple. It is a Psalm of remembrance, joy, petition, supplication, and hope for the future.

They sang in remembrance of their past: how God kept the promise to return them to their land from exile and restored their joy.

They sang in that joy: being filled with laughter for the sheer happiness of having a worship home where they were welcome and safe.

They sang in petition: asking God to again return them from exile and to renew the desert with life-giving water.

They sang in supplication: asking for help in their deep need.

They sang in hope for the future: knowing that, with God, weeping and sorrow do not last forever, but will be replaced with joy and song.

What song is on your heart or in your mind when you make the pilgrimage to the building and land of Emmanuel Lutheran Church?

What remembrances do you have? What stories do you tell of the faithfulness of God to this community?

What joys do you carry in your heart and life as you look to God and approach this Holy Ground?

What petitions or requests fill your heart? What do you come before God asking for the present or future of our church and communities?

What deep needs do you bring to God in supplication? What do you desperately need from God?

What hopes do you hold for the future? What sorrows need to be turned into joys?

We are beginning to leave the long days of summer behind and head into a season that encourages us both to look backward and forward. Things may seem to come more quickly now. The long, warm days of summer that felt like they would never end may surprise us by how quickly they fade into cooler and darker days. The coolness draws forth memories of changing seasons in times past and the falling leaves draw attention to the new life to come in the next year. Likewise, our minds may turn to memories of days gone-by while our vision looks towards what is to come.

Take some time to answer the questions above. Reflect on the past and open yourself to the future. What songs will you sing to our God? Come to the place of worship, singing of your joys and griefs, your memories and hopes.

Blessings to you always in the name of the One who constantly guides and restores us.

Pastor Christine



Dear Emmanuel Friends,

Marilyn and I were completely taken by surprise and overwhelmed by the honor you bestowed on us on August 13th in recognition of my 50th anniversary of ordination and our partnership in ministry. Along with the wonderful tribute given by Church Council Vice-President Terrie Porras, we were presented with a card designed by Patti Treptow bearing nine pages full of thank-you's and well-wishes from Emmanuel members and a card for Marilyn from the Church Council with their own tributes. In addition, we were given a generous gift certificate to Berg's Landing and I was given a thermal tumbler cup and a key chain, each inscribed with "*A truly great Pastor is hard to find, difficult to part with, and impossible to forget.*" In addition, Cindy Smith handed us three gift bags full of cards and gifts from various members.

That afternoon, as we read the cards and reflected on the kind words spoken to us after the service, along with hugs and handshakes, we were overcome with emotion. We are deeply grateful for this heartwarming tribute. Thank you to Terrie for her heartfelt words. Thank you to the Church Council for the thoughtful gifts on behalf of the congregation. Thank you to Pastor Christine for helping coordinate this event. Thank you to everyone who greeted us so warmly with words, written and spoken, that touched our hearts profoundly.

When God called me to a ministry of Word and Sacrament fifty years ago, I had no idea that I would be called to serve Emmanuel and the Menominee community for 33 of those years. Marilyn and I are grateful to our Lord for the privilege of serving in ministry together with you and to continue to enjoy a deep bond of friendship with you long into our retirement years. Thank you for filling our hearts with joy and humbleness by your recognition.

Gratefully,

Doug & Marilyn Schoen



September is the start of our faith formation programs for our children. As part of our promise when a child is baptized, we provide many opportunities to teach the faith and help your child grow in relationship with Jesus. But, the church cannot do this alone. Faith formation is the crucial role of the family.

Faith is not merely a set of beliefs; it's a relationship with God and a journey that begins in childhood and evolves throughout life. The foundation of this journey is often laid within the family unit. Parents, family members, and caregivers play a pivotal role in shaping a child's spiritual growth by nurturing their sense of connection to something greater than themselves. This process, known as faith formation, holds immense importance in a child's development.

What is Faith Formation? Faith formation encompasses the ways in which individuals develop their beliefs, values, and practices within a religious or spiritual framework. For children, this involves the gradual understanding of God, Jesus, morality, compassion, and the interconnectedness of all living beings. While Sunday school and confirmation classes, youth Bible studies, and participation in congregational activities certainly contribute, the family environment is the primary incubator for faith formation.

Here are some specific ways your family can assist in your child's faith development:

Modeling Behavior: Children learn by observation. The way parents and other family members live out their faith, participate in worship, exhibit compassion, empathy, and acts of service, and demonstrate values, serves as a template for children's own beliefs and behaviors.

Open Communication: Family is a safe space where children can ask questions, express doubts, and seek guidance about matters of faith. Encouraging open dialogue fosters a deeper understanding of spirituality.

Traditions and Rituals: Family traditions, rituals, and celebrations provide a tangible way for children to experience their faith. Attending worship together, having family devotion time, sharing prayers, or participating in religious festivals help children internalize the significance of their beliefs.

Church and Community Involvement: Family involvement in church and service activities exposes children to a wider circle of individuals who share their faith. This sense of belonging helps to build church family relationships and reinforces their connection to their faith.

We, the church, will continue to provide enriching programming and fun activities that will help you and your children grow in faith. Please reach out to me for any specific needs you may have in helping your child grow in their faith and develop their relationship with Jesus, or if you would like to get involved in helping with our programs and activities.

With God's blessings,
Patti Treptow, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Youth Ministries



Confirmation / High School Youth Retreat *September 9th - 10th*

We are set for another great retreat at Camp Bird in Crivitz. If your confirmation student or high school youth wishes to attend and has not yet registered, contact Patti Treptow immediately!

Youth Service Opportunity

Youth 7th grade through 12th who are interested in helping with children's games at the Rally Picnic at Henes Park on September 17th, please let Patti know.



Sunday School

Mark your calendars....classes start on

September 24th!

All children may bring their school backpacks on September 24th for a special blessing of God's peace and protection over them for the

upcoming school year. Children grades Pre-K through 6th grade are invited to Sunday School! Children will attend the 10:00 a.m. worship



service with their family and be dismissed to their classrooms following the children's sermon.

We will be having our monthly Bible Story Sunday events on the first Sunday of the month from October through May. On these Sunday's, the children will gather in the fellowship hall for devotions, Bible story videos, games, crafts, and snacks. For the safety of our children, parents are asked to come to the classrooms to pick up their children following worship service.

Registration forms for Sunday school are available in the narthex or on the church website. Please return your completed form even if you turned one in last year.

Our Sunday school staff this year are:

PreK/Kindergarten/1st grade – Madi Raygo and Brody Nerat

2nd/3rd/4th Grade – Ava Slawinski

5th/6th Grade - Patti Treptow

Sub Teachers – Kara Hines and Rachel Raygo

Bible Story Sunday Team – Patti Treptow, Sharon Ayers, Bobbi Rod, and Kara Barley



Important Dates for Confirmation

Sunday, October 8th, 11:00 a.m. 7th/8th grade orientation mtg

Sunday, October 22nd, 11:00-12:30 Classes start!



Rite of Confirmation

Reformation Sunday, October 29th during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Cake and punch reception to follow.

More information will be mailed out to our 9th grade students/parents this month.



Ignite Creative Arts Afterschool Program

7th - 12th grade youth Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 p.m.

September through May.

Our first meeting of this program year is **Wednesday, September 20th.**

Ignite is a program designed to "light up" creativity and provide exploration of arts and sciences. All activities will be determined by the youth. **Spread the word....all of our community's youth are invited!**



GLOW Youth Group

7th-12th grade

Wednesday, October 4th, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us for a campfire, games, food, Bible study, and fun.

Bring a friend!

Adult Ministries

“Lunchtime Illumination” Bible Study

Tuesdays, 12:05—1 p.m., continuing through the end of the year

“Journeys Through God’s Word: REVELATION”

Yoga at Emmanuel

Class resumes on September 12th 5:30-6:00 p.m.

\$8.00 per class. All abilities welcome for this gentle yoga class.

Prayer Group

Wednesdays, 9:30—10:30 a.m.

Come together to join in prayer for our community, church, and those in need of healing. *There will be no pressure for you to pray out loud.*

Care & Share Alzheimer’s Support

Wednesdays, 4:00—6 p.m.

A support group for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer’s and other dementias is being offered at Emmanuel in the church narthex.

Emmanuel Women’s Group

Our group will resume on Thursday, October 5th at 1:00 p.m.

Rally Day

Sunday, September 19th Rally Day!!

8:00 am Worship at Emmanuel with Holy Communion.

10:00 am Worship at Henes Park with Holy Communion.

11:00 am Church Picnic at Henes Park Pavilion #3.

See front cover of Messenger for details!

Fall Synod Classes Now Open for Registration

Fall Classes Now Open for Registration

Registration is quick and easy for the interesting variety of classes offered by the Northern Great Lakes Synod. Join the bible studies and conversations on topics that are important to your congregation, your community, and the church. Beginning in September and October, Lifelong Faith Formation courses will meet online via Zoom. Two of them will also meet in-person. Go to the synod website -

- <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation> -- for details and to sign-up for classes by September 15. Contact Deacon Lori Ward at 615-519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynd.org if you have any questions.

The Faithful Innovations Team



Jeremy Camps Ronda Pedersen Gail Sieglaff Debbie Villas Kathy Bero Robin Gustafson Terrie Porras Pastor Christine

THE TEAM THANKS YOU:

THANK YOU for all who shared their faith stories with us in August. Look for other opportunities to share in the future, when you see the yellow table-top tents. You can also share through the written word by filling out one of the sheets from the table in the narthex. We appreciate your help as we work to discern our congregation's future.

UPDATE FROM OUR TEAM:

Your Faithful Innovations Team met in August to do a walk through Emmanuel's neighborhood to see what God is doing around us. It's one of the steps in helping us discern God's call for

Emmanuel. **Our next training is Sat, Sept 23 at Fortune Lake.**
Keep us in your prayers, please.

***Calling people who work, parents, people who travel for work,
and others who live in this BUSY world...***

Are you too busy to make it to a weekly meeting at church,
yet find yourself longing for a deeper relationship with God?

The Zoom Prayer Class has been formed with YOU in mind.

The Zoom Prayer Class will be offered, starting on Sept 13th, on Wednesday
evenings from 7:30—8:30pm on the online video platform, Zoom. ***See the July
and August newsletters for more information, or contact Pastor Christine.***



Opportunities to Serve **within our Congregation**

Worship Support



- Do you know how to stream on Facebook Live?***
- Would you like to learn how to set up for Communion?***
- Can you stay a bit and clean up after Communion?***

Sometimes we need people for support for our worship services in various ways, other than the reading, ushering, and the serving of Communion that is done by our Helpers (as listed below). A lot of “behind the scenes” stuff goes on to make worship services happen. If you can be a part of the Support Team, contact the church office.

Worship Helpers



We can always use more people to be on the rotation for **reading, ushering, or helping with Communion** in worship. *If you can serve, contact Chris Nelson or talk to Judy Raygo in the church office.* Thanks!

Helping Hands Team



Are you a “hands-on” person? Do you love to share Christ’s love with others by doing helpful and useful tasks?

We are forming a team of people with Helping Hands!

This ministry is an expression of God’s love to

Emmanuel’s elderly, disabled, and single parents through the helping hands of the body of believers from our congregation. Our goal is to assist members of the church who cannot complete tasks around the house or yard that require only a helping hand. **With questions or to sign up, please contact Pastor Christine or Patti Treptow.**



Opportunities to Serve in our Community & World



God’s Work, Our Hands
Collection & Assembly of kits for
Rainbow House
Sunday, Sept 10

Assembly of kits: following the 9:00 worship service

This year we are collecting items for the

Rainbow House and will put them together in baby/toddler bath kits on September 10.



Please bring in the following items to the church office (*Monday—Thursday, 9am—3pm*) or when you come to worship between now and September 10th:

Fleece blankets
Baby/toddler bath towels
Kids’ Toothbrushes

Kids’ Toothpaste
Baby shampoo
Etc.

*Please **NO** diapers, wipes, toys, or books. Rainbow House is swamped w/these.*

Children's Books

Pastor Cheryl Johnson needs your help! She has a ministry that gifts books to children, ages 0 to 18. They give away hundreds of books. She has asked us to collect books to share in this ministry. So, clean out your attics! When you're out and about at garage sales, keep an eye out for inexpensive books for kids. *Look for the little red wagon in the narthex to place your book donations.*



Do you play an instrument—
*for example: the guitar, cello,
piano, trumpet, harpsichord,
violin, or kazoo?*

Do you like to sing solos or
duets with a friend?

Would you like to share your musical talent with your church family?



We're looking for people who would like to enrich our worship services with their talents, at either (or both) services. If you're interested in sharing, please talk to Pastor Christine or call the church office.

Musicians of ALL ages are invited to share!



Mark your calendars and spread the word! We have a date!

Meatball Supper

Thursday, October 26

5:00—7 pm

Join us!



What Happened at Bunco Fun Night?

Fellowship hosted its first Bunco night on August 16th. We all had fun, did some learning, shared lots of laughs, and had a great dessert (Thanks, Barb!). We will plan on hosting another one in October. It flows better and is more fun with at least 16 players, so please consider playing and bringing a friend! Bunco is a dice rolling game, similar to Yahtzee, easy to learn and you play with a partner. See you soon!

AED/CPR Training: A Success!

A CPR/AED training was held in August by trainer Mary Palmer and 17 people attended the training, with 16 being from Emmanuel. Four people received certification and the rest of the folks were trained in both CPR and the AED. These skills are so important for not only our church members but also for others in the community. The training lasted about 3 hours with some very good questions asked during the training. Everyone's training was paid for by a generous church member. A huge thank you goes out to that person.

Fun fact: We have an AED that was purchased for the church by the Avis Barofsky Memorial, and it is located on the wall in the narthex. It is located to the right of where the coffee hour is held. Please look for it, so you know where it is, if it is needed.



CASA Picnic Report:

Thank You for your generosity and care for our community.
We were delighted by the amount of money and items donated to help our neighbors through CASA.

You generously gave many crayons, coloring books, sidewalk chalk, etc., for the foster kids in CASA to enjoy in the future.

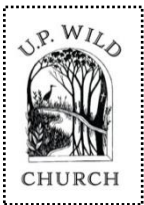
You generously gave more money than we needed to buy the meat and buns for the planned picnic.

Several of you signed up to help and showed up with smiles and caring hearts.

Thank you!!

You may know or have heard that the CASA picnic did not go as hoped. Of their many volunteers and foster families, only one person showed up. ***Yet, that does NOT diminish what you did. You showed up! You reached out! You gave generously! All we can do is what is placed in front of us to do for the love of God. We cannot control the outcome.*** You did what was asked of you: you are good and faithful servants. Thank you.

*A special thank you goes to council member Stacy Hansen for coordinating with CASA, organizing the church part of the endeavor, cooking the food, encouraging people to help, and bringing the leftover food to the homeless shelter. **We appreciate you, Stacy!***



UP Wild in Menominee/Marinette

Saturday, Sept 16 at 2:00 pm

John Henes Park, pavilion #1

U.P. Wild Church is a collaboration between the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan and the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA that seeks to create opportunities to foster a deeper spiritual connection with God outdoors. *U.P. Wild* is based out of Marquette, MI but is steadily expanding into other parts of the synod. **Anyone interested in helping establish a branch of U.P. Wild in our region is invited to an informational gathering at John Henes Park pavilion #1 on Saturday, September 16 at 2 p.m.** Attendees can expect a welcome to our bioregion, passing of the peace, wilderness reflection, wander & ponder, sharing circle, shared prayers & incense, a closing poem, and time to discuss what a local branch might look like.

Northern Great Lakes Synod News

To find out what is happening around our Synod, check out the Northern Great Lakes Website at www.nglsynod.org

To view Bishop Finegan's and Assistant to the Bishop Duehring's newsletter articles, they can be found at www.nglsynod/newsletters-articles

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Fall Fest and Quilt Auction Saturday, October 7

We are so excited to provide members of your congregation and community an opportunity to support our ministry here at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp - and have a lot of fun in the process. As we did last year, we will have two events running simultaneously for our Fall Fest Quilt Auction. **The online silent auction begins September 26 and goes through October 7, 2023. Our LIVE AUCTION will be held here at camp at 11:00 am on October 7th, 2023.**

Please encourage everyone to attend this event beginning at 9:30am. **We will offer a Continental Breakfast, Bake Sale, Country Store (with many hand-made crafts and items), a Raffle, as well as the Live Auction.**

For people who would like to donate items for either the Country Store or for the quilt auction, we have attached forms for them to complete and include with their submission.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks again for your support!

Deborah Hansen, Office Manager
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
906-214-2267
officemanager@fortunelake.org

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

9:00 a.m. September 6 & 10

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. September 17 & 24
Livestreamed on our Facebook page

CONTACT US:

Phone: (906) 863-3431

Email: mail@e-mmanuel.com

or

Visit us on the Web at www.e-mmanuel.com



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Menominee Michigan ELCA

STAFF:

Pastor

The Rev. Christine Olson

Email: pastor2901@e-mmanuel.com

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Mrs. Patti Treptow

Email: ptreptow@e-mmanuel.com

Church Secretary

Mrs. Judy Raygo

Custodian – inside Mrs. Carol Parrish

Custodian – outside Mr. Lee Parrish



We are a congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America