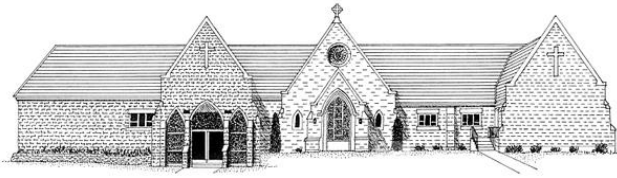


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

APRIL

2024



An Easter Prayer:

May the resurrection of Christ inspire your faith and
renew your hope on Easter Day and always.

Let us embrace God's unwavering love, learn to
forgive like Christ, and spread joy in our community
and world with the blooming spring of new life in the
miracle of the empty tomb!

I love you, LORD!

You answered my prayers.

You paid attention to me,

and so I will pray to you as long as I live.

Death attacked from all sides,

and I was captured by its painful chains.

But when I was really hurting,

I prayed and said, "LORD, please don't let me die!"

You are kind, LORD, so good and merciful.

You protect ordinary people,

and when I was helpless, you saved me and treated me so kindly that I don't need to worry anymore.

You, LORD, have saved

my life from death,

my eyes from tears,

my feet from stumbling.

Now I will walk at your side

in this land of the living.

—*Psalm 116:1-9 CEV*

This April brings us several very dear things.

We celebrate the resurrection of Christ as the Season of Easter continues for seven weeks, culminating on the 50th day with Pentecost Sunday on May 19th.

Spring arrives and the world begins to bloom again. Soon, our sights will be filled with the colors and fragrances that only this season can bring.

We remember our Home in a special way as our nation celebrates Earth Day this month—a chance to learn new ways to honor, protect, and cultivate God's Creation as the stewards God made us to be.

In other words, this month is about LIFE!

We receive new life from God again as we remember and celebrate Jesus' resurrection—his ultimate defeat of sin, death, and the devil through which we benefit. We receive the ability to live this life humbly and well by understanding that our value and life is placed in Christ and not in the judgments and whims of the mechanizations of the world. We look forward to eternal life, gifted to us in love. Meaning that through the resurrection we receive new life both for this world and for the next!

We receive new life from the season of spring as the plants that seem dead throughout the winter are renewed with vigor, beauty, and miraculous return. As flowers and leaves unfold, perhaps our souls unfold again as well and we are invited to romp with joy in the Creation. We remember again that our God is a God of life, of beauty, and of glorious light. Meaning that we celebrate our spiritual new life with the new life seen in nature all around us!

We receive new life as we honor our Home—this great and beautiful world that belongs to our God who made it. We are reminded that we do not exist apart from what God has made, but we are intricately connected to it all. We hear God’s call once again to participate in the proper care and stewarding of the Creation that God loves SO MUCH (of which we are a part). Meaning that we are called, asked, and invited to share the honor of loving all that God has made and all that God loves!

April is a month in which we SPRING to life once again in all the ways in which God invites us. We celebrate together with our God of life and love! Blessings to you always in the name of the One who gives us abundant life.

- *Pastor Christine*



Earth day this year is Monday, April 22nd. It is not a day we typically celebrate in the church, but as stewards of God’s world, we are called to cherish and protect the Earth and honor the interconnectedness of all life.

By using the principles of stewardship in our daily lives and advocating for positive change, we can contribute to the flourishing of humanity and nature, and work toward a more sustainable and equitable future for us and our planet we call home.

Stewardship of our earth is something we can easily teach our children. Parents play a crucial role in instilling values and shaping the worldview of their children. Teaching children about being good stewards of God’s world involves integrating environmental awareness with spiritual teachings and practical actions. Here are some ways parents can share this important lesson:

1. **Lead by Example:** Children learn by observing their parents. Demonstrate environmentally responsible behaviors in your daily life, such as recycling, conserving water and energy, gardening,

and supporting sustainable practices. Let your children see you making eco-friendly choices and explain why these actions are important.

2. **Connect Nature with Spirituality:** Help your children develop a sense of reverence and awe for the natural world by exploring the spiritual aspects of nature. Spend time outdoors together, whether it's hiking in the woods, visiting a botanical garden, or simply playing in the backyard. Use these experiences to discuss how God's creation reflects His love and wisdom.
3. **Integrate Faith-Based Teachings:** Incorporate relevant scriptures, stories, and teachings into discussions about environmental stewardship. You might explore passages about God's role as Creator and humanity's responsibility to care for the Earth such as Genesis 1:26-28 and Psalm 24:1.
4. **Engage in Meaningful Conversations:** Encourage open dialogue with your children about environmental issues and their implications. Discuss current events related to climate change, pollution, wildlife conservation, and social justice. Help children understand how their actions, no matter how small, can make a positive impact on the world.
5. **Hands-On Learning:** Provide opportunities for hands-on learning experiences that foster a deeper connection to nature and a sense of responsibility towards it. Plant a garden together, visit a local farm or nature reserve, volunteer for environmental clean-up efforts, or participate in community gardening projects.
6. **Practice Gratitude:** Cultivate a spirit of gratitude in your children by encouraging them to appreciate the gifts of nature and express thankfulness for the beauty and abundance around them. Encourage daily practices such as saying prayers of gratitude before meals or keeping a gratitude journal where they can reflect on the blessings of God's creation.

By incorporating these strategies and your own ideas, children can learn and experience how to be good stewards of God's world, and nurture a deep sense of responsibility, compassion, and reverence for the Earth and all who live in it.

With God's Blessings,
Patti Treptow

Watch for a special Sunday school project about Earth Day that will be held on April 21st.

Youth Ministries





Sunday School Earth Day Project

Sunday, April 21st during class time, our children will participate in a special project celebrating Earth Day and learn how to be good stewards of God's world. Thank you Little Lutherans Committee for assisting with this project!



First Communion

Our 5th graders completed their First Communion instruction and were welcomed to the Lord's Table on Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Our First Communion participants:

Ashton Behrens Cameron Bell
Macy Brezsko Jaida Schroeder Siena Starzynski



Upcoming Classes

April 7 & 21
11:00am — 1:00pm



Emmanuel Youth

7th-12th grade are invited to join us for a group jump party at the "Get Air" trampoline park in Green Bay **on Sunday, April 14th.**

Details and transportation are being finalized. *Information will be emailed to parents.*



GLOW Youth Group

7th-12th grade

Wednesday, April 3rd and 17th

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us for Bible study discussions, food, and fun.

Bring a friend!



Ignite Creative Arts Afterschool Program

7th - 12th grade youth

Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 p.m.

All community youth are invited!

Sumer Camp 2024

Registration for Fortune Lake summer camp is open. We understand that the cost of camp is difficult for some families. Emmanuel does have scholarship funds available. Scholarship applications and more information on camp can be obtained in the church office.





FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP

2024 SCHEDULE

WEEK	DATES	CAMP PROGRAM & AGE/GRADE COMPLETED	COST
Week 1	June 9-14	Victory Camp (Adult 18+ with disabilities)	\$625
Week 2	June 16-21	Intergenerational Week (all ages) New! Treehouse Adventures (Grades 7-12)	See website \$475
Week 3	June 23-28	High School Week (Grades 9-12) LIT Training Week (Grades 10-12)	\$475
	June 30-July 2	Mighty Ones (Grades 1-2)	\$225
Week 4	June 30-July 3	Mini Camp (Grades 2-3) MashUp (Grades 4-8) LIT #1 Option (*No charge)	\$305 No charge
Week 5	July 7-10	^Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)	\$305
+Outdoor Week!	July 7-12	^Villager (Grades 3-4) ^Vagabond (Grades 5-6) ^Venturer (Grades 7-8) Camp ACTS (Grades 3-12) LIT #2 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475
	Week 6	July 14-17	New! Evergreen Camp (Adults 55+)
Week 7	July 21-26	LEGO® Camp (Grades 3-9) Jr High Night Owl (Grades 6-8) Art Camp (Grades 3-9) LIT #3 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475
	July 22-25	Onsite Day Camp (Grades K-5)	\$130
Week 8	July 28-Aug 2	Intergenerational Week (all ages) Vagabond (Grades 5-6) LIT #4 Option (*No charge)	See website \$445
	July 30-Aug 2	Intergenerational Half Week (all ages)	See website
Week 9	August 4-7	^Mini Camp (Grades 2-3) ^Villager (Grades 3-4) ^Vagabond (Grades 5-6) ^Venturer (Grades 7-8)	\$305

Scholarships Available

More info at FortuneLake.org

*LIT program requires an application process. Week #1 has a fee; subsequent weeks do not.

Adult Ministries

Prayer Group

Wednesdays, 9:30—10:30 AM

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, 3:00—5 PM

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

Thursday, April 4th at 1:00 PM

Join us in the Friendship room for Bible study and fellowship.

Yoga at Emmanuel

Tuesdays 5:30—6:00 PM

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

Congregational Financial Update

(through February 29, 2024)

Approved 2024 budgeted offerings: \$39,738.00

Amount ahead approved budget: \$1,550.00

Total offerings and income received: \$42,915.00

Total expenses: \$41,593.00

Income greater than expense by: \$1,322.00

We give thanks to God for your continued generosity and care.

If you would like a copy of any month's Council Minutes, you can find them on our website under the "Our Work" tab, then under "Church Council". Or, call the church office and ask for a copy.

Emmanuel's Outreach Projects

Easter Baskets for our Shut-ins

The Outreach Committee delivered baskets filled with love and goodies to our shut-ins. Here is a photo of the baskets that were delivered.



Fellowship Event
CJ's Glass Art Class
and Potluck
Thursday, April 25
at 5:00pm



The Fellowship Team will be offering an opportunity for members to create a stained glass project! The cost will be \$25 per person for the materials. Our host teacher from CJ's Glass will offer 2 different designs to choose from.

We will include a potluck with our session.
Watch for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex!

FAITHFUL INNOVATIONS



We want to hear more stories.

Our team members (pictured above) will be reaching out to a few more people this month to hear your stories.

We need your hobbies and skills.

We are looking for people who can help create connections to people both in our congregation and in our community through activities. If you have a hobby you would like to share, please see a member of our team!

We want to try and gather our community in unique ways.

We'd like to use our space to gather people together for concerts, performances, and fun nights. If you have ideas for these, please talk to us.

Update from the Visitation Team

Meet our Communion Carriers:



Jeanette Lawton Betty Kohrt Bill Taccolini

These members of the visitation team have been trained to carry the Holy Communion from our Assembly in worship to the members of our church who cannot make it to worship. If you've been with us during a Communion service in the past couple of months, you've heard the pastor talk about this ministry and seen her bless the elements for taking out. Those in our congregation gathered on Sunday are reminded that not all of our sisters and brothers can be with us in worship; we remember them. We also connect them to our worship service in this way.

Our Communion Carriers are connected with other members of the Visitation Team and often visit two-by-two with their team members: *Carolyn Haglund, Barb Stankevitz, and Matt Vanni* respectively.

Thank you!

Thank you to **Bruce Peters** who made the wooden frame for our bulletin sponsorship sign-up chart and to **Jim Fawcett** for doing the staining on it!

This chart is placed on the wall next to the flower chart, *which Bruce also made for us years ago*. If you would like to have flowers on the altar or sponsor a Sunday bulletin, please check out these charts to see what days are available. There are envelopes by each chart that you can fill out and turn in to the church office.

Donations to Bridges to Recovery

We give thanks for the generosity of those from both Bethel and Emmanuel who attended the soup suppers and worship on Wednesdays during the five weeks of Lent.

\$593 in loose cash was given to Bridges to Recovery!

Bridges to Recovery is a MCGHA facility, operating as a peer-run recovery center, providing a hub for multiple prevention, treatment, recovery resources, and service connections. Marinette County Group Home Association (MCGHA) strives to provide supervised housing and treatment to clients who require assistance with mental, cognitive, and physical aspects of their lives to obtain optimal quality of life; through the operation of three facilities, each of which serves adults with mental illness and/or alcohol and drug use.



Did you know...

that we have two groups that pray for those with various kinds of needs? We have a **Prayer Chain** of people who pray on their own when they get the notice via phone call. We have a **Prayer Group** that gathers almost every Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM to pray together for people.

Whom do they pray for? Those who are sick or injured, going in for surgery, facing death, grieving the loss of a loved one, dealing with a big decision in their life, traveling, waiting for text results, in need of direction from God, etc. **In other words, whenever they get a request to pray, they pray.** In the Bible, in James 5:16, it says, *"The prayer of the faithful is powerful and effective."* Prayer brings healing and connects us to God and to one another.

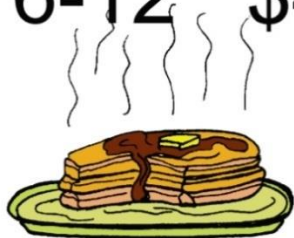
If something comes up in your life or in the life of a friend or loved one that needs prayer, please contact the church office with the prayer request. **Prayer requests will be kept confidential to the Prayer Chain and/or Prayer Group, if requested when you call.** *We give thanks for those who are willing to pray for people, especially for those serving on these two prayer teams in the church!*

Spring Together Pancake Supper

May 2nd 4-7pm

Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit,
Coffee, Tea & More

Adults \$8 5 & under Free
6-12 \$4 Family of 4 or more \$20



Proceeds go
to Emmanuel
Lutheran Church
GLUTEN FREE AVAILABLE

All you can eat!

**Look for sign-up sheets to bring in a few items for
the meal and to sign up to help.**

*We thank Jeff & Holly Bayerl for leading the event
and*

*To the Property Committee and some other great guys for
jumping in to organize and help!*

You are a blessing!

Join LSTC's Learning Communities!

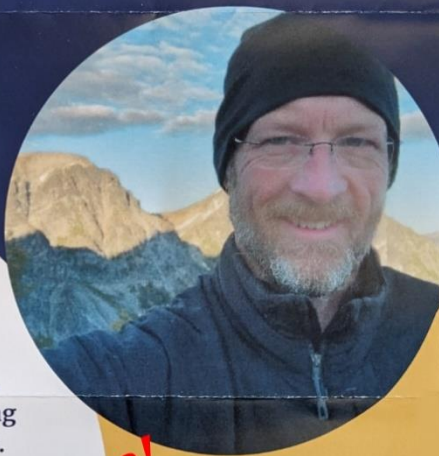
The LSTC Learning Communities offer no-cost spring and fall theological education programs via Zoom designed to enhance lay theological education, enrich parish learning programs, and foster a stronger relationship between the seminary and its constituent congregations. In the 2024, we have a new exciting program to offer. We would love to have you and interested members of your congregation join us!

Next Session: Sunday, April 7

Liturgy and the Natural World

Join LSTC faculty member Rev. Dr. Benjamin M. Stewart for an inspiring 4-part series on nature and liturgy. Reimagine communal liturgies and daily rituals as you explore the sacredness of the cosmos, sacraments, and our bodies.

Sunday sessions begin April 7, and Wednesday sessions begin April 10. Can't attend? Recording of Sunday's session will be available.



free!

Register at
LSTC.EDU/EVENTS



Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago
CALLED INTO THE WORLD



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

Have Thrivent Financial products?

If so, you may be able to apply for a grant for \$250 to assist us with a church event, activity, or outreach.

Please contact your Thrivent Financial representative or call the church office for assistance.

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



Synod-Wide Spring Hike May 19

The Northern Great Lakes Synod and U.P. Wild Church invite you to participate in a Synod-Wide Hike this spring. There will be multiple hikes

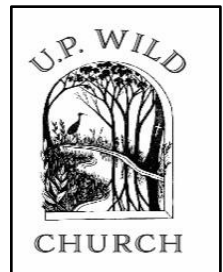
taking place throughout the synod between May 11 and May 19 to coincide with this year's hybrid Synod Assembly activities. Each hike will showcase the beauty of God's creation and include an outdoor prayer service.

The Menominee Valley Conference Hike will start at 3:00 p.m. on May 19 at the Wickman Family Farm located at W4410 Panske Rd., Porterfield, WI. This family-friendly event is *free*, and all ages and abilities are welcome (*you do not need to be attending Synod Assembly to participate in a hike*). Trail snacks will be provided and participants are asked to bring their own water bottle. Questions can be directed to Karen Anne Hanson (hansk@northlandlutheran.org).

A full list of hike locations and times are on the synod website at

<https://nglsynod.org/synod-assembly/synod-hike/>.

You can also learn more about U.P. Wild at <https://upwild.org/>.



2024 KIWANIS KAPERS
**Mystery On The
Menominee River:
Can Scoobs Save The Day?**



Friday, April 5th and Saturday, April 6th - 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 7th - 3 p.m.

W.J. Jones Auditorium - Marinette High School

**Tickets \$20 - available at "Ironworks"
or from any "Kiwanis Member"**

ALL PROCEEDS TO LOCAL CHARITIES

* * * * *

*This month's Messenger is given
in thanks to God
by Dan & Donna Roetzer*

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. in person
Online Worship 8:00 a.m.
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

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
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America