

2023 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.....Jennifer Brunsberg
 Vice President.....Mike Brunsberg
 Secretary.....Meagan Ferris
 Treasurer.....Jena Osberg
 Financial Secretary.....Gail Klueenberg
 Financial Vice-Secretary.....Sue Johnson
 Congregational Life.....Peggy Larson
 Education.....vacant
 Finance.....Bryan Greenwaldt
 Outreach.....Rick Johnson
 Property Management.....Sam Sundby
 Worship and Music.....Pam Nelson
 Youth.....Sara Ross

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.*

October 2023



From the Desk of Pastor Nate...

Dear friends in Christ: grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The gospel text for Sunday, October 8 has a poignant line that Jesus speaks about himself. As he faces rejection from those in power, Jesus quotes Psalm 118 about himself, saying “The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.”

The line is a reference to his rejection and death. It is also a bold statement that Jesus is more than just a man with crazy ideas and new teachings. He is the Son of God – and the key ingredient in something new emerging in the world. Most importantly, it is Jesus foretelling that even though he is God’s Son and brings forgiveness and eternal life, not all will accept his teachings. And yet, he remains the center of the universe – even if lots of people miss this truth.

I think Jesus’ line is vitally important in how we understand the church, too. The church is the embodiment of Jesus on earth. We are the church when we proclaim Christ crucified, risen, and ascended. And yet, a growing number of people in our culture want nothing to do with the church. And yet, we are confident that the work of the church remains vital to our world.

That isn’t to say that the church as we know it won’t change. Programs change. Buildings change. The demographics of our communities change. And sometimes reform is needed in the church. But the gathering and sending of people rooted in the truth of who Jesus is will remain forever – even if many reject it.

So, we carry on in faith – open to change and adaptation. But always committed to centering ourselves on the stone that has been rejected: Jesus.

Thank you for your faithfulness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, my friends. May Christ be at work in us, on us, and through us – even when we feel our work in the world is being rejected.

Humbly in Christ,

Pastor Nate

Pastor Nate

The council met on Sunday, September 10, 2023. President Jennifer Brunsberg called the meeting to order.

Congregational Life: Peggy Larson— Met on July 20, 2023

Welcome back picnic was held on August 31, 5-7pm at Tapley Park. Tacos, watermelon, root beer and orange floats, water. 30 to 40 people attended. Fall Meals – Begin on Sept 6. September 6 – Chicken Patties/ Hamburgers, chips, fruit, cookies, September 13 – Homemade Mac and Cheese, hotdogs, fruit, bars September 20 – Meatballs subs with marinara sauce, fruit or veggies September 27 – Hotdish, side and dessert October 4 – Hamburger stroganoff, side and dessert October 11 – Squash soup, tomato soup and grilled cheese, dessert We will ask the congregation to help with desserts. Other Events – Discussed adding a few different events during the education year. It was suggested we do an Advent themed craft event on December 3. People would make two things and give one away to a designated place like Humphrey Manor. Maybe would invite another church to join us. Other events suggested – Bingo, potluck after church

Outreach Evangelism: Rick Johnson—Did not meet.

Parish Education: Vacant—Did not meet. 5 classes of education are available for Wednesday nights. Grateful for some new faces helping with teaching.

Property Management: Sam Sundby—Did not meet. Brief power outage after Labor Day, air conditioning was affected, but resolved.

Worship and Music: Pam Nelson—Met August 21, 2023

1. Services: Wednesday evening: Wednesday night format will resume on September 6th. Communion will be served on the first Wednesday of the month. We may do a traditional service on the first Wednesday of the month along with doing Communion. We are looking for people to help with Wednesday to lead worship music. It would be nice to get more instruments involved. Sunday mornings: We will continue with one service at 9:30 am. Services for Fall/Winter/Spring: The Fall/Winter/Spring special service schedule was discussed. Organ Anniversary: Our organ's anniversary was last fall. We will consider having a concert this fall or in the future in recognition of this. We will be reaching out to resources to see what is the most feasible for a recital or concert. We need to make certain that the participants are compensated properly. 2. Bells: The bells are working. The Council approved an interim plan to purchase a small computer, which has allowed the bells to play. Request for a budget extension of \$3,000 in order to pay for a concert on October 15th. A motion was made by [Bryan Greenwaldt](#) and seconded by Jena Osberg.

Youth Leadership: Sara Ross—Met September 6, 2023

Elected officers: President–Kelanie Oldakowski, Vice President–Katie Fiemeyer, Secretary– Anna Fiemeyer. Recruiting 3 new members. Nooma Night – Sunday, September 17th in Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 8 pm. Youth Led service will be Sunday, October 8th. Thank You Thanksgiving will be Sunday, November 12th at 11 am. More fundraisers for National Youth Gathering coming.

Immanuel Church Women: Diane Teigland

ICW is getting back on schedule with Circle Bible Study and quilting.

Lead Pastor: Pastor Nate Loer— July, August, Early September Highlights : 1. VBS was July 16-20. I got to lead music each evening and share a Bible story with the kids. Very well received. It was a nice turnout of kids, especially younger kids. And we had about 20 volunteers, too. We will build on that success in the future. 2. Enjoyed some nice vacation this summer – 3 weeks out of the pulpit. Thank you to Pastor Tom Kolden and Ms. Jil Fiemeyer for providing pulpit supply and for the Brunsbergs and Peggy for serving as hosts for our guests. 3. We've re-launched our Wednesday Discipleship. So great to have 5 classrooms and a wonderful time for fellowship, worship, and learning for families of all shapes and sizes. 4. I thought summer worship was generally well attended and full of great music, scripture, prayer, and sacraments! **Looking Ahead:** 1. Will be leading a 6-week class on "Roots of our Faith" on the Lutheran Confessions. You can join via Zoom or in person. 8am, September 17, October 8 & 15, November 5, 12, and 19. 2. God's Work; Our Hands Sunday will be September 24. Two projects: 1) Packing LWR School Kits; 2) Packing Bags for the Weekend Feeding Program at WDC 3. 85+ event will be October 14. We will have 9 young people affirming their faith on October 29 this year. Looking forward to working with them this fall as they prepare to be confirmed. 5. WDC Backpacks program will soon be underway again. Food scarcity continues to be a big issue in our community.

Financial Secretary Report: Gail Klauenberg & Sue Johnson – Total of Sunday general offerings counted and deposited in June 2023: \$26,004.75. Total of Sunday general offerings counted and deposited in July 2023: \$16,905.85. Total of Sunday general offerings counted and deposited in August 2023: \$16,364.45. This does not include direct deposit offerings. The total for all three months was \$59,275.05 This does not include \$35,594.90 received as Employee Retention Credit (?) from the U.S. Treasury.

Treasurers Report: Jena Osberg – Total General Contributions: August 2023 \$60,662

Total Expenses \$25,910

General Fund Register: Balance as of August 31, 2023 \$136,196

Building Fund \$19,718

Finance Committee: Bryan Greenwaldt— Met Aug 23, 2023

In attendance were Jena Osberg, [Gail Klauenberg](#), Kyle Lehmkuhl, Dean Krogstad, Pastor Nate, Liz Miller, Kent Schmidt, [Bryan Greenwaldt](#) Unable to attend were Greg Johnson and Jil Fiemeyer. Brief discussion regarding budget and set a meeting date of 12/5/23 at 6 pm to go over the budget for next year and have ready to present to council at the December meeting. Steward Campaign – working on getting speakers for temple talks for the following Wednesday and Sunday services: 11/1, 11/5, 11/8, 11/12, 11/15, and 11/19. There will be muffins and fruit served before and after the service on the 19th. Potential policy regarding the memorial account. A suggested minimum amount to have in the memorial account would be \$5k. At the end of each year the account would be reviewed and any funds two years or older would be moved to the endowment fund. Pam Nelson motioned to accept the policy regarding the memorial account and Mike Brunsberg seconded. Motion carried. A motion was made by Meagan Ferris and seconded by Pam Nelson to move \$19,000 from the memorial fund to the endowment. Motion carried.

Our Vision and Mission – Other Business: The Directory Committee is still busy calling people to update information. Looking to do an update in the next newsletter. Looking at new upstairs bathroom signs to accommodate families as well as others that may need assistance. Motion made by Jen Osberg to reassign the bathroom upstairs for families, Bryan Greenwaldt seconded the motion. Motion carried. Endowment fund looking for ideas to give funds to.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



GENERAL FUND	
8/6/2023	4098
8/13/2023	4888
8/20/2023	2032
8/27/2023	4247
Employee Retention	35595
Electronic Giving	445
Direct Deposit	9357
TOTAL GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	60662
EXPENSES	
Benevolences	540
Programs	896
Staff including taxes and benefits	22591
Operations	272
Building Expenses	1611
TOTAL EXPENSES	25910
Gain/Loss	34752
General Fund Register Balance as of 08/31/23	136196

RESTRICTED				
	Balance 08/1/2023	Gifts & Additions	Payments	Balance 8/31/2023
Backpacks for Kids	\$1,261			\$1,261
Bell/Carillon	\$250			\$250
Community Dinner	\$1,595			\$1,595
Cooking Matters (Ministerial Association)	\$506	1,000.00		\$1,506
Easter Giving Blitz	\$3,955			\$3,955
Good Samaritan	\$2,949		500.00	\$2,449
General Reserve Funds	\$10,849			\$10,849
Giving Tree	\$3,954			\$3,954
Global Mission	\$1,465			\$1,465
God's Work Our Hands	\$100			\$100
Infant Care Kits	\$50			\$50
Lenten Supper	\$550			\$550
Library Fund	\$125			\$125
Luther Crest Scholarships	\$472			\$472
Lutheran World Relief	\$250			\$250
Medical Mission	\$5,000			\$5,000
Ministerial Fund	\$1,200	100.00		\$1,300
Organ Fund	\$537			\$537
Parish Nursing	\$487			\$487
Piano Fund	\$1,468		125.00	\$1,343
Puppet Ministry	\$396			\$396
Scholarship Fund	\$3,070			\$3,070
Soup Tuesday	\$2,087			\$2,087
Sunday School	\$292			\$292
Ukraine	\$100			\$100
VBS	-\$621			-\$621
Wadena Food Shelf/Food Shelf	\$682			\$682
Wed. Night Faith Formation Supper	-\$346			-\$346
Worship and Music	\$2,514			\$2,514
YAGM	\$6,866			\$6,866
Restricted Fund Register Balance	\$52,063	1,100.00	625.00	\$52,538

BUILDING FUND		
Building Fund Balance	8/1/2023	19718
Deposits & Interest		374
Payments		
Building Fund Register Balance	8/31/2023	20092

Wednesday Discipleship

Weekly spiritual practices are vital to our faith. Young and old, we hope your family will be part of this weekly discipleship!

- Dinner at 5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall
- Worship at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary
This worship will be a hybrid of worship and discipleship with praise-style music and vivid story telling from the Bible. We also plan to celebrate communion once a month.
- Education at 6:45-7:30 pm
This year we will have 4 different classrooms: Pre-school-K, 1st-2nd, 3rd-4th, and 5th-6th grade. We will also have a confirmation class for 7th-9th grade.
- Sanctuary Choir rehearses at 7:00pm
ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN!!!



UPSTAIRS RESTROOMS ARE NOW FAMILY RESTROOMS

Our church council decided to make both of our upstairs restrooms into Family Restrooms to better serve our worshipping community, especially those with mobility issues and those who need to assist family members in the restrooms. Feel free to use either restroom. Also, remember that we have gendered bathrooms available downstairs. We kindly ask those who are able, to use the downstairs restrooms, especially immediately before worship. Thank you!

SUNDAY WORSHIP MINISTRY

Sign up outside the church office to usher, lector, assist with communion, and/or provide special music for Sunday worship services!



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

- Bible Study - Tuesday, October 10 - 1:30 pm
- Tuesday, November 14 - 1:30 pm
- Block Cutting - Monday, October 2 - 9 am
- Monday, November 6 - 9 am
- Quilting - October 16 & 17 - 9 am
- November 20 & 21 - 9 am

The Quilting Ministry welcomes any volunteers to iron block-cut fabric, and/or sew kits together. These projects can be done at home! If you would like to help, reach out to Jan Hillesland or Iona Fiskum.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 29, 2023

10TH & 11TH GRADERS PREPARING TO AFFIRM THEIR FAITH INCLUDE:
ANNA FIEMEYER, ANNA HEGARTY,
ADEN KRELL, ISABELLE LEHMKUHL,
JULIA LUNDE, GRANT NELSON,
LYDIA OLDAKOWSKI, HAYDEN OLSON,
& CHARLI SNYDER

Immanuel Lutheran Church presents "A Celebration of Music"

Organ/Piano Concert
Featuring Guest Artists:
Elliott Sander
and Alex Swanson
Sunday, October 15th @ 3 pm
Refreshments to follow in the Fellowship Hall.
A free will offering will be collected.

UNITED WAY COATS FOR KIDS

Immanuel is a drop off site for you to donate gently used or new coats, snowpants, hats, & gloves/mittens to those in need between now and October 9th.



YOUTH LED WORSHIP

OCTOBER 08

CONTACT ELANA @ 218-329-8465 TO SIGN UP TO HELP



Join us on Monday, October 16th At 5:30 pm for dinner @ Pizza Ranch

What's Happening

- October 1
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
10:30 am - 85+ Member Recognition (Fellowship Hall - all welcome)
- October 2
9 am - ICW - Block Cutting
- October 3
9 am - Staff Meeting
- October 4
10:30 am - Knute Nelson Grief Support/8 week (Friendship Room - Must be registered)
12 pm - Rotary (#2 D. Haraldson)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
7:30 pm - ILC Youth Council Meeting
- October 5
1 pm - MAC/NAPS
- October 6
1 pm - Catholic Charities Frozen Meals Distribution
- October 8
8 am - Early Risers Class (Friendship Room)
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
4:30 pm - ILC Council Meeting
- October 9
5 pm - Worship/Music Committee Meeting (Friendship Room)
- October 10
9 am - Staff Meeting
1:30 pm - ICW Bible Study
- October 11
12 pm - Rotary (catered)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)

Sunday Worship Schedule

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



- October 12
6 pm - Northstar Roundtable meeting
- October 14
10:30 am - 4:00 pm - Use of Facility
- October 15
8 am - Early Risers Class (Friendship Room)
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
6 pm - Boy Scouts
- October 16
9 am - ICW Church Mice
5:30 pm - Dinner Club at Pizza Ranch
- October 17
9 am - ICW Church Mice
9 am - Staff Meeting
- October 18
12 pm - Rotary (#3 N. Overland)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
- October 22
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
- October 23
6 pm - Concert Assoc. Meeting
7 pm - Book Club @ Sharon Boline's
- October 24
9 am - Staff Meeting
11 am - Dementia Support Group (Open to all - Friendship Room)
- October 25
12 pm - Rotary (catered)
Wednesday Discipleship Schedule (see below)
- October 26
10:30 am - Knute Nelson Grief Support (Friendship Room - Open to all)
- October 29
Sunday Worship Schedule (see below)
- October 31
9 am - Staff Meeting

Wednesday Worship Schedule

- 5:15 pm - Congregational Dinner
- 6:00 pm - Praise Worship (Sanctuary)
- 6:45 pm - Wednesday Education
- 7:00 pm - Sanctuary Choir (All are welcome to join the choir!!)

EARLY RISERS CLASS ROOTS OF OUR FAITH



Join us for a 6-week class exploring the core teachings of our Lutheran faith. Classes will start @ 8:00 am on September 17, October 8 & 15, November 5, 12, & 19. You can join us in the Friendship Room or via Zoom. Email Pastor Nate for the Zoom link or for more information. (nateloer@gmail.com)

Backpacks for Kids

We had a GREAT turnout for God's Work, Our Hands on Sunday and got 510 bags assembled to launch the year!! Next food pack will be November 9th @ 3 pm @ the elementary cafeteria.



BOOK CLUB

MONDAY, October 23rd
7 PM @ SHARON BOLINE'S
1114 KING AVE SW, APT 404



WE WILL BE DISCUSSING "THE OLD CROCODILE MAN THEORY", A NOVEL BY PHILIP HUNSICKER. PHILIP, A MINNESOTA AUTHOR, PRESENTED HIS BOOK AT BOOK ENDS IN JUNE. WE WILL ALSO DISCUSS "THE PARIS LIBRARY" BY JANET CHARLES. EVERYONE INTERESTED IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!!

** EVERY 4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH (SEPT - MAY) **