

2024 IMMANUEL STAFF AND COUNCIL

Staff

Lead Pastor.....Nate Loer
 Youth & Family
 Spiritual Gifts Coordinator.....Elana Seibert
 Administrative Secretary.....Tracy Church
 Custodian.....Ellen & Doug Carlstrom
 Bookkeeper.....Jil Fiemeyer
 Choir Director.....Deb Haraldson

Council

President.....Mike Brunsberg
 Vice President.....Margie Anderson
 Secretary.....Jeanne Olson
 Treasurer.....Jena Osberg
 Financial Secretary.....Sue Johnson
 Financial Vice-Secretary.....Jane Bagstad
 Congregational Life.....Peggy Larson
 Education.....vacant
 Finance.....Bryan Greenwaldt
 Outreach.....Rick Johnson
 Property Management.....Steph Drange
 Worship and Music.....Anne Oldakowski
 Youth.....Katie Johnson

Immanuel Lutheran Church Office 218-631-2738



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 403 SE 2ND ST
 PO BOX 69
 WADENA, MN 56482

Immanuel Lutheran News

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
 403 2ND ST SE—PO BOX 69
 WADENA, MINNESOTA 56482



*Called and united through the Gospel of
 Jesus Christ, our mission is to proclaim
 and respond to God's presence among us.*

November 2024

From the Desk of Pastor Nate...

Nearly-November blessings to you, dear Saints of God.

This month's installment of Mark is the most profound, life-changing story from the gospel, so far. It is the story of the Passion and Death of Jesus, recorded in Mark 14:1-15:47. Above all, I encourage you to read or listen to this story in its entirety. Experience the incredible lengths to which God was willing to go to share His love with you. Immerse yourself in the details of Jesus betrayal, arrest, trial, execution, and burial.



And as you experience those details again, marvel at how the most marginal characters seem to know what's going on in the story, while the experts are dumbfounded. Most notably are the unnamed woman who anoints Jesus for his burial (14:3-9) and the centurion at the foot of the cross (15:21-41). Meanwhile, the religious leads and political leaders all sign off on his death as though he were a common criminal. Peter denies knowing him. And Judas betrays him.

We know, of course, that death will not hold Jesus. Nevertheless, his suffering and death are not imaginary. They are real. And God's unbelievable love for us cannot be denied.

As we marvel at God's incredible love made known to us in Jesus, it is a good time for us to say thanks. And we engage in so many wonderful rituals of thanks in November. We gather for our Thank You Thanksgiving Dinner, hosted by the youth of Immanuel (November 10). We gather that same day to hear a word of greeting and thanks from People's Church, an Indigenous Ministry in Bemidji and recipient of a \$1000 Immanuel Endowment gift. We reflect on the gift of church and ponder our financial gifts for 2025 with help from 6 speakers who will share on Sundays and Wednesdays in November. We gather for the evening of Thanksgiving on November 27 before our nation's day of Thanksgiving the next day.

Grace and peace to you, dear people of God. I am thankful for all of you and the opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with you week after week – and invite you into continued investment in the work of the church. Grace and peace!

Humbly in Christ,

Pastor Nate

Pastor Nate

We welcome Birgitte Simpson November 10th!!
 The Endowment Fund recently made a \$1000 gift to People's Church, an Indigenous Ministry in Bemidji, MN. Birgitte Simpson, mission developer, housing advocate, and pastor will be with us to share a greeting, words of thanks, and tell us more about this vital ministry in our Synod.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

The council met on Sunday, October 13, 2024. President Mike Brunsberg called the meeting to order.

Endowment: Pastor Nate reported that the Endowment committee had met on September 23, 2024 and had made allocations to the following: Backpacks-\$2000, Lutheran World Relief Fund -\$1000, Meals on Wheels-\$500. A motion was made by Margie Anderson and seconded by Jena Osberg to approve these allocations. Motion Carried.

Congregational Life: *Peggy Larson- Met on September 18, 2024.* The committee set the menu for October Wednesday night meals. Starting in October serving time will be 4:30 -5:45P.M. On average, 80 meals have been served and we have had several requests for "to go" meals. Once a month there will be a drawing for little prizes while the meal is being served. Thank you to everyone who brings a dessert to the meals. We really appreciate it! Fall Kick off meal on September 4th. Approximately 100 people were served. The committee is also working on meals for November. Requests for meals may be put in a box which will be out in the Fellowship Hall during meals. The art and game carts are going well. In conjunction with the youth Trunk or Treat a sloppy joe meal will be served from 4:30 to 6P.M. The Christmas craft/potluck will be after church on December 15, 2024. Kitchen volunteers are welcome, please contact a committee member if interested. If anyone would like to come and have a meal, enjoy fellowship and play a game or two, please know we would love to see you!

Outreach Evangelism: *Rick Johnson- Met on Sept. 31st.* Eight committee members met to review yearly duties to include Backpacks and the Christmas Tree. Hosts will be at each church service to receive any completed Connection Cards or to answer any questions. Positive remarks on the Connection Cards have been received.

Parish Education: *Vacant-Did not meet*

Property Management: *Steph Drange- Absent*

Worship and Music: *Anne Oldakowski- Met on Sept. 9th.* The committee discussed services and the beginning of the fall schedule to include blessing of backpacks, new Bibles and God's Work Our Hands. Also, working on lighting in the sanctuary and a template for potential TV screen for projection.

Youth Leadership: *Katie Johnson-Met on October 2, 2024.* Committee discussed encouraging new membership (bring names to November meeting on 11/6/24), Options for NOOMA NIGHT, Disney Bible studies, leading the worship on October 13th, Trunk or Treat activity and the November 10th Thank You meal. Volunteers are welcome! Contact Peggy Larson or Sue Johnson.

Immanuel Church Women: *Diane Teigland- The NW Synod Women met for their convention in Moorhead, Mn. on Sept. 20 & 21. Audrey Brandt Loer, Marilyn Broding and Diane Teigland attended.*

Lead Pastor: *Pastor Nate Loer*—September and early October 2024 Highlights 1. Wednesday Discipleship has launched. I have enjoyed leading worship and teaching confirmation. Currently 16 kids in confirmation. 2. We assembled 101 school kits for LWR on September 15. Thanks to Audrey Brandt Loer for coordinating. We hope to do a bunch of Personal Care Kits before December. 3. Two weddings in September: Jasper and Kate Schmidtwood (September 14); and Rich and Mandy Ziegler (September 28). 4. Did a Backpacks for Kids food pack on October 3rd 5. Have been working with 9 young people preparing to affirm their faith: Samuel Church, Noah Drange, Addison Fink, Leah Kircher, Ben Kreklau, Kendra Miller, Will Osberg, Kala Roemmich and Jenna Yglesias. 6. Tom Kolden's death is a huge loss to our community and congregation and the broader church. His funeral was here at Immanuel on October 11. **LOOKING AHEAD:** 1. I will be taking October 20th off, so a host for that Sunday is needed. Jil will do announcements. 2. Confirmation Sunday is October 27th, 3. The next food pack is November 7th. 4. "Getting through the Holidays" will be on Thursday November 21st.

Financial Secretary Report: *Given by Sue Johnson* - The total of Sunday and Wednesday general offerings counted and deposited in September was \$21,776.00. This does not include direct deposits.

Treasurers Report: *Jena Osberg* -

<i>Total General Contributions: August, 2024</i>	<i>\$27,391.00</i>
<i>Total Expenses:</i>	<i>\$26,475.00</i>
<i>General Fund Register (8/31/2024)</i>	<i>\$107,615.00</i>
<i>Building Fund (8/30/24)</i>	<i>\$25,388.00</i>
<i>Restricted Fund Balance (8/30/24)</i>	<i>\$58,899.00</i>

Finance Committee: *Bryan Greenwaldt- Met on September 17th* The Finance committee welcomed new committee member, Greg Baron. Greg Johnson and Liz Miller resigned their positions and we thank them for their service. The committee discussed the upcoming Stewardship month of November and developed a list of possible names to give a short talk about their story and what the church means to them on some Wednesdays and Sundays in November. Next meeting will be in late November or early December to go over a proposed 2025 budget to present to council.

Other Business - The council discussed Health Care plans for Immanuel staff for the coming year. A motion was made by Sue Johnson and seconded by Margie Anderson to continue to provide health care to staff in the form of Silver Plus Level A. Motion Carried. The Council discussed the progress on the new church directory which will be printed in the church office and hopefully available in November.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion made by Margie Anderson to adjourn. Bryan Greenwaldt seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



GENERAL FUND	
9/1/2024	3299
9/8/2024	4119
9/15/2024	2923
9/22/2024	5147
9/29/2024	5160
Electronic Giving	420
Direct Deposit	8364
TOTAL GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	29432
EXPENSES	
Benevolences	0
Programs	1119
Staff including taxes and benefits	17449
Operations	522
Building Expenses	1459
TOTAL EXPENSES	20549
Gain/Loss	8883
General Fund Register Balance as of 09/30/2024	118077

	RESTRICTED			
	Balance 9/1/2024	Gifts & Additions	Payments	Balance 9/30/2024
Backpacks for Kids	\$10,334	\$758	\$3,500	\$7,592
Bell/Carillon	\$250			\$250
Cooking Matters (Ministerial Association)	\$1,094		\$473	\$621
Congregational Life	\$2,000			\$2,000
Easter Giving Blitz	\$100			\$100
Good Samaritan	\$2,314		\$434	\$1,880
General Reserve Funds	\$10,849			\$10,849
Giving Tree	\$1,718			\$1,718
Global Mission	\$1,645			\$1,645
Library Fund	\$125			\$125
Luther Crest Scholarships	\$472			\$472
Lutheran World Relief	\$315	\$270		\$585
Medical Mission	\$5,000			\$5,000
Organ Fund	\$537			\$537
Parish Nursing	\$487			\$487
Piano Fund	\$413			\$413
Soup Tuesday	\$620			\$620
Scholarship Fund	\$5,570			\$5,570
Sunday School	\$292			\$292
Thrivent Micro Grant	\$1,266			\$1,266
VBS	-\$125	\$125		\$0
Wadena Food Shelf/Food Shelf	\$3,712	\$100		\$3,812
Wednesday Offering	\$281		\$125	\$156
Worship and Music	\$2,514			\$2,514
YAGM	\$7,116			\$7,116
Restricted Fund Register Balance	\$58,899	1,253.00	4,531.97	\$55,620

BUILDING FUND	
Building Fund Balance 9/1/2024	25388
Deposits & Interest	405
Payments	
Building Fund Register Balance 9/30/2024	25793

ILC Giving Tree 2024

The Giving Tree became part of Immanuel in 1993 and continues to exhibit the unwavering generosity of our congregation! This generosity keeps this mission going strong with gifts going to Share-a-Home residents and families through Wadena Social Services. Watch for the Giving Tree to be filled with tags mid-November. Please consider taking a tag from the Giving Tree and sharing with those in need in our community!



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

FALL BACK

Set Your Clocks BACK an Hour

Sunday, November 3, 2024



Dinner Club will meet Tuesday, November 19 @ 5:30 pm Iron Corral

What's Happening

November 3– All Saints' Sunday

Daylight Savings Ends
Sunday Worship Schedule (See below)

November 4

9 am – ICW Block Cutting
12 pm – Foster Grandparent Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

November 5

9 am – Staff Meeting

November 6

12 pm – Rotary (Catered)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (See below) (note supper time change)

7:30 pm – ILC Youth Council Meeting

November 7

1 pm – MAC/NAPS
2:30 pm – Backpack Food Pack (elementary)

November 10

Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
Welcome *Brigette Simpson*
After Worship – ILC Youth Thank You Meal

November 11 – Veteran's Day

Church Office Closed

November 12

9 am – Staff Meeting
1:30 pm – ICW Bible Study

November 13

12 pm – Rotary (Catered)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (See below)

November 14

1 pm – Dementia Support Event – Fellowship Hall
6 pm – Northstar Round Table Meeting

November 16

5 pm – AA Round Table Meeting—Fellowship Hall

November 17

Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
10:45 am – ILC Council Meeting

November 18

9 am – ICW Quilting

November 19

9 am – ICW Quilting
9 am – Staff Meeting
5:30 pm – Dinner Club – Iron Corral

November 20

12 pm – Rotary (#2 D.Haraldson)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (See below)

November 21

10:30 am – Catholic Charities Frozen Meal Distribution
4:30 pm – "Getting Through the Holidays" Grief Support Event

November 24

Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)

November 25

12 pm – Blood Drive
2 pm – Book Club (Friendship Room)

November 26

9 am – Blood Drive
9 am – Staff Meeting
11 am – Dementia Caregiver Support Group (Friendship Room—All are welcome!)

November 27

12 pm – Rotary (Catered)
6:30 pm – Thanksgiving Worship Service

November 28 – Thanksgiving Day


Church Office Closed

November 29

Church Office Closed

Your Endowment Fund has been busy!!

Immanuel has a permanent Mission Endowment Fund that was established in 1996. The purpose of the fund is to extend the mission of Immanuel Lutheran beyond activities of this church by contributing the earnings of this fund to other beneficiaries. There are reasons for you to contribute to the fund such as: a memorial to recognize a death; a celebratory gift to recognize a family event; a charitable gift to obtain a better income tax deduction, if you are 73 years or older and must withdraw from an IRA, but don't want to pay income tax on all or part of the withdrawal; or perhaps you are just feeling generous. The foundation board recently met and distributed the following grants: \$500.00 to Lutheran Campus Ministry of Bemidji, \$500.00 to Lutheran Campus Ministry of Moorhead, \$500.00 to Central Lakes College Food Shelf, \$500.00 To Wadena M-State Student Food Pantry (see in-set photo), \$2,500.00 to Pathways Bible Camp, and \$2,500.00 to Luther Crest Bible Camp. Do one of the reasons above encourage you to donate to the foundation? Your contribution is tax deductible on your 2024 income tax return. See the church office with questions.



Thanksgiving Eve
Worship Service
November 27 at 6:30



All Saints' Sunday
3rd November



Early Risers Class

This year, Pastor Nate will be leading a 16-session class on the books of Luke and Acts. Most of this study will happen after the new year, but the first 3 sessions will be November 10, 17 and December 8. Class meets 8–8:45 am in the Friendship Room or via Zoom. Email Pastor Nate for the Zoom link (nateloer@gmail.com).

Help Assemble Personal Care Kits on Stewardship Sunday (November 24) After Worship

Our next Lutheran World Relief project is Personal Care Kits. We are now accepting dark bath towels, soap, toothbrushes, nail clippers, and combs, OR monetary donations to cover the cost of these supplies. If anyone has a Thrivent Action Crant available, talk to Past Nate ASAP!

Women's Discipleship

Block Cutting – Monday, November 4 @ 9:00 am
Monday, December 2 @ 9:00 am

Bible Study – Tuesday, November 12 @ 1:30 pm (September Gather Study)
Tuesday, December 10 @ 1:30 pm (October Gather Study)

Quilting – November 18 & 19 @ 9:00–2:00 pm
December 16 & 17 @ 9:00–2:00 pm

Getting Through the Holidays
November 21 @ 4:30–6:00 pm

Those who are mourning the loss of a loved one – recent or long ago – are invited to join us for an event focused on grief and the holidays here at Immanuel. We will make memorial ornaments together, tell stories about our loved ones, support one another in prayer, and learn practical advice on how to navigate holiday traditions after a loved one has died. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be provided

Sunday Worship Schedule

- 8:30 – Coffee Fellowship
- 9:30 – Worship (LIVE on YouTube)
- 9:30 – Radio Broadcast 920 AM or 101.7 FM



Wednesday Discipleship Schedule

- 4:30–5:45 pm – Supper (note time change)
- 6:00 pm – Worship
- 6:45–7:30 pm – Education/Confirmation
- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Practice

Backpacks for Kids


OUR NEXT FOOD PACK IS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7@2:30PM IN THE ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA. COME AND HELP US PACK 300+ BAGS OF WEEKEND FOOD FOR LOCAL STUDENTS IN NEED!



ILC Book Club

Monday, November 25 @ 2 pm in the Friendship Room
Summer Before the War by Helen Simonson

Anyone is welcome to attend!



SAVE THE DATE

Thank You!

THANKSGIVING MEAL

NOVEMBER 10, 2024 (after worship)

