

IMMANUEL'S

MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2023

WHAT IS HAPPENING THIS MONTH AT IMMANUEL

ALL SAINTS 2022-2023

On **November 5 & 6**, we have the privilege of holding in prayer the saints who have gone before us and those among us here and now. We will take time in worship to remember those in our congregation who have died, celebrate those who have been baptized, and pray for those in our own lives that have gone before us. You are invited to contribute photos of loved ones who have died to our table of remembrance that will be in the narthex from All Saints Sunday through Thanksgiving. Together, may we remember and celebrate well all the saints who have touched our lives.

	Date of Death		Date of Baptism
† Robert John Weihert, Sr.	11/20/2022	∞ Aiden Gerald Straub	11/13/2022
† Doris Martha (Huebner) Schlesner	12/09/2022	∞ Julian Tonche	01/15/2023
† Mo Her Yang	12/16/2022	∞ Rylee Marie Peters	03/26/2023
† Arbutus Norma (Heller) Zubke	01/31/2023	∞ Evelyn Rey Agar-Pratt	04/23/2023
† Virginia May (Beaudoin) Fries	02/16/2023	∞ Penelope Louise McDonald	10/15/2023
† Victor Andrew Miller	06/24/2023		
† James Arthur Conant	08/26/2023		

Daylight Savings Time!

Don't forget to set your clocks back before you go to bed on November 4th so you get to church at the correct time on Sunday, November 5th!

Workshop on Wills & Trusts

Sunday, November 12 at 9:15am

Do you have a will? When's the last time you reviewed it? Come and learn about wills and trusts with attorney and Immanuel member Brandon White.



Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

Sunday, November 19 at 4:30pm

Hosted by the Congregations of the Watertown Clergy Roundtable, everyone is invited to join together for an ecumenical Thanksgiving worship service at First Congregational United Church of Christ at 120 Kuckkan Lane.

Monetary gifts will be collected for Hometown Missions and socks and underwear will be collected for area schools through the Shared Community Mission Group. Refreshments will be served following worship.

All are welcome!

Conversation on ELCA Values & Social Teaching

Sunday, November 26 at 9:15am

What we believe together matters. As we begin the Reconciling in Christ process together (*see page 15*), you're invited to join Trevor Thom for an introduction to our denomination's social teaching.

ELCA social statements and messages cover a variety of topics: Education, Abortion, Care for Creation, Human Sexuality, Healthcare, Human Rights, and many more. *Where do they come from? What do they say? Who decides what is said? Do I have to believe what the church teaches?*

Join the conversation on November 26 to learn more and take a peek at the topics you're most interested in!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hey, DeWayne! Can you tell me more about the Endowment Fund? For a long time, I have heard that name mentioned in church, but I honestly don't know that much about it.

To be honest with you, I had that same experience for quite a while. I knew the Fund existed, but I didn't really know how it worked or how it was used. Through all of my activity in church, I have developed a better understanding, and now, as an Endowment Board member, I have learned a lot more.

First of all, let me show you the definition of *Endowment* from the Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary:

1. (*n.*) The act of bestowing a dower, fund, or permanent provision for support.
2. (*n.*) That which is bestowed or settled on a person or an institution, property, fund, or revenue permanently appropriated to any object, as, the endowment of a church, a hospital, or a college.

Now, let me isolate some of the key words or phrases in those definitions with the help of Google:

bestowing - confer or present (an honor, right, or gift);

permanent provision - something that is permanent and lasts forever.

Biblically speaking - We are meant to depend on God for provision, meaning that we should look to him to provide for us when our own means seem inadequate.

It may be somewhat confusing as to what is done with money, property, and other such gifts that are bestowed on our church. You may ask, if money is given to us, can't we just go out and spend it on anything the church needs? Answer: not necessarily. A gift given to the Endowment Fund is a *permanent provision* and it is held within that Fund. The Fund is controlled by the Endowment Board whose members are duly elected at each Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

If money that is gifted to the Endowment Fund is immediately spent, then it is not a *permanent provision* but instead is consumable. The money that is held in the Endowment Fund is invested in an account or portfolio that earns interest from a financial institution.

The interest earned is NOT a gift given to the Fund. It is money that is earned through the strategic investments determined by the Endowment Board. Therefore, that interest money now comes back to benefit the church in covering any necessary financial needs. Those needs are things that are not included in the annual budget or were unknown at the time of budget preparation. Concerning the Capital Campaign, Endowment committed 80% of the Fund's earnings over a period of six years, 2020-2025, to be used for the campaign. The amount given so far, 2020-2023, has totaled \$155,083 and there are still two years left in the commitment.

But if the church needs a lot of money, then why can't we use the Endowment Funds?

1. The original donor of the funds (or property) left the gift to the Endowment Fund to be a *permanent provision* for the church that will continue to give *in perpetuity*;
2. Spending the money will diminish the Fund to a level that will earn less interest from the financial institutions thereby reducing available funds for other needs;
3. Spending all of the money will cause the Endowment Fund to close, thereby eliminating future financial assistance to the many needs that arise every year;
4. Future donors may be less willing to give to an Endowment Fund if they know that their gift will be less likely to give *in perpetuity*;
5. According to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin:

C5.05. *The name of this fund is the Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. The purpose of this mission fund is to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget of this congregation.*

C5.05.01. *The purpose of this Fund shall be to receive gifts and hold the principal of such gifts in perpetuity and to expend the income therefrom, less proper expenses, for the purpose of sustaining the mission and ministry of this congregation as recommended by the Board members of this Endowment Fund.*

So, as you can see, it is not the Board's right to dispense all funds held in the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Board has a duty to perform its work within the limits of the authority granted by the bylaws.

Hopefully this gives you a layperson's perspective on why it would not be in Immanuel's best interest to empty the Endowment Fund in order to pay off our building loan. Using the Fund for this purpose may appear to be a simple answer, but believe me, it would be the wrong answer. Instead, if members of the congregation want to specifically help eliminate the building loan, they should give funds for that specific purpose.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard and given so much of their resources to provide Immanuel with our beautiful facilities and wonderful programming.

Immanuel -- God is with us.

DeWayne

FAITH FORMATION

We have had a fantastic start to the program year in Sunday School and Confirmation! Here's a look at what we've been doing together:



Mark your calendar!

Our Sunday School students will be singing at the beginning of BOTH worship services on All Saints Sunday—November 5 at 8:00am & 10:30am!

GIVING TREE

During the month of November, the **Mission & Outreach Committee** invites you to visit their Giving Tree in the narthex! Simply take an ornament off of the tree and follow the instructions to give the monetary or physical donation that is requested. If you have any questions, please reach out to the church office.



Help support Hometown Missions, the Gosling Nest at WHS, Jefferson County Christmas Neighbors, and ELCA Good Gifts!

Super Porker Club Members. . . Contacted by Tom Lees

SUPER PORKER

Jerry & Jayne Adams
Robert & Erline Adler
Steve & Charleen Andracek
Vicki Arndt
Richard & Katie Bartelt
Rocky & Bonnie Bohlman
Jarred & Melissa Burke
Craig Dedo
Dena Vette
Evan & Laura Ferree

Fred & Cindy Gremmels
Hafemeister Funeral Home
Mark Heiden
Jens & Lynel Hetzler
Neale Jones
Kraemer Wisconsin Cheese
Jeff & Natalie Krause
Victor Krueger / Dianne Nass
Karla & Julianna Kwapil
Don & Jean Kwapil
Tom & Ann Lees
Maas Bros. Construction

Ruth Mack
Jim & Gola Martin
Don & Kathy Neverman
Jason Niemuth
Patti Grunseth Peterson
Tom & Ruthie Pugh
Mark & Sue Putra
DeWayne & Anne Roberson
Mark & Joy Rohr
Sandra Rullman
Heidi Schaller
Dale & Ellen Schauer

Stan & Sue Schramm
Rich & Kathy Schuett
Judy Schumacher
Janis Shackley
Donna Stangler
Trevor Thom
Phyllis Turke
Rich & Wanda Udovich
Sue Weihert
Roy & Sharon Wolf
Mary Wolff
Dave & Dorothy Woodard

HIGH ON THE HOG

Robert & Erline Adler
Dan & Linda Argus
Neil & Ruth Baumann
Bob & Jane Bender
Bill & Pat Benzel
Andrew & Beth Boxell
Bob & Marta Boxell
Phil & Nancy Buss
Dennis & Harriet Daley

Mary Eckert
Karen Foelker
Cary & Nancy Gillingham
Roger & Judith Griep
Richard Held / Toni Stephens
Karen Herritz
Judy Hoffstetter
Rob & Denise Jacob
Dianne Kennedy
Terri Kohout

Richard & Joan Kusel
Ken & Marty Miller
Claire & Lana Petersen
Doug & Patti Schilling
Kathy Schneidewind
Stan & Sue Schramm
Steve & Carol Schroeder
Sharon Seeber
Kristy Solovey
Sharon Stanke

Wayne & Margaret Steward
Clay & Kris Stocklin
Kevin & Sheri Thom
Jeff & Kris Travis
Penny Wegner
Brandon White
Earl Winker
Nic & Laura Wolter
Robert & Rita Zimmerman

and, Thanks to the Volunteers That Made it Happen. . .

“Pardon the Turkey-BBQ Pork” God’s Work- Our Hands

Thanks to all Immanuel members who bought tickets and helped make the Pork dinner a success! Special thanks to the committee who helped put it together in a limited amount of time- Sue Putra, Jean Kwapil, Sue Weihert, Mary Wolff, Bob Boxell, and Tom Lees. Special thanks to Jana Strobel who created the signs and tickets, Tim Strobel who donated hamburger & milk, and Addison Strobel who helped make the aprons. The support of so many is appreciated: those who set tables, made desserts, cooked, and helped in the kitchen, served the food, sold jam, and cleaned up. The confirmation students waiting on tables and helping those in line for food did a great job!

Dessert makers & helpers: Karen Herritz, Lora Konz, Jean Kwapil, Wanda Udovich, Mary Wolf, Sue Weihert, Heidi Schaller, Sue Putra, Val Englebrecht, Mary Eckert, Jane Bender, Bonnie Bohlman, Dorothy Woodard, Jenifer Hedrick, Penny Wagner, Jason Jaekel, Cary Gillingham, Anne Roberson, Donna Borchardt, Susan Heintz, Ruth Mack.

Volunteers who helped in some way: Patti Grunseth, Elden & Val Engelbrecht, Karen Herritz, Penny Wagner, Austin & Katie Bartelt, Donna Borchardt, Jarod Burke, Patricia Kreitzman, Gola Martin, Jenifer Hedrick, Fred & Cindy Gremmels, Andrew, Ashley & Theo Woodard, Wanda & Rich Udovich, Neale Jones, Ruth Mack, Mark Putra, Patti & Doug Schilling, Kevin & Josie Sukow, Mary Eckert, Tim Strobel, Cindi Limberg, Ann Lees, Jane Bender, Richard Held, Rob & Denise Jacob, Dave & Dorothy Woodard, Bob & Marta Boxell, Mary Wolff, Sue Weihert, Sue Putra, and Tom Lees.





IMMANUEL'S BOOK CLUB Wednesday, November 15th - 1:00pm

Are you interested in reading a good book and then discussing it with others? If so, then we're the group for you! Immanuel's Book Club will be reading *This Is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel. The book is available through the Public Library. Discussion will take place on Wednesday, November 15th, at 1:00 in the Youth Room at Church. Join us!



Craft Fair & Bake Sale SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 9:00 AM TO 2:30 PM

Our Immanuel elves are hard at work!

More Vendors than Ever!

Our vendor spaces have expanded again this year! You'll get all your holiday shopping done in one place!

Lunch is Served!

In addition to all the goodies downstairs and the fresh baked cinnamon rolls, we're excited to offer a delicious SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH this year!

Pay with Venmo!

Don't carry cash? New this year, you have the option to purchase items from the cookie sale and lunch via Venmo! (Please note: Individual vendors are responsible for their own payment options.)

Sign up in the narthex to help at the event or donate the delicious cookies and candy we need to make this event a success!

Immanuel's 150th Anniversary

Mark your calendars NOW for **January 2025** when we will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our congregation.

Did you know . . . *In 1952 members of this congregation themselves began demolishing the former church (same site) and saved the cleaned bricks for use in the pillars of the current church? And, in 1961 we listed membership as 1800 baptized members!*

Watch for more fun facts in the coming months!

Immanuel Ladies Lunch Bunch -

We hope to meet the 4th Tuesday of the month on November 28th at 11:30am. Look for more information later.

Bereavement Group -

Please note that the meeting date has been changed to **Tuesday, November 28th** due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

W-ELCA & IMMANUEL'S CIRCLES

W-ELCA Board will meet on Wednesday, November 7th @ 10:00am

Quilter's are meeting in the Multi Purpose Room at 9am on:

Tuesday, November 7, Wednesday, November 15 and Thursday, November 30

Bible Circles

Sarah Circle and Mary Circle will not be meeting in November.

Instead we will have a SPECIAL BIBLE STUDY ... All women are welcome.

Bible study led by Pastor Carina on November 14th @ 4pm

2023 HOLIDAY TRAIN

The Canadian Pacific (CP) Holiday Train will return Watertown on its 25th anniversary annual cross-continent trip. The train will be making a stop in Watertown on Monday, December 4th, at the Brandt/Quirk Park parking lot and will arrive at 7:50 pm. Musical performances by Tenille Townes and Breland Porter will be from 8:00pm to 8:30pm.



Holiday Train shows are free to attend. CP asks attendees to bring a cash or non-perishable food donation for the Watertown Food Pantry. The food pantry board is looking for volunteers to help collect food and monetary donations at this event. If anyone can help, please contact



Dawn at dwestenberg.immanuel@gmail.com.

The **Watertown/Jefferson County Salvation Army** is doing everything we can to provide for the many individuals and families who need emergency assistance with food, rent, utilities, and other critical support.

Volunteers are needed to ring bells during the local 2023 Red Kettle Campaign. The campaign begins November 18th and extends through noon on December 23rd. To volunteer, call Lori at 920-261-7165.

Thank you!



MISSION WORK



MONTHLY REPORTS September 2023

Hometown Mission Fund

Beginning balance: 09/01/2023	\$ 477.61
Deposits	\$ 257.42
2 check(s) written	-\$ 330.00
Service fees	-\$ 2.36
Ending balance 09/30/2023	\$ 402.67

21 contacts made in September
2 families received assistance

Community Laundry

Beginning balance: 09/01/2023	\$ 2,738.37
PLUS: Deposits	\$ 0.00
PLUS: Interest	\$ 0.07
MINUS: Withdrawals	-\$ 530.00
Ending balance 09/30/2023	<u>\$ 2,208.44</u>
Loose Coin on Hand 09/01/2023	\$ 190.50
Withdrawals	\$ 530.00
Coin thrown in & used at laundry	\$15.75
MINUS: Operating Cost	-\$ 566.75
Loose Coin on Hand 09/30/2023	<u>\$ 169.50</u>

72 families served in September
115 washer loads - 158 dryer loads

Personal Essentials Pantry

Beginning balance: 09/01/2023	\$ 5,554.43
September Deposits	\$ 0.00
September Purchases	\$ 0.00
Ending balance 09/30/2023	\$ 5,554.43

SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER . . .

- 2 Christ United Methodist
- 9 St. Mark's Lutheran
- 16 St. Bernard's
- 23 Closed - Happy Thanksgiving
- 30 GLOW - Giving Ladies of Watertown

Bread & Roses - September Report

Beginning Balance 09/01/2023	\$ 4,279.79
September Deposit	\$ 0.00
September Expenses	\$ 581.63
Ending Balance 09/30/2023	\$ 3,698.16
Savings Balance: 09/30/2023	\$ 3,543.32
Guests Served: 09/01 - 09/30/2023	1,017

Jam sales are going great. . .

Same price as last year -
\$5 each or 5 for \$20

We now have Raspberry, Grape,
Black & Blue, Blueberry and Blackberry.

We are recycling jars and rings now.
Dropoff in the church office.



Noisy Offering

Mission & Outreach will coordinate the Noisy Offering schedule. We will always (most usually) have the Noisy Offering on the 3rd weekend of each month. If your group is interested in having a weekend set aside please contact a member of the Mission & Outreach Committee.

November 19-20, our Noisy Offering will go towards **Community Laundry**. This fund provides soap & laundry services at a local Laundromat for homeless & low income families.

Start saving your change for this worthy project!



Membership Report

Membership reports for September and October will be in the next newsletter.



BUILDING A WELCOMING WATERTOWN

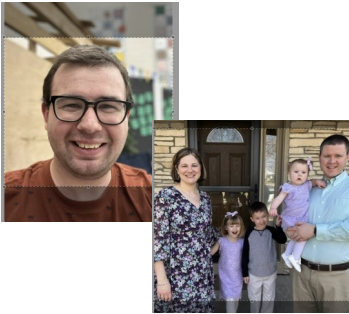
Community, Conversation, and Christian Welcome

Sunday, November 5 from 12:30pm-2:30pm

Community Room at Watertown Public Library

Join folks from Watertown area congregations for lunch, learning, and conversation as we build a more inclusive community together! We'll be joined by David Liners, Watertown native and Executive Director of WISDOM.

Submit Your Photo for our NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!



- **No Need to be Formal** There is no need for a formal photo shoot. If you have a favorite photo from a recent vacation or holiday party, use it! Have a beloved pet? Include them in your family photo! We want our directory to reflect our Immanuel family, and we want to see the real you!
- **Keep it Current** You may have had your best hair 25 years ago, but we want everyone to recognize you.
- **How to Take Your Photo** Most smartphones today take photos that are just as good as professional cameras, so feel free to use yours for your photo. Each photo will be a square shape, so keep that in mind as you're capturing yours.
- **How to Submit** Digital submissions are highly preferred. Please send your photo to directory.immanuel@gmail.com. If you only have a printed copy, please bring it to the church office. If you would like the photo returned, it must be labeled.
- **We're Here to Help** If you'd prefer that someone help you take your photo or you have any questions, please reach out to the church office or Trevor Thom, our Director of Congregational Life, at thomt.immanuel@gmail.com.



RaiseRight[™]

Formerly ShopWithScrip



We have had a very successful year and just made our second donation this year of \$1,000.00 to the Capital Campaign.

We currently have Berres Bros., Kohl's, Kraemer's, Kwik Trip, Pick'n Save, Piggly Wiggly and Wal-mart cards in stock. In addition, there are over 500 stores, restaurants and businesses listed on their website that we can order cards from, along with Visa gift cards with no activation fee.

Please remember to place your orders BY noon on Tuesday. Payment is due at the time of your order. Orders are usually picked up at the UPS Store on Friday.

Scrip cards make great holiday gifts as well as stocking stuffers. Thank you for your continuing support of this program.

Dawn & Kelly

Treasurer's Report - September 2023

Actual Weekly Income

	General	Debt Retirement	Building Offering	Mission Support	Other Budgetary Designated	Capital Campaign	Other Designated	Total
9/3	4,898.50	—	135.00	110.00	515.00	730.00	120.00	6,505.50
9/10	8,289.00	—	55.00	20.00	64.10	2,133.00	41.00	10,602.10
9/17	6,848.00	—	55.00	20.00	—	8,985.00	348.15	16,256.15
9/24	4,306.00	—	65.00	30.00	—	13,645.00	1,894.41	19,940.41
TOTALS:	24,341.50	—	310.00	180.00	579.10	25,493.00	2,403.56	53,307.16
Year-to-Date GENERAL Budget Needs (Week #39)			\$276,179.00		Actual	\$280,199.58		
Year-to-Date CAPITALCAMPAIGN Budget Needs (Month #9)			\$225,000.00		Actual	\$212,475.80		
Year-to-Date OTHER Designated Income						\$23,041.00		

Loan Expenses: Line of Credit: \$ 0.00

Immanuel's Promise: Loan Balance: \$1,111,500.00

(Interest paid in September: \$6,265.15 **Principle paid in September: \$30,000.00**)

Memorials:

Jim Conant: General fund: \$105.00

Victor Miller: Capital campaign: \$100.00

Sandra & Suzanne Doerr: Capital campaign: \$500.00

Honorarium:

Neale Jones' birthday: Capital campaign: \$100.00

Thank you for your generosity toward the building loan!

In September you paid \$30,000 of principle!

GIVING REMINDER:

The opportunity continues for us to decrease the principal on our building loan through end of January 2024 before we begin a mortgage. Let's pay down the principal as much as possible together! Please consider giving to this effort now. **Our goal is to raise \$100,000 by the end of January 2024 to bring the loan amount below \$1,000,000.**

You can give online on our website, write a check, or use vanco or Venmo.

Thank you for your commitment to the present and future of Immanuel and the ministry we do for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

1 Cassadee Bartelt	17 David Madsen
1 Kylie Bartelt	17 Catherine Mueller
1 Ezra Suhr	17 Linda Weihert
2 Lauren Wheeler	17 Earl Winker
3 Felicia Schmidt	18 Rick Callison
3 Tim Sommers	18 Harvey Ruehlow
4 John Jagler	18 Donna Stangler
4 Terri Kohout	18 Calley Wesemann
4 Ryan Lessner	19 Kim Galston
4 Shelly Schmidt	19 Natalie Krause
4 Jim Stein	19 Hannah Zubke
5 Ralph Kusel	20 Bob Eske
5 Rodney Pichette	20 Josh Gutzdorf
5 Lynn Richardson	21 Nancy Lueck
6 Paul Riesen	21 Rylee Peters
7 Glenn Benzel	22 Linda Kirchoff
7 Wanda Christian	22 Pat Kreitzman
7 Kai Temby	22 Joan Kusel
10 Julia Gaugert	23 Jordan Nelson
10 Heather Weingard	23 Chelsea Philbrick-Boeder
11 Maverick Wood	24 Dannielle Konz
12 Max Prochaska	24 Garry Schmitt
12 Brian Winker	25 Chuck Hoffman
13 Zach Grosenick	25 Roy Wolff
13 Karen Heller	26 Anthony Dittmann
14 Shirley Grabow	26 Ruth Mack
14 Nicholas Graf	28 Bob Amis
14 Jan Hoppe	28 Sandi Amis
15 Hudson Kuehn	28 William Benzel
15 Levi Lawson	28 Mary Wolff
16 Jacob Dunbar	29 Taylor Adams
16 Liam Dunbar	30 Jamie Klubertanz
16 Charlotte Hanson	30 Gus Matson
16 Ronin Kueffer	30 Landrie Nagel
16 Ken Miller	
16 William Surdick	



Wedding Anniversaries!

5 Rocky & Bonnie Bohlman
8 William & Kelly Surdick
13 David & Mary Morstad
17 Holly & Jack Kuehl
22 Mark & Joy Rohr
25 Richard & Joanie Kusel
28 Ken & Marty Miller

If your date is missing, please call the office.

Ministers: All the people of Immanuel

Rev. Carina Schiltz, Pastor

Matt Stein, Director of Music Ministries

Janis Shackley, Office Manager

Dawn Westenberg, Financial Secretary

Trevor Thom, Director of Congregational Life

carinas.immanuel@gmail.com

mstein.immanuel@gmail.com

jshackley.immanuel@gmail.com

dwestenberg.immanuel@gmail.com

thomt.immanuel@gmail.com

Notify Janis @ jshackley.immanuel@gmail.com if you would like to receive the Messenger online INSTEAD of U.S. Mail.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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			1 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 10am WELCA Board 3:30p Confirmation 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	2 6:00p Worship & Music	3 1-2p Pick up braids & cookies in narthex	4 Remember to "Fall Back" — change your clock tonight
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5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 8:00a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 12:30p Event @ Library <i>Sunday School sings at both services</i>	6 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 5:15p Mission & Outreach Conf. Room 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30p Evening Worship	7 9:00a Quilter's	8 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 3:30p Confirmation 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	9	10	11
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Pick up braids & cookies
after each service

12 Thankoffering - Hometown Missions 8:00a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a Will & Trust Workshop w/Brandon White 10:30a Worship 11:45a Finance Committee	13 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30p Evening Worship	14 4:00p Special Bible Study for all women led by Pastor Carina 5:00p Food Pantry MP Room 6:00p Congregational Council - Conf. Room	15 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 1:00p Book Club Youth Room 3-4:30p Quilters w/ confirmation class 3:30p Confirmation 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	16	17	18
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Coney Dog sales after each
service

19 8:00a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a Mentor Meet-Up 10:30a Worship 4:30p Community Thanksgiving Service @ First Congregational UCC	20 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 5:00p Faith Formation 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30p Evening Worship	21	22 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room NO Confirmation 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	23 THANKSGIVING DAY Office Closed NO PEP NO Food Pantry NO Bread & Roses	24 Office Closed NO Food Pantry	25
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Noisy Offering for Community Laundry

26 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 8:00a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a Adult education hour, ELCA Social Teaching 10:30a Worship	27 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 6-8p ESL Classes Youth Room 6:30p Evening Worship	28 11:30a I.L.L.B. 11:00a Bereavement Support Group	29 10-12p ESL Classes Youth Room 3:30p Confirmation 6:30p Faithful Men 7:15p Festival Choir	30 NO Quilter's
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Decorate church AFTER
services





It's time to order Christmas flowers....

Poinsettia plants are used to decorate the Sanctuary each Christmas season. You may make a simple donation of \$15.00 or more to our Christmas/Winter display in honor of or memory of a loved one:

Env. No.

Flower Donation: \$ _____

FLOWER DONATIONS

Given by: _____

In honor/memory of: (Please circle one per sheet)



ELCA
World Hunger

ELCA World Hunger Appeal:

Please make checks payable to: Immanuel/ELCA Hunger Appeal. Please include your envelope number. Your gifts must be received by December 19th.

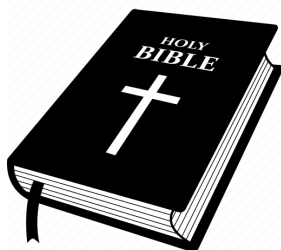
Given by: _____

In honor/memory of: (Please circle one)

Env. No.

Large Print Bibles Available

If you, or someone you know, would like a large print Bible, have them stop in the church office. For more information, call 920-261-1663.



Worship & Music invites you to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent on **Sunday, November 26th AFTER worship around 11:30am!**

All are welcome to help!

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Congregation Council Meeting Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Tuesday, October 17, at 6:00pm Location: Youth Room

PRESENT: Bob Boxell, Ruth Mack, Sue Weihert, Rev. Carina Schiltz, Brian Konz, Sue Putra, Andy Woodard, Katie Bartelt, DeWayne Roberson, David Morstad-guest. ABSENT: Emily Lessner, Ryan Lessner

Call to Order: President DeWayne Roberson called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. A quorum was present.

Opening Devotion

Prompt: Share something happening at church that gives you joy.

Confirmation (18 kids in Confirmation) - conducted Sunday service, worship was meaningful.

Sunday's dinner was successful.

Confirmation students were awesome helpers on Sunday - happy and willing to help anywhere needed.

Church seems to be a "buzz" of activity!

Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented. By: Brian Konz, Second: Katie Bartelt — *Motion carried by voice vote.*

Vision Victories:

Included in the opening devotion.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Congregation Council meeting held in September 2023. By: Sue Weihert, Second: Andy Woodard — *Motion carried by voice vote.*

Financial Report

So far this month we have paid \$20,000 on the loan balance; last month \$30,000 was paid. Request for council to send proposed budget items to Andy Woodard, Brian Konz, DeWayne Roberson or Dawn Westenberg. The finance committee is currently developing the budget.

The heating system will be installed October 27, 2023; anticipated cost increase is \$5.00.

The President has written a letter re: the Endowment Board which will be published in the next newsletter.

MOTION: To accept the September 2023 Financial Reports as presented.

By: Ruth Mack, Second: Brian Konz — *Motion carried by voice vote.*

Membership Report: Tabled until the secretary returns from medical leave.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Carina shared her report with the council prior. Recently attended the Bishop's convocation and reported several congregations are experiencing great stress and anxiety. Pastor asked for prayers for hurting congregations. She is heartened that Immanuel is in a good place; the council concurred.

Committee Reports

The council received written reports from multiple committees of the congregation via email prior to the meeting. Following the meeting, all reports will be on file in the church narthex.

Sue Weihert, Bob Boxell and Sue Putra offered a freeport regarding the BBQ Pork dinner. Very thankful for all the volunteers. 267 dinners served as per Tom Lee.

MOTION: To accept Committee Reports

By: Sue Weihert, Second: Bob Boxell - *Motion carried by voice vote.*

Old Business

- **Church Library - Dave Morstad:** The library holdings are being evaluated. Many will be available for the congregation to take home, if desired. Currently approximately 1000 books are housed there; many are outdated. The greater vision for the space has not been determined as of now.
- **Nominating Committee - Dave Morstad:** Ryan Lessner, Brian Konz, Craig Dedo, Dave Morstad and Char Andracek are the committee members. The response to the requests to serve has been very good; the committee is still waiting on a few congregants who are still considering their service.
- **150th Anniversary Committee - Ruth Mack:** The committee has made good progress. Several materials have been ordered. The entire 1962 Confirmation Class serves on the committee! Exciting plans are in the works.
- **RIC:** The committee will be commissioned soon in an upcoming church service.
- **Identified Projects - DeWayne Roberson:** There are many needs that the leadership cannot address due to the necessary financial focus on the upcoming mortgage. Security, heating, and roof were mentioned as ongoing concerns.

New Business

- **Signage: Pastor Carina:** The Endowment Board has allocated funds for signage inside the building. Discussion regarding a banner for the exterior of the building is being considered. The proposed signage could be easily changed. Consideration will be given to also including the Spanish translation.
MOTION: to approve the signage as presented, and to permit any editing deemed necessary as final proofs are developed.
By: Brian Konz, Second: Sue Weihert

Calendar Review

- 10/23 - Monday Healing Prayer Services - 6:30 p.m.
- 10/28 - Saturday Fall Clean-up 9:00 a.m.
- 10/28 - Pumpkin Palooza @ Town square 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 11/5 - Sunday - Children sign at both services; All Saints Day (pictures)
- 11/12 - Sunday - Finance Committee 11:30 a.m.
- 11/12 - Sunday - Special Coney Dog Sale
- 11/12 - Sunday - Wills Workshop 9:15 a.m.
- 11/14 - Tuesday - Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 11/19 - Ecumenical Services UCC Church 4:30 p.m.
- 12/2 - Saturday - Mistletoe Market - 9:00-2:30 p.m.
- 12/16 - Saturday - Pageant rehearsal
- 12/17 - Sunday - Children's Christmas pageant
- 12/17 - Sunday - Candlelight Concert
- 12/19 - Tuesday - Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 01/28 - Sunday - Annual Meeting 11:30 a.m.

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Adjournment: MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. By: Andy Woodard, Second: Ruth Mack — *Motion carried by voice vote.*

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Putra, *Acting Secretary*

KEEP UP WITH IMMANUEL SERVICES IN ANY OF THE WAYS LISTED BELOW

Cable Broadcast

Channel 985 & WatertownTV.com

Tuesdays at 12:00p & 7:00p

Sundays at 4:00p

Web Site & YouTube:

watertownimmanuel.org/online worship

FaceBook:

facebook.com/watertownimmanuel

THE LAST WORD!

Dear friends,

Earlier this year, many Immanuel members just like you participated in a Listening Process that set out to “start/strengthen relationships in the congregation and gain a variety of perspectives regarding welcome and extending hospitality at Immanuel and beyond.” When they completed their work, the Listening Team compiled a report that was shared in June. Among the team’s recommendations was “Pursuing the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) process and providing further educational opportunities will help the congregation put our mission statement into practice in more tangible, intentional ways.”

“Immanuel sees itself as a place to belong, and we celebrate our history of acceptance. At the same time, **church members want to learn how to be more welcoming, particularly to LGBTQ+ folks, neurodiverse folks, people with disabilities, and all ethnicities who live in the wider community.**”

— Listening Report

What is Reconciling in Christ (RIC)?

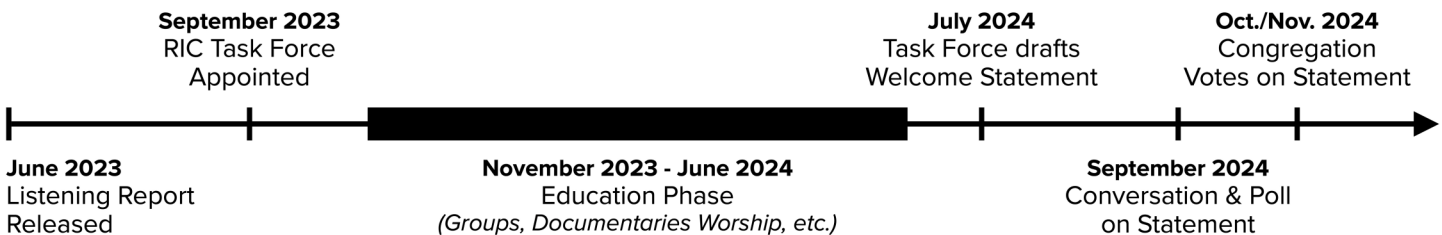
Since 1983, the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program has been a public way for ELCA faith communities to see, name, celebrate, and advocate for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions in the Lutheran church. Through education and conversation, we will eventually craft a Welcome Statement that will be approved by our congregation. At that time, we will be a designated Reconciling in Christ congregation. Essentially, our Welcome Statement and our RIC status will be a public way that Immanuel can say we have done (and commit to continuing) communal work that fosters a safe, affirming faith community for LGBTQ+ people.

Who is leading Immanuel in this work?

The Congregation Council has recently appointed a Reconciling in Christ Task Force for Immanuel. The members of this team include **Katie Bartelt, Elizabeth Boxell, Jens Hetzler, Lynel Hetzler, Pastor Carina Schiltz, Trevor Thom, and Brandon White**. There will be additional people who help with tasks along the way, but this group makes up the core team that will lead Immanuel in this work.

When is this happening?

The process has already begun! After much preparation, this month of November begins an eight-month Education Phase. We will have a variety of opportunities for learning and conversation including small groups, showing a documentary/movie, panel discussion, special worship services, and more. Following this period of learning, the RIC Task Force will begin to draft Immanuel’s Welcome Statement. It will be shared with the congregation in late summer or early fall 2024, and we will have opportunities to discuss the statement extensively before a Special Meeting of the Congregation takes place to approve it in mid to late fall 2024.



So... why are we doing this?

The simple answer is that **you, the congregation, have been asking for this!** You’ve told us that being a place that is “accepting all unconditionally” matters. You’ve shared that you want more opportunities for adult learning. You’ve shown a desire for more small group opportunities and relationship building. We’re excited to do this work together in community with you, always with the Holy Spirit’s guidance!

— Your Immanuel RIC Task Force



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LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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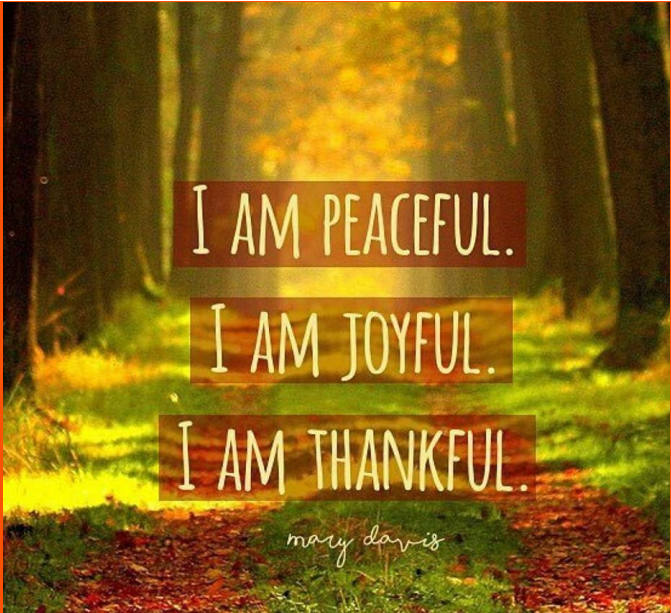
Check out our website:

www.watertownimmanuel.org



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Mission Statement
Celebrating God's grace in Jesus Christ. Accepting all unconditionally.
Growing in God's call to serve the world



Rev. Carina Schiltz, Pastor
Matt Stein, Director of Music Ministries
Janis Shackley, Office Manager
Dawn Westenberg, Financial Secretary &
Volunteer Coordinator
Trevor Thom, Director of Congregational Life

Phone 920.261.1663
Website watertownimmanuel.org
Email watertownimmanuel@gmail.com

Worship Services -
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Monday 6:30 p.m.
Holy Communion at Every Service
All are Welcome!

NOVEMBER 2023 MESSENGER