

Emanuel Lutheran Church
May 2024
Enlightener



Pastor David Van Kley, Interim Pastor

(906) 250-1720

wilsonmqtmich@gmail.com

Emanuel Lutheran Church: 906-942-7245

emanuel@tds.net www.be-lutheran.org

Emanuel Lutheran Church of Skandia , ELCA



Congregational Leadership

Pastor David Van Kley, Interim Pastor

**Cell: (906)250-1720
wilsonmqtmich@gmail.com**

Council Members

Barb Bach
Ronda Barr
Patti Bergdahl
Richard Cooke
Christie Johnson
Leah Kainulainen
Sarah Kimball

Office

Jolene Kokko ~
Office Assistant

Committee Leaders

Barb Bach ~ Stewardship
Sarah Kimball ~ Outreach
Betsy Koski ~ Christian
Education
Jane Sims ~ Worship & Music
Pam Bahrman ~ Cemetery
Business Manager
Richard Cooke ~
Building & Property

Emanuel Lutheran Church has both a Facebook page and website! Catch up on upcoming and past events, our monthly calendar and Enlightener newsletters at

www.be-lutheran.org



Sunday Worship begins at 11 a.m.
through June.

2024 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
Mar-June 11AM July –October 9AM

Birthday Blessings

- May 1~Charlie Bahrman
- May 3~Micah Heath
- May 3~Valerie Grange
- May 7~Mary Lou Behrens
- May 12~Bonnie Barr
- May 13~Ellen Heath
- May 15~Larry McCarthy
- May 19~Scott Ritter
- May 28~Sherry Robinson



Anniversary Blessings

- May 7~David & Karen Bahrman
- May 7~Todd & Ronda Barr
- May 11~Tom & Barb Bach
- May 16~Scott & Connie Ritter



*Thank you Christie Johnson for sponsoring
the May bulletins in memory of her
parent's anniversary.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
05/05	Barb Bach	Bahrman Family
05/12	Sarah Kimball	Richard Cooke
05/19	Christie Johnson	Jesse & Lea Kainulainen
04/26	Betsy Koski	Roger & Sarah Kimball

Would you like to receive the Enlightener via email instead of the traditional mail? Please send an email to the office: emanuel@tds.net or call the office at (906)942-7245, The newsletter is also available on our website

www.be-lutheran.org

Timeline for Calling a Pastoral Leader

After a pastoral leader leaves a congregation, it's natural to wonder when a replacement will arrive. Upon hearing of LLM Michael Holman's retirement, the first reaction was to wish him well and send him off with expressions of gratitude! Almost immediately, though, the question arises: what now?

I hope that my presence and the work I will do on your behalf as administrative interim pastor will ease the anxiety you may feel about that. Although I'm in a very part-time role, I will do my very best to provide the assistance you need so Emanuel and Bethany can continue to thrive.

But, sooner or later, it will be time to make other arrangements. When? How?

Many of you have been through pastoral vacancies before and probably have a good idea. There is paperwork to fill out, time will pass, and Bishop Katherine Finegan or synodical staff will work with you to help determine what you are looking for in such a leader and what your capacity will be to support that leader's work. Then, the matchmaking process begins. With relatively few clergy, deacons, or LLM's available for call or appointment, it will take some time to find the right person to serve.

In the meantime, here's how I expect the process to take shape. From now until the end of the summer, very little will happen: instead, we will concentrate on the ministry at hand. We will enjoy the spring and summer together, worshipping, learning, and serving together. Sometime, later in the summer, the councils will appoint a call committee and work on the congregational profiles necessary for the first part of the process. I hope that by the end of September, that work will be completed. Afterward, perhaps in October, we'll hear something from the Bishop and the synod office on what to expect in the months ahead.

Throughout this period, the church councils will keep the members of both congregations posted on developments. You may also be asked for your feedback.

For now, I would simply encourage patience. God is surely at work in this process, as God has been in previous years, before pastors like Keith Kolstad and Chad Christensen, Bob Sutherland, Laurel Bernard and Tamra Harder heard God's call to serve. And before Michael Holman was appointed by the Bishop to serve Emanuel and Bethany. Things will work out.

Remember Paul's words in Romans 8: "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to God's purpose."

Believe in God, but also: believe in yourselves! The strength of every Christian congregation lies in its laity. Your vision for ministry, Spirit-inspired, and your gifts for ministry, Spirit-provided, will be more than enough for Emanuel and Bethany to continue to bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ in your communities and beyond. By growing your ministry and expanding your vision for ministry, you prepare yourselves well to serve alongside the new pastoral leader God will send.

Your temporary shepherd,

Pr. Dave Van Kley

Please let Pastor Dave or the church office know if you or a family member is hospitalized, ill, homebound or in need of help. We want to be sure to be here for you, with support, prayers and visits. If you can't notify Emanuel, please ask a family member to do so. Contact Pastor Dave directly at (906)250-1720 or Emanuel (906)942-7245.

Learning Generosity from Children

On Easter evening, our son, Nick and his wife, Tina, and our grandchildren, Sidney (just turned 5!) and Ida (2) placed a video call to us. The kids were quite excited! They'd been to worship and during the children's sermon, they had received plastic Easter eggs. Apparently, the eggs were filled with a mixture of candy and inedible, but colorful items. Sid flashed a piece of clear blue plastic, which he thought was a "diamond." "Do you like my diamond?" he asked, waving it proudly. And then, "Ida gave it to me!" Meanwhile, little Ida just sat there nodding her head. Both kids were feeling good about the exchange!

It struck us as a bit out of character for our grandkids. They usually are quite protective of their own stuff. More than once, Sid has smacked his sister for taking one of his toys. Ida, too, has learned that if you want to hold onto your possessions, you might have to play keep away from your big brother.

But not this time. Ida shared something that was given to her by another. It was a little lesson in generosity—in being a steward of a gift. And in learning to get along well together as siblings. I'm sure there will be many more lessons along the way.

Children are not the only ones who can be possessive of "their" possessions. All of us can be. And why not? We worked hard to earn a living and everything else we own.

And yet. Yet, when it comes right down to it, everything we have—everything we are—is a gift from the Creator of all things. None of it would exist without the provenance of God. Our time, our money, our possessions—these are means God provides in service to Jesus' one commandment: "Love God with your whole heart and soul and mind and strength and your neighbor as yourself." Or, as Jesus himself put it, after washing his disciples' feet: "A new commandment I give to you, to love one another as I have loved

It comes down, often, to what we do with all our “stuff.” The storage business is booming in Marquette County. Are these things doing anyone any good locked up in a garage? Are our investments doing our “neighbor” any good locked up in a bank vault or the stock market?

It’s not that we don’t have a right and a responsibility to be wise with everything entrusted to us—of course, we do! But none of lasts. It’s given to us in trust by God, who calls us to be stewards! When we recognize that, it becomes easier to be generous.

Along the way, we learn what Ida and Sid were discovering for themselves that Easter afternoon: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

There is nothing quite like the feeling of sharing what you have with someone else.

Christ is risen! And so are we!

Pr. Dave

May Scriptures	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
May 5	Acts 10:44-48	Psalm 98	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
May 12	Acts 1:15-17, 21-16	Psalm 1	1 John 5:9-13	John 17:6-19
May 19	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b	Romans 8: 22-27	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
May 26	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 29	Romans 8: 12-17	John 3:1-17

Day of Renewal Spring 2024 (aka Spring Cluster Meeting) Women of the ELCA

Saturday, May 4 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey
Registration 9:30 a.m. Program & Business Meeting 10 a.m.
Lunch will be served at 12 Noon Cost \$5 payable upon registration

Program: Servitude Within and Outside the Church

Supporting the Alger-Marquette Community Baby Shower, Barbie Dupras will talk about how our work and donations help. Monetary offering or new baby items will be accepted: diapers, bibs, crib sheets, burp cloths, toys for 6 months or younger, bottles, books etc. Emanuel is supporting the Marquette County Community Baby Shower with our April's local benevolence designation.

A reservation list (**by May 1**) and more information is posted on the bulletin board in our fellowship hall.



The annual **Haglund Cemetery Clean Up** is Sunday, **May 5 .at 1:30 pm**. Bring your rakes, tarps, etc. Many hands make light work and all ages are welcome!

Synod Assembly 2024 is Saturday, May 18



Preceding the Synod Assembly May 13-16, there are virtual workshops on the website ~ www.nglsynod.org with info on the bulletin board also. Emanuel will be supporting the ELCA World Hunger fund with our Econo We Share receipt program. Please turn in any receipts you may have by May 5 in the box near the north window in the fellowship hall. Thank you Christie for tabulating the receipts and thank you Richard and Sarah for being our Synod delegates Saturday, May 18 at Messiah Lutheran Church.



We will celebrate the festival of **Pentecost** on **Sunday, May 19**. Along with wearing red, we will also decorate the sanctuary with red geraniums picked up by the Altar Guild. If you would like to purchase a red geranium and take it home with after worship, a sign up sheet is available, cost is \$5 per plant.



You are invited to join us as we recognize our high school graduate Luke Kainulainen on **Sunday, May 26**. Please join us following our Sunday worship service for a special fellowship time. Also congratulations to Nicole Maki on receiving her MBA in April. May God continue to bless you both!



Plants, Pies and Summer Buys is coming again **Saturday, June 1** at Emanuel! This event will have veggies, annual & perennial flowers and houseplants as well as used gardening tools/ summer items, crafts and pie for sale. Soon will be the time to divide and pot up any plants that are beginning to emerge.

Please label them. Sign up to help with this event is on the kitchen counter. Please help make this a successful community event with proceeds going towards the indoor ramp!



We have received another beautiful handmade quilt made and donated by



Connie Arnett Ritter! A raffle permit has been applied for with proceeds going towards the indoor accessible ramp to the sanctuary. Tickets will be available at our June 1st “Plants, Pies and Summer Buys” event with the drawing in November. Tickets will be \$2 each. We need everyone’s help selling tickets to make this raffle successful. Tickets will be available soon!

Adopt-A-Highway is here already, a good sign of spring and summer coming. As always this is a team event. We divide our section of highway into four sections so no one has to give up a Saturday morning unless you want to. Most sections only take a couple of hours to do. Please sign up with a spouse, son or daughter (must be 12 years or older), or friend. Sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall. Spring clean up dates are **May 18-26**. Thanks for doing what you can.

Roger



April Council Meeting Highlights

- ~Thank you cards were received for Easter Meal Baskets in March.
- ~All are welcome to attend the upcoming Cluster 8 WELCA meeting May 4 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey. More info on the fellowship hall bulletin board.
- ~ Leah and Saima Kainulainen will be attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans, July 16-20.
- ~We are implementing a method to track our visitors to Emanuel's worship services. All are encouraged to fill out a form to be included in our Sunday worship bulletins as visitors or regular members.
- ~An official "stamped" copy of our engineered blue prints were received. We are still looking for contractors to make bids for the indoor accessible ramp to the sanctuary.
- ~If there is an interest, Pastor Dave will teach a class on being an Eucharistic Minister; taking the elements of Holy Communion to those that are unable to attend Sunday worship services.
- ~Information packets were given to council members pertaining to a committee for calling a pastor.
- ~Local benevolence for April is the Marquette County Community Baby Shower and May will be Pink Power (a local organization helping those fighting disease, tragedies, illnesses etc.)
- ~March Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were reviewed and found in order with no outstanding bills.
- ~Next council meeting is Tuesday, May 21, 5:30pm. (unless a joint council meeting with Bethany of Negaunee is scheduled on that date).

Worship Leaders for May

May 5—Pastor Dave Van Kley with Holy Communion

May 12—Walter Scanlon

May 19—Deacon Jennifer Elsenbroek

May 26—Pastor Dave Van Kley with Holy Communion

May 2024

Office Hours: Wed. & Fri. 10:30am-2:30pm (Jolene)

(906)942-7245 emanuel@tds.net



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship Haglund Cemetery Clean-up 1:30pm	6 AA Meeting 7 pm	7 Quilting 1pm	8	9	10	11
12 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship 	13 AA Meeting 7 pm	14 Quilting 1pm	15	16	17 	18 Synod Assembly @ Messiah Adopt a Highway thru May 26
19 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship 	20 AA Meeting 7 pm	21 Quilting 1pm Council Meeting 5:30pm	22	23	24	25
26 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship	27 AA Meeting 7 pm	28 Quilting 1pm	29	30	31	June 1 Plants, Pies & Summer Buys 9am-1pm

Luke Kainulainen Graduation Recognition May 26

**The May Enlightener
Emanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
P.O. Box 160
Skandia, MI 49885**

*Emanuel Lutheran Church is a people centered
in Christ, rich in heritage and beauty; living out
Christ's openness to all. Our ministry is to
spread the Word of God in our community
through service, education and fellowship,
creating a sense of family as we break bread
together in the company of Christ.*

Join Us for our Sunday Services at 11 am