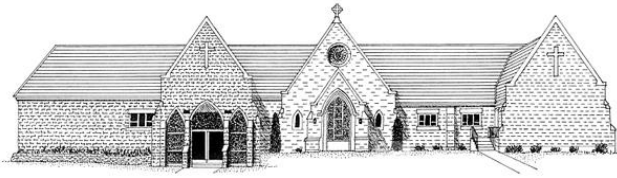


# THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
Menominee, Michigan

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**MAY**

**2024**

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**This month, we celebrate**



**on May 19<sup>th</sup>**

*Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit!*

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,  
O God of our salvation;  
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas.  
By your strength you established the mountains;  
you are girded with might.  
You silence the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves,  
the tumult of the peoples.  
Those who live at earth's farthest bounds  
are awed by your signs;  
you make the gateways of the morning  
and the evening shout for joy.  
You visit the earth and water it;  
you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of water;  
you provide the people with grain,  
for so you have prepared it.  
You water its furrows abundantly,  
settling its ridges,  
softening it with showers,  
and blessing its growth.  
You crown the year with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.  
The pastures of the wilderness overflow;  
the hills gird themselves with joy;  
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;  
the valleys deck themselves with grain;  
they shout and sing together for joy.

- *Psalm 65:5-13 NRSVUE*

Read the verses of the Psalm above slowly and allow the imagery to flow through mind, heart, and soul. Can you see the mighty mountains which tell of God's strength? Can you hear the roaring of the ocean waves—*or of the waves of the Bay?* Can you picture the joyful beauty of the sunrise and sunset at the "gateways of the morning and the evening"? Do you recognize the gifts of the Earth that God gives to us with richness, abundance, and overflowing love?

May is a beautiful month, filled with beautiful things! We can more fully appreciate the glory of God's creation during this full month of spring. God shows his awesome power through his creative genius. This gorgeous month also gives us another chance to celebrate Easter—we

can visually connect the life of God’s creation around us to the life given to us through Christ’s resurrection. Both bring light. Both bring beauty. Both bring hope, renewal, and joy. God gives all of these things freely and graciously, as a true BLESSING to all upon the Earth. In the wonder around us, we see a small glimpse of the wonder of the God who gives it all so extravagantly. *Thanks be to God!*

We continue in the Season of Easter throughout most of May. Easter finally ends on May 19<sup>th</sup> with the celebration of Pentecost—the coming of the Holy Spirit to Jesus’ followers. God breathes upon us once again with the wind of the Holy Spirit and fills us with the flame of his love. We, much like the earth, are renewed—we are made new again.

In your walk with God this month, make an extra effort to enjoy and find joy in the Easter Season and in the World around us—a world springing back to glorious life, reminding us of the life given by our God, and celebrating the new life we have in Christ and the new life we find in God’s created order.

Blessings to you always in the name of the One who is the hope of all the ends of the earth.

- *Pastor Christine*

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## **Sponsorship for our Print Ministry**

If you would like to sponsor a monthly publication of the Messenger or a weekly publication of the bulletin in thanks to God or in honor or memory of a person or event, please contact the church office or fill out an envelope in the narthex.

**\$125 covers the cost of a Messenger publication and mailing.**

**\$30 covers the cost of a weekly bulletin.**

*These sponsorships support our print ministry — the ability to provide newsletters and bulletins for our people. We heartily thank those who serve others by giving in this way!*



**Youth and Family  
Ministry**

Our learning programs are coming to an end for the year, but that does not mean it's the end of opportunities for our children to grow in faith. Parents are the primary teachers and our ministries are here to assist in the faith formation of our children.

Faith formation ministries go beyond the formal classroom and actually include parents and as well as every member of our congregation. As classes end for the summer, worship and fellowship continue. We all are teachers of the faith as we model to our children who worship with us and participate in congregational activities and events. Our children watch us as we sing, respond in readings, pay attention to sermons, take communion, bow our heads in prayer, engage in conversation and fellowship, and as we seek to continually learn more about God in our journey in faith. Our actions as well as our words are noticed by even the smallest among us. It is a wonderful gift given from God that each of us can be teachers of the faith and share the love of Christ.

With God's blessings,  
Patti Treptow

# Youth Ministries

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school classes are quickly coming to an end for the year. The last day is **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** where we will celebrate a great year of learning at Water Tower Park in Menominee during our regular Sunday school time. *See more information on the end of the year celebration on the next page.*



**A special thank you goes out to our wonderful and dedicated Sunday school staff:**

PreK/Kindergarten/1st: Madi Raygo, Brody Nerat, and Emma Heider

2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4th Grade: Ava Slawinski

5<sup>th</sup> /6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Patti Treptow

Sunday school Sub Teacher: Melissa Brown

Bible Story Sunday Team: Sharon Ayers, Kara Hines, Bobbi Rod, and Patti Treptow



## **Sunday School End of the Year Picnic**

**Sunday, May 19th, 9:45 - 11:15 a.m.  
Water Tower Park - Menominee**

To celebrate our Sunday school children and the close of our program for the year, we are having a picnic at Water Tower Park.

The Little Lutheran's Youth Committee and teachers are hosting our end of the year celebration. Our children will play games as well as enjoy the amenities of the park. Donuts, ice cream, juice/water will be served.

Parents may drop off their children at the park by 9:45 a.m. so they have time to get to church for the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Teachers and chaperones will remain at the park until all children have been picked up by their parents. Rain location— the church fellowship hall.

# Sunday School Earth Day Project!



Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> our Sunday school children participated in a special Earth Day celebration. They learned how we are stewards of God's beautiful world and what we can do to take care of it. The children planted marigold seeds, learned how a seed grows, and what plants do for us our environment. Thank you to Little Lutherans Committee and teachers for providing this wonderful learning event.



## A Look back at our Palm Sunday Activities!

Our Sunday school children participated in the traditional palm procession and rejoiced in the Lord! Following classes, our



children enjoyed an egg hunt. *Thank you, Little Lutherans committee for hosting this fun event.*

## Did you see the Easter Egg Tree?

Our Sunday school kids created this beautiful egg tree, proclaiming the gifts of Easter. It was displayed in the narthex of the church throughout April. Did you read of the joys and gifts of Easter and enjoy the gorgeous colors on their eggs?

***We give thanks to God for our children!***





Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders participated in the symbolic Seder meal and received their first Holy

Communion on Maundy Thursday, March 28th. We welcome Macy Brezsko, Siena Starzynski, Jaida Schroeder, Cameron Bell and Ashton Behrens to the Lord's Table.



*Thank you to Nancy Camps for preparing our seder meal.*

## ***First Communion Musings***

At the final First Communion instruction session on Maundy Thursday, the youth were asked to complete the following statement:

*"I want to take Holy Communion because..."*

Here is what they said:

*I want God's love and forgiveness. And his grace!*

—Siena Starzynski

*I will be more connected to God and will believe more in God, and how our sins are forgiven.*

—Jaida Schroder

*I would learn a little more about God and see what he eats.*

—Macy Brezsko

*So I know that God's bond will be as strong as can be and God's grace is with me and that he sent a man to get nailed to the cross and died for our sins.*

—Cameron Bell

*We get grace and our sins are forgiven.*

—Ashton Behrens





**We give thanks to God for each of these youth!**

Please continue to keep them in your prayers that God, through the Holy Spirit, will persist in increasing their faith and desire for God's Word and Sacrament.

*May they be blessed through the Holy Meal.*



## **Vacation Bible School**

**July 9, 10, 11 (Tuesday-Thursday)**

**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

**Kindergarten - 5th grade**

Students 6th grade and older are welcome to serve as crew or station helpers!

At Outback Rock VBS, kids will be hoppin' on the wildest adventure down under. On this Aussie exploration, kids will learn about God's monumental love and discover what it means to have unshakable faith.

Watch for more details in next month's Messenger!





## End of the Year Celebration!

Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class will close out their program year with a trip to the NEW Zoo in Suamico on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Along with visiting the zoo's animals, our youth will enjoy a picnic and the zoo canopy walkway. Details will go out to parents.



## GLOW Youth Group

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

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

**Bring a friend!**

Our GLOW youth enjoyed a jump party at Get Air Green Bay on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Jeremy and Brianna for helping with transportation!





## ***Ignite Creative Arts Afterschool Program***

7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth

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

**Our last meeting for this program  
year is May 22<sup>nd</sup>.**



## **Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Emmanuel's high school graduates will be honored at our "Graduation Recognition" during the 9:00 a.m. worship service on June 2nd. A cake and punch reception will follow. The Carl and Marian Johnson Memorial Scholarship awards will also be presented during worship. A letter with more information on this special event will be going out soon to all parents of our high school graduates.

## **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—contact Patti to ask about them.** Scholarship applications and more information on camp can be obtained in the church office. **Info on camp dates can be found on the kiosk in the church narthex.**

# 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, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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## **Congregational Financial Update**

*(through March 31, 2024)*

Approved 2024 budgeted offerings: \$63,757.00

Amount ahead approved budget: \$3,480.00

***Total offerings and income received: \$70,893.00***

Total expenses: \$61,465.00

Income greater than expense by: \$9,518.00

***We give thanks to God for your continued generosity.***

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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.

Happy Mother's Day

LORD,

*Thank You for the  
women in my life—  
who've nurtured me,  
body and soul. Thank  
You for the women  
who've been Your  
hands and feet, loving  
me unconditionally. I  
love them so much!*



## **Emmanuel's Outreach Projects**

Our Outreach Committee will be honoring all our women of Emmanuel on Mother's Day with a gift on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.



## Fellowship Event

# “May Flowers” Bunco

TUESDAY, May 7 at 6:00pm

Earlier in the week; just as much fun!



Come and roll the dice for fun, laughter, and excitement at Bunco in May! Bring a flower, if you wish, to add to bouquets we will create together and use for worship on the following Sunday.

*Bring \$3, if you choose, to help provide the prizes for the evening.*



**ALL men and women are welcome—invite friends and neighbors to join you!**

### Did you know...

**1) that you can support our print ministry by sponsoring a bulletin for a Sunday?** When you sign up to sponsor a bulletin, using the sign-up sheet by the flower chart by the door to the church office in the narthex, you support our ability to provide bulletins for people coming to worship that week. **It costs ~\$30 a week in paper and ink to print the bulletins.** *The bulletins are a ministry of hospitality.* Having bulletins welcomes people unfamiliar with our service to join in worship with ease by reducing anxiety around where and how to find the various parts of the service in the hymnals. We also make several large copies of the bulletin to help those who may strain to see the smaller type. *You can sponsor a bulletin in honor or memory of a person or event and/or in thanksgiving to God.*

**2) that you can support the beautification of our worship space by purchasing flowers for a Sunday?** When you sign up to provide flowers for worship, using the flower sign-up sheet by the door to the church office in the narthex, you add beauty to our space. Flowers are a traditional way to remind worshippers of the gift of God through the beauty of God’s Earth. *You can give flowers in honor or memory of a person or event and/or in thanksgiving to God.*



# FAITHFUL INNOVATIONS



## ***What do you think?***

What do you think God is calling our congregation to do for our future?

What ministries are a passion of yours?

How should we invest our resources—*people, property, human energy, and finances*—in our congregation and our community for the sake of the Gospel?

**Talk with a member of our team, *seen above*, with your thoughts and ideas to guide our congregation forward.**



**March 24: *Tatum Paul Willmann*, son of Taylor Krzych with Jordan Nielsen, Sydney Vaselaski, Jennifer Knoke as sponsors**

**April 14: *GraceLynn Ann Smith*, daughter of Taylor & Aarika with Trent Albert & Rebecca Albert as sponsors**

## Visitation Team

“Love God, care for people. They’re connected, two parts of a whole. While visiting the sick isn’t the only way to practically care for people, it’s something Jesus talked about during his ministry. As he’s describing the sort of actions that mark a faithful life, he says this: ‘For I was... sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ (Matthew 25:35-36)

Of course, if we spotted Jesus suffering in any of those difficult situations, we’d rush to provide help. But Jesus isn’t talking about caring for him personally; he’s equating caring for other people with caring for him. Love God, care for people—including sick and suffering people.

Jesus spent a significant portion of his ministry in the presence of people who were sick and suffering. He didn’t shy away from helping those needing healing and comfort. Were Jesus doing ministry on earth today, it’s not a stretch to think he’d often be with those who suffer in a hospital bed, rehab facility, at home, or in an elderly care center.”

- Mikal Keefer, "Care and Visitation Ministry", p.13

**Contact the church office if you or another member of the church could use a visit or visits.**

### *Pancake Supper*

Emmanuel Lutheran Church - 2901 13th St Menominee

*Thursday May 2nd 4-7pm*

*Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit.*

*Coffee, Tea & More*

Adults \$6 5 & under Free

6-12 \$3 Family of 5 or more \$20

# Summer Worship

We move to **ONE SERVICE** at **9:00 AM**  
on  
**Sunday, May 26**  
(*Memorial Day Weekend*)

and continue with one service through September 1.

(*We will return to our fall schedule on Sept 8.*)

Outdoor worship will be held **on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**  
***of June, July, and August, weather permitting.***



## **Like Hymns?**

Do you have a favorite hymn? A few favorite?

*MANY favorite hymns?*

Look for a sheet in the narthex at church and list your favorite hymns. The pastor will try to incorporate as many as possible during summer worship. **Has someone already listed your favorite/s?** *Put a check by it to indicate your agreement!*

## A Little about Pentecost

Pentecost, *meaning "the 50th day" in Greek*, is a season in the Christian liturgical year. It is the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter (and the 10<sup>th</sup> day after Jesus' Ascension). It is related to the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot. Pentecost commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. This important event in the Christian faith is described in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2:1–31. On Pentecost Sunday we still celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, as Jesus had promised after he rose from the dead. About 3,000 people were baptized that first Pentecost Day and the apostles started evangelizing, preaching, and starting faith communities, which to many makes it the real start of the Christian Church.

***This year the Day of Pentecost is on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.***



# Northern Great Lakes Synod News

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

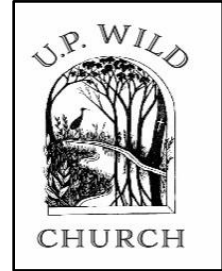
[www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)



## Synod-Wide Spring Hike May 19

**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](mailto:hansk@northlandlutheran.org)).



\* \* \* \* \*

*This month's Messenger is given  
in memory of her mom and dad, Fran  
and Erv Mouritsen, on their anniversary  
and his birthday on May 31<sup>st</sup>  
by Marilyn Mouritsen*

# 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](mailto:mail@e-mmanuel.com)

or

Visit us on the Web at [www.e-mmanuel.com](http://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](mailto: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