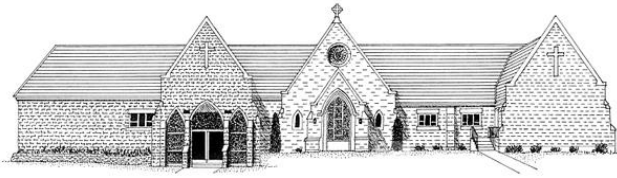


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

OCTOBER

2023

Reformation Remembrance:



The beginning of our Lutheran Roots came as Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the bulletin board on the Castle Church door on October 31, 1517.

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice; the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth.”

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

—*Psalm 46 NRSVUE*

The last Sunday of this month is Reformation Sunday.

Reformation Day is commemorated on October 31, which is the day, in 1517, that Martin Luther nailed his *95 Theses* (or complaints against the Church of his time) on the doors of Wittenberg Castle Church. Luther saw that the Church had gotten off-track from the scriptures, and he wanted to help set that right by starting a conversation around these complaints. His goal was to have the Church make reforms to its practice and theology, based on the errancies he pointed out in his *Theses*. Luther's action on that day began a series of events over the following years that led to the creation of a new denomination, which we call “Lutheran”.

Luther's most popular and well-known hymn, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*, is based on Psalm 46. Here are some of the words of that famous hymn:

A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.

The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On Earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might!

We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

Notice some of the similarities between the hymn and the Psalm. Martin Luther certainly knew what it was like to be attacked! The Church of his time was out for his life. He was saved because of a Prince Ruler, Frederick the Wise, who protected him from the Pope, and some other Spirit-led circumstances that kept Luther safe. Yet, despite these worldly and political dangers, Luther also knew how the devil can disrupt our lives: creating hopelessness, doubt, strife, and pain. Luther took comfort in Psalm 46 that spoke of God as a protector—a refuge, a strong mountain that withstands even the shaking of the earth.

Have you ever felt, like Martin Luther, that you were being besieged by the forces of humanity, the devil, or nature? Perhaps you feel that way right now. You know what it's like to feel attacked and

like things are falling apart. That means that you also can take comfort in Psalm 46. You can read those words, knowing that God's strength surrounds you. You can sing the words of *A Mighty Fortress* and know that even if the world shakes apart and the devil comes for you, God stands firm and holds you close. "Be still and know that I am God!", says our God. When we trust in God, we have all we need, even when our world shakes apart. Even though we are not strong enough to face the devil or the worldly troubles that sometimes assail us, we have a Champion who stands in front of us and protect us. That Champion is none other than God's own Son!

Take time during this Reformation month to pray the 46th Psalm. Take time to pray through Martin Luther's hymn. Know that God stands firm around you, no matter what.

Blessings to you always in the name of the One who is our Refuge and Strength.

Pastor Christine

Rite of Confirmation: *Support for our Youth*



Reformation Sunday, October 29th, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Cake and punch reception to follow.

Please come to worship on the 29th to support and encourage our youth as they take this next, important, step in their faith journey.

You will have a chance to pledge your prayers for them, read their faith statements, and see them affirm their faith.

Affirming their Baptism this year:

Elizabeth Aichner

Eli Camps

Jack Raygo

Travis Rod

Reese Sallgren

Emma Stewart



October is always an exciting month at Emmanuel. Our Sunday school classes are underway and our confirmation program is just starting. Our youth groups have begun again for the new program year. And, there are many family events in the planning. It is a wonderful month of re-engaging in building faith and growing relationships.

Relationships are the foundation of our faith. We come to church, young and old, as people of God and gather together for a reason. Along with personal devotion and prayer, gathering together for worship, learning, and fellowship creates opportunities for us to praise God, to be uplifted and strengthened. Through hearing God's word, celebrating the sacraments, singing hymns, sharing joys and struggles with each other, receiving spiritual guidance, and engaging in community service, we grow in relationship with God and with each other; becoming the Body of Christ.

We each have a relationship with God and the church continues to work at bringing opportunities for all ages to grow this relationship. Relationship building between child and adult is especially valuable. Each children's sermon, Sunday school and confirmation class, youth activity and family event, not only teaches faith, it provides an opportunity for our adults to volunteer which helps to form connections and relationships with our children; ultimately helping to build our children's faith, as well as the adult's. These relationships reveal Christ's love for us and builds trust and self-esteem, making the child realize that they are important to our congregation and most importantly to God.

As our children share what they learn in worship, class, youth activities, and family events with you, I hope that you embrace their excitement, engage in their questions, celebrate their love of Jesus, and know that you are important in helping to build our children's faith.

With God's blessings,

Patti Treptow, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Youth Ministries

Sunday School



Our Sunday school classes are underway! On October 1st we will have our monthly Bible Story Sunday event. As part of our Sunday school program, every first Sunday of the month all of the Sunday school children will gather in the fellowship hall. Our children will participate in their own children's church service that they lead, watch a Bible story video, make a craft, play games, and enjoy a snack. Parents may pick up their children in the fellowship hall at the end of worship on these days.

Reminder to parents....please complete a Sunday School registration form that is in the church narthex or available to download from our church website. This information helps to keep our records and lines of communication with parents updated. Thank you!

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Sunday, October 8th during the 10:00 a.m. worship service, our 3rd grade students will receive their gift Bibles from the congregation. Following the presentation, children will go to their classroom.



Important Dates for Confirmation Class

Sunday, Oct 8th, 11:00 a.m. 7th/8th grade orientation mtg
Sunday, Oct 22nd, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Classes start!

Rite of Confirmation



Important dates for our 9th graders who are getting confirmed:

Sunday, October 15th, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. – practice, luncheon, robe fitting, and photos.

Sunday, October 29th, 10:00 a.m. – Rite of Confirmation with cake and punch reception to follow.

Youth Retreat at Camp Bird

Our confirmation and high school youth attended our annual retreat at Camp Bird on September 9th-10th. Our youth engaged in breakout sessions that deepened their faith, participated in team building activities, and enjoyed the outdoors. Here are a few photos of our time together.



GLOW Youth Group

7th-12th grade

Wednesday, October 4th

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us at church for a campfire, games, food, Bible study, and fun.

Bring a friend!





Ignite Creative Arts

Afterschool Program

7th - 12th grade youth Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 p.m.
September through May.

Ignite is a program designed to "light up" creativity and provide exploration of arts and sciences. All activities will be determined by the youth. **Spread the word....all of our community's youth are invited!**

Adult Ministries

"Lunchtime Illumination" Bible Study

Tuesdays, 12:05—1 p.m., continuing through the end of the year
"Journeys Through God's Word: REVELATION"

Prayer Group

Wednesdays, 9:30—10:30 a.m.

Come together to join in prayer for our community, church, and those in need of healing. *There will be no pressure for you to pray out loud.*

Care & Share Alzheimer's Support

Wednesdays, 4:00—6 p.m.

A support group for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's and other dementias is being offered at Emmanuel in the church narthex.

Emmanuel Women's Group

Thursday, October 5th at 1:00 p.m.

Join us in the Friendship room for Bible study and fellowship.
Next month's meeting date is November 2nd.

Yoga at Emmanuel

Tuesdays 5:30-6:00 p.m.

\$8.00 per class. All abilities welcome for this gentle yoga class.

Meatball Supper



Thursday, October 26^h, 4:30-6:30

Ticket Donation Price:

Adults: \$12

Kids 7 to 12 years old: \$7

6 and under are FREE



How you can help:



Bake a Pumpkin Dessert

(We have the recipe!)

Sign up to help

October 25th @ 9:00 a.m. Food Prep

October 26th—

8:00 a.m. Set up and Prep

2:30 p.m. Food Prep

4:00 p.m. Cooks, Servers & Dishwashers

6:00 p.m. Clean-up & Dishes



SPREAD THE WORD – we have a Facebook event set up! Share and invite your friends!

Fellowship Events



Bunco is Back!

On November 9th at 6:00 p.m., the Fellowship Team will host our 2nd game of Bunco! We will offer dessert, coffee and some spirits! (Both a spirited game-time and some wine!) Bunco is a fun, easy to play, dice rolling game. Works best if we have 12 or 16 players, so invite a friend and come for some fun! Hope to see you there!

Report: Rally Day

We kicked off our fall programming with Rally Day at Henes Park this Sunday, September 17th. It was a chilly, yet glorious day and we were warmed by praising God, enjoying a picnic lunch, renewing friendships, and playing games! Thank you to our Fellowship and Youth Committees for providing a wonderful Rally Day.





Emmanuel's Outreach Projects



"Trunk or Treat" Tuesday, October 31st, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Emmanuel's 13th street parking lot. Neighborhood children and congregation children are welcome to trick or treat in our parking lot. This has become a very popular and fun event for our community children. We are inviting all interested

congregation members to join in the fun by hosting a "trunk". All you need do is decorate your vehicle's trunk, wear a costume if you like, and provide some candy. To help us have an idea as to how many "trunks" we will have, there will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you are interested in participating.

We hope you can join us in this safe and fun event for our children. If you are unable to host a trunk but would like to participate by donating a bag of candy that will be distributed to the children, please drop it off in the church office by Sunday, October 30th. Thank you!



Emmanuel is helping the Salvation Army with their Coats for Kids campaign. The Salvation Army is accepting new and gently used **winter coats, snow pants, mittens, hats,**

and scarfs which will be given to needy families in the counties of Marinette and Menominee. The collection will run through the month of October. We will have a box in the narthex for this purpose. Let's see if we can fill it!

Report: Collection for Rainbow House

The Church Council and Pastor Christine would like to thank the congregation for all of the donations for the baby/toddler bath kits for Rainbow House. The collection was a great success. Members of Emmanuel got together after church on Sept. 10th and put the kits together. On Tuesday Sept. 12, Betty Kohrt and Cindy Smith delivered the kits to Rainbow House. The kits were greatly appreciated and Rainbow House was very excited to get them.

Thank you for your generosity and help—for caring for your neighbor!



GRATEFUL HEARTS

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. — Psalm 111:1

The 2024 Stewardship campaign is underway! The theme for our fall stewardship season is “Grateful Hearts,” based on Psalm 111:1 – “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.”

As members of the ELCA, we believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. How do we respond to God’s call to serve and love our neighbor? We faithfully steward the gifts God has so abundantly given to us. Although some think of stewardship as only a financial response to God’s love, stewardship encompasses so much more than money. It is about how we use all that God has entrusted to our care – our time, our talents and our treasures – to love God and our neighbors, both inside and outside of the church walls and our homes.

Over the next month we will focus on giving thanks to the Lord with grateful hearts, and take time to reflect on the many blessings in our lives – the blessings that lead to gratitude and to showing our thanks through being stewards of all the gifts that God has given us.

October 8th is kick-off Sunday, and we will hear a Temple Talk from Cathy Hipke introducing our fall stewardship message and events. *Stay tuned!*

Faithful Innovations



UPDATE FROM OUR TEAM:

We attended the second training session at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp on Sept 23. We dwelled in God's Word and talked about what we've done so far. **We planned an activity to do over the next two months for our group to continue to learn about what God is up**

to in our congregation and beyond. *Here are some pictures from our recent training session in September:*





SWEDISH PANCAKE SUPPER

Saturday, October 14th

4:30—6:30 p.m.



Bethel will host its Swedish Pancake Supper and Fall Harvest Bake Sale on Saturday, October 14th, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

This event is open to the entire community and will include a bake sale, kid's activity table, and a raffle to win 1 of 4 quilts donated by the Forget Me Knot quilters.

The meal will consist of traditional Swedish pancakes with lingonberries, breakfast sausage, fruit, and a beverage for \$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child age 5-12. Children under 5 eat free.

Proceeds will support Bethel's Youth Social Ministry.



A little about Martin Luther...

The German priest and scholar Martin Luther began the **Reformation in 1517**. This movement at first sought to change, or reform, the **Roman Catholic** church. Instead it led to the establishment of **Protestantism**. The Protestant religion known as **Lutheran** grew out of Luther's teachings.

In 1517 Luther wrote a list of **95 theses**, or statements of his beliefs, about religion. In this document he criticized the church's sale of indulgences. Luther sent the 95 theses to Roman Catholic bishops and scholars. Luther continued to write and teach on the subject of reforming the church, and his views began to get support.

Luther's actions angered powerful church leaders. The pope excommunicated, or barred, him from the church in 1521. Later that year the government declared Luther an outlaw, and he fled to a castle near Eisenach. While in hiding, he **translated the New Testament** into German so that more people could read it. He returned to Wittenberg in 1522. Luther spent the rest of his life writing, preaching, and organizing the reformed church in Saxony. He died on February 18, 1546, in Eisleben.

Northern Great Lakes Synod News

To find out what is happening around our Synod, check out the Northern Great Lakes Website at www.nglsynod.org

To view Bishop Finegan's and Assistant to the Bishop Duehring's newsletter articles, they can be found at www.nglsynod/newsletters-articles

Conference-wide Youth Event

Saturday, October 14 – Menominee Valley Conference

Youth are invited to help load quilts onto the boxcar for Lutheran World Relief any time between 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and then join us for pizza after the loading is complete! A brief blessing of the hands will take place at 10:00 a.m. Bring a water bottle!

Location: 906 State Street, Marinette, WI – across from Perfect Paws Grooming Salon and just south of Walgreens

Time: 9:00 a.m. – approximately noon

Contact: Stefanie Ehle (youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org)

Fortune Lake Youth Retreat

October 20-21

Open to current GRADES 3-6

This one-night retreat October 20-21, 2023 is a great opportunity for kids to come to camp and experience all their camp favorites, spend time with peers, and connect with God's Word.

There will also be an opportunity for youth leaders to connect as well as a Darkness to Light training offered by Pastor Kari Vadis. The training will be held from 9:30 am-12 pm CT and is open to everyone, even those who are not attending the youth retreat.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. in-person
Online Worship 8:00 a.m.
Livestreamed on our Facebook page

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Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at
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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