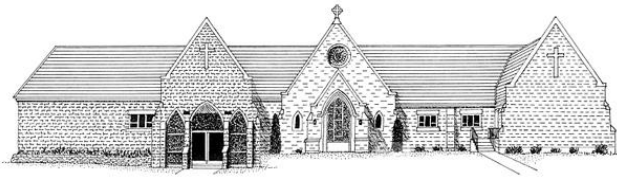


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church - Menominee, Michigan

JUNE

2021



Our Summer worship schedule begins June 13th!

FROM THE PASTOR

Brothers and Sisters in Christ;

Last March, in the days immediately following our lockdown orders, I remember going out to the grocery store and the road being devoid of traffic. It was very eerie, but it was a time where people were staying home and trying to make sense of this new world suddenly thrust upon us. The virtual worship, along with kids completing their school year from home, only cemented this complete transformation to what we had been accustomed to.

Well, I certainly can't speak for everyone, but, for me, it seems that in these recent weeks that very same world which had become closed off is now significantly closer to being back to the normal that we were used to, that the transformation pendulum has swung back. As I write on this Memorial Day weekend, the heavy traffic heading north on Highway 35 running past our house has been like a parade. My kids have completed their respective school years, certainly not without having to make some pandemic accommodations; but, for the most part, complete and fulfilling for the young ones. As for worship, many of us have gathered in-person since Lent began, and with recent baptisms and Pentecost Sunday First Communion, we're seeing the church calendar starting to fill up more and more each month. There is indeed much to give thanks to God for.

But, as I've repeated several times, this time of being apart and coming back together should be, and has been, a time of renewal and growth in our understanding of who we are and who we are called to be as the Body of Christ. In these coming weeks as we continue our Ephesians sermon series, we have an opportunity to use Paul as a guide. On June 6th we will read from Ephesians 2:11-22 which focuses on being One in Christ. The last two verses of this text read, "In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." (Ephesians 2:21-22)

It's a reminder that who we are as God's people is not built on tradition and comfort. Those are undoubtedly pieces of the structure, but are not the foundation upon which we build. Christ is the foundation on which we build, and because that foundation is perfectly solid, we're able to renovate on top of it, swapping out what is worn and used for what is sturdy and effective, ensuring that the post-pandemic church continues to glorify God in word and in deed in ways which are relevant to who we are as 21st century Saints in Christ.

And so, as we continue to reconvene with worship, programming, and education in the church, let us always keep these words in front of us. Let us remember that the church never closed, but much like a caterpillar turning into a butterfly, went through a time of transformation, adapting to the newer world which we find ourselves in now. For that's what the Spirit does. As confessing followers of Christ, we are renewed daily to be present in our world as God's hands. The building that is the church is no different. Thanks be to God, who continues this work, in us, through us, and around us.

In Christ,

Pastor Mark

Second Sunday Sunshine Service

At the end of last summer, I was approached by several members who shared with me that they had really enjoyed the outdoor services and were wondering if that was something that we could keep doing. The answer is yes!! On the second Sunday of each month this summer, weather permitting, we'll worship in the 14th street parking lot. As well, these services will be a mask-optional. Our first outdoor service of the summer will be at 9:00 on June 13th. Don't forget to bring your lawn chair, and I'll see you then! – Pastor Mark



Emma Lynn Stankevich, daughter of Adam and Kasi, was baptized at Emmanuel on Sunday, May 16th during the 10:00 service. Emma's sponsors are Rachel Stankevich and Tayler Lentz.

Oliver Cleophus Jones and Calvin Richard Jones, sons of Bret & Shannon Jones were baptized at Emmanuel on Saturday, May 15th. Oliver's sponsors were Lucas & Jen Chouinard. Calvin's sponsors were Brian & Candace Prill.

May the Spirit of God be present in Emma, Oliver, Calvin, and all who celebrate being washed in the waters of Holy Baptism!

Remembering

A graveside Memorial service was held for **Robert Beyersdorf** on Saturday, May 22nd at Riverside Cemetery. Robert was called to his eternal home on November 25th from COVID-19 complications.

A graveside Memorial service for **Donna Bayerl** will be held on Saturday, June 5th. Donna was called to her eternal home on November 10th

May all who mourn Robert, Donna, and all who have completed their earthly journeys be filled with the promise or resurrection to new life.



First Communion

First Communion was held for 12 Emmanuel Youth on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, at the 10:00 service.

The 12 youth are:

Serenity Anderson

Madeline Christiansen

Jackson Raygo

Hannah Seidlecki

Darrent Butler

Oliver Jones

Travis Rod

Jaxson Seidlecki

Eli Camps

Andrew Miller

Reese Sallgren

Emma Stewart

We give thanks to God for these twelve incredible young people joining us now at the table which has been prepared for all who believe!

Graduate Recognition



Emmanuel's high school graduates will be recognized and celebrated during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on June 6th. Our graduates are:

William Aichner

Genaveve Anders

Erin Barrette

Heather Camps

Landen Clausen

Alyssa Dura

Maxwell Heckel

Hayden Myers

Zachary Starzynski

Trent Albert

Emma Anderson

Dalton Bock

Kylie Chevalier

Kaeleb Crawford

Ashlee Erickson

Abbey Leinonen

Gabriel Shaw

Keaton Uecke

God's blessings to you as you walk into the future that God has planned for you!

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Church office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you need to conduct church business outside of these times, please contact Pastor Mark at (906) 424-0003.
- **Sunday, June 6th. In-person/Facebook Live Worship at 8:00 am and in-person worship at 10:00 am.** We will celebrate Safe Distance Holy Communion on this day with drive-through communion available from 11:00 – 11:30 at the 14th Street Entrance. If you are planning on attending in-person, please be in compliance with all in-person practices, so that we can honor the safety and health of all who gather here.
- **Sunday, June 13th. We begin our summer worship schedule with one (1) 9:00 in-person/Facebook Live service. Weather permitting, we will worship in the 14th Street Parking Lot.** Please bring a lawn chair if you have one. If not, chairs will be available. As well, with this being outdoors, masks are optional for those who are vaccinated against COVID-19. For those who have not yet been able to receive the vaccination, we ask that you please respect the health of your fellow congregation members and continue to mask up while gathering here.
- **Sundays, June 20th and 27th. 9:00 in-person/Facebook Live worship service.** There will be no Holy Communion on either Sunday. If you are planning on attending in-person, please be in compliance with all in-person practices, so that we can honor the safety and health of all who gather here.



Kids, PreK through 6th grade join us for some summer fun learning about Jesus!

Each Sunday children will meet outside at the 14th street entrance to enjoy Bible stories, games, and crafts! If there is rain, we will meet in the fellowship hall.

No registration needed - just show up!



2021
Vacation Bible School
Tuesday-Thursday
July 27, 28, & 29
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Children entering Kindergarten through 6th grade this fall are invited to go on an underwater adventure where they will discover that God is faithful!

We will be following Covid19 mitigation guidelines to keep everyone safe, so our VBS will look a bit different than our previous years, but our children will still enjoy fun experiences that will guide them through God's Word in unforgettable and thought-provoking ways that make Scripture come alive and help faith flow into real life.

A letter with more details on our VBS program, Covid19 safety requirements, and a registration form will be mailed out soon to our parents mid-June. Registration forms will also be available in the church office or may be downloaded and printed from the church website at www.e-mmanuel.com under "Our Learning/VBS".

**Deadline to register is
Monday, July 12th**



Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

As I write this, it is not even 48 hours since our week of Synod Assembly concluded.

I do believe the experience of Synod Assembly this year was uneven for many people. For those who received prompt answers to technology questions, for those who voted without incident, for those who simply accessed the YouTube feed and listened to workshops and business, I do believe this was, overall, a very positive experience for you.

However, I am also well aware of a certain level of frustration for those who waited on the phone for answers, got disconnected, who didn't know what a web browser was much less how to click on it, who had trouble with the web portal and impatient with the voting glitches, you will join me in being happy if we never have synod assembly this way again.

Please trust that the goal was **not** to add to the frustration of days that are already full of reasons to feel weary. That just happened by accident. I hope that we have all increased our knowledge and understanding of technology and the communication required to fine tune the details.

Despite the challenges, we did manage to accomplish some things worth celebrating and we have learnings that will definitely be applied to future efforts.

We passed, by a significant majority, the resolution to Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery, thereby adding our NGLS name to the other 17 synods who have done this work. It is an excellent beginning, as the Task Force is already thinking of ways to lead our synod into more meaningful ways of being good neighbors.

I wish to commend the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force for their creative and tireless efforts to educate our synod on what the doctrine is, what it has meant, and why repudiation was the right thing to do. From Lifelong Faith Formation classes, to workshops, to video communications, their work was inspired and inspiring.

Thank you to:

- Jeff Henquinet-Good Shepherd, Houghton

- Pastor Melinda VanderSys-Our Redeemer and First, Presbyterian, Newberry
- Pastor Julie Belew- Holy Cross, Baraga
- Pastor Bucky Beach- Good Shepherd, Houghton and Lutheran Campus Ministry of MTU
- Pastor Scott Ehle of Bethel, Menominee
- Retired Pastor Dave VanKley
- Staff Liaison, Pastor Jim Duehring

The World Hunger Committee celebrated the winners of the Big Bear Awards and the Bread Basket Awards.

The Big Bear Award is given to a group that has made an exemplary effort in the area of hunger ministry.

Congratulations to our Big Bear Award Winners:

- Board of Outreach at Faith, Three Lakes
- The Garden Crew at Calvary, Minocqua



The Bread Basket Award is given to individuals who give an exemplary effort to address issues of hunger and poverty. We congratulate this year's winners:

- Ron Schickowski of Pioneer Lake, Conover and
- Elizabeth Beyne of Messiah, Marquette.

Thank you both for your inspiring example of passionate commitment and generosity with your time and energy.

We celebrated the installations of Pastor Grant Van Lishout and Deacon Lori Ward.

Pastor Van Lishout will serve with our ministry partner, Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center and Deacon Ward will



serve as our NGL Synod Missioner for Lifelong Faith Formation and LLM evaluation administrator. Livestreamed through YouTube and Facebook, we enjoyed a lovely worship service complete with “All Creation Sings” liturgy, hymns led by the music team of Messiah, Marquette, a choral anthem offered by Ascension, Minocqua, and preaching by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

We had a week of communications, workshops, Prayfaithfully video devotions, and more.

The online workshops are something we will definitely do again as more than 400 participants were able to learn together through technology from every corner, hamlet, shoreline, and woodland copse in our synod territory. Special thanks to our pastors and deacon who contributed to the special devotions on Hope that week.

Despite the challenges, we managed to update and amend our Synod Constitution, lift up the creativity of our congregations as ministry efforts have pivoted, and celebrate that the work of Christ in and through the Church has continued, unabated.

And most of all, we embraced HOPE. From scripture readings to the word proclaimed, from hymns sung to anthems heard, from the images of ministry in action that flashed across our screens to the plans for future gatherings, we embodied that we are people of hope; hope in the future God has prepared, hope in the plans that God has for us, hope that pandemic challenges will give way to creative solutions and making the most of unexpected opportunities – we hope together.

I hope to see you this fall at a Walking Together event near you. I hope you are able to join a Lifelong Faith Formation class. I hope to read about this assembly in your congregational newsletter. I hope that you are reminded, once again, that as a synod of congregations, we are in this work together, walking alongside each other and the presence of Christ who walks with us. It is a joy and a privilege to be in partnership with you!

Thank you for a great Synod Assembly week!

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Katherine Finegan

EMMANUEL BUDGET NEWS

As of April 30, 2021

*Your Contributions to the General Fund	\$76,125.97
*Your Approved Budget Amount	\$82,002.06

Thank you to everyone for you incredible and generous contributions during a unique and trying time in our history.

We are blessed and empowered to celebrate God's love and God's presence in 2021 because of your commitment!

As well, a very special thank you to *David Behrens* for donating plowing the church parking lot for the month of February!

Thank you for your Synod Assembly **World Hunger noisy kettle offering!** Between May 2nd and May 9th, we collected at total of \$170! This money will be forwarded to the Synod Office along with other monies designated to those who are experiencing hunger.

In May the council approved a plan to refurbish the stain-glass windows surrounding the 13th Street entrance with *CJ's Glass* in Marinette. You may have noticed that several of the pieces were falling out, thus, the security of keeping these windows intact had become a high priority. As well, you may have noticed that the top of the cross to the north side of the entrance doors is already gone and is currently being restored. This will continue throughout the summer as different pieces are addressed. These windows have welcomed God's people for nearly 50 years and we want to ensure that they are present for the next 50 as well!

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

Online Worship 9:00 a.m.

Livestreamed on our Facebook page

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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
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America