

2022 IMMANUEL STAFF AND COUNCIL

Staff

Lead Pastor..... Nate Loer
 Associate Pastor..... Megan Clapp
 Administrative Secretary..... Elana Seibert
 Custodian..... Ellen & Doug Carlstrom
 Bookkeeper..... Jil Fiemeyer
 Choir Director..... Deb Haraldson
 Accompanist..... Suzanne Moe

Council

President..... Robby Grendahl
 Vice President..... Jennifer Brunsberg
 Secretary..... Shaneen Schmidt
 Treasurer..... Tracy Church
 Financial Secretary..... Jane Bagstad
 Financial Vice-Secretary..... Gail Klunenberg
 Congregational Life..... Stephanie Drange
 Education..... vacant
 Finance..... Kent Schmidt
 Outreach..... Sara Stone
 Property Management..... Sam Sundby
 Worship and Music..... Pam Nelson
 Youth..... Sara Ross

Immanuel Lutheran Church Office 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 2022

From the Desk of Pastor Nate...

Final third of summer greetings to you in the name of Jesus, our Brother.

On the 11th Sunday after Pentecost – August 21 this year – we will read part of Psalm 103 in worship. Let me just share the first two verses: “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God’s benefits.”

The Psalmist then shares in rich poetry a mighty list of God’s blessings, showered upon us: forgiveness, healing, redemption from death and the grave, mercy, good things, renewal, vindication in the face of injustice, and finally crescendo-ing to that beloved line about God who is “slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love” (vs. 8)

If you were to make a list of God’s benefits, what would make your list? What is it about God’s faithfulness and provision that you would never want to forget? And does that list motivate you to gather with God’s people to sing God’s praises, to remember Christ Jesus through Word and Sacrament?

I hope summer has been a refreshing season for you. I further hope that as fall approaches, we might begin anew as a congregation to be rooted in God’s Word, God’s love, God’s faithfulness. I hope that collectively, as a congregation, we make sure we don’t forget about God’s presence in our lives. What might that mean for you and your family? What practices might you commit again to continuing? To reviving? To picking up for the first time?

Of course, our relationship with God is rooted in His mercy and grace. God is always more ready to forgive than we are to ask. But it does take commitment on our part to be part of this movement we call the church.

And we are only as able to remember as our practices allow.

What a joy to be God’s people. And being God’s people means certain responsibilities, too. Let us commit again to being God’s people. But enjoy a few more summer days while they last, too!

Humbly in Christ.

Pastor Nate

Pastor Nate



Summer Office Hours

Office Hours: 8:30–3:30 M–Th
 8:30–12:00 F





What's Happening

August

- August 2**
9 am - Staff Meeting
- August 3**
12 pm - Rotary (*D. Haraldson #2*)
7 pm - ILC Council Meeting
- August 4**
1 pm - MAC/NAPS
- August 5**
1 pm - Catholic Charities Food Distribution
- August 7**
Worship Service (*see below*)
5-7pm - VBS
- August 8**
5-7pm - VBS
5:30 pm - Boy Scouts
- August 9**
9 am - Staff Meeting
5-7pm - VBS
- August 10**
12 pm - No Rotary
5-7pm - VBS

- August 11**
6 pm - NorthStar Round Table Meeting
11a-7p - Youth Pie & Ice Cream Social
5-7pm - VBS
- August 14**
Worship Service (*see below*)
- August 16**
9 am - Staff Meeting
5:30 pm - Dinner Club (*TBD*)
- August 17**
12 pm - Rotary (*catered*)
- August 21**
Worship Service (*see below*)
- August 22**
7 pm - Book Club (*Sharon Boline's*)
- August 23**
9 am - Staff Meeting
- August 24**
12 pm - Rotary (*N. Overland #3*)
- August 25**
5 pm - Knute Nelson Grief Support (*Friendship Room*)
- August 28**
Worship Service (*see below*)
- August 30**
9 am - Staff Meeting
- August 31**
12 pm - Rotary (*catered*)

Sunday Worship

- 8:30 - Coffee Fellowship
- 9:30 - In person & streaming worship on Facebook
- 9:30 - Radio Broadcast on 920AM or 101.7FM



VBS returns to Immanuel August 7-11th!

Kids K-6th Grade are invited to join us to learn how we can love God and love our neighbors as ourselves through compassion. Together we will cultivate compassion for each other, ourselves, and the world. We'll explore Bible stories of compassion, sing, play, be creative, and stretch our minds and our bodies. Our evening includes dinner too! You can find our registration form at wadenaimmanuel.org/vbs. Cost is \$35 per person with a max of \$50 per family.

Are you older than 6th grade and want to join us? We have lots of volunteer options!

- Kitchen help (set up, cooking, serving, clean up)
- Small group guides (previously known as Shepherds)
- Music leaders for opening and closing
- Station assistants
- Registration table
- Station leader (must be 10th grade or older; can have multiple leaders at each)
- Create & Play (indoor games/activities, simple arts & crafts, group project)
- Recreation (cooperative and team building games outside)

Contact Pr. Megan with any questions or to volunteer!



More details to come in our September newsletter, but be sure to mark your calendars for the start of our

Wednesday program year with worship at 6pm and Education at 6:45pm, and Choir at 7pm. It's going to be a great year for the whole family!!



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

The council met on June 8, 2022. President Robby Grendahl called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Devotions were given by Jennifer Brunsberg. Minutes from the May meeting were accepted. May meeting noted did hear several concerns from Ed Bruns.

Congregational Life: *Stephanie Drange*—Did not meet. Family Picnic 6.1.22. Served 60–65 people.

Outreach Evangelism: *Sara Stone* –Met 6.7.22. Discussed the upcoming visit from the Svennungsen’s on July 3rd. o Made plans to recruit some members for the YAGM mission sub-committee. We are looking for a youth member if the congregation and at least one other congregation member to be a part of this. Discussed some educational opportunities to raise awareness regarding outreach effort such as YAGM and Lutheran Refugee Services. Will continue to explore the best options for outreach and raising awareness.

Parish Education: *vacant*—Did not meet.

Property Management: *Sam Sundby*—Did not meet. Two boilers need to be replaced with additional parts. Estimated cost \$45,00 from Wadena Sheet Metal and Heating, Inc.. 1. Asbestos removal 2. Additional parts, attachments for completely new system to be up to current code 3. \$20,000 general fund, \$25,000 building fund. 4. Motion to replace by Shaneen Schmidt. Second Robby Grendahl. Motion passed. Sam Sundby abstained.

Worship and Music: *Pam Nelson*—Met 5.31.22. Special Music – during summer months: If anyone wishes to volunteer, or knows of anyone that would volunteer, please contact Deb Haraldson with information. • Hymn Selection: Deb is working on the summer months’ schedule. • Services: The summer accompanist schedule was reviewed, along with ELW settings. This will be revisited this in the fall. • Fall Schedule Thoughts/Options for services were: ELW settings; One Body Alive; Now The Feast; and Praise Service, which will fit more on Wednesday’s. • Budget and Supplies: A report has been requested for details on what has been spent thus far this year. Supplies are in good shape for now. We will revisit in the fall. • Alex has tuned the piano in the Sanctuary. Miscellaneous: –Mitchell Ganske will step in to lead the Praise Singer group of young people with VBS approaching. This group will also be more for Wednesday services, and for special music at Sunday services. –Communion servers: Currently being taken care of by Church Council Members. The sign-up sheet is also posted for volunteers. –Steinway update: It is currently in Indiana. Once it is evaluated, they will set up a time to contact Allen. –Pianos that are useless: We have 2 very old pianos that are not usable anymore and need to go. If anyone knows of a way to get rid of these pianos, ideas would be welcomed. • Services for Fall and Winter: Various services and dates were reviewed –Refurbished piano service (When piano returns) – Reformation Sunday – October 30, 2022 –All Saints Sunday – November 6, 2022 – Stewardship Sunday – November 20th?? (Set by Finance Committee) –Thanksgiving Eve – November 23, 2022 –Choir Program – December 11, 2022 –Youth Program – December 18, 2022 (Sunday) and December 21, 2022 (Wednesday) –Christmas Eve – December 24, 2022 (Saturday) –Service of Carols – Possibly December 25, 2022 or January 1, 2023 –Advent Services – Start on November 27, 2022 • Wednesday evening: Wednesday evening services will start on September 7, 2022. – Proposals from Stephanie Drange and Pastor Megan for time frames for education, rehearsals, and service were discussed. – More discussion will be had on this entire structure, type of services, accompanists, transportation, etc. • Organist/pianist (Mary Jacobson) interested in Immanuel Lutheran. Mary has approached Stephanie and has an interest in supporting our music ministry at Immanuel. She is a resident of Perham and is employed at Sourcewell in Staples. At this time, we feel we have a lot of talent within our members and are okay. • Additional Note: The Boys’ Choir was in Staples on Sunday, June 5th, at Sacred Heart.

Youth Leadership: *Sara Ross*—Did not meet.

Endowment: Met on May 3 • Discussed bylaws with new members to the committee • Elected officers: Luther Nervig (chair), Jeff Pederson (treasurer) Liz Miller (secretary), Deb Andrews (thank you notes), Les Breiitling (promotion) • Grants: Voted to give \$1000 to the April Giving Blitz and \$2500 to the grand piano restoration • Suggested that the Endowment Fund be reviewed annually by the Financial Review Team • Next meeting tentatively scheduled for August 16 at 4:30p

Immanuel Church Women: *Diane Teigland*—• Packed 6.7.22. 105 quilts, 64 personal care kits, 16 baby care kits o Thank you to Carol Aldeen for organizing; Dave Aldeen, Pastor Nate Loer, Dennis Olson, Les Breiitling and Terry Olson for their help to pack and transfer to Polman Transfer. Special thanks to Polman Transfer for shipping at no charge to Lutheran World Relief.

Lead Pastor: *Pastor Nate Loer*— **May Early June Highlights:** 9:30 service continues to go well o Milestones 1. Burial of Marlene Nelson May 14 2. Baptism for Stella Renae Reinitz May 15 o Synod Assembly 6/21/22. Virtual Assembly. Great worship & speaker. We won the Holy Cow award in 2020 for faithfulness in addressing hunger o Enjoyed some time away the week leading up to May 29. Running is a great way for me to stay healthy as a person and as a leader. Thanks for supporting me in being active and healthy o Have been using summertime to do some fall planning and to do my very best to encourage and visit people who are sick, homebound, and need spiritual care • **Looking Ahead:** Continued visits, some refreshing rest and planning for fall

Associate Pastor: *Pastor Megan Clapp*—I returned refreshed and renewed from my continuing ed retreat. We read the book Burnout by Emily and Amelia Nagoski and I’ve been able to incorporate many of the strategies into my routine now that I’m home. It’s been a good practice of care for myself so that I can better care for others. • I attended Synod Assembly virtually and it was good to hear from the Bishop and others about the business of the larger church. We were retroactively awarded the Holy Cow award for our contributions to World Hunger. What a great thing to celebrate! • I’m grateful for the work done by the Congregational Life committee to host the Church Picnic on June 1st. It was a wonderful time! • As we move into June, thoughts turn toward VBS. Registration is open online and we are excited to bring back this energizing ministry. August 8–11 from 5–8 pm. • I am already looking ahead to the fall as we consider what will be possible on Wednesday evenings. We have lots of hopes and dreams. Steph Drange and I will be hosting a Wed. PM visioning meeting June 20, 2022 to gather the input and needs of our K–6th grade families. We hope to be able to offer what they need and find some willing volunteers to make Wednesday evenings a success. • At the end of June, my family and I will take our annual summer pilgrimage to Southeastern Wisconsin to see my extended family. As always, I am grateful for the way the congregation supports this time away.

Financial Secretary Report: *Jane Bagstad & Gail Klunenber*— Total of Sunday general offerings counted and deposited in May 2022: \$32,265.33 . This does not include direct deposit offerings. Total of Sunday general offerings for May 2021 was \$26,337.58

Treasurers Report: *Tracy Church* —General Fund Register: General Fund Register: Balance as of 5/31/22\$113,160.00

Finance Committee: *Kent Schmidt*— Did not meet.

New Business • Visioning Updates: New Pictural Directory ☒ Develop committee to organize process • Spiritual Gifts assessment Tool ☒ Being reviewed to send out to members •Wednesday ministry ☒ Congregational Life will coordinate food service ☒ Worship Committee will organize music ☒ Need Education Chair • Administrative Chair to attend Council, run committee, organized volunteers • Specific Education Lead for Wednesday service, part of committee • Working of coordinating meeting with families to initiate visioning for Wednesday ministries • Synod Assembly Report • Pastoral compensation using COLA 6% was proposed at Synod. Robby Grendahl asked for pastoral compensation to be reviewed to make sure we are aligned. Suggested to be done at Finance Committee. • Upholding ELCA mission and values •Eric Clapp, elected Synod representative The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm with the Lord’s Prayer.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



GENERAL FUND	
5/1/2022	4239
5/8/2022	9365
5/15/2022	2022
5/22/2022	3635
5/29/2022	2093
Electronic Giving	255
Direct Deposit	9977
TOTAL GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	31585
EXPENSES	
Benevolences	209
Programs	1106
Staff including taxes and benefits	23722
Operations	860
Building Expenses	1808
TOTAL EXPENSES	27705
Gain/Loss	3880
General Fund Register Balance as of 05/31/2022	113160

RESTRICTED				
	Balance 5/1/2022	Gifts & Additions	Payments	Balance 05/31/2022
Backpacks for Kids	393			393
Bell/Carillon	250			250
Community Dinner	2031			2,031
Cooking Matters (Ministerial Association)	800			800
Good Samaritan	3149			3,149
General Reserve Funds	10849			10,849
Giving Blitz	6370	2,550	8,920	0
Giving Tree	4569	1,487		6,056
Global Mission	455			455
God's Work Our Hands	100			100
Infant Care Kits	50			50
Lenten Supper	4			4
Library Fund	125			125
Luther Crest Scholarships	472			472
Lutheran World Relief	150			150
Medical Mission	5000			5,000
Ministerial Fund	100			100
Organ Fund	532			532
Parish Nursing	487			487
Piano Fund	1550	4,065		5,615
Puppet Ministry	396			396
Scholarship Fund	7070			7,070
Soup Tuesday	904			904
Sunday School	292			292
Ukraine	100			100
VBS	1135			1,135
Wadena Food Shelf/Food Shelf	50			50
Wed. Night Faith Formation Supper	386			386
Worship and Music	2514			2,514
YAGM	5379	1,487		6,866
Restricted Fund Register Balance	55663	9,588	8,920	56,331

BUILDING FUND	
Building Fund Balance 05/1/2022	32227
Deposits & Interest	429
Payments	0
Building Fund Register Balance 05/31/2022	32656