

2025 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..... Margie Anderson
 Vice President..... Matt Greenwaldt
 Secretary Kayla Carpenter
 Treasurer Bryan Greenwaldt
 Financial Secretary..... Jane Bagstad
 Financial Vice-Secretary..... Gail Klunenberg
 Congregational Life..... Diane Breitling
 Education Meagan Ferris
 Finance..... Dean Krogstad
 Outreach..... Vacant
 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

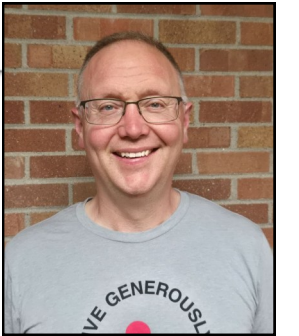
Immanuel Lutheran News

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.*

August 2025



From the Desk of Pastor Nate...

Grace and peace to you, dear friends in Christ. As usual, the summer weeks and months are slipping by quickly. I hope you find some time in the month ahead for travel, rest, refreshment, and whatever else rejuvenates you!

I also hope you will read the book of Acts and its stories about the early church. We will be making a sprint through these 28 incredible chapters over the next 5 months of newsletters. Our first installment focuses on Acts 1:1-2:47. Here are some thoughts to guide your reading:

In Acts 1:1-2, Luke begins this book the same way he began his Gospel – by addressing someone named Theophilus. He also mentions that his Gospel was about the work Jesus BEGAN to do, suggesting that there is more work to do. That's what's happening here in this second book. And though we call this book, "The Acts of the Apostles," perhaps we should really call it, "The Acts of the Risen Jesus and the Holy Spirit."

In Acts 1:3-14, Luke picks up the story he told at the end of his Gospel – Jesus' ascension. Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit, and promises his followers that they will receive power to give witness to his life, death, and resurrection in an ever broadening circle: in Jerusalem, all Judea, Samaria, and to the end of the earth. This sets the course for the book. After Jesus ascends, they worship ... and wait.

After a brief story in Acts 1:15-26 of finding a replacement for Judas, the story shifts dramatically. In Acts 2:1-13, during the Jewish festival of Pentecost, as Jews from all over the world are visiting Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit shows up. These apostles begin to speak languages they've never studied, so that all who are gathered hear about Jesus in their own language. It is an amazing moment – even though some make an accusation of drunkenness to explain it all.

In Acts 2:14-41, we hear our first lengthy speech in the book of Acts. Almost 1/3 of this book is speeches, so brace yourself for that! Peter explains that all of this is a fulfillment of scripture and begins telling them about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. And by the end of the day, 3,000 people are added to this new and emerging church.

And in Acts 2:42-47, an uncommon community is already emerging, one rooted in radical equality. These followers sell all that they have and distribute the proceeds according to need. "And day by day," says Luke in 2:47, "the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

What will happen next in this incredible, developing community of faith? Stay tuned!

Humbly in Christ,

Pastor Nate

Pastor Nate

GENERAL FUND	
5/4/2025	4198
5/11/2025	1834
5/18/2025	3324
5/25/2025	4392
Electronic Giving	425
Direct Deposit	8619
TOTAL GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	22792
EXPENSES	
Benevolences	440
Programs	4250
Staff including taxes and benefits	27218
Operations	473
Building Expenses	7160
TOTAL EXPENSES	39541
Gain/Loss	-16749
General Fund Register Balance as of 05/31/2025	107463

FINANCIAL UPDATE



RESTRICTED				
	Balance 05/1/2025	Gifts & Additions	Payments	Balance 05/31/2025
Backpacks for Kids	\$8,142	\$25		\$8,167
Bell/Carillon	\$250			\$250
Cooking Matters (Ministerial Association)	\$740			\$740
Congregational Life	\$2,000			\$2,000
Easter Giving Blitz	\$100			\$100
Good Samaritan	\$1,925			\$1,925
General Reserve Funds	\$10,849			\$10,849
Giving Tree	-\$2,408			-\$2,408
Global Mission	\$2,205	\$30		\$2,235
Library Fund	\$125			\$125
Luther Crest Scholarships	\$472			\$472
Lutheran World Relief	\$1,219			\$1,219
Medical Mission	\$5,000			\$5,000
Organ Fund	\$557			\$557
Parish Nursing	\$487			\$487
Piano Fund	\$538			\$538
Soup Tuesday	\$620			\$620
Scholarship Fund	\$3,070			\$3,070
School Kits	\$1,000			\$1,000
Sunday School	\$792			\$792
Thrivent Micro Grant	\$1,016			\$1,016
VBS	\$100			\$100
Wadena Fire Victims	\$6,485	\$4,184	\$100	\$10,569
Wadena Food Shelf/Food Shelf	\$812			\$812
Wadena Ministerial	\$200			\$200
Wednesday Night Supper	\$41		\$34	\$7
Worship and Music	\$2,884	\$600		\$3,484
YAGM	\$7,116			\$7,116
Restricted Fund Register Balance	\$56,337	4,839.29	134.18	\$61,042

BUILDING FUND		
Building Fund Balance	5/1/2025	30101
Deposits & Interest		387
Payments		
Building Fund Register Balance	05/31/2025	30488

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

The council met on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. President Margie Anderson called the meeting to order.

Committee Reports:

Endowment Committee: Matthew Greenwaldt– They met 6/10 and discussed donations. They have approximately \$21,000 to donate. The committee came up with supporting the Gemini Project (Astera Health) and supporting the Immanuel Pews/ Accessibility remodel. Motion by Matthew Greenwaldt and second by Megan Ferris.

Congregational Life: *Diane Breitling*– We did not meet.

Outreach Evangelism: *Vacant*– Did not meet.

Parish Education: *Meagan Ferris*– The Education Committee did not meet, but touched base on VBS and summer events. We currently have 13 signed up for VBS, so keep spreading the word!! We will host a Kickoff event Sunday, July 20th with a potluck after worship and a meet and greet with the Luther Crest Counselors. Check out the Welcome Board that highlights our leaders as well as amazing happenings here at Immanuel! We are looking to do a Park, Pool & Popsicle event for the younger youth in July. Excited to take 19 total people to the Lauren Daigle concert in July. Looking ahead to next year of Worship Wednesdays – we are always on the hunt for teachers and subs. Let us know if you are interested!

Property Management: *Steph Drange*– Still working on the timing of getting all the contractors, looking like an August time frame. The kitchen project could potentially be a later date. Committee voted on the carpet, so Steph could get it ordered.

Worship and Music: *Anne Oldakowski*— Worship & Music Committee report:

We met on May 12. All up to date on hymn selection, ushers, lectors, and communion servers. Working with Building Committee on sanctuary updates as they move forward. Next meeting is in August.

Youth Leadership: *Katie Johnson*– Absent. No report.

Other Reports

Immanuel Church Women: *Diane Teigland* – The NW Synodical Women’s Organization will have their Annua l Convention on Sept 19/20 at First Lutheran in Alexandria. We will be looking for a voting delegate and all women are welcome to attend.

LEAD PASTOR UPDATE– PASTOR NATE (May/Early June Highlights)

1) May was busy, professionally and personally. 2) Funeral for Dale Miller Ma y 16. Ace Becker’s celebration of life was May 17. 3) We were so blessed to have such great support at Amsale’s grad party here at Immanuel on Ma y 24. It was lovely to be able to take some time off leading up to that party and the next day as my family traveled to Rochester to celebrate with my nephew at his grad party as well. 4) Attended synod assembly with Margie Anderson and Matt Greenwaldt May 30 – June 1. A big part of the focus was on the changing church. Our keynote presenter was especially thought –provoking for me. Focus less on attracting new members. Focus more on equipping your people for sharing the love of Christ in their daily lives. 5) Grateful for Rachel Johnson for leading worship both Sundays and for Jane, our host. Others pitched in to cover the duties I usually handle as well. 6) We continue to prep for next fa ll. It’s going to be a great year! **Looking ahead** 1) We’re planning the next Cozy ad. Hope to film in late June. 2) Looking forward to a restful June and July. I plan to take vacation July 5–12. And likely some time in Late July and/or August as well.

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD:

Financial Secretary Report: *Reported by Jane Bagstad*

The total of Sunday general offerings counted and deposited was \$19,100.29. This does not include direct deposits.

Treasurer’s Report: *Bryan Greenwaldt—all numbers as of 5/31/2025*

GENERAL FUND: \$107,463

Total General Contributions: \$22,792

Total Expenses: \$39,541

Building Fund Register Balance \$30,488

Restricted Fund Register Balance \$61,042

Finance Committee: *Dean Krogstad*– Didn’t meet.


Our Vision and Mission—Other Business:

Executive Committee voted back in May to replace the AC units. With the age of the units, there wasn’t really any more fixing that could be done. We all LOVE AC!

Del Moen with Jeremiah 29 Project gave a presentation on the progress of this Project. They are in the 2nd half of the project, working on the 501c3, building a partnership with the community, form the board of directors. Have any special talents that a person can contribute, it’s a big undertaking, but a very important thing for the community.

The meeting ended with the Lord’s Prayer and was adjourned at 7:42p.m.. A motion was made by Bryan Greenwaldt and seconded by Dean Krogstad to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Kayla Carpenter, Secretary




ILC Youth Pie & Ice Cream Social

Thursday, August 14

Serving 11am - 7pm

Youth & Adult help needed! Sign up today!



VBS 2025: “We Are the Church”

What a joyful and spirit-filled week we had at VBS! With the theme “We Are the Church,” each day was rooted in a powerful message and brought life through music, worship, fun, and fellowship. **Day 1: Called to Gather**—We kicked off the week coming together in community, learning how God calls us to be united as the Church. **Day 2: Called to Love**—We explored what it means to live out God’s love in our everyday lives. **Day 3: Called to Forgive**—We dove deep into the gift of forgiveness and how we can extend grace to others. **Day 4: Called to Challenge**—We were reminded that faith often calls us to step outside our comfort zones, and we can do so with courage!

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing Luther Crest counselors, Ben Christman, Nathan White, Bex Rosa, and Jocelyn Garding, for leading with energy, compassion, and faith.

We are also so grateful to the Congregational Life Committee (Diane Breitling, Peggy Larson, Sue Johnson, Mary Kay Wohler, Jane Bagstad, Meagan Ferris, and Margie Anderson) for preparing delicious meals and snacks that kept everyone fueled and happy all week long.

Thank you to our wonderful VBS volunteers: Anna Fiemeyer, Amsale Loer, Britta Ferris, and Chloe Leeseberg—your time and love made a big impact!

And a huge shoutout to the Education Committee (Elana Seibert, Sierra Rach, Marsha Kaufman, Lindsey Meech, Hanna Sievert, Sara Ross, Bobbi Wegscheid, and Meagan Ferris) for organizing an incredible week of ministry and fun.

Finally, thank you to our counselor hosts, Peggy Larson and Lyle & Deb Haraldson, for your hospitality.

God moved in big and small ways throughout the week. We are so thankful for everyone who made this special time possible and we look forward to gathering again next summer!



Dinner Club will meet
Tuesday, August 19
@ 5:30 pm
The Uptown

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Sign up outside the church office to usher, lector, assist with communion, and/or provide special music.



Property Improvement Update

August will be a busy month here for projects at Immanuel – and we hope September and October can be filled with some great work, too. So far, we’ve received around \$10,000 additional gifts into our building fund to support various 2nd mile projects. If you haven’t had a chance to make a gift, we’d love you to consider a contribution of any size. Here are some ways you can make an impact:

- Every \$25 sponsors a carpet tile in our sanctuary, complete with all the labor to remove the old flooring, prepare the surface, purchase the tile and install it!
- Every \$100 sponsors a linear foot of beautiful countertop in our kitchen!
- Every \$150 sponsors a new cabinet door or a door/drawer front combo in the kitchen!

We hope to have everything done by Christ the King Sunday (November 23, 2025). All gifts will be publicly acknowledged that day, in the December newsletter and in the 2025 annual report. Gifts can be made in honor or memory of loved ones, or as gifts to the congregation. Thank you for considering this special giving opportunity.




Women’s Ministry

Block Cutting - Monday, August 4 @ 9 am
Monday, September 8 @ 9 am

Bible Study - Tuesday, September 9 @ 1:30 pm
(June, July, August Gather pg.12)

Quilting - September 15 & 16 @ 9-2pm

No Bible Study or Quilting in August



What's Happening

August 3
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)

August 4
9 am – ICW Block Cutting

August 5
9:00 am – Staff Meeting

August 6
12 pm – Rotary (Catered)


August 7
1 pm – MAC/NAPS

August 10
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)

August 12
9:00 am – Staff Meeting

August 13
5:45 pm – ILC Council Meeting

August 14
11-7pm – Rotary Corn and Chicken Feed
Pie & Ice Cream Social by Immanuel Youth
6 pm – Fellowship Hall in Use



Sunday Worship Schedule

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

Sanctuary Choir practice to resume
Wednesday, September 3rd @ 7pm!
All are welcome to join!!

Wednesday Discipleship to resume
Wednesday, September 10th!

August 17
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)

August 19
9:00 am – Staff Meeting
5:30 pm – Dinner Club @ The Uptown

August 20
12 pm – Rotary (#1 GKluenenberg)

August 21
10:30 am – Catholic Charities Frozen Meal Distribution


August 24
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)

August 26
9:00 am – Staff Meeting
11 am – Dementia Caregiver Support Group (Friendship Room)

August 27
12 pm – Rotary (Catered)

August 31
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)

September 1 – Labor Day
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED



backpacks for kids

The WDC Weekend Backpacks program distributes weekend food to kids in need every week at the WDC Elementary and High School. Come join us for our monthly packs as we prepare bags for the month. Our first pack of the year is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 4 at 2:30 pm in the elementary cafeteria.

BOOKCLUB

Book club will start up again in September!
4th Monday of each month (Sept-May)
Friendship Room @ 2:00 pm!
Anyone is welcome to attend!!

